

COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING
Minutes of February 13, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

President Koerbel called to order the Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded eight members of Council present (8), as follows: Mr. Bloom, Mr. Cindric, Mr. Christman, Mr. Donovan, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie, Mrs. Viola and Ms. Koerbel – Also present were, Mayor O’Connell, Manager Sample and Solicitor Austin. (*Absent: Mr. Byers; no Engineer present*)

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Ogden, to approve the February 13, 2008 List of Bills. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Bloom stated that he would be abstaining; noting an exception to item #410.64, since these are medical reimbursements payable to him.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote, with exception noted by Mr. Bloom (8-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to approve the January 23, 2008 Minutes. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Cindric noted that although the November 28, 2007 Minutes were approved at that meeting, Council should not have voted their approval, as he and others noted that they did not have them for review in their e-mailed packet. Mrs. Tremblay stated that the January 23rd Minutes reflect an accurate record of Council’s voting action and will need to be approved as is; that the omission of the Minutes and voting irregularity would be noted in the Minutes of February 13, 2008. Solicitor Austin concurred.

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

CITIZEN’S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Rev. Bowen, Crafton United Presbyterian Church – Rev. Bowen thanked the Borough and Signal Item for getting the word out on the Food Pantry. It was noted that items can also be dropped off at the Library and Bill’s Weight Room. He also announced that they have started an effort to partner older adults with youth members and their families in the community. He asked to meet with the Crafton Recreation Board to discuss this program further.

Amy Kerlin, 52 Maplewood Ave – Ms. Kerlin spoke on behalf of the Crafton Historical Society; providing an update on the street sign project. The project will be completed this year and an additional \$6,000. needs to be raised. She noted that there are very few old signs left for purchase, and also when the balance of old signs are replaced, those signs will be available.

Madison Gallagher, 111 Haldane St – Ms. Gallagher, a 6th grader, commented on her love for the community. She questioned why so many pharmacies are being developed in the Crafton, and expressed a desire for other types of businesses or department stores.

Keith Papinchak, 246 Ewing Road – Mr. Papinchak asked if there was any update on Ewing Road. Mr. Sample stated that he met with Congressman Murphy, at the site, and has also had additional contact with Senator Arlen Specter’s office; inquiring on grant opportunities and other funding, and are still evaluating the various options.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT*None***OLD BUSINESS and NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- a. 2008 Paving Program – Mr. Sample stated that \$100,000. has been budgeted for the 2008 program; approx. \$45,000 is committed to do the bridge approaches and reimburse Ingram approx. \$11,000. for their 2007 paving of Ingram Avenue. The balance, approx. \$50-\$55,000 would, typically, cover the cost to pave one small street. He is looking into spending the balance on repairs and crack sealing. He is also looking into a product called Reclomite; which has been used by Mt. Lebanon and Ingram. It is a one time application used on fairly recent paving (5 yrs. or less), to revitalize and extend the life of the surface. Mr. Sample will have more information on this product after he meets with their representative. Mr. Cindric suggested contracting the crack sealing work out rather than doing it in-house; at a cost savings. Mr. Sample advised that we already have the material in inventory; enough for a spring application, and one of the COGS rents out their crack sealer at a fairly low cost. Mrs. Sappie noted that she and Manager Sample are looking into updating the road paving data/5 year program with Gateway Engineers; it was last updated in 2005.
- b. Commission Vacancies – Ms. Koerbel reminded everyone that we are still requesting letters of interest to fill the vacancies on the various commissions. She encouraged letters be delivered to the borough offices by Feb. 22nd, and Council should act on this at the February 27th Council meeting.
- c. Rules of Government – Ms. Koerbel referred Council to the suggested guidelines previously provided; addressing inconsistencies with Roberts Rules of Order and Council meeting business, particularly timely motions, streamlining meeting issues, and not having discussions via e-mail. A draft will be provided with various language, and if anyone has any language to be considered, to provide it to Mr. Sample for the next meeting.
- d. Soil Removal – Duncan Excavating – Borough approval annually; it was noted that Mr. Duncan does bring the soil back to Crafton.
- e. Engineering Proposals – Mr. Sample advised that we have five RFPs for review; should allow approx. one hour for each interview, would be a two day process. It was suggested to review them, and first decide if any will not be considered, then narrow it down to two or three, and only schedule interviews with the Engineers of serious interest. There was a consensus to choose two or three at the Feb. 27th meeting, consider dates and questions for the interviews.
- f. Purchase of Public Works Dump Truck – Mr. Sample stated that, regarding the sale of the old truck, three bids were received and the highest bids was submitted by William Yarnot for \$5,205.50. The purchase of the new truck is just under \$60,000, and there is a motion to approve this purchase. Mrs. Viola asked if the monies received for the old truck would go toward the purchase of the new truck. Mr. Sample stated no, that the receipts and expenses would be separate in accordance with the budget. Mr. Sample took this time to comment on recent events with snow removal. One truck is out of commission due to an accident, and then two trucks were temporarily out of commission, one with a blown tire and transmission problems. During the recent snow events, Public Works was not at full equipment capacity which caused some snow removal delays, have had plowing assistance from Blair Cress, and are getting caught up.
- g. Amendment No. 4 Civil Service Changes – Ms. Koerbel noted that some minor amendments to the rules has been provided to Council for consideration.

BUSINESS AGENDA

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to ratify the Amendment No. 4 to the Civil Service Rules and Regulations, as approved by the Civil Service Commission at their meeting on February 4, 2008. **COMMENTS:** Mrs. Viola noted that she did not have a copy of the Rules and Regulations to review the suggested changes. Mr. Sample noted that one

issue is to change the events for the physical fitness/agility test to be inline with those done at the Police Academy rather than what was stated to accommodate last year's SHACOG testing. Also, rating and scoring needed clarification, and was reviewed by Solicitor Ayoob. It was noted that the testing events are defined on the last page of the amendment.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mrs. Viola, to adopt Resolution No. 2008-02 authorizing the proper Borough Official to proceed with the sale of the 1997 Ford Dump Truck to William Yarnot for the high bid amount of \$5,205.50

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Christman, to authorize the proper Borough Official to proceed on the purchase/lease-purchase of a new Public Works Dump Truck, to be paid for from the General Fund Budget.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Christman, to approve payment #9 to Mongiovi and Son Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$34,052.75, per the recommendation of the Engineers. **COMMENTS:** Mrs. Viola questioned the quantity discrepancies of contract work/materials estimated and actual work/materials being performed. Mr. Sample stated that the estimates are best guess when preparing the specs, and actual amounts are better determined once the work is started and video-taping is done. Three change orders have been issued that reflect the changes. Mrs. Sappie added that additional work was authorized because the contract work came in under the contracted price; Mr. Sample stated that additional repairs were found, change orders issued, and included in the contract price.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Viola, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve final payment to Ingram Borough, in the amount of \$10,947.00 for Crafton's share of the Ingram Avenue Joint Paving Project, as recommended by the Engineer. **COMMENTS:** It was clarified that this is the only, and final payment for this work. Mr. Sample stated that this invoice, although dated December 2007, was just received within the last two weeks. He also stated that all funds borrowed last year for paving were totally spent due to the amount of soft spot repair, plus an additional \$55,000. was spent last year from the General Fund

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to authorize SHACOG to process payment for Final Estimate #5, in the amount of \$4,989.13 to Robinson Pipe Cleaning Company, for the Year Two CCTV inspections of the sanitary sewers performed in Crafton Borough, as recommended by Gateway Engineers.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Ogden, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to authorize SHACOG to process payment for Final Estimate #3, in the amount of \$4,170.57 to Sewer Specialty Services Co., for the Year Three CCTV inspections of the sanitary sewers performed in Crafton Borough, as recommended by Gateway Engineers.

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

COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Several Councilmembers thanked the Public Works employees for all of their efforts with the snow and ice removal the past few days.

Mr. Bloom – He commented that he had stopped by the Food Pantry at the church, and notice two other people there as well dropping off items; that this is a very good thing.

Mayor O’Connell – She noted that at the time of ordinance review a driveway/site-line issue was brought to Council’s attention, and she inquired on the status of that matter. She also noted that there are issues with tractor trailers getting hung up on Crafton Blvd., and traveling over Blacks Bridge. She suggested looking into installing a height bar and/or additional signage. Mr. Bloom stated that, from past experience, additional signage will not matter and a height bar would be hit by the trucks, damaged and come down. Fines are in place, but that would involve scales and weighing the trucks, which involves hours of time.

Mr. Ogden – Reiterated the drop-off locations for the Food Pantry.

Mr. Cindric – Reminded Council to RSVP for the COG dinner, hosted by Crafton; the Police Chief and Fire Chief, and Borough Manager and Secretary are invited as well. Mr. Cindric asked the Manager to explain the reasoning behind barricading Harris Street and Willard Street. Mr. Sample stated that those two streets are extremely dangerous during snow and ice events; that there was a recent accident on Harris during a rain event whereas the vehicle went into the guard rail. Mr. Cindric thanked the Historic Society for their report; re-stating that 93% of the program is complete.

Mrs. Sappie – Reminded everyone that the next Senior dinner is scheduled for the last Saturday in March; that there were no dinners scheduled for January or February. She will be working with Mr. Sample on updating the paving and street data.

Mr. Christman – Noted that the Crafton Celebrates meeting for the 12th was cancelled and rescheduled for Tuesday, February 19th. Have had a few successful fundraisers and have almost four times the amount of money that Celebrates started with last year. Booth interest deadline would be March or April; Committee would need time and materials to build additional booths.

Ms. Koerbel – Suggested that Rev. Bowen speak to Manager Sample with respect to grant funds received relating to Senior Citizen programs. She also mentioned the History Center tour attended by the members of the Crafton Historic Society, and encouraged membership. She noted that Committee assignments and appointments were made. She encouraged a community committee to handle graffiti, litter, recycling. Manager Sample noted the REDD-Up Project upcoming in April (18-19-20th)

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Papinchak inquired on fuel purchases and is there any advantages to purchasing through the COG purchasing alliances. Mr. Sample stated that being a smaller community it would not be cost effective, and would require installation of holding tanks, etc. He also inquired on a possible change of engineers. It was noted that there was no serious problem with Gateway, but the engineering services are being looked at and evaluated.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary