

**COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 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 Mrs. Koerbel. 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, Manager Sample, Solicitor Ayoob, and Engineer Wagner, and Jr. Councilpersons Ms. Luxbacher and Ms. McNamara.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Ms. Koerbel, to approve the June 28, 2006 List of Bills.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (9-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve the May 24, 2006 and June 14, 2006 meeting minutes.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (9-0).

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Mary Slusser/Sandy Burns, Lawson Street - She thanked Council for the additional police patrol in their area. They asked for clarification on the annual cost for the DANET; \$40,000. Vs. \$4,000, 4,500. Commented that extra \$25,000. was found in the budget for the paving program, could an extra \$4,500 be found to, again, participate in DANET. Mr. Stewart commented that DANET participation is in addition to regular hours, and this amount of overtime in other communities detracts from the officers' performance in the borough. Crafton abuts the City of Pittsburgh, so their problems are also our problems. Ms. Slusser asked what other communities have recently pulled out of DANET; Mr. Stewart stated that he would get that information and provide it to her.

Joan Kury, Lincoln Avenue - She also asked that Council reconsider participation in the Drug Task Force; she has serious concerns on recent armed robberies, daytime drug deals on the streets, possible influx of gangs and the whereabouts of a reported missing gun in the borough. She reported that a Crime Watch meeting is scheduled for July 8th at Bill's Weight Room, at 1:00 pm.

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, Ordinance Officers Report, REMs Report and the Engineer's Report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor O'Connell reported that the department responded to 203 complaints for the month of May, and referred Council to the written report. She inquired if the area coordinators would be contacted regarding the July 8th Crime Watch meeting; and Mr. Ogden stated that they would be contacted. She reminded everyone that the possession and use of fireworks were prohibited in the borough; and to celebrate the 4th with the fireworks at Crafton Park. She remarked on the School playground; that it is not just renovations, but will be totally new, and have many fundraising activities planned. She reminded everyone of the Mayor's Service Award program; nomination deadline and ceremonious presentation on September 6th.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Stewart reported thanked all of the Fireworks contributors, including the Sharp Edge Restaurant for their fund raising effort. He also thanked the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department, in advance, for their services at the fireworks, and their presence at many borough events throughout the year. Fireworks commence at dusk.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Wagner reported that he is recommending final payment to A. Merante, in the amount of \$131,317.84, but subject to receipt of their maintenance bond. He advised that the lining contractor still has some restoration work to complete, the paving program is scheduled to begin in August, and 37 White Avenue will be demolished in late July or August. All CCTV work has been completed and they are reviewing the data; the next round of CCTV work will be done in the fall.

SOLICITOR' REPORT

None.

President Stewart reported that an Executive Session of Council was held prior to the meeting to discuss a matter of litigation, and to hear a fact-finding report and presentation.

SECRETARY'S/MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Sample reported he has been in touch with Port Authority to resolve the pigeon problem at the Steuben Street underpass; in 2-3 weeks, they will power wash the area and use a product called Bird-Be-Gone. He reported that the Historical Society will be selling street signs in the park on the evening of July 4th before the Fireworks; at \$20. per sign. The proceeds will go toward the cost needed to purchase the last 3rd of the signs to be installed in the Borough. He reported that he plans on meeting with the Finance committee to review and analyze the Budget at it's mid-year status. He announced that the Borough offices would be closed on both Monday and Tuesday for the 4th of July holiday. Mrs. Sappie reported that Sunoco stickers were all over the borough; stuck on street signs, cars, etc. – Mr. Sample advised that he would look into it and would ask Sunoco to cease distribution of the stickers. Mr. Christman inquired on the curfew in the borough and asked if it were being enforced; and if not, that it should be.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/OLD BUSINESS

- a. Fireworks, Park vendors – Mr. Stewart advised that a vendor application was being established for non-profit groups to eliminate and address past problems. Mr. Ayoob reviewed the application and found it to be satisfactory; but requested that it include a requirement to name the Borough as an additional insured.
- b. Fire Dept. Ordinance; Powers at fire scene – Mr. Stewart felt that the ordinance is inappropriate and in violation of the Borough Code; that it takes away from the police power. Mayor O'Connell stated that she did not understand the need for this directive to be in the ordinance. Mr. Stewart reported that he noted his disagreement with this language, and other items, when adopting the Recodification of the Ordinances. Mr. Ogden felt there must have been a reason why this was established and asked for a response from Chief Hermes. Mr. Stewart and Mr. Byers stated that, at the time of Recodification, even Chief Hermes didn't want this power and disagreed with this language.

BUSINESS AGENDA**PERSONNEL**

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to hire Marie Schuck and Louise Rush as summer crossing guards, Andrew Mellon as a pool concession stand employee for the 2006 summer season.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (9-0).

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Christman, to approve the final payment to A. Merante in the amount of \$131,317.84 from the PennVest funds, per the recommendation of the Engineers, and subject to receipt of the maintenance bond.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (9-0).

PLANNING

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the Combined Preliminary/Final Subdivision application as submitted by Nicholas Brenlove, Owner, for the Brenlove Plan of Lots, per the recommendations of the Crafton Planning Commission.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (9-0).

NEW BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Koerbel reported that the Planning Commission Meeting is Monday, July 17th, at 6:30 pm.

Mr. Ogden reminded everyone of the special Crime Watch meeting at his business on E. Crafton Avenue. He also remarked on the lack of contributions to the CVFD; approximately 43% reduction since 2000. He requested that his meeting stipend be donated to the fire department.

Mr. Christman said to continue contributions to the Fireworks; and any excess funds would go toward next years' program. He will have a meeting in August to start working on next years 4th of July celebration.

Mrs. Sappie reported that the June senior citizen dinner went very well; and the next dinner will be on July 22nd.

Mr. Cindric reported that there was no REMs meeting this month. He said the CharWest COG reported that Collier received a grant for a storm water separator project. That they also discussed an Enterprise Zone. He also expressed concern that this is the last year on the road salt contract, and due to the high fuel costs, we, as well as all municipalities need to plan for higher salt costs. There was a discussion on the K-9 dog in Carnegie. There is no COG meeting until September.

Mr. Impavido – provided his resignation from his Council seat, due to a promotion at work. (*Resignation letter is attached to and made a part of the Minutes.*)

Mr. Impavido reported that due to a job promotion he would have to resign his seat on Council (letter of resignation attached to and made a part of these minutes).

ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary