

AGENDA MEETING
Minutes of March 14, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

President Stewart called to order the Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center at 7:35 pm. Flag Salute was led by Mr. Cindric. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded eight members of Council present (8), as follows: Mr. Byers, Mr. Cindric, Mr. Christman, Ms. Koerbel, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie, Mrs. Viola and Mr. Stewart – Also present were, Manager Sample, Engineer Wagner, Solicitor Austin, and Ms. McNamara, Jr. Council. (*Absent: Mr. Donovan*)

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Solicitor was asked to clarify a matter concerning a resignation from Council and the Planning Commission, and rescinded resignation, of Councilman Ogden. The resignation was received by most of Council via e-mail on March 13, 2007, and Mr. Ogden announced prior to the start of the meeting, earlier this day, that he was rescinding his resignation. Solicitor Austin stated that he has found no controlling law on this matter, and is not effective at this time. He also noted that Mr. Ogden was elected by the constituents in the 1st ward and he is responsible to them, not Council. A court would probably rule that the resignation never took effect since he did not inform his constituents of his resignation, nor make a public statement of resignation to his constituents. Mr. Stewart stated that he would accept the Solicitor's advice and does not desire any legal action, unless Council wants to pursue the matter and vote not to accept the resignation. Mr. Byers asked if Mr. Ogden needed to confirm that he has rescinded his resignation publicly. Solicitor Austin stated that there is no need for him to do anything. Mr. Ogden stated that he desires to remain on Council because he wants to be here (*and on the Planning Commission*).

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve the March 14, 2007 List of Bills.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Christman, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve the February 28, 2007 meeting minutes.

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

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Debbie Sappie, Montana St. – Mrs. Sappie reported that the Barger Family benefit dinner/fundraiser was a huge success and thanked the many people, especially Joan Kury and students from Carlynton and Canevin, for their hard work.

Sandy Burns, 20 Lawson - Ms. Burns reported that she, and neighbors, are experiencing trash pickup problems, missed pick-ups and trash day placement problems. She also reported that the house next to hers, at 22 Lawson, is vacant and in deplorable conditions. Manager Sample will be looking into both matters, and will contact the Ordinance Officer regarding 22 Lawson.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Wagner reported Bids will be open regarding Black's Bridge on March 28th in Council Chambers; pre-bid meeting with the contractors is scheduled for this Friday (3/16), at 10 am at the Bridge. A draft list of recommended streets for the 2007 paving program has been submitted to Council; he advises that you can anticipate better prices the earlier this is put out to bid. The longer you wait to put it out to bid, the more costly it could be. The year 3 CCTV inspections should be starting

soon. A questionnaire has been provided to Council for their consideration, regarding participation in the ShaCOGs year 4 CCTV program, which is recommended by Gateway.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Austin had no report.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. SHACOG Joint Bids for CCTV Inspection – Year 4 – Addressed previously by Engineer.
- b. Crafton Planning Commission Vacancy – Mr. Sample advised that there will soon be a vacancy for a seat which will expire on April 13th. The seat is currently held by Mark Halleman, and he has not made a final decision yet for re-appointment.
- c. 2007 Paving Program- Mr. Sample advised that the Borough has an approx. borrowing base of \$9 million, and inquired if Council desires to revisit borrowing \$1 million for paving and, also, consider bringing back the Road Tax fund to guarantee funds for a paving program. Mr. Stewart suggested that Council travel through the borough and check the listed streets, and other streets, and be prepared to discuss it at a special meeting, to be held on April 4th, at 7pm. Mrs. Sappie and Ms. Koerbel stated that they would be in favor of re-instating the Road Tax fund. Mrs. Koerbel added that Coulter Street is deplorable and definitely needs to be on the list. Mr. Cindric requested that the upper Afton and Richmond Streets be added to the list. Engineer Wagner stated that the list was developed from both the Paserware software and some streets per visual inspections.
- d. 2006 International Construction and Property Code – Mr. Sample advised that, to be compliant with the PA UCC, we need to adopt the 2006 International Construction Code and Property Maintenance Code; we are currently using the 2003, and need to update the codification
- e. LED Traffic Lights – Mr. Sample referred Council to the written memo, suggesting an energy and maintenance cost savings to the borough. Mr. Stewart asked that the Manager investigate possible grant funding for this project; Mr. Byers suggested possibly Growing Greener funding. Ms. Koerbel asked if the new development would be required to install the LED traffic signal; this was to be looked into by Manager Sample.
- f. Other – Old Business (below): Mr. Cindric inquired if the other authorized bridge inspection was completed yet. Manager Sample stated that they have received all of the information they needed and were at the bridge, so it is being prepared.

BUSINESS AGENDA – OLD BUSINESS

FINANCE

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Viola, seconded by Mr. Cindric, to adopt Ordinance No. 1579 authorizing the Borough to incur nonelectoral debt in an amount not to exceed \$750,000 through the issuance of a note to PNC Bank (Line of Credit).

Motion carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (8-0).

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Byers, to authorize the proper Borough Official to complete the required participation questionnaire with the South Hills Area Council of Governments for Year 4 of the CCTV work.

Motion carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (8-0).

SET AGENDA BUSINESS FOR REGULAR MEETING (March 28, 2007)

None

COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Sappie – Announced the date of the Sr. Citizen dinner March 24, 2007.

Mrs. Viola – None

Mr. Cindric – Reported on three items discussed by the CVFD; change the hose size to produce more water/quicker fire knockdown – tried out a sample hose. They are looking to update or replace helmets (30); possibly through a grant. Also, looking to update breathing apparatus; state of the art technology, including locating a fire-fighter; compatible with other mutual aid departments. He also noted that 5 people from the area, during the past 4 years, have been appointed to the Naval Academy, of which Mrs. Viola's son, Nicholas, is one.

Mayor O'Connell/Chief Rost – Reported that Chief Rost has obtained a grant through the Allegheny Chief's Association for two car cameras, at no cost, with the exception of \$100. each for an external adapter to enable reading of digital disk. Chief Rost was present to report to Council and to address any Council questions concerning the 2006 Annual Police Report. Chief Rost reported that an article appeared in the Signal Item recognizing Capt. Sumpter and Officer Heidenreich for their lifesaving efforts and honor. Mr. Byers asked if there would be audio capabilities on the cameras; Chief Rost stated no. Mr. Cindric commented that the Crime Alerts issued by the Police Dept. can be very useful and reminded residents to visit the borough website and Opt-In to receive the Crime Watch reports and alerts. Mrs. Sappie asked how many officers are presently working DANET; Chief Rost stated three.

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Viola, seconded by Mr. Ogden, to approve a \$200. expenditure for costs associated with installing car cameras in two police cars.

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

Ms. Koerbel – Reported the first meeting of the Crafton Planning Commission for 2007 is this Monday, March 19th, at 6:00 pm. The Commission will be reviewing the CVS development plan; for property between the Tastee 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. He felt it was very heartwarming to see the turnout for the recent fundraiser dinner.

Ms. McNamara – Reported on the Carlynton School musical; visit the school website.

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 April 10th, at 7 pm.

Mr. Stewart – Reported that work is being done, by McGervey Electric, on the electrical panel box and the will be putting the siren on it own circuit. He reported that Councilman Donovan is absent due to an accident and had shattered his hip. He noted that the voice recorder in the police department has never been repaired or replaced. This was not done due to calls going through County 911, but it is important and in the best interest of the borough to tape phone conversations coming into the department.

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. She thanked the police dept. for their stepped up patrols during the fund raiser dinner. She asked if parking could be changed to the other side on Oregon, so that the cars would then drive over bricks and part of the street that is in better condition. She asked if the April 4th paving meeting would be open to the public and could the public view the list of streets at that time.

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 (8-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary