

COUNCIL REORGANIZATION MEETING
Minutes of January 6, 2014

OATH OF OFFICE –SWEARING IN OF MAYOR

The Honorable Dennis Joyce performed the swearing in of James G. Bloom, Mayor

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bloom called to order the Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center.

OATH OF OFFICE –SWEARING IN OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

The Honorable Dennis Joyce performed the swearing in of Fred Amendola, Nina Amendola, David O'Brien, Thomas Phillips, Tracy Post

Roll call by Mrs. Tremblay recorded all seven (7) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Ms. Amendola, Mr. Hayes, Mr. O'Brien, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Post and Ms. Weitzel – Also present were Mayor Bloom, Manager Callen, Director Beechey and Solicitor Daley.

NOMINATIONS/ELECTION:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Motion made and seconded to open the floor for nominations for Council President. Nominations: (1) Thomas Phillips, (2) Joseph Hayes. Motion made and seconded to Close the floor for nominations for Council President.

MOTION: Motion made, and seconded to elect Thomas Phillips for President of Council.

MOTION FAILED by a Four No, Three Yes (*F. Amendola, N. Amendola, Phillips*) Roll Call Vote (4-3).

MOTION: Motion made, and seconded to elect Joseph Hayes for President of Council.

MOTION Carried by a Four Yes, Three No (*F. Amendola, N. Amendola, Phillips*) Roll Call Vote (4-3).

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Motion made and seconded to open the floor for nominations for Vice President of Council. Nominations: (1) Tracy Post, (2) David O'Brien. Mr. O'Brien declined the nomination. Motion made and seconded to Close the floor for nominations for Vice President of Council.

MOTION: Motion made, and seconded, to elect Tracy Post for Vice President of Council.

MOTION carried by Five Yes, Two No (*F. Amendola, N. Amendola*) Roll Call Vote (5-2).

PRESIDENT PRO TEM

Motion made and seconded to open the floor for nominations for President Pro Tem of Council. Nominations: (1) Nina Amendola. Motion made and seconded to Close the floor for nominations for President Pro Tem of Council.

MOTION: Motion made and seconded to elect Nina Amendola for President Pro Tem of Council.

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

At this time, President Hayes presided over the meeting.

APPOINTMENTS *(All Motions/Appointments were moved and seconded)*

1. **MOTION** *(Weitzel/Post)* to appoint Thomas Ayoob, III & Associates as Borough Solicitor.

MOTION TO TABLE: *(F. Amendola/N. Amendola)* **COMMENTS:** Expressed concerns that being new to Council, they needed more information before considering this vote.

It was noted that they could abstain, and this matter could also be revisited at a later date. It was recommended to complete this appointment at this time, so as not to leave the borough without legal counsel should some problem arise.

MOTION TO TABLE FAILED by a Four No, Three Yes *(F. Amendola, N. Amendola, Phillips)* Roll Call Vote (4-3).

MOTION carried by Five Yes, Two No *(F. Amendola, N. Amendola)* Roll Call Vote ((5-2)

2. **MOTION** *(Weitzel/O'Brien)* to appoint Gateway Engineers as Borough Engineer.

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

3. **MOTION** *(Weitzel/Post)* to appoint the Suburban Gazette and Pittsburgh Post Gazette as Official Paper.

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

4. **MOTION** *(Weitzel/N. Amendola)* to appoint the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department as Borough Fire Department..

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

5. **MOTION** *(Phillips/Post)* to approve Michael J. Crown as Fire Chief for the Borough Fire Department.

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

6. **MOTION** *(Weitzel/Post)* to appoint Mark Sumpter as Emergency Management Coordinator.

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

7. **MOTION** *(Post/F. Amendola)* to appoint Robinson Emergency Management Service (REMS) as Borough Emergency Medical Service Provider.

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

- 8. **MOTION** (*Post/Phillips*) to appoint David Morgan as Borough Fire Marshal, and appoint David Kratt as Assistant Borough Fire Marshal.

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

- 9. **MOTION** (*Weitzel/Post*) to appoint Annette Lherbier as Borough Treasurer. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Amendola, again, expressed concerns that he doesn't know this person, and does not feel comfortable voting for her.

MOTION carried by Five Yes, One No (*F. Amendola*), One Abstention (*N. Amendola*) Roll Call Vote (5-1-1).

- 10. **MOTION** (*Weitzel/Post*) to appoint Susan Viola to serve as Chair of the Vacancy Board.

COMMENTS: Mr. Amendola, again, expressed concern that this motion should be tabled pending more consideration. MOTION TO TABLE was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/Phillips*).

MOTION TO TABLE failed by a Four No, Three Yes (*F. Amendola, N. Amendola, Phillips*) Roll Call Vote (4-3).

MOTION carried by a Five Yes, One No (*F. Amendola*), One Abstention (*N. Amendola*) Roll Call Vote (5-1-1).

BILL LIST APPROVAL

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/Weitzel*) to Ratify the Bill List dated December 31, 2013.

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

MEETING DATE SCHEDULE

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Weitzel/O'Brien*) that the year 2014 Meetings of Crafton Borough Council be held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month commencing at 7:15pm, with a Holiday exception noted in December.

MOTION carried by a Five Yes, Two No (*F. Amendola/Phillips*) Roll Call Vote (5-2).

COMMENTS: It was noted that once Council Committees were established, Committees will meet prior on the 1st Monday of the month, prior to the Council Meeting. The 1st Monday would be the Committee/Agenda Meeting and the 2nd Monday would be the Voting Meeting.

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Post/N. Amendola*) to designate the 1st meeting of the month for as a Committee/Agenda setting meeting and the 2nd meeting of the month as the Voting meeting.

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

2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT: Written report provided to Council; posted on website.

DISCUSSION ITEM: Council Action, 12/9/12, re: 2014 Salaries/Stipend for Mayor/Council. Solicitor Daley confirmed that the Ordinance on the books, from 1977, is still valid, and no other Council action is necessary at this time. An ordinance can only be repealed by another ordinance, so

any other prior action taken by Resolution or Motion was improper and had no affect. Various Council comments were heard. Mr. O'Brien noted that he did not support receiving a salary/stipend.

BUSINESS AGENDA:

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to authorize payment to Roto Rooter Services Company in the amount of \$66,259.00 from the 2013 Accounts Payable Fund representing payment in full/final payment for the Inlet Rehabilitation Contract; and as recommended by Gateway Engineers.

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

ADMINISTRATION

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to continue and extend the Police Service Agreement with the Borough of Thornburg, for an additional two year term, under the same terms and conditions of said Agreement except with respect to the consideration to be paid by the Borough of Thornburg to the Borough of Crafton, which shall be as stated in the Agreement renewal effective January, 2014.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to continue and extend the Employment Agreement with Robert Callen, Borough Manager, for an additional two year term of January 6, 2014 through January 5, 2016, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the current Agreement. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Phillips questioned the two year term, vs. the one year term offered in the original agreement, he questioned who prepared the agreement, and inquired if Manager Callen would continue to be out of the office one morning each month to attend another meeting; and, if so, does he make up that time. Manager Callen advised that he had prepared it using the Borough Code guidelines (2 yr), and yes he would be out of the office one morning each month and does make up the time.

MOTION TO TABLE (*F. Amendola/N. Amendola*) – Requested that this matter be tabled to the next meeting pending additional review and discussion.

MOTION TO TABLE FAILED by a Four No, Three Yes (*F. Amendola, N. Amendola, Phillips*) Roll Call Vote (4-3).

MOTION carried by a Four Yes, Two No (*F. Amendola, Phillips*), One Abstention (*N. Amendola*) Roll Call Vote (4-2-1).

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary