

CRAFTON BOROUGH
REORGANIZATION MEETING
MINUTES OF JANUARY 3, 2006

OATH OF OFFICE

Susan O'Connell was sworn into office as Mayor, by the Honorable Dennis Joyce. Councilpersons Byers, Christman, Donovan, Impavido, Ogden and Sappie were sworn to their office.

Mayor O'Connell called the meeting of Crafton Borough Council to order, held the flag salute and roll call was conducted Roll Call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded nine (9) members of Council present, as follows: Mr. Byers, Mr. Christman, Mr. Cindric, Mr. Donovan, Mr. Impavido, Ms. Koerbel, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie, and Mr. Stewart. Also present were Mayor O'Connell and Manager Sample.

ELECTIONS

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL:

The floor was open to nominations for Council President. It was regularly moved and seconded to nominate Edward Stewart. There being no other nominations, it was regularly moved and seconded to close nominations; and a vote was taken:

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to declare Edward Stewart the President of Crafton Borough Council.

MOTION carried by a 7 yes-2 no (*Donovan, Koerbel*) Voice Vote.

At this time, President Stewart presided over the meeting.

VICE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL:

It was regularly moved and seconded to nominate Thomas Byers. It was regularly moved and seconded to nominate Nancy Koerbel. There being no other nominations, it was regularly moved and seconded to close nominations; and a vote was taken:

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to elect Thomas Byers as Vice President of Crafton Borough Council.

MOTION carried by a 7 yes-2 no (*Donovan, Koerbel*) Voice Vote.

APPOINTMENTS:

1. SOLICITOR – It was regularly moved and seconded to appoint Thomas Ayoob as Borough Solicitor.

MOTION carried by a 7 yes-2 no (*Donovan, Koerbel*) Voice Vote.

2. ENGINEER - It was regularly moved and seconded to appoint Gateway Engineers as Borough Engineer.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

3. OFFICIAL PAPER – It was regularly moved and seconded that The Suburban Gazette, and Pittsburgh Post Gazette for emergencies, be appointed as the Official Paper.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

4. FIRE DEPARTMENT– It was regularly moved and seconded that the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department be appointed as the Borough Fire Department.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

- 5. FIRE CHIEF - It was regularly moved and seconded to appoint Roy Hermes as the Fire Chief for the Borough of Crafton.
MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.
- 6. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR – It was regularly moved and seconded to appoint Mark Sumpter as Emergency Management Coordinator.
MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.
- 7. FIRE MARSHAL – It was regularly moved and seconded to appoint Gary Ciampanelli as Borough Fire Marshal, contingent on his acceptance of this appointment.
MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.
- 8. BOROUGH TREASURER – It was regularly moved and seconded to appoint Nevin B. Perkey as Borough Treasurer.
MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.
- 9. VACANCY BOARD COMMISSIONER – It was regularly moved and seconded to appoint Dennis Stelzner as Vacancy Board Commissioner
MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

MEETING DATE SCHEDULE

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded, that the Year 2006 Meetings of Crafton Borough Council be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each Month. The 2nd Wednesday will be the Agenda Meeting commencing at 7:00 pm, and the 4th Wednesday will be the Business Meeting commencing at 7:00 pm. COMMENTS: Friendly Amendment - for the month of January only, and to be reviewed and set at the next meeting of Council, was suggested by Mr. Cindric, was not acceptable to Mr. Donovan.

MOTION TO AMEND was moved and seconded, as follows: Amend the Motion to include - for the month of January only, and to be review, reconsider and set at the next meeting of Council.

MOTION to Amend carried by an 8 yes-1 no (*Donovan*) Roll Call Vote.

MOTION, as Amended, carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote.

BUSINESS AGENDA

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to adopt Roberts Rules of Order, as Crafton Borough Council’s Rules of Government.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to accept proposals for the collection and reporting of all Act 511 taxes and trash collection fees. COMMENTS: Ms. Koerbel asked why this change is being considered. Mr. Stewart stated that Jordan Tax Service is now in McMurray in Washington County, and he offered that there are companies in Allegheny County; some closer that can do the work, and this will allow Council time to review and consider them. Ms. Koerbel asked if Jordan would also be solicited for a proposal; to which Mr. Stewart stated yes. Mr. Cindric stated that there were 4 or 5 proposals received last year, and asked Manager Sample contact them.

MOTION carried by a 7 yes-2 no (*Donovan, Koerbel*) Voice Vote.

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to accept proposals for a new auditor to perform the 2005 financial Audit. COMMENTS: Mrs. Tremblay expressed concerns that the Borough Code required this appointment be made before the close of the 2005 fiscal year, which is why the appointment was made last month. Solicitor Woodman, introduced himself, and advised that he would review the Borough Code requirements during the meeting.

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded, to temporarily Table this Motion and revisit the Motion later in the meeting. MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to re-open the 2006 Budget. COMMENTS: Ms. Koerbel asked why this is being proposed. Mr. Stewart stated that they think there are some deficiencies that need reviewed. Mrs. Koerbel asked why these were discussed previously during the Budget review month. Mr. Stewart stated that at the time, the votes were 6-3 – Mrs. Koerbel stated that she wasn't asked what she thought; and Mr. Donovan objected to Mr. Byers voting on this since he was not present for any of the Budget meetings and Ms. Koerbel concurred. Mr. Cindric advised that this action is appropriate in accordance with the Borough Code, and recalls prior years when the Budget was re-opened that little or no changes were made; but Council has the opportunity to take this action especially considering the number of new Council members. They should have the opportunity to address and make changes, if they desire, to a Budget that they will be working with and responsible for in 2006. Mr. Impavido stated that, as new Council people, they should have the right to see if there is anything more that they can do. Mrs. Koerbel stated that he, as well as all citizens, had the right to come to the meetings and discuss the Budget ahead of time; and that this action is taking a step backward and not very productive for the Borough. Mr. Ogden stated that the town of Crafton spoke when they voted and they would like to see change; that this is an opportunity for the new Council to make changes. Mr. Cindric re-iterated his prior comments concerning past years; that this is not unique and it gives a new Council an opportunity to revisit the Budget.

MOTION to Amend carried by an 8 yes-1 no (*Koerbel*) Roll Call Vote.

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to schedule and authorize the advertisement of Council's action to re-open, meet and adopt a revised 2006 Budget.

MOTION carried by a 7 yes-2 no (*Donovan, Koerbel*) Roll Call Vote.

Budget Meeting Dates and Times were discussed. Mr. Stewart suggested possibly meeting on the next 3 Thursdays; Ms. Koerbel stated that she teaches on Tuesdays and Thursday evening. Mr. Stewart then offered that Council meet at 7:00 pm on Thursday, January 12th, Wednesday, January 18th and prior to the meeting on January 25th, at 6:00 pm, if necessary.

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded to schedule and authorize the advertisement of Council's action to re-open, meet and adopt a revised 2006 Budget at 7:00 pm on Thursday, January 12th, Wednesday, January 18th and prior to the meeting on January 25th, at 6:00 pm, if necessary.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

CLOSING COMMENTS: President Stewart stated that he is requesting that a second Citizen comment period be placed on the Agenda at the end of each meeting and also an opportunity for Council general comments. Ms. Koerbel inquired if there is any intention of changing the Solicitor for the Planning Commission. Mr. Stewart stated that this can be discussed at the next meeting, which would be prior to the next Planning Commission meeting.

Council Comments:

Mr. Donovan – None at this time.

Mrs. Sappie – Welcomed everyone aboard; hopes that over the next 4 years everyone will work together to keep Crafton running smoothly.

Mr. Christman – The constituents spoke in their vote, and he will try to do his best for his constituents and all of Crafton.

Ms. Koerbel – Welcomed everyone; and sincerely hopes that everyone will work together for the good of the Borough and not make changes for the sake of making changes.

Mr. Impavido – Thanked the voters for giving him a chance and he looks forward to working with everyone to make a lot of positive changes for the Borough of Crafton.

Mr. Cindric – Welcomed Mayor O’Connell, as the first woman Mayor for Crafton, and welcomed Mr. Impavido, as possibly the youngest Councilperson; and welcomed and thanked all of the new Councilpersons.

Mr. Ogden – Stated that he is probably the first gym owner on Council, and, (*kiddingly*), he suggested that they consider starting each meeting with jumping jacks, pushups and lunges. He is looking forward to working with the residents and business owners of Crafton, and is looking forward to a Council that works together; putting any personal agendas aside and putting the Crafton residents first.

Mayor O’Connell - Stated she is looking forward to being Mayor of Crafton; and is also proud to be a citizen of Crafton, and proud of the people she has met over the years who put forth the energy and talent to make this a wonderful community. It is difficult not to throw in her vote on the motions (*referring to past years experiences as a Councilperson*).

Mr. Byers – Wished everyone well in 2006; to state what you think, how you feel and vote your conscience. If everyone sticks to those ideas, everyone should do well; and he looks forward to serving Crafton in the year 2006.

President Stewart - This Council has inherited a lot of things and has a ton of work to do. Councilmembers are not miracle workers; just residents of Crafton with the job to serve this Borough the best that they can; representing everyone. He made reference to his home; and the high heating bills – which is something Council needs to think about in keeping costs and taxes down, and serving the best as they can and the Police Department. He thanked Police Chief Rost for his dedication and many years of service; that he serves this borough well.

Manager Sample reminded Council of the upcoming ALOM conference, if anyone is interested or for more information to contact him or the Borough Secretary.

Mr. Tom Woodman, introduced himself from Solicitor Tom Ayoob’s office. He recalls enjoying working with Crafton in the past, and looks forward to working, again with Crafton. He advised that Mr. Ayoob had a prior conflict with this evening, and could not attend.

Mr. Rick Minsterman, of Gateway Engineers, thanked Council for the re-appointment; stating that they have been Crafton’s engineers for almost 55 years.

President Stewart closed with the following: The last sentence from the Declaration of Independence with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, – that this council will serve with this in mind. He invited all to stay afterwards for light refreshments.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr.Byers, seconded by Mr. Donovan, that the Meeting be Adjourned.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tremblay
Borough Secretary