

**REGULAR MEETING  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2006**

President Stewart called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center; Flag Salute was led by Mr. Impavido. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded eight (8) members of Council present, as follows: Mr. Christman, Mr. Cindric, Mr. Donovan, Mr. Impavido, Ms. Koerbel, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie, and Mr. Stewart. Also present were Mayor O'Connell, Manager Sample, Solicitor Ayoob, and Engineer Wagner. (*Absent: Mr. Byers*)

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mr. Christman, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the February 22, 2006 List of Bills.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (8-0).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

None Available

**CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

Mary Ban, 53 Taylor – Ms. Ban reported that she had an accident this past Saturday due to the road conditions, and asked what the procedure was in calling out Public Works during snow events. Manager Sample stated that Crafton Police notify County, and County contacts Public Works. Public Works was contacted by County at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, and it does take awhile to load salt onto the trucks, etc. and get out to plow and or salt the streets. Mr. Stewart said that there are 17 miles of roads in the borough and Public Works is very attentive. He said he would review and revise this procedure accordingly to expedite servicing of the streets.

John Gorman, 2415 Craftmont, City of Pittsburgh – Mr. Gorman inquired on the status of Crafton honoring or recognizing Bill Cowher. Mr. Stewart stated that a Mayor's Proclamation was issued, and sent to Mr. Cowher, along with a letter asking if we may proceed in honoring him in some fashion. Being a very modest and humble person, the borough is awaiting his reply.

Betsy Martin, 51 Noble – Ms. Martin provided a list of items that she asked be looked into and remedied. (Painting of benches, trash cans, signs on buildings, screening of dumpsters, junkyard area between Dollar General & Lumber yard, enforcement of littering laws.) She also expressed concerns for sight limitations on Black's Bridge due to the style of railings. Mr. Stewart advised that PennDot engineers have been looking at this, and an inspection report should be forthcoming. Mr. Impavido suggested that residents also contact 1-800-Litterbug to report and prosecute litterbugs. Ms. Martin also claimed that the Walgreen sign is not permitted under the zoning ordinance. Mr. Sample and Mr. Skorich advised that it was approved by the Joint Planning Commission, and changes were approved by the Joint Zoning Hearing Board.

Joan Kury, 30 Lincoln Avenue – Ms. Kury reported that her mother received a snow removal notice requiring same within 12 hours; and she believes the ordinance should be changed to allow additional time to remove snow. With regard to the upcoming paving program, she asked that the borough keep the brick streets. She suggested naming the park after Mr. Cowher. She reported a pothole in the alley at Union and Noble. Mr. Stewart said that whenever possible, the borough will retain the brick streets, however, the bricks have experienced much wear and in most cases cannot be reused. She also felt there is a lot of trash on the streets.

Donovan Radford, 103 Broadhead – Mr. Radford asked the status of his wife's request for guardrail protection at their home on Broadhead Road; following an accident that resulted in a car hitting their front porch. He suggested that, for aesthetics, that Council consider 6 x 6 posts, approx. 4 feet apart, rather than guardrails, to deter any vehicles from traveling into their house. Mr. Stewart advised that Council

and the borough engineers were still reviewing this matter, and would report something back to them very soon.

### **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, Fire Department's Report, REMs Report and the Engineer's Report. **COMMENTS:** Ms. Sappie inquired on the CDBG grant program; past participation and success. Engineer Wagner reported that the borough makes application every year with several projects, and have been successful on a few smaller projects, but none regarding streets or anything major. Mr. Stewart re-iterated the situation with brick streets and the problems with retaining and maintaining them. Mr. Impavido inquired on saving the bricks that are removed; Mr. Stewart said that few are salvageable as they are worn thin and it is very cost prohibitive to replace them.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor O'Connell reported that the department responded to 190 complaints for the month of December, and referred Council to the written report. She reported that she did follow up with the schools on the Jr. Council Person program, and it would require adoption of a participation Resolution and submission of the students letter of interest. It was her understanding that Council may appoint someone from both Carlynton and Canevin, if they so desire. She reported that she had attended the Allegheny County Mayors Association meeting, and if anyone is interested, she has information available.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Stewart reported that 1) He had discussed Black's Bridge with Penndot and may have more information available at the next meeting, 2) He made some trail inquiries last week, has a few names and will meet with the engineer, and will have additional information available also at the next meeting, 3) He has sent a letter to Bill Cowher suggesting areas of recognition and Mr. Stewart is awaiting his input, and 4) He reported that recycling in the borough is down, that it is required by ordinance and the borough receives grant funds based on the tonnage of curbside pickup. He encouraged residents to recycle, and reminded them that effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, residents can also recycle newsprint.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Wagner reported that the sewer repairs and lining work is ongoing; approx. 6-8 weeks until completion, then restoration needs to begin. He is recommending approval of payment to Merante Contracting in the amount of \$164,062.59. He suggested that Council attempt to start working on a list of streets to be considered for the 2006 paving to take advantage of the paving slow period and possibly at a considerable savings. Ms. Koerbel reported that a resident asked that Council consider paving Middle Street; Eng. Wagner indicated that it is one of the streets to be considered. Mr. Cindric stated that it may have a red dog base; Eng. Wagner added that all of the proposed streets will need a closer look once on the final list.

### **SOLICITOR' REPORT**

Solicitor Ayoob reported that he had an opportunity to review the files for ongoing litigation which were inherited from the former solicitor, and will review these matters at an Executive Session following the meeting of Council. He reported that the Borough staff has received a request for certain public records; he suggests that the Borough adopt a policy if it does not already have one in place. He will provide a draft form to Council for consideration. He reviewed examples of requests, and requirements, costs, etc.

### **SECRETARY'S/MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Sample reported that he is compiling the list of streets, as submitted by Council and will review them with the engineer. The new pumper truck was delivered and is at the fire house if anyone desires to stop by and see it. He reminded everyone that the Borough is still accepting applications for summer help, it was advertised in the Suburban Gazette and the deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup>. Secretary Tremblay reported that it is also being announced at Carlynton High School.

**BUSINESS AGENDA**  
**ADMINISTRATION**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mr. Ogden, seconded by Mr. Christman, to adopt Resolution No. 2006-01, intending to amend Resolution No. 2005-20; Section 12 C. Swimming Pool Fees.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (8-0)

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Christman, to approve payment to A. Merante in the amount of \$164,062.59 from the PNC Line of Credit Account; to be reimbursed from PennVest funds, per the recommendation of the Engineers.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (8-0)

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mr. Christman, to accept the resignation of Thomas Gilles from the Civil Service Commission, effective February 6, 2006.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (8-0).

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Ms. Koerbel** reported that the Crafton Planning Commission would be meeting this Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm; and confirmed that Solicitor Ayoob did not need to attend.

**Mr. Ogden** inquired on the status of Crafton doing something in honor of Bill Cowher.

**Mr. Christman** stated that the Borough should attempt to at least provide fireworks this 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and possibly recruit volunteers and donations. Mr. Stewart reported that the cost is estimated at approx. \$10,000. and it is a big chore; and he suggested that Mr. Christman lead this effort.

**Mr. Cindric** reported on his attendance at the Charwest COG meeting: A COG sponsored hazardous waste dropoff is being considered in April at Settler's Cabin Park. There would be a charge incurred and it would be limited to household waste items. The COG has also been working with the Charwest municipalities toward obtaining federal funds in the amount of \$100,000. per municipality for parks and recreation. It is very doubtful, and if available, it will be a lesser dollar amount – maybe \$5,000 or \$10,000. He reported that REMS had sent a crew to help Katrina victims. He reported that REMS has also agreed to increase the hours in Crafton Borough to 13 ½ hours. They will be in the borough commencing at 7:00 am.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

MOTION carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary