

# CRAFTON BOROUGH

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 26

<i>MOTION NO.</i>	<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	<i>PAGE NO.</i>
#1	Approval of Bill List – 06/26/2017	1
#2	Approval of Minutes – 06/12/2017	1
#3	Approve Three (3) Year Agreement Northwest EMS Services	4
#4	Authorize Real Estate Tax Refunds General Fund - \$10,812.18; Road Tax - \$3,562.76 Total - <b>\$14,374.94</b>	4
#5	Appoint Carissima J. Kerns, Real Estate Tax Collector – December 31, 2017	4
#6	Authorize Advertise – Special Meeting Monday, August 21, 2017 at 6:30 pm at Crafton Meeting with Ingram Borough and DCED	5
#6	Adjourn – 8:20 pm	5

**BOROUGH OF CRAFTON  
COUNCIL MEETING  
Minutes of June 26, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Amendola called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council of June 26, 2017, in the Council Chambers of the Community Center of the Municipal Building. The Flag Salute was led by Mr. O'Brien.

ROLL CALL, by Manager Scott, recorded Five (5) Members of Council present as follows: Ms. Glaser, Mr. O'Brien, Ms. Perry, Mr. Levasseur and Ms. Amendola. Absent from the meeting, Mr. Amendola and Ms. Damits. Also present, Mayor Bloom, Solicitor Gladys, Engineer Flynn and Manager Scott.

**BILL LIST APPROVAL**

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Levasseur*) to approve the Bill List dated June 26, 2017 as presented.

MOTION #1 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (5-0).

**ACCEPTANCE/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/O'Brien*) to accept the Minutes of the Meeting dated June 12, 2017 as presented.

MOTION #2 was moved and seconded by a Unanimous Voice Vote (5-0).

Mayor Bloom requested a brief Executive Session beginning at 7:18 pm.

Mayor and Members of Council returned to the Meeting at 7:25 pm. Ms. Amendola announced for the record, an Executive Session was held on a Police Matter, no action was taken.

**CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL/Agenda Items Only:**

Ms. Amendola, no citizens signed up to speak before Council on Agenda items.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION – NORTHWEST EMS**

Next on the Agenda is a presentation by Northwest Emergency Medical Services, presented by George Dudash, Executive Director.

Mr. Dudash provided a copy of the presentation to Council. The presentation reviewed annual response times, comparisons to nationwide statistics, and a review of the types and number of calls responded to in 2016.

Council has requested Northwest EMS attend a Council Meeting to afford an opportunity for all parties to meet and discuss EMS services and the Agreement in place between the EMS and the Borough. After discussion, a motion was made on the request to extend the agreement from a one year term to a three year term.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (*Glaser/O'Brien*) to approve the Agreement for Emergency Medical Service to Northwest EMS for a period of three (3) years or through August 31, 2020.

Mr. O'Brien inquired as to the reason for the extension of the contract. Mr. Dudash responded the contracts and agreement with other communities they serve are all three year contracts. From a tracking standpoint it would be easier if each community had the same term, but from a business standpoint, a three year plan assists in their long term budgeting.

MOTION #3 was moved and seconded by a Roll Call Vote; (4-1).

#### **ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS (May 2017)**

Council acknowledged receipt of the following Monthly Reports; Financial Report, Treasurer's Report, Act 511 and Trash Collection Reports, Property Tax Collection, Police Report, NW EMS Report, Ordinance Officer Report, Building Inspection Report, Engineer's Report, Public Works Report, Fire Department Report and the Library Report.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Bloom noted, Council will consider adopting Ordinance 1641 regarding the installation of a stop sign at Chartiers Avenue and Fountain Street at the July 10, 2017 Meeting. The Mayor voiced his concerns over the installation of a stop sign, and encouraged Council to take a ride down to the area to see for themselves, there are not any problems or concerns at the intersection. The Mayor reminded Council a stop sign cannot be erected for the purpose of slowing traffic.

#### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Flynn noted the monthly Engineers Report has been submitted to Council for review.

Mr. Flynn noted a preconstruction meeting was held with El Grande, they will be providing their schedule in the next week or so. PA American will begin work on July 10 on Ewing Road to replace the main waterline. The Borough Contractor will work with the Water Company Contractor.

Mr. Flynn noted the test pits on Ewing Road required for the GeoTechnical Study have been completed. A report of the findings will be submitted to Council for the next meeting.

Mr. Flynn noted, Allegheny County requires a permit on any potential home that is being considered for demolition for the testing of asbestos, the cost is \$750 per structure. It is recommended to wait until after the bid opening on July 6, to apply for these permits.

Mr. Flynn noted an Engineers Estimate for the Demolition of the Abandoned and Vacant Properties Listing, as prepared by the Code Officer, has been provided to Council for consideration. He noted, the Borough Solicitor is preparing an estimate of costs for legal fees required for the demolition of these properties as well.

Mr. Flynn provided an update of Consent Order Projects completed through SHACOG bidding; the excavation project is approximately 90% complete; spot lining is expected to begin sometime next week; manhole to manhole lining project, a pre-construction meeting has not been held waiting on contractor schedule; and CCTV project, will begin late this week or early next week.

Mr. Flynn noted there are outstanding issues with the final construction of the Splash Pool project, the Borough, Solicitor and the engineer are working together to gather documentation to submit under the maintenance bond. They have been put on notice, prior to the June 30 expiration.

Mr. Flynn stated the field work required for the flow isolation project has been completed along with data analysis, summary finding letter should be submitted to the DEP in the next few weeks.

Ms. Glaser inquired about the work being completed on Creighton Avenue. Mr. Flynn would look into the matter and get back to Council.

Mr. Levasseur inquired if Gateway completed any other similar pool projects to what was completed in Crafton, and if there were any issues or difficulties with the design or the contractor. Mr. Flynn spoke with the manufacturer of the paint, the product is appropriate for a swimming pool atmosphere, the issues seem to come from the construction of the actual seat wall.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Solicitor Gladys noted at the last meeting there were questions on the definition of vacant properties. His office provided the definition as provided and described in the Crafton Code and a copy of the International Property and Maintenance Code.

In accordance with Crafton Code, provides for six (6) definitions; a. Unoccupied and unsecured; b. unoccupied and secured by other normal means; c. unoccupied and unsafe as determined by the Code Enforcement Officer; d. unlawfully occupied by a person or persons without a lease with the property owner; e. unlawfully occupied by a person or persons without an occupancy permit and f. unoccupied for a period of 365 days and the Code Enforcement Officer has issued a notice of violation.

Mr. O'Brien noted, the goal of the Comprehensive Plan, is the elimination of vacant and abandoned property. If there is a vacant property in a neighborhood, there are concerns. Should you happen to live next to a vacant property you may experience difficulty selling yours, vacant homes bring down property values. After discussion, the solicitor noted, there are limits as to what the Borough can do to force a property owner to occupying a property.

Ms. Perry noted there are alternatives presented in the Comprehensive Plan that may assist in some of the concerns surrounded by vacant property. Something Council may consider incorporating in the future.

Note – Councilman Fred Amendola arrived at approximately 8:05 pm.

## **BUSINESS AGENDA**

### ***FINANCE***

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Levasseur*) to authorize the Real Estate Refunds as submitted for 2015, 2016 and 2017; General Fund - \$10,812.18; Road Tax \$3,562.76 for a total amount of \$14,374.94.

MOTION #4 was moved and seconded by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

### ***ADMINISTRATION***

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/O'Brien*) to Appoint Carissima J. Kerns as the Real Estate Tax Collector Effective July 1, 2017.

Ms. Amendola noted, this is a replacement for Patricia Keeley, current tax collector, Crafton Council accepted her resignation effective July 1, 2017 at the previous meeting.

MOTION #5 was moved and seconded by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

Ms. Amendola noted this is the only letter received and considered for the appointment to Tax Collector, she requested the Manager to contact the School District of the appointment of Ms. Kerns.

Ms. Amendola noted a Special Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, July 17, 2017 at 6:30 pm in Crafton Council Chambers with Ingram Council to discuss and review the Adopted Joint Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Scott noted she received an email from Michael Foreman, regarding the Early Intervention Program. Crafton and Ingram received over \$65,000 for the completion of the EAP through the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. He is requesting to schedule a special meeting with Council Members from both Communities to discuss the next steps and potential financing. He is unavailable July 17 to attend the scheduled special meeting, therefore requesting Council to check their availability for August 21, 2017.

After discussion, Council agreed to schedule a meeting with Mr. Foreman for Monday, August 21, 2017 at Crafton, dependent upon the availability of Ingram Council.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/F. Amendola*) to authorize to advertise for a special meeting of Council for Monday, August 21, 2017 at 6:30 pm at Crafton Borough Building, depending on the availability of Ingram Council to meet with the DCED.

MOTION #6 was moved and seconded by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Amendola made the following announcements;

- i. *CRAFTON CELEBRATES – June 30 – PARADE – 6:30 pm  
July 1 - July 4, 2017 (6 to 10:30 pm) Fireworks at Dusk  
Parade, Food, Fireworks – Fun for ALL Ages!*
- ii. *CONCERTS IN THE PARK – Begin Thursday, July 13 @ 7:30 pm  
C-Street Band*
- iii. *A/C SIDE YARD & BLIGHTED STRUCTURE PROGRAM  
Applications are being accepted until August 31, 2017*
- iv. *INGRAM DAYS – July 15 & 16, 2017 – Ingram Park*
- v. *CRAFTON-INGRAM ROTARY – Rib & Chicken Fest  
Thursday, August 3, 2017 – Crafton Park Shelter*
- vi. *Administrative Offices Closed – Tuesday, July 4, 2017*

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Ms. Amendola noted that no one signed up to speak on any other matters before Council.

Mr. Levasseur asked the Mayor to address the use of Fireworks in Crafton. Mayor Bloom noted fireworks are illegal in Pennsylvania, however, people drive across State lines and purchase fireworks all the time. He noted, if the Police catch anyone using illegal fireworks in Crafton, they will be cited.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/Levasseur*) to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm.

MOTION #7 was carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann C. Scott, Borough Manager