

**COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of August 9, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER

President Stewart called to order the Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Sappie. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded all members of Council present (9), as follows: Mr. Byers, Mr. Cindric, Mr. Christman, Mr. Donovan, Ms. Koerbel, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie, Mrs. Viola and Mr. Stewart. Also present were Mayor O'Connell, Engineer Minsterman, Solicitor Woodman, and Ms. McNamara, Jr. Council. (*Absent: Manager Sample*)

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

Mayor O'Connell read a Proclamation honoring Captain Jason West; killed in action (copy attached hereto).

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve the August 9, 2006 List of Bills.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (9-0), with exception noted (*Mr. Donovan, #413.14*).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Ms. Koerbel, to approve the July 14 and July 26, 2006 meet minutes. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Cindric and Mr. Stewart remarked that the Minutes are getting very lengthy, and need to be less verbatim, and more summarized.

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

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Joan Kury, Lincoln Avenue – Ms. Kury stated that she had come before Council previously inquiring about the borough obtaining and installing crosswalk signs; and noted a recent incident in the crosswalk in front of the Borough building. Mayor O'Connell indicated that this would be looked into, and Mr. Stewart stated that Manager Sample is currently working with Public Works on a sign replacement program throughout the borough.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman reported on the road resurfacing program. The contractor needed to order risers for the manhole covers along McMunn; this will be completed the week of August 14th. He reported that the milling of Black's Bridge made it obvious the poor condition of the bridge deck. This will require additional work and Gateway will get back to Council with a cost. Temporary cold patch and cones have been placed on the bridge. They are arranging for the contractor to bring in steel plates to cover the exposed rebar and crumbling surfaces. It was the consensus of Council to insure safety over convenience, and if need be, close the bridge temporarily if the contractor does not make the bridge deck safer for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Engineer Minsterman could not provide a good estimate on cost; except that it could possibly cost \$100. per square foot.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Woodman had no report.

OLD BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

It was announced that the Manager and Engineer are reviewing the sewer program and will be processing a PennVest application on line, for submission by the 8/29 deadline.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

8:40 pm: Council, at the request of President Stewart, convened to a brief Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

BUSINESS AGENDA

PLANNING IMPLEMENTATION

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mr. Cindric, to adopt Ordinance No. 1577 amending the Official Zoning Map by modifying the Steuben Street Overlay District by removing all property East of Foster Avenue from the Steuben Street Overlay District. **COMMENTS:** Ms. Koerbel asked that Council consider tabling this motion, and, instead, consider amending the uses and restrictions of an Overlay District. Mr. Greiner (owner of the Foster Avenue property) offered to create restrictions or covenants on his deed to further limit the various uses of the property. Mr. Roussos, a developer and prospective buyer of the property, advised that he was negotiating with a retail tenant for the subject property. Mr. Stewart agreed with Council and the residents, that there has been zoning instability in that area over the years, and Council should try to provide a degree of permanence, and remove the ambiguous uses from the zoning ordinance.

MOTION TO TABLE: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Ogden to table the motion pending the solicitor’s response to Council’s questions.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to appoint Stephen Palchowski to the Crafton Zoning Hearing Board for a term that will expire on December 31, 2008.

MOTION carried by an eight (8) yes, one (1) no (*Cindric*) Voice Vote.

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Ogden, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to appoint Jake Carrigan to the Crafton Civil Service Commission for a term that will expire on July 1, 2010.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to appoint Christine O’Brien to the Crafton Civil Service Commission for a term that will expire on July 1, 2012.

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

NEW BUSINESS

None

COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Donovan – None

Ms. Koerbel – Planning Commission Meeting scheduled for 8/21, at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Ogden – McMunn nicely paved; promoting speeders. There are no speed limit signs on McMunn. He suggested that speed limit signs be placed and that Council consider placing a stop sign on McMunn at Elmwood. Engineer Minsterman advised that would require a traffic study.

Ms. McNamara – Reminded everyone of the Sunday night movies in the park.

Mr. Christman – Scheduling a Crafton Celebrates meeting for September; possibly the 12th at 7:00 pm, depending on the availability of the community center.

Mr. Byers – Suggested that the Borough look into rental, purchase or municipal sharing of a grinder for yard waste recycling.

Mrs. Sappie – Reminded everyone of the Senior Citizen dinner on 8/26; featuring Giant Eagle’s baked cod, macaroni & cheese, and a chalk artist – doors open at 5pm, dinner at 5:30.

Mrs. Viola – Announced that this is her first Council meeting, and it is an honor; and she hoped to well represent the second ward.

Mr. Cindric – Thanked those who attended the Crime Watch meeting, and reminded everyone of the Crime Watch Alert opt-in program, featured on the Crafton website. It was brought to Council’s attention that there may be a technical problem joining the program. Mayor O’Connell advised that she would look into it. Mr. Cindric commented that there were inaccuracies in the numbers reported to Council by a citizen regarding DANET in Crafton, and that some of Council may have based their decision on those numbers.

Mayor O’Connell – Reported that the Borough is moving forward in DANET. There are no regular meetings scheduled yet for Crime Watch, but when available will be announced and provided via the E-mail opt-in program. She reported that she and Chief Rost are working with the school district on security issues at the elementary school playground; also, reminded everyone of the upcoming construction. Mr. Greiner advised that it is the 1st phase of 3, and construction begins on August 19th. Mayor O’Connell reminded everyone of the Library fund raiser scheduled for September 30th. A meeting was held with the Crossing Guards; they are fully staffed but there is always a need for additional substitute guards. Also, during the 2007 Budget meetings, she will be asking Council to consider a pay increase for the Crossing Guards. Crosswalks are being painted in anticipation of school opening. She also noted that there was a vegetable certificate program in July, sponsored by Allegheny County –that it is too late now, but to perhaps bring this to the attention of our senior citizens next year.

Mr. Stewart – Thanked the 3 citizens for volunteering to fill the vacant commission seats.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Joan Kury, Lincoln Avenue – Ms. Kury advised that she will look into the DANET numbers and if the D.A.’s office gave them inaccurate numbers, she will provide the information to everyone in writing.

Frank Lehner, Clearview Avenue – Mr. Lehner stated that he felt the meeting was very productive, but was disappointed in Mr. Cindric’s attitude toward the residents in the audience.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary