

**COUNCIL MEETING  
Minutes of March 23, 2015**

**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 Mr. Amendola. ROLL CALL, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded Seven (7) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Ms. Amendola, Mr. Crown, Mr. O’Brien, Mr. Phillips, Ms. Weitzel and Mr. Hayes. Also present were Mayor Bloom, Director Kaczorowski, Engineer Minsterman, and Solicitor Ayoob. (*No Manager present*).

**BILL LIST APPROVAL**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Ms. Weitzel/Ms. Amendola*) to approve the Bill List dated March 23, 2014.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Ms. Amendola/M. O’Brien*) to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2015. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Phillips requested clarification on Motion #2 under Administration, regarding the Interim Borough Manager contract extension/ change to Strategic Solutions; information to be provided to Council/placed on Cubby.

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

**CITIZEN’S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Dan & Patty Lageman, 240 Ewing Road – Ewing Road plans? Reopen, possibly one-way direction if not two-way, 15 mph, garbage truck maneuvers/missed pickups, and CIT season.

Colletta Perry, 10 BaldwickRoad – Ms. Perry inquired on the possible extension of the current REMS contract. Under a new agreement with Northwest, where will the ambulance be housed and is there any cost to them?

Mary Luxbacher, Recreation Board – Reviewed the same option list provided to Council; does not recommend Option A, to turnback grant money. She recommends Council consider Option B, partial renovations at \$500,000, or Option C, the full original project at \$1.3 million.

Mike Nemec, Chief, REMS – Provided a written list of items and other correspondence to be considered by Council.

Karen Eonta, 25 Oregon Avenue – Questions regarding the condition of Chartiers Avenue.

Susan O’Connell, 22 Creighton Avenue –The Pool and Public Study Committee worked very hard on this project, and she was pleased to see Council moving forward. She encouraged Council to find a way to do the entire project.

**RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS (February 2015):**

Council acknowledged receipt of the following written reports; by MOTION made and seconded (*Mr. Crown/Ms. Amendola*): Treasurer’s Reports, 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, and Engineer’s Report.

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

**ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Engineer Minsterman referred Council to the written report. He noted that he would address various items at the time they are addressed on the Business Agenda.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Bloom reviewed the written report statistics. They are looking into replacing car 11-1, which was in the budget for this year; through the Co-Stars purchasing program.

**BUSINESS AGENDA**

**a. ADMINISTRATION**

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*F.Amendola/Crown*) to adopt Ordinance No. 1631 amending Chapter 25, Section 25-3, of the Borough Codification of Ordinances, to remove certain residency requirements for the Borough Manager Position.

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

**b. PARKS & RECREATION**

- i. Pool Project – Options for consideration. President Hayes reviewed the grant funding available for this project, phasing the project over two years budgets, borrowing funds to complete the entire project; need to know Council’s desire on how to proceed, then Gateway can go forward on the design specs, etc. Mr. Crown was concerned that this only focuses on the pool, although there was a Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan completed that entails both the pool and park facility improvements. There were concerns on borrowing money considering the recent borrowing to acquire the Duncan property. President Hayes asked to continue on the Motion if Council is considering Option B or Option C, and have Manager Trant explore financing options on moving forward; either with borrowing or finding discretionary funds in the budget.
- ii. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Weitzel/Phillips*) to approve the Work Authorization for Gateway Engineers to prepare design specifications, scheduling, and cost estimates for the Crafton Pool Project, for an amount not to exceed \$6,000.

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

**c. PLANNING/COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Crown/F.Amendola*) to appoint April Weitzel, Dave O’Brien and Thomas Phillips to a Consultant Selection Committee for the Comprehensive Plan. **COMMENTS:** President Hayes reviewed the need to establish this committee and move forward on the pending grant for the Comprehensive Plan.

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

- ii. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Weitzel/Crown*) to re-appoint Michael Crown to the Crafton Planning Commission for a four year term to expire on April 13, 2019.

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

- iii. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Weitzel/Crown*) to appoint LuAnne Ryan to the Crafton Planning Commission for a remainder of a vacant term, which shall expire on April 13, 2018.

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

- iv. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*O'Brien/Crown*) to appoint Lydia Karlheim to the Crafton Planning Commission for a remainder of a vacant term, which shall expire on April 13, 2016.

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

d. **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*F.Amendola/Crown*) to approve an Agreement with Northwest EMS to provide Emergency Medical Services to the Borough. **COMMENTS:** It was noted that there was no RFP or other service providers to consider at this time. Mr. Trant explained that he did approach REMS for an extension of their contract and a proposal for services, and was told that it would have to go to the REMS Board; but did not receive anything. Mr. Nemeec, Mr. Hayes and Mr. Trant alleged misunderstanding/miscommunication with regard to what was requested of REMS.

- 1. **MOTION: MOTION TO TABLE** Council action on the Motion, was moved and seconded (*Weitzel/O'Brien*) to enter into an Agreement with Northwest EMS to provide Emergency Medical Services to the Borough.

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

Original Motion: MOTION carried by a Four Yes, Three No (*O'Brien, Phillips, Weitzel*) Roll Call Vote (4-3).

- ii. Discussion – Oversight/Monitoring of EMS Services. It was noted, in the past, that no one was attending the REMS Board Meetings, no one was overseeing the EMS activity. It was discussed to possibly have the CVFD oversee the emergency medical services, but it just clouded the issue of appointing a service provider. At this time, Council needs to decide who should oversee the service; the Manager, Council appointee/Public Safety, a Committee or the CVFD. President Hayes asked that the Mr. Amendola, Public Safety, the Police Chief and Manager, prepare something for reporting oversight of the EMS – something to start this reporting, and can be revised to everyone’s accommodation.

e. **PUBLIC WORKS**

- i. **MOTION:** It was regularly moved and seconded (*Crown/N.Amendola*) to approve the Work Authorization for Gateway Engineers to prepare design specifications and Bid documents for the 2015 Road Paving Program, for an amount not to exceed \$12,000.

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

**ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Mike Nemec, REMS – Thanked Council for the opportunity to serve Crafton over the years.

Mr. Lageman, Ewing Road – Mr. Lageman provided his telephone number, to be contacted regarding plans for Ewing Road.

Ms. Weitzel – Requested update on the Manager search. President Hayes reported that Council went through a process, applications, interviews, offers, which was unsuccessful. Now, reaching out through other targeted sources for applicants, will narrow down the selection, and bring candidates to Council for consideration.

Colletta Perry, Baldwick Road – Inquired on how the public become more aware of issues, and how to offer more input. President Hayes said the public can attend both meetings on Council or inquire to the Manager on specific issues for more information.

Mr. O'Brien – Inquired on possibly establishing the Council Committee's and meetings again. President Hayes said the past system was inefficient. Committee's prepared for and held meetings that were not attended by the public or other Council members. So the Committee Chair still wasn't getting the information out to the public or Council, and lengthy review and discussion was still necessary at the Council meetings. Now, the current arrangement designates the first Council meeting of the month as a working meeting, similar to a Committee meeting, and provides an opportunity to discuss matters at length. President Hayes stated that if there is a desire to change this arrangement, Council can reorganize and appoint a new President, etc. and change the meeting procedures.

Charlene Krenke, Clearview Avenue – Ms. Krenke said she attends almost every meeting and still does not believe she has enough information to comment during the comment period, and after the motion is made, discussed and acted on, it's too late to comment.

Jacqueline LaVasseur, Clearview Avenue – Ms. LaVasseur suggested more information be out there via social media, facebook, etc. She also believes the interest rates are low enough at this time, and possibly Council should consider a note to help fund the pool renovations project.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary