

COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING
Minutes of May 9, 2007

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 Mr. Byers. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded seven members of Council present (7), as follows: Mr. Byers, Mr. Cindric, 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. Christman, Mr. Donovan*)

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve the May 9, 2007 List of Bills.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (7-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Ms. Koerbel, seconded by Mr. Ogden, to approve the March 14, March 28, and April 25, 2007 meeting minutes. **COMMENTS:** Mrs. Viola indicated two date corrections, and Mr. Cindric advised of a typo error. Mrs. Tremblay noted that these would be corrected.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Wagner reported that work is ongoing on the sewer repair and lining contracts. He is working on the Middle Street specs, and COG will be handling the bid opening. CCTV-Yr. 3 should be completed by the end of this month.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

None – Not in attendance

OLD BUSINESS/NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) RFP for Black's Bridge Design – Old design specs have been shelved; looking to go out for an RFP for bridge design. The bridge committee is putting together specs for the RFP; get some names of bridge engineers in the area. Next month or two, put out the specs for RFP, review the proposals and hope to choose an Engineer and put out the design specs, and hopefully have a contractor ready to go, next year, as soon as the weather breaks. Cost would be minimal; advertising. Ms. Koerbel requested that Mr. Sample be on this committee and that he be the central contact for the Borough.
- b) Family Dollar Development – Planning Commission has reviewed this and has recommended approval. Developer has requested a variance for the lot size, being under an acre. Council will vote on this development at the next meeting.
- c) Building Inspection / Code Enforcement Hours – A wage resolution amendment is needed to increase the wage limit, approximately \$1,500. to allow for more hours for the Ordinance Officer. The Ordinance Officer requested a clarification on hedge heights. His borough telephone extension is 26.
- d) Ordinance Amendments
 1. Stop Signs at McMunn and Elmwood Intersection – Amend codification to make this a 4-way intersection; will have a draft ordinance for the next meeting. Mr. Stewart added that the Mayor is continuing to look into it, to be in compliance.

2. Prohibited Parking - Street Sweeper Access; certain days/times – Mr. Sample reported that the Street Sweeper runs in the 1st Ward on Monday, 2nd Ward on Tuesday, and the 3rd Ward on Wednesdays, Thursdays are a makeup day, and Fridays is the Business District. He will be working on resolving this and determining parking restrictions to accommodate the sweeper.
 3. Prohibited Parking - Emergency Vehicle Access – Mr. Stewart reported that a viewing with the CVFD will be scheduled, and let Mr. Sample know what nights are good. Mr. Sample suggested Wed. (5/18) and Thurs. (5/19) meeting at 6:30 at the CVFD, so the info would be available for the next meeting.
 4. Hedge Height Restrictions - Mr. Londino would like this clarified, there is nothing in the ordinances and requests that it be stated the same as for fences. Mr. Stewart said we don't want to get into micro-managing private property, and Mr. Ogden stated that a lot of people like the privacy. Manager Sample said in the summer it does become a property maintenance problem. Hedges at an intersection, particularly at Noble and Steuben, has been a matter of controversy. Mr. Cindric stated that the ordinance does not permit a front yard fence any higher than 4 ft., and most hedges are comparable to a fence, you can't see through them. Mrs. Sappie reported that the Verizon phonebooks are littered all over the borough. They were thrown on sidewalks, instead of on porches. Manager Sample advised that Verizon has already been contacted about this. Mr. Stewart stated that this can be enforced through our littering ordinances.
 5. Uniform Construction Code Amendments – The current UCC allows the municipalities to adopt more stricter codes. Examples – Accessory structures can be 1,000 sq. ft. and not require a building permit; and he recommends accessory structures over 200 sq.ft. should require a permit; likewise, porch and deck replacements, especially second floor. Suggested modifications and a sample resolution has been provide to Council. Mrs. Koerbel requested that an annual activity report be provided by BIU for last year.
- e) Other – Old Business – Ms. Koerbel inquired about getting the bridge area cleaned up. It was reported that Jersey barriers will be installed soon, and general cleanup done. Mr. Ogden requested that the Boulevard businesses be permitted to put temporary signage on the barriers.

SET AGENDA BUSINESS FOR REGULAR MEETING (May 23, 2007)

1. Family Dollar Development approval.
2. Wage Resolution amendment for Ordinance Officer
3. Vehicle and parking ordinances.
4. UCC code amendments and hedge height amendments
5. PNC \$350,000. note

COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Sappie – Announced the date of the Sr. Citizen dinner May 26th, Casserole night. Paving program, eliminated some roads. She asked that Council look ahead; review and prepare a 5-year plan, using Gateway's pavement management plan. Mr. Stewart indicated that many plans, such as the Strategic plan, Comprehensive plan, etc. need work as well; and that he and the Mayor have been working on these items. Committees need to begin working on these. Mrs. Koerbel stated that she started to work on updating the comprehensive plan, early on, but it is a big task and will be quite expensive. She is looking to work with another community, for joint grant money, etc on a joint comprehensive plan. Mrs. Koerbel stated that this would not require having joint ordinances, as was before with a joint planning commission. Mr. Byers stated that it would need to be a contiguous border of Crafton, and Mr. Stewart suggested that we begin talks, again, with Ingram. Mr. Cindric added that the County is working on their comprehensive plan, so we would need to consider that as well when re-doing our comprehensive plan, in order to qualify for state funding.

Mrs. Viola – She reported that there will be a very important referendum on the ballot, regarding taxes, and voters need to be aware of the meaning of this referendum, as it will impact both renters and property owners. She announced the date for the Spring flower planting; Saturday, May 19th - 9am. She commended Kathy Robinson at Crafton Library for her work in obtaining a \$30,000. Grant for the

library expansion project. She announced the Crafton Crocodile swim team sign ups are scheduled for June 2nd and June 9th.

Mr. Cindric – Reported that PennDot News District 11 has been provided to Council. He inquired on whether or not we would be working with the Suburban Gazette’s “You’re the Editor” – Mr. Stewart stated that we have approx. 2 months to work on this. He noted the letter in packet from Sen. Fontana regarding PennVest funds, nothing to report from CVFD meeting, he and Mr. Sample attended a conference on May 3rd regarding Clean Water Act. Regional Water Management task force has scheduled various meetings.

Mayor O’Connell – Reported that the Library has grant money and donations, particularly the donation from the Civic Club, has put them over the top for the expansion project; over \$100,000; planning on have the expanded Library by the end of the year. The Historical Society continues their work on the new street signs, and to offset costs they have introduced a new fund raising program called “Just \$9”. She noted that Mrs. Viola is in charge of the Long Term Planning Committee; they had a meeting a few months ago, and Mayor O’Connell is putting all of the financial information together. New Police car will be in service soon. Our police are receiving special training regarding schools and terrorists. She reminded everyone that they can receive e-mail crime reports and alerts by opting in on Crafton’s website. Mr. Cindric reported that the new in-car cameras have been installed.

Ms. McNamara – Reported that fellow student, Brenda Vu, received an award as a Youth Athlete of the year award; a Dapper Dan award.

Mr. Ogden – Stated that the PNC proposal stated that it must be accepted by May 18th, and would our acceptance be timely. Mr. Sample advised that this would hold the rate of 4.29% and it will be provided on time to PNC.

Ms. Koerbel – Reported the next meeting of the Crafton Planning Commission is Monday, May 21st, at 6:00 pm. She reminded everyone that the CVFD fundraiser information should be received by residents in the mail. She noted that she has been talking with city neighbors regarding the Clearview/Crafton Heights area, and to work jointly with them in cleaning it up and planting.

Mr. Stewart – Announced that the next meeting of Crafton Celebrates will be on Monday, May 14th, at 7pm at Crafton Park, to review a new layout.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Steve Palchowski – Reminded everyone that he will be doing the Sunday Night Movies in the Park, and they will commence on Sunday, June 16th, at dusk/dark.

ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary