

**COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of September 22, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

President Hayes called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute led by Ms. Amendola. ROLL CALL, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded all (7) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Ms. Amendola, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Phillips, Mrs. Post, Ms. Weitzel and Mr. Hayes. Also present were Mayor Bloom, Engineer Minsterman, Manager Trant, Director Kaczorowski and Solicitor Ayoob.

President Hayes announced that he is changing a voting procedure for a more efficient flow in during the meeting; rather than all roll call votes, most votes will be by voice vote – yea/nay.

BILL LIST APPROVAL

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/N.Amendola*) to approve the Bill List dated September 22, 2014.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0), with exception noted by Mr. O'Brien (#400.11).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*N.Amendola/F.Amendola*) to approve the Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2014.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

Ms. Weitzel requested an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter; Council proceeded to an **Executive Session** (7:28pm-7:38pm). Following the Executive Session, it was announced that a personnel matter was discussed; no action taken.

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS (August 2014):

Council acknowledged receipt of the following written reports: Treasurer's Reports (*July/August*), Financial Report, Act 511 and Trash Collection Reports, Property Tax Collection Report, Police Report, Manager's Report, Ordinance Officer's Report, Building Inspector's Report, Public Works Report, REMS Report, ~~CVFD Report~~ and Engineer's Report. **COMMENT:** A Building Inspector's report was added which is actually their invoice and lists all activity for the month.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman reported that the Thomas Street sewer separation project is scheduled to begin the week of the 29th. The 2014 Road Program was inspected for additional punch list items; in the process of being resolved and a final invoice will be recommended. The Inlet Rehab project has been awarded and work should start in mid-October.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Trant reviewed his report with Council and explained his method of reporting various activity, updates and if action needed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bloom had no report. In response to Ms. Weitzel's inquiry, he noted that drills were held at Crafton Elementary School with Crafton Police with regard to procedures in the event of an intruder or shooting event.

BUSINESS**1. ADMINISTRATION****a. Garbage Contract:**

- i. RFP to be advertised 9/24/14, bid opening 10/22/14: Manager Trant noted that the draft Garbage Contract RFP is available for Council's review on Cubby. Some language clean-up was done, a base bid to exclude all alleys except for three alleys that need to remain, and an alternate bid was provided to include all alleys. Also, e-waste collection was included in the RFP; this should be a very modest cost increase, but is accommodating and a convenience to the residents since you can no longer place electronics, televisions, etc. out for regular pickup. Bid opening in October and award a contract in November.

b. Councilwoman Post Resignation:

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/O'Brien*) to accept the resignation of Councilwoman Tracy Post effective October 1, 2014. **COMMENTS:** President Hayes noted that Ms. Post has resigned from her position on Council, to be effective October 1, 2014. She explained some of her reasons and noted that it has been a pleasure serving on Council. Her position as Vice President will be considered at the time the vacancy is filled.

MOTION carried by Six Yes, One No (*Phillips*) Roll Call Vote (6-1).

c. Solicitor RFP

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*N. Amendola/D. O'Brien*) to authorize the advertisement of an RFP for Solicitor Services. **COMMENTS:** President Hayes noted that in January, new Council members questioned visiting all professional services contracts for reconsideration, which is the reasoning behind this motion, and was briefly discussed at the last meeting to place this on the Agenda to prepare an RFP and advertise it for consideration. Ms. Weitzel inquired as to why this is being considered at this time and why is it a priority, considering the lack of permanent management staffing; also, that the permanent Manager should have input. Mr. Amendola and Ms. Amendola noted that they asked for this consideration in January and were told that a change in Solicitor could be considered at any time, and it was suggested not to act on it in January. They indicated that this is nine months later and it is their desire to proceed; and noted that it is Councils input/consideration, not the Managers. President Hayes stated that this is not a reflection on the services provided by the current Solicitor, and they too will have the opportunity to submit a proposal. Further discussion and comments heard.

MOTION carried by a Five Yes, Two No (*Post, Weitzel*) Roll Call Vote (5-2).

2. BUDGET / FINANCE

a. 2015 Budget UPDATE / NO ACTION

- i. REMINDER – First Budget Meeting to be held on October 20th.

3. PENSION

a. 2015 Minimum Municipal Obligation – Police & Non Uniformed Employee Pension Funds

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*N. Amendola/Phillips*) to adopt Resolution No. 2014-16 adopting the 2015 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police and Non-Uniformed Employee's Pension Funds.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

4. PARKS / RECREATION

a. Community Garden

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Weitzel/N. Amendola*) to authorize the Crafton Borough Park and Shade Tree Commission to operate, maintain and fund a Community Food Garden within the area of Crafton Park formerly used as a volleyball court, as described in the Shade Tree Commission Community Garden Proposal dated September 18, 2014. **COMMENTS:** It was noted that a community garden was not in the master park plan. For the proposed Allegheny Grows grant, the Borough would need to commit to a site for five years; some of the details were discussed. Proposal provided to Council; application deadline Sept. 26th. Raised beds are being considered in the current sand volley ball location.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

5. PUBLIC WORKS

a. Pickup Truck Purchase

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/Phillips*) to authorize the purchase of a new 2015 Ford F-350 4x4 Pickup Truck, with plow, spreader, toolboxes, lights and equipment from Woltz & Wind Ford, under the CoStars 25-032 Program, for an amount not to exceed \$40,957. **COMMENTS:** Director Kaczorowski explained some of the benefits of using a pickup truck with a dual tool chest vs. a dump truck; fuel savings, and noting that it can also be fitted for a salt spreader and plow, and for future consideration, brine equipment. Also, the salt brine equipment and applicator would have other uses such as weed spray. That cost is approx. \$8,000 and Ingram may have interest in a joint purchase – could be considered in 2015 budget, as well delaying purchase of leaf vac equipment to 2015 possibly with a grant. Two line items in this year's budget could accommodate the purchase of the pickup truck; #430.742 capital outlay equipment and #430.74 capital outlay minor equipment, with a slight over budget amount of \$500 or so.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

b. Crafton Boulevard (Backbone Road) Guiderail Replacement

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/F.Amendola*) to approve a contract with Pittsburgh Fence Company for the Phase II removal and installation of guide rail along Crafton Boulevard, in the amount not to exceed \$5,892. **COMMENTS:** This section would continue were Phase I left off, which would leave one small section for Phase III. Following discussion, Phase III could be considered this year pending fund balance update in the Road Fund.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

c. Harris Street Resurfacing Project

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/O'Brien*) to authorize the Harris Street Remediation Paving project (Option 3) to A. Merante Contracting, for an amount not to exceed \$16,266.25, in accordance with the Proposal dated Sept. 4, 2014. **COMMENT:** Engineer Minsterman discussed an overview of the proposed work, noting work on Harris from Clearview up to the alleys, basic reconstruction of that section of Harris, reserving the bricks for Public Works use, correcting the curbing height problem and correcting the crown for appropriate rain water runoff flow. Under the circumstance, timing would be good for this project, even though Harris was not in the five-year paving plan as a priority.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

d. SHACOG Joint O&M Point Repair Project-Year 3

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/O'Brien*) to pay SHACOG the amount of \$100,617.10 for Payment No. 2 for work performed by State Pipe Services, Inc., for the SHACOG Joint O&M Point Repair, Year 3 – Contract, as reviewed and certified by Gateway Engineers.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

6. PUBLIC SAFETY

a. No Parking on Steuben Street

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/O'Brien*) to advertise an ordinance amending the Traffic and Vehicle ordinance to prohibit parking on Steuben Street, for its entire length on the northerly side and only to Union Avenue on the southerly side, ~~for its entire length from the eastern and western City of Pittsburgh boundary lines.~~ **COMMENTS:** It was noted that Steuben is wide enough to accommodate parking from Union to the City line on the southerly side, and to amend the proposed ordinance to permit parking at that section of Steuben only. Mayor Bloom re-iterated the reasoning for this ordinance and the parking problems and safety issues; also noting that the affected homes do have alley access to rear parking.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

7. ORDINANCE

a. Floodplain Ordinance

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Weitzel/O'Brien*) to adopt Ordinance No. 1627 amending Chapter 120 of the Borough of Crafton Codification of Ordinances, replacing Article III in its entirety. **COMMENTS:** Manager Trant reviewed this ordinance and flood insurance requirements, noting a deadline of Sept. 26th to adopt this ordinance.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

8. COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING – Manager Trant noted that he is awaiting the LGA grant approval, and modifying the Allegheny County grant application preparing a new scope of work for them since Thornburg dropped out.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

John Lauritzen, 75 W. Steuben Street – Thanked Council/Public Works for the repairs to the manhole on Steuben, noting that it has been quiet.

Andrea Marquis, 38 Marion Street – She thanked Council for their assistance and asked who would be the Borough contact? It was noted to refer this to the Shade Tree Commission.

Frank Rogone, 18 Bell Avenue – He noted previous complaints on the deterioration of the alley surface behind 18 Bell, including overgrowth of trees and weeds. It was noted that this would be assessed and follow-up.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/N. Amendola*) to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary