

COUNCIL DISCUSSION MEETING
Minutes of Monday, August 14, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

President Amendola called the Discussion/Agenda Meeting of Crafton Borough Council to order, in Council Chambers of the Community Center.

The first item on the Agenda was a special presentation from Gateway Engineers, Joe Fagen and Jen Slagle regarding Geotechnical Study completed on the opening of Ewing Road. An opinion of probable construction cost for Ewing Road Reconstruction and Slide Remediation was presented for \$353,817.50. Members of Council discussed the proposed project. Council requested Mr. Fagan to meet with the Public Works Director and the Manager, to discuss the option of some of the work being completed in house, perhaps reducing the cost of overall project. The Manager will schedule the meeting for further discussion and review with the Engineer.

President Amendola called the meeting to order. The Flag Salute was led by Mr. O'Brien. ROLL CALL, by Manager Scott, recorded seven (7) Members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Ms. Glaser, Ms. Damits, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Levasseur, Ms. Perry and Ms. Amendola. Mayor Bloom as also in attendance, along with Solicitor Gladys, Robert Kaczorowski, PW Director and Manager Scott.

BILL LIST APPROVAL

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Levasseur*) to approve the payment of bills on the Bill List dated August 14, 2017.

MOTION #1- carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0)

ACCEPTANCE/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/O'Brien*) to accept the Meeting Minutes dated July 24, 2017 as presented.

MOTION #2 - carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL/Agenda Items only

Kathleen Watson, 74 Fountain Avenue, asked Council the intention of the demolition project. She understands there is someone interested in purchasing the home at 78 Fountain, wondered if this would delay the demolition? She stated the person is having difficulties getting in contact with the actual owner, he is contacting her for information.

The Manager noted Council is moving forward with the demolition of the property, she has been in contact with the potential buyer and provided him with all of the contact information on file for the owner.

Ms. Damits inquired if the asbestos that has to be removed is included in the plans and specifications. The Manager acknowledged that it was included.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The Solicitor noted a 3 Rivers Wet Weather meeting has been scheduled for the Solicitors Working Group on September 6, 2017. On the agenda will be the Source Reduction Study required to be submitted by December 1, 2017 and Green Infrastructure. A full report will be submitted after the meeting.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Bloom noted that the Bike Rodeo sponsored by Crafton and Ingram Boroughs is scheduled for Saturday, August 26, 2017 from 10 am to Noon. The rodeo will be held at the Crafton Municipal Building Parking Lot, and is for kids of all ages. He reminded everyone to bring their bikes, helmets and a parent. He noted a limited number of helmets will be given out, while supplies last.

Representative Deasy will be in attendance providing literature on safe bicycling and will be providing Popcorn for everyone!

Ms. Amendola noted no parking in the lot beginning on Friday in preparation for the Rodeo.

BUSINESS AGENDA***PUBLIC SAFETY***

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*O'Brien/F. Amendola*) to accept the 2016 Civil Service Commission Annual Report as submitted.

Mr. Amendola noted the Commission was doing a great job.

MOTION #3 - carried by a Unanimous Roll Call Vote (7-0).

Ms. Amendola noted, Council will consider adopting Ordinance No. 1645, Establishing Tax Credit Program for Volunteer Members of the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department and establishing Administrative Procedures at the meeting of August 28, 2017.

PUBLIC WORKS

The next item on the Agenda is a discussion of the Green Light Go Program. Ms. Scott noted that she has spoken with Gateway Engineers, who brought the information to her attention. This is the last year of funding through the Department of Transportation. The program is designed to improve safety and mobility by reducing congestion and improving efficiency of existing traffic signals on state and local highways. The grant is a reimbursement grant requiring a 20% local match. Projects include Traffic Signal upgrades, maintenance and communications. Ms. Scott noted, local matching funds may be budgeted over years 2018 and 2019, allowing for increased total project costs. She noted the Borough budgets \$10,000 annually for the maintenance of street lights.

At this time, Council needs to determine the total project costs. The Borough has four street lights; Noble at Bradford; Noble at Dinsmore; Noble at Steuben; and N. Linwood and Crennell. PW Director Kaczorowski stated, each of the street lights are in poor condition and in need of upgrading or replacement.

Ms. Scott noted in 2015 & 2016 the Borough applied for ARLE funding, also through PENNDOT, for the upgrade of two of the street lights, each year the applications were denied. One of the applications was for the signal at Noble and Bradford for a project cost of approximately \$165,000. This included all the bells and whistles for one traffic signal.

Council will need to determine the total project cost realizing a 20% match. Example, if the Borough applies for a \$200,000 grant, this would require a \$40,000 local match (\$20,000 in 2018 and \$20,000 in 2019). Once a total project is determined, Michael Haberman, Traffic Engineer at Gateway, would define, with the assistance of the PW Director, what would be the best projects to upgrade the lights and bring them into Good Condition, keeping in mind, not to exceed the \$200,000 budget. Applications for this grant are due September 30, 2017. Once the scope of the project has been determined, the recommendation will be brought before Council.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/Levasseur*) to authorize Gateway Engineers to prepare the "Green Light Go" grant application for the upgrade of the traffic signals in the Borough not to exceed \$200,000.

MOTION #4 - carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

Ms. Amendola noted Bids for the Crafton Park Improvements, Rain Garden Project, are due August 28, 2017 at 10:00 am in the Managers Office. A copy of the proposed project is on the table in the back.

Ms. Amendola noted that bids for the House Demolition Project (25 Sycamore and 78 Fountain Streets) are due September 6, 2017 at 10:00 am in the Managers Office. The asbestos reports have been received and will be incorporated into the bid documents.

Mr. Levasseur inquired where the advertisement for this project is placed. Ms. Scott noted the legal advertisement is posted in the Suburban Gazette, it is placed on the website, and Gateway will contact directly a few of the contractors that may be interested in a demolition project. Mr. Levasseur inquired if the ad could be placed in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Ms. Scott noted the cost is approximately three or four times greater. Ms. Amendola suggested, if a reasonable bid isn't received this round, Council may want to consider advertising in the Post. Ms. Scott noted this type of project is typically picked up on various construction websites.

Ms. Amendola noted the Borough has submitted a response to the Allegheny County Health Department in response to the Inspection and Deficiencies letter received. As a combined sewer community, the Borough is regulated under the 9 Minimum Controls. The response letter addressed each of the deficiencies received.

ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Amendola noted, a Special Meeting will be held on Monday, August 21, 2017 at 6:30 pm at Crafton Municipal Building with Ingram Council to discuss and finalize the Early Intervention Program.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ms. Amendola noted, nothing on the Agenda under discussion items, inquired if anyone on Council had an item they cared to discuss.

Mr. Levasseur recalled the meeting with the owner of the Crafton Ingram Shopping Center, regarding entrances into the Community. He suggested the Public Works Department and Engineer concentrate efforts improving the entrance roadways, including Sterrett, Baldwick and Crafton Boulevard, look at the ADA ramps, curbs, street signs and improve the walkways to spruce up our image, make Crafton an appealing place to move. Improving the gateways to our Community.

Ms. Damits asked if the Mayor could speak to someone at UPS and Federal Express, trucks were driving erratically down some of the roads in Crafton, in fact, they were driving the wrong way, down a one way street, N. Linwood. Mayor Bloom will look into the matter and pass it along to the Police Department.

Ms. Scott noted, one of the items to be discussed at the Special Meeting with Ingram and EIP, is the Emergency Notification System. She received a second bid from Nixle System, who have local customers, including North Strabane Township. Ms. Scott contacted them for a reference, the emergency management coordinator provided positive feedback on the system. Ms. Scott provided a review of the system including ease of resident registration and notifications. She stated the pricing of the two systems are the same. A former Ingram Councilperson, Greg Butler, Executive Director of PA Local Government Academy, contacted the Borough, stating funding for Emergency Resident Notification System may be available. Once approved by both Communities, Ms. Scott will be able to submit an application by September 30, 2017. Council may consider to include other recommendations of the EIP in the application.

Ms. Perry inquired when the 2017 Road Program will begin. Ms. Scott stated, on Ewing Road, PA American Water Company should be completed with replacing the main waterline by the end of this week or early next week. The Borough road paving project is scheduled to begin around August 28, 2017. Ms. Damits inquired if any alleys were being paved this year. Mr. Scott stated that Prince, Margie, Alley T, Alley U and Alley N were included in the bid. Mr. Kaczorowski stated the crew is utilizing the paving machinery, its working great, they are starting off on smaller, less traveled alleys until they get experience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Amendola made the following announcements;

- *CRAFTON POOL – Beginning August 21, 2017 (SCHOOL STARTS)*
Monday – Friday 3 to 7 pm; Saturday 12 – 7 pm & Sunday 1 – 7 pm
- *DOGGIE PADDLE – Saturday, September 9, 2017 – 1 pm to 3 pm*
- *ALCOSAN Open House – Saturday, September 16, 2017 9 am to 4 pm*
- *JORDAN TAX COLLECTION – School District Taxes*
August 29 – 1 to 4 pm and August 31 – 9 am to Noon
- *CONCERTS IN THE PARK – Thursdays @ 7:30 pm (Last Concert) 8/17*
Midnight Rooster
- *A/C SIDE YARD & BLIGHTED STRUCTURE PROGRAM*
Applications are being accepted until August 31, 2017

AUDIENCE AGENDA

Kathy Watson, 78 Fountain Street, stated there is an abundance of heavy equipment traveling up and down Fountain Street, completing the repairs on Ewing. She is concerned of the traffic on the newly paved roadway. Mayor Bloom noted, once the waterline is replaced and the road is paved, there won't be any work in the area for a long time. He apologized for any inconvenience, but the work has to be completed.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/Levasseur*) to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

MOTION #5 - carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Ann C. Scott, Borough Manager