

COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING
Minutes of January 10, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

President Stewart called to order the Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center at 8:24 pm. Flag Salute was led by Mr. Byers. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded all nine 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, Manager Sample, Engineer Wagner, Solicitor Ayoob, and Ms. McNamara, Jr. Council.

President Stewart reported that, prior to the meeting, three firms addressed Council regarding Bond Proposals. Also, Council held an Executive Session to discuss two personnel matters; one of which will be acted upon at this meeting.

RATIFY BILL LIST OF DECEMBER 31, 2006

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Ms. Koerbel, to ratify the payment of bills from the December 31, 2006 List of Bills.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Byers, to approve the January 10, 2007 List of Bills.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve the November 22, 2006 and December 13, 2006 meeting minutes.

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

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Joan Kury, Lincoln Avenue - Ms. Kury stated that an incident was reported on a Crime Alert, via the Opt-In procedure, concerning a 7 yr. old girl who was approached and threatened by a man on Alice Street. She inquired as to why there was no report of this in the media; further adding that, this is a serious incident and yet the schools were not notified either. If this was a possible abduction attempt, the public needs to know – not just via the Crime Alert. She also inquired on the status of Crime Watch meetings. Mayor O'Connell indicated that this incident was investigated by our Police Department and they have increased their foot patrol. That the Department is not trying to hide any crimes; everything is being reported to the media but have no control over what they decide to print or not print. She also advised that a Crime Watch "planning meeting" is scheduled for January 17th which will be open to the public, and it is their intention to discuss and plan events and schedule future meeting dates.

Glenn Wacker, 1476 Crafton Blvd. - Mr. Wacker advised that certain conditions were reported at the last Council meeting concerning his property. He advised that he has a work truck, and he is in the process of building a parking pad in the rear of his property for the truck. This is a 12 ft. wide alley, and he has caught individuals dumping on his property. He has been cleaning up his property.

Jim Bernhaur of 50 McMunn Ave. and Jeff Aiello of 71 McMunn Ave. - Both Mr. Bernhaur and Mr. Aiello spoke on behalf of the McMunn Avenue residents, expressing safety concerns and a request for additional stop signs at the intersection of McMunn and Elmwood, making it a 4-way stop. They believe the traffic and speed of vehicles has increased due to the recent asphalt paving of McMunn, and the 25 mph signs are having little or no effect; they presented a petition signed by 18 McMunn residents. Mr. Byers stated that stop signs cannot be installed for speed control, but confirmed that they believe this to be a dangerous intersection. Mr. Stewart stated that the Chief of Police has the authority

to do a study, and that this information and request will be provided to Chief Rost and Council will have an answer for the residents. (Mayor O'Connell reviewed the petition/18 signatures.)

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Wagner reported the preliminary specs for Blacks Bridge were dropped off with the Borough Manager and available for Council's review and comment. Sewer defect contract bid opening is scheduled for Feb. 1st, with a mandatory pre-bid meeting on January 25th. They are attempting to set up a closing date of April 5th for the PennVest Loan. He reported that the emergency time and material contractors bids are available in the Borough Manager's office for review – the Engineer stated that there will not be an award to one bidder. That all of the bids will be considered based on the specifications for a particular job, and the low bidder will be determined on a job-by-job basis to meet specs.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Ayoob had nothing to report; all legal matters were discussed in Executive Session.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. New Committee Designations/Assignments – President Stewart reported that he has revised the Committee Assignments, whereas there is only one Chair who may select others of his choice to committee; persons were chosen based on experience, etc. but he is open to discussion and changes. Once a month, the Committee Chair will provide a Committee report.
- B. Commission Appointments – Manager Sample reported that a seat on the Building Code Appeals Board (Douglas Clark) and a seat on the Zoning Hearing Board (Linda Breeden) are presently vacant; their terms expired on December 31, 2006. They have both expressed an interest in being re-appointed to their respective boards. Agenda item/Action for the 1/24/06 meeting. President Stewart requested that notice be posted to attract anyone else who may be qualified and interested in serving on these boards.
- C. Newsletter Proof – Manager Sample advised that the final proof for the periodic Newsletter is nearing completion/printing and should be available for Council's approval at the 1/24/06 meeting – Action.
- D. Thermal Imaging Camera / CVFD – Manager Sample reported a request of the CVFD to place a Motion on the next meeting Agenda to approve the purchase of a new thermal imaging camera at a cost coming in under budget; approx. \$12,500., and the CVFD will gladly send a representative to the next meeting to answer any questions. Mr. Byers stated that the CVFD recently purchase one with a grant. It was stated that there is a need for another one for others to use or in the event of a malfunction; also having better/newer technology. (1/24-Action)
- E. Summer Employment Advertisement – Manager Sample reported that this is the time of the year that Summer Employment positions are advertised, and a Motion for same will appear on the next meeting Agenda (1/24-Action).
- F. Bond Issue – Manager Sample reported that Council heard the presentations of the three bond companies, Pres. Stewart suggested that Council have a special meeting to discuss this matter and take action - Special meeting to be advertised for Monday, Jan. 22, at 7 pm.
- G. Bridge Specification Review - Manager Sample reiterated the Engineers comments; that the preliminary specifications are available in the Borough Office for Council's review.
- H. ALOM Spring Conference – Manager Sample reported that the information has been provided to Council regarding the ALOM Spring Conference at Seven Springs. It was the consensus that anyone attending provide a brief report, and attendance would be limited to two Councilmembers, being Mr. Cindric and Mr. Donovan, who desired to attend, as well as Manager Sample. Cost almost \$1,000. per person.
- I. EPA – Webcast information; registration opens on January 10, 2007 – visit www.clu-in.org/live

BUSINESS AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Ms. Koerbel, to approve the Separation and Release Agreement between the Borough and Sam Skorich subject to final approval of

the language by the Solicitor. COMMENTS: Solicitor Ayoob advised that approx. \$25,000 will be paid to Mr. Skorich, which is comprised of 4 months of severance, one week of unused vacation and 40 days of unused sick time; which is less than terms stated in the Contract. This intends to amicably resolve this matter, due to Contract validity questions.

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

SET AGENDA BUSINESS FOR REGULAR MEETING (January 24, 2007)

Manager Sample stated that the following items will be placed on the January 24, 2007 meeting Agenda for Council's action:

Motion for Commission Appointments, Newsletter approval, purchase of the Thermal Imaging camera, advertise for summer employment positions, and Motion designate the ALOM conference attendees.

Ms. Koerbel – Asked for discussion at the next meeting on consideration of the reduction of the number of Council members to 7 members; definitive information to be available and Solicitor to research and advise Council on the procedure (1/24-Discussion).

COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Sappie – Question on Committee Assignments; she asked for clarification that Committee Chairperson would select from members of Council only, and was affirmed by President Stewart.

Mrs. Viola – Acknowledged that Kathy Robinson, Librarian, did secure a Grant for the Library.

Mr. Cindric – Reported the upcoming Annual meeting of REMS, the CVFD upcoming Awards Banquet, and reminded everyone of the Port Authority meetings that residents should try to attend for information on the elimination of several Crafton Bus Routes; and to voice their opinions on these cutbacks.

Mayor O'Connell – Drug activity was reported by a citizen and arrests were made in the shopping center; be aware of activity around you and call 911. Borough in need of part-time School Crossing Guards; wage is \$9.45 hr. – applications available at the Police Dept. She also acknowledged all of the work done by Ms. Robinson and her securing the Keystone Grant.

Ms. Koerbel – Reported the first meeting of the Crafton Planning Commission for 2007 is this Monday, at 6:00 pm. The Commission will be reviewing the CVS development plan; for property between the Taste Freeze and the Post Office (67-70 W. Steuben). Solicitor Ayoob requested a copy of the plans. She commented on the amount of litter on the streets in the borough and in Clearview Park, and asked Council to consider a Borough clean-up project. (Discussion item 1/24)

Mr. Ogden – He believed the CVFD was overlooked at the December meeting, and expressed his gratitude to them.

Mr. Christman – Reported that approx. 25 people attended the Crafton Celebrates meeting. Some committees were formed and time-tables were determined. Big job; still need more volunteers; next meeting is Feb. 13th, at 7 pm.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Joan Kury – Inquired if the Crime Watch Opt-In feature would be addressed in the upcoming Newsletter? Manager Sample explained that this is not the regular Newsletter; this is a periodic issue, but it will be addressed in the Spring/Summer Newsletter.

President Stewart announced that there is a need for an Executive Session but these personnel matters will wait and be addressed in Executive Session following the Special meeting on January 22, 2007.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary