

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 23, 2005**

President Crown called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center; Flag Salute was led by Mr. McDonough. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded seven (7) members of Council present, as follows: Mr. Cindric, Mrs. Damits, Mr. Donovan, Ms. Koerbel, Mrs. Sappie, Mr. Stewart and Mr. Crown. (*Absent: Mr. Byers, Mr. Cindre*). Also present were Manager Sample, Solicitor Wolfe, and Engineer Minsterman.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the November 23, 2005 List of Bills.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was regularly moved by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Stewart, to approve the meeting Minutes of November 9, 2005.

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

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Tim Perkey, Lynn Shea, Mrs. Matt, and others, McMunn Avenue residents – Residents spoke on the issues regarding the McMunn sinkholes, plans to camera the sewer laterals. Concerned that they will be shouldering the entire cost to improve the street if they each have repairs to the lateral and street similar to that done by the Masucci's; at a cost of \$10,000. The questioned why all of the alleged sewer lateral collapsed and caused sink holes around the same time; that perhaps there is another problem that is the responsibility of the Borough or the water company. They requested that they have access to all reports and video tapes. Engineer Minsterman addressed their comments and concerns.

RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

The following written reports were provided in Council's Packet: The Treasurer's Report, Financial Report, Act 511 and Trash Collection Fee Reports, Property Tax Collector's Report, Police Report, Building Inspector and Public Works reports, Fire Department's Report and the Engineer's Report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hull reported that the department responded to 237 complaints for the month of October, and referred Council to the written report.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

None (not present)

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

None (not present)

ROBINSON EMS REPORT

Director Meredith reported that REMS responded to 41 calls in September, 56 calls in October, and so far for the month of November 36 calls. He reported that an ambulance and 2 members were sent down to Louisiana on October 1st to help out.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Crown reported that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel issues and a possible litigation matter.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman reported that both the lining contractor and open-cut contractor have been working on correcting the sewer deficiencies, and Gateway is recommending the 1st payment to the lining contractor, Insituform. They are working on revisions to the Nine Minimum Controls for submission to the DEP.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Wolfe reported that the police contract renewal was discussed in Executive Session and believes that a tentative 4-year agreement has been reached, providing for 3% wage increase each year. He recommends that Council accept renewal by ratifying a tentative agreement.

SECRETARY'S/MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Sample stated that the office has been working on 2006 budget and there is one more budget meeting next Wednesday. The Pennvest loan will close on next week. Mr. Sample reported the CCTV work was performed last week on the main McMunn sewer line, and the PAWC came into the area to check for service leaks, and found none. There was a curb line concern, but it was found to be a dead line, and not the cause of any erosion or sinkholes in that area. The next step in the progression of determining the cause for the sinkholes would be to televise the laterals. Mr. Minsterman stated that televising the laterals from the homes would be the easiest and least expensive; without the cooperation of the residents it would be much more expensive to televise the laterals from the sewer line. The visual inspection would provide the needed information, if there is a void, a hole, or a collapse. He confirmed that the laterals could be combined sanitary and storm sewers. Mrs. Shea asked why no one has experienced any back-up problems if there are collapsed laterals. Mr. Minsterman explained that it is a slow erosion process. Mr. Sample addressed that question of the dye tests that were performed earlier in the week; reporting that there was nothing conclusive. They asked why the Borough is addressing McMunn Avenue now. Mr. Minsterman stated that there were bigger issues that needed correction, and there is only so much money. Mr. Perkey and others asked for a summary of scenarios, and some kind of assurance. Mr. Crown and Mr. Minsterman advised that without televising the laterals, that this could not be done – if it is the property owners responsibility they will be expected to remedy it and if it is the Borough's responsibility, the Borough will make the necessary repairs; the Borough is not looking to have the residents repair all of McMunn. That a study could cost thousands of dollars and still wouldn't remedy the problem. Mr. Stewart asked what data does the Borough have from televising the main sewer; Mr. Minsterman stated that it appears in relatively good condition and there was nothing obvious as to the cause of the sinkholes. Mr. Stewart asked if any lining work has been performed on the main sewer on McMunn; Mr. Sample stated no.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Mr. Crown read the report, as follows: 2 property complaints investigated, 18 permits issued, 37 inspections performed, and 1 private criminal complaint filed.

BUSINESS AGENDA**ADMINISTRATIVE**

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Ms. Koerbel, to approve a change to the Employee's Health Care Plan, whereby providing for employee payment of a deductible as may be required.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mrs. Damits, to approve an in-house HRA (Health Reimbursement Account) line item in the Budget to reimburse an employee for any paid deductible as may be required under the new Health Care Plan.

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

FINANCE

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to authorize the advertisement of a proposed Ordinance amending the EMS tax rate and levy. **COMMENT:** Mr. Donovan inquired on what changes were being made; Mr. Crown advised that you would only be required to pay the \$52.00 if you make more than \$12,000., and Mrs. Tremblay added that the cap would be changed from a minimum of \$2,000. to \$12,000., and this ordinance requires 3 advertisements.

MOTION carried by a Four (4) Yes, Three (3) No (Damits, Stewart, Crown) Roll Call Vote.

PLANNING

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Stewart, seconded by Mrs. Damits, to approve the release of the remaining financial security for the completed Walgreen development, and authorize the Solicitor to provide a letter to the developer and release, to them, the original security instruments.

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

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Damits, seconded by Mr. Stewart, to Suspend the Rules to address 2 issues dealing with the Police Bargaining Unit.

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

1. MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Donvoan, seconded by Mrs. Damits, to approve a tentative four-year agreement between Crafton Borough and the Crafton Police Wage and Policy Committee constituting of wage increases of 3% per year for each of the four years of the Agreement. And, further move that the appropriate borough officials be authorized to execute a new consolidated collective bargaining agreement upon negotiation of the final contract language mutually acceptable to both parties.

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

2. MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mrs. Damits, that the Borough offer a retirement incentive to all Crafton Police Officers currently eligible for super-annuation retirement; such retirement incentives to be comprised of paid-up health care coverage for the officer and his spouse for up to 45 months or until such time as the officer and/or spouse becomes covered under another policy of health care insurance

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

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Stewart that this meeting be adjourned.

MOTION carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary