

**BOROUGH OF CRAFTON
COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of October 23, 2017**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Michael Haberman, Gateway Engineers, presented the proposed project to Council for the “Green Light Go, Cycle 4” draft application through PENNDOT. The grant monies requires a twenty percent (20%) match for repairs, updates and maintenance of the Borough Traffic Signals.

The Borough maintains four traffic signals. Mr. Haberman reviewed and discussed the necessary repairs and upgrades at each site. He noted, the current condition of each of the signals is poor condition. The total estimated project for all four signals is \$794,020, with the required match of \$158,804. Previously Council approved an application for the amount of \$200,000 for a required local match of \$40,000 max. He recommended the Borough consider submitting a separate application for all four sites, see what PENNDOT agrees to fund, and make a decision based on the amount of required match.

CALL TO ORDER

President Amendola called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council of October 23, 2017 at 7:15 pm, in the Council Chambers of the Community Center of the Municipal Building. The Flag Salute was led by Ms. Damits.

ROLL CALL, by Manager Scott, recorded Six (6) Members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Ms. Glaser, Ms. Damits, Ms. Perry, Mr. Levasseur and Ms. Amendola. Absent was Mr. O’Brien. Also present Mayor Bloom, Solicitor Gladys, Engineer Strunk, Public Works Director Kaczorowski and Manager Scott.

BILL LIST APPROVAL

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Levasseur*) to approve the Bill List dated October 23, as presented.

MOTION #1 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

ACCEPTANCE/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/F. Amendola*) to approve the Minutes for the October 9, 2017 Meeting as presented.

MOTION #2 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

CITIZEN’S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL/Agenda Items Only:

Ms. Amendola noted, there were no citizens signed up to speak before Council regarding Agenda items.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS (SEPTEMBER 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, and the Library Report. No Fire Department Report was received in time.

Ms. Perry noted on the monthly Police Report, there appeared to be an increase in suspicious persons. The Mayor reported this is an indication that the Community is cooperating with the Police Department. Contacting when they see a suspicious person walking in their neighborhoods or a problem in their area, increase in reporting. He noted information reported is shared on the Crime Watch Reports and sent out to residents via email blast.

Mr. Levasseur inquired the status of the report from Jordan on the homes with no water consumption. Ms. Scott noted the contact at Jordan no longer works there, she will send an email to inquire the status of the report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Strunk noted the monthly Engineer's Report has been submitted to Council for review.

Mr. Strunk noted the 2017 Road Paving Program is substantially complete. A pay application is on the Agenda for approval this evening. There are a few punch list items, including line striping of Bradford and Foster, restoration work behind sidewalks and curbs and the installation of the speed humps on Ewing. Mr. Strunk has concerns and wanted to discuss the matter with Council.

He noted the installation of the speed humps on Ewing is an additional expense of approximately \$19,000, he is concerned if residents complain after the installation, removing them can be an additional cost. His experience in another Community, speed humps were installed, residents complained and six months later, were removed.

Ms. Amendola inquired as to the number of speed humps proposed six (6) and why Ewing Road. Mr. Strunk explained the humps need to be so far apart to maintain speed control. Residents' complaints especially during the summer season of speeding to the ballfields.

Mr. Levasseur suggested that in lieu of installing these speed humps at a cost of nearly \$20K, he suggested the monies be utilized as part of the matching requirement in the Green Light Go Program and the upgrade of the four traffic signals.

Mayor Bloom inquired if the humps are designed for 25 mph. The speed limit on backbone is 15 mph. His concern if the roadway is posted 25 mph and damage done on vehicles traveling this amount, would it be the Boroughs responsibility. The Mayor stated he doesn't believe these speed humps need to be installed.

Mr. Amendola inquired if the Borough could utilize the portable speed humps, during the baseball season? Mr. Strunk stated, the cost for the portable humps is higher than the

permanent speed humps, noting the humps could be installed at a later date. Mr. Kaczorowski suggested that the humps be installed at a later date, see if there are any speeding issues and consider in the future.

The Mayor suggested posting the electronic speed devices along Ewing now and maintaining a record of the traffic, cars and speed. Compare the reports to summer activity along Ewing during the summer activities, see how it compares. Ms. Amendola suggested installing the portable humps during baseball season and removing afterwards. She recommends the Borough reconsider the matter in Spring 2018.

Mr. Strunk will notify the contractor the Borough decided to hold off on the installation of the speed humps on Ewing.

Crafton Park improvements are moving along, they anticipate the work being completed in a few weeks. The storm sewer has been installed, they are working on the construction of the rain garden at this time. The last item will be paving of the parking lot. Mr. Levasseur inquired if the plants in the rain garden will be hardy enough to survive the freeze and the winter. Mr. Strunk assured, the project is warranted, if there is a problem, the contractor will be required to come back in the Spring and replace any planting.

In regards to the Demolition Project, a pre-con meeting was held last week, they received clearance from the County to proceed, and they plan on beginning work sometime next week. They will begin with the structure at 25 Sycamore. Resident notifications letters went out today. Mr. Levasseur inquired if they plan on taking pictures before and after the demolition. Mr. Strunk noted it is part of the contract and are required to take photos, assure they do not do any type of damage to surrounding properties.

Mr. Strunk noted the Manhole Rehabilitation Project, a pre-construction meeting is scheduled for tomorrow.

The next items discussed are the joint projects through SHACOG. He noted the lining projects and preventative maintenance contracts have been completed and pay estimates are on the agenda for approval. The last remaining open contract is the excavation, we had to add a few emergency repairs. This contract should be completed in the next few weeks.

The last item on the Agenda, CDBG Year 44, ADA Handicap Ramp Project, the full application is due to Char West COG Offices by November 10, 2017, the total project is \$35,100, requesting CDBG funding of \$28,000.

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/Perry*) to approve Estimate No. 4 to El Grande in the amount of \$310,072.46 for the 2017 Road Program as recommended by the Engineer and included in the 2017 Road Tax Budget.

MOTION #3 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/Perry*) to approve Estimate No. 1 & 2, Joint Pipe Lining Project in the total amount of \$69,796.51 payable to SHACOG as recommended by the Engineer and included in the 2017 Sewer Fund Budget.

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

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/F. Amendola*) to approve Estimate No. 1, Preventative Maintenance in the total amount of \$19,089.52 payable to SHACOG as recommended by the Engineer and included in the 2017 Sewer Fund Budget.

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

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Levasseur*) to adopt Resolution No. 2017-12 CDBG Year 44, ADA Handicap Ramp Project, total project cost of \$35,100, CDBG monies requested, \$28,000, as recommended by the Engineer.

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

SOLICITORS REPORT

Solicitor Gladys noted he has reviewed the draft revised letter received from Service Line Utility. He believes they have complied with each of the Borough requests, and recommends Council authorize sending the letter to residents of Crafton.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Damits*) to authorize Service Line Utilities to send out the letter as presented dated October 4, 2017 to Crafton Residents.

MOTION #7 was moved and seconded, motion carried (5-1).

The next item on the Agenda, was discussion of Splash Pool and an update from the Bonding Company. No response has been received from the Company and the potential for litigation may increase. Mr. Levasseur suggested this be discussed in executive session since it is potential litigation.

Council stopped the regular Council Meeting for an executive session regarding potential litigation matters at approximately 7:50 pm.

Council returned from the Executive Session at approximately 8:05 pm. Ms. Amendola noted no action was taking during the executive session.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor noted there are two resolutions on the Agenda tonight for consideration under Public Safety. He would appreciate support from Council on both of these matters. He is happy to answer any questions.

The Borough received a grant for a portable Fingerprint reader. It works through the use of an iPhone. An Officer can take a mobile fingerprint, and submit through the system. There was no cost to the Borough for the equipment, and officers received training today. The grant was made possible through the Chiefs of Police Association.

The Borough will be participating in Click It or Ticket It event again between November 20 and December 3, 2017.

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*F. Amendola/Damits*) to adopt Resolution No. 2017-13 updating the Emergency Operations Plans of the Borough of Crafton, as required biannually, as recommended by the Mayor.

MOTION #8 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/Damits*) to adopt Resolution No. 2017-14 Implementing the National Incident Management System as required through Allegheny County, as recommended by the Mayor.

MOTION #9 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

The Mayor noted Halloween will be celebrated on Tuesday, October 31, 2017 from 6 pm to 8 pm. The Police Department will be working with the Fire Department to keep everyone safe. Please be reminded to wear lights on your costumes, young children should have a parent with them, and pay careful attention if driving the roads. We want to keep Halloween safe in Crafton.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Manager spoke with the President of Council in Ingram regarding the Blight Committee. He would like to recommend, to get things started, two or three members of each Council be appointed to the Committee, set guidelines and recommendations, narrow the focus before volunteers can be brought in to participate.

Ms. Amendola asked for volunteers, Ms. Damits, Ms. Perry volunteered, and Ms. Amendola suggested Mr. O'Brien be appointed as well, he has participated in the Comprehensive Plan and taken interest in the formation of the Blight Committee. Ms. Scott will contact Ingram to try to schedule the first meeting.

Ms. Scott noted the Community Newsletter will be mailed out to residents on Thursday. Please remember to sign up for the Emergency Resident Notification System. The System will be up and officially running by November 1, 2017. You can register on the Crafton or Ingram webpages by clicking the “widget”. You can also register through your cell phone by texting 15205 (Zip Code) to 888777.

Ms. Scott noted the Performing Arts is interested in changing the mural on the stage at the Park. There would be no cost to the Borough for this work, Performing Arts will provide a draft of the mural when available.

Mr. Levasseur inquired with Public Works if PA American or the Gas Company will be returning to complete curb to curb repairs on certain roadways (Crafton Boulevard and Clearview) where Street Opening Permits were obtained. Mr. Kaczorowski, will review the permits issued and will notify PA American and Peoples Gas regarding repairs.

Ms. Damits inquired why the Public Works Department was paving a patch in the Fire Department Parking Lot. Mr. Kaczorowski explained the Fire Department stated it was a safety concern. Various Non-Profit Organizations and Community Groups utilize the Hall in and they had concerns about the lot, especially during the winter. The Public Works has a good working relationship with the Fire Department, when the Borough needs any type of equipment (generator, ladder truck, etc) fire department always works with the Public Works. Mr. Kaczorowski noted it was good practice for the crew, since the machinery was purchased this year. The Crew also addressed the patch in front of the parking lot on Bradford, which was in poor condition and the work was done at the same time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Amendola made the following announcements;

- *BUDGET MEETINGS* – 6:30 pm – Council Chambers
10/30; 11/6, 11/8 & 11/15/2017
- *GRIM’S Mini Golf* – Through October 30, 2017
Weekdays 6 pm to 9 pm; Saturday & Sunday 3 pm to 9 pm
- *HALLOWEEN* – Tuesday, October 31, 2017; 6 pm to 8 pm
- *CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION* – Meeting 11/1/2017; 6:30 pm
- *PUBLIC HEARING* – Shade Tree Commission – 11/2/2017; 6:00 pm
- *ELECTION DAY* – November 7, 2017
- *VETERAN’S DAY* – Friday, November 10, 2017 (Admin. Offices Closed)

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Kathleen Watson, 74 Fountain Street, inquired if the removal of the asbestos at 78 Fountain in anyway was going to hold up the demolition of the structure. Ms. Scott noted the contractor is aware, and they will do the necessary work.

Ms. Watson inquired if Ewing Road was paved and Council was installing speed humps, she inquired if similar humps could be installed on Fountain.

The Mayor noted, at this time that project is on hold, no speed humps will be installed at either location.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/F. Amendola*) to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 pm.

MOTION #10 was carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Ann C. Scott, Borough Manager