

**COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 27, 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. Viola Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded all nine (9) members of Council present, as follows: Mr. Byers, Mr. Christman, Mr. Cindric, Mr. Donovan, Ms. Koerbel, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie, Mrs. Viola and Mr. Stewart. Also present were Mayor O'Connell, Manager Sample, Solicitor Ayoob, Engineer Wagner, and Jr. Councilperson Ms. McNamara.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mr. Christman, to approve the September 27, 2006 List of Bills. **COMMENTS:** Ms. Koerbel questioned the advertising expense for an auditor; she didn't recall any discussion or approval of this item. Mr. Stewart stated that we have had the same auditor for the past 6 or 7 years; since the elected auditors were discontinued. He believes you shouldn't continually go with the same auditor and should bring in a new group, and requested that the manager advertise it; and, he also thought it had been discussed in early spring. Manager Sample reported that 2 proposals were received for consideration by the deadline, and asked if it should be re-advertised. Mr. Stewart stated that this can be discussed further at the budget meetings and did not want to expend further money for advertising.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (9-0), with exception noted by Mrs. Sappie (#430.45).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mr. Byers, to approve the September 13, 2006 meeting minutes.

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

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Blair Cress, Noble Avenue – Mr. Cress inquired on the status of the repairs and reopening of Black's Bridge. He asked why no pre-tests were performed prior to preparing the specs for the paving contract? He can't understand how replacement of the concrete is so costly; for \$100,000. Following some discussion, it was noted that this matter would be discussed further in the Engineer's report.

John F. Richnavsky, 92 Noble Avenue – Mr. Richnavsky asked if Prince Alley would be repaved, that it is in very bad condition, or could the potholes be filled. The garbage trucks have caused a lot of ruts and potholes. Mr. Stewart stated that perhaps Public Works can dump spent asphalt and roll it out to repair the alley. Mr. Byers stated that also Margie's Alley is bad; that the garbage trucks should not be picking up trash in the allies, and should be picking up on the front streets – check out the contract requirements.

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, Fire Department's Report, REMs Report and the Engineer's Report. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Cindric questioned items on the Financial Report; particularly the prior real estate tax revenue and the real estate transfer tax revenue in comparison to last year. Mrs. Tremblay advised that last year, Mrs. Dadey turned over 2 years delinquent taxes for Jordan to collect, and this year, only 1 year is being collected; this is the time of the year we should see collection of delinquent taxes. Mrs. Tremblay stated that Walgreen's resold their property, twice last year, and there were a lot of property

sales last year as well. However, it does appear that the anticipated transfer tax revenue was over-budgeted. Mr. Byers asked where the Morgan Stanley settlement proceeds are in the report; Mrs. Tremblay reported that it was received and deposited in September, under line item #380.02, and, therefore, does not appear on the August financial report.

MOTION to accept the reports carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (9-0).

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor O'Connell reported that the department responded to 274 complaints for the month of August, and referred Council to the written report. She reported that a Crime Watch meeting, set up through the Attorney General's office, featuring a Senior Citizen program, is scheduled for the Crafton Towers, on Foster Avenue, on Monday, October 23, at 7:00 pm. She congratulated Stephen Ciampanelli for earning his Eagle Scout; he is the son of Fire Marshal, Gary Ciampanelli.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Stewart announced that a schedule for budget meetings, for Oct. 4th, 18th, Nov. 1st and Nov. 15th. It is his desire to complete all budget business and only require one Council meeting in December. He also reminded everyone to support the library expansion, and attend the Art show and Gala being sponsored by the library on September 30th.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Wagner reported the demolition of 37 White Avenue is scheduled to commence in about two weeks and should be completed in a few days. Our Pennvest loan is scheduled for review, and we should know something in October. Bids were opened by ShaCOG on Sept. 6th for year 3 CCTV Contract, for the next required 1/6 of the Borough, and Crafton's share is \$65,660. The annual Gateway presentation is scheduled for Nov. 8th, at 6:30 p.m, and dinner will be served. He reported that the borough's emergency sewer contractor completed a repair on Haldane Avenue. He also reported that the emergency T & M contract will be expiring soon, and will be asking the Borough to authorize them to prepare specs and bid out for T & M emergency contractors. Mr. Cindric commented on the Consent Order requirement for flow monitoring; that is required to commence in June 2007, and what the 83 communities are going to do is contingent on ALCOSAN being committed to this project on behalf of the communities. All of the communities have to start this at the same time, which is why it is preferred that ALCOSAN perform the flow monitoring for all of the communities. That it is being suggested that all 83 communities submit a letter to the DEP requesting a one year extension, with and through the assistance of 3RWW. Penalties could be as high as \$35,000. per day for non-compliance; and the Solicitor's need to be involved. Solicitor Ayoob stated the 3RWW is pretty confident that the extension will be granted; however, only rely on this if it is in writing. Engineer Wagner reported that Gateway has submitted a letter, on behalf of all of the communities they represent, that they will take steps to make sure Crafton and all of it's communities do not fall out of compliance with the Consent Order, if an extension is not granted.

Black's Bridge Report - Wayne Jacobs, in-house structural engineer from Gateway, and Engineer Wagner reported on the status of the repair of Black's Bridge. That, upon inspection, this past spring, it did not appear to be that bad; visual inspection only. During the milling process and recent demolition, it was discovered that many areas are severely deteriorated; and the concrete is rubble, with exposed rebar, and also found some asphalt patches. Since then, 8 core samples have been taken. It was the preliminary consensus that repairs would be costly; approximately \$275,000, with a life of 5 to 10 years; however, it would be more desirable to redo the entire bridge at a cost of approx. \$535,000. with a life of 25 years, including sidewalk replacement. Mr. Stewart asked about imposing further weight restrictions; but Engineer Jacobs stated that wouldn't be necessary, that the bridge was structurally built for these loads. Mr. Byers suggested that repairs be made now for the 5-10 year life, and during that time period, that the Borough consider budgeting for a sinking fund for the \$500,000+. It was also stated that in 5-10 years, this cost could be well over \$500,000. It was suggested to have the paving contractor lay asphalt across the entire deck just to reopen the bridge over the winter; but

Engineer Wagner opposed that suggestion, stating that the steel needs the concrete and rebar to complete it's structural integrity and advises against that as a solution. He also stated that this repair could not be completed in phases. Manager Sample suggested that this matter be looked into further, and that Council make a decision at the next Council meeting.

Mr. Stewart also reported that they (*he, Mr. Cindric and Mgr. Sample*) had met with a representative from Congressman Doyle's office regarding a Federal Grant. Manager Sample clarified that a Federal Grant, for up to \$120,000, for any work done could be reimbursed through a Federal Grant appropriation's bill. Also, working with Allegheny County for any funds available.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None. Mr. Stewart announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Sample stated that he had planned to meet with the Finance Committee to prepare for October budget meetings. He is applying for a grant for field renovations to reconfigure the baseball field to also accommodate a football field; this would be an 80-20 grant. This would provide a football field for the Little Cougar's games, as well as practices. He commented on the need to make certain purchases with a credit card, and currently, personal, staff credit cards are being used, then reimbursed. Mr. Stewart suggested this be looked into further, and preferred this be considered through a local branch, such as PNC bank. The cost for the work done thus far by Satira Construction has not yet been billed, and amount due, to date, is not know.

It was the consensus of Council to withdraw, both, the credit card motion and the Satire Construction motion from the Business Agenda.

BUSINESS AGENDA

ADMINISTRATIVE

~~MOTION: I move to adopt Resolution No. 2006-23 authorizing the issuance of individual procurement cards.~~ *Motion Withdrawn*

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Ms. Koerbel, to approve to award the SHACOG Joint CCTV Project – Year 3 Contract to Sewer Specialty Services Company, Inc. for the amount of \$65,660.00 as recommended by Gateway Engineers.

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

~~MOTION: I move to approve the change order to the Satira Construction Inc. contract adding an additional 900 sq. ft. of work resulting in a net increase of \$41,250.00 bringing the total contract to \$96,250.00.~~ *Motion Withdrawn*

NEW BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Donovan – None

Mrs. Koerbel – Thanked LGA Intern, Dave Totten, for good job he did on the shopping center study.

Mr. Ogden – Reported that the Haldane Street resident was very pleased with the Borough's assistance in handling the sewer backup problem. He commented on the number of fire companies who had responded to the Linwood fire. He, again, reminded everyone to support the CVFD in their current fund drive effort.

Ms. McNamara – Announced that this Friday is Carlynton's Homecoming game and encouraged attendance.

Mr. Christman – Reported that the 1st meeting of Crafton Celebrates meeting was held on Tuesday, Sept. 19th, and only 7 people were present. They need at least 20 people on this committee, and the next meeting is scheduled for October 10th; and each month on the second Tuesday, at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Byers – Also reminded everyone of the Art Sale and the Wine & Cheese Gala at the Library on Sept. 30th, and encouraged attendance and support.

Mrs. Sappie – Reported that the pool had a very successful year, and possibly made money this year – she thanked the management and the pool employees.

Mrs. Viola – Reported that she had attended the Crafton Celebrates meeting, and also encouraged more volunteers and new ideas.

Mr. Cindric – Reported that he had attended the COG meeting, and that we should expect a significant cost increase in the price of road salt. The Murphy-Doyle multi-municipal parks and rec. grant will not be available. The Neville Island Fire Dept. will be sponsoring a tire recycling program on Nov. 18th, from 9am to 12 noon. Kennedy Township received funding to install bocci ball courts. He also reported technical difficulties and a late mailing of the REMS subscriptions. REMS participated in an airport drill; simulated plane crash.

President Stewart – Restated the proposed dates for the 2007 budget meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary