

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF APRIL 23, 2008**

Vice President Christman called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center; Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Sappie. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded (7) members of Council present, as follows: Mr. Byers, Mr. Christman, Mr. Cindric, Mr. Donovan, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie, Mrs. Viola. Also present were Mayor O'Connell, Manager Sample, and Solicitor Austin. (*Absent: Mr. Bloom. No Engineer present*)

Mr. Christman announced that an Executive Session of Council will follow the regular meeting of Council to discuss a police and administrative personnel issue.

ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION/APPOINTMENT TO FIRST WARD COUNCIL SEAT

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mrs. Viola, to accept the resignation of Nancy Koerbel from Crafton Borough Council effective April 9, 2008. **COMMENTS:** Mrs. Sappie inquired about the Solicitor's written opinion on the acceptance of the resignation; the need for it and the cost incurred. Manager Sample reported that, for clarification purposes, he forwarded Mr. Cindric's comments and PSAB references on the matter to the Solicitor, as to whether or not formal acceptance of the resignation was necessary.

MOTION carried by a Five Yes, Two No (*Ogden, Sappie*) Roll Call Vote.

FLOOR WAS OPEN FOR NOMINATIONS/FIRST WARD COUNCIL SEAT

Nominations: Mary Luxbacher (4), Ed Doherty (2), John Meighan (1) It was moved and seconded to Close the Floor for Nominations.

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Byers, to adopt Resolution #2008-04 to appoint Mary Luxbacher to fill the unexpired term of Nancy Koerbel, first ward council seat, until the first Monday in January, 2010, after the next municipal election.

MOTION carried by Six Yes, One No (*Mr. Donovan*) Roll Call Vote.

OATH OF OFFICE

Mary Luxbacher was sworn in to office by Mayor O'Connell.

REORGANIZATION OF COUNCIL/OPEN FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mrs. Viola, to reorganize the officers of the Crafton Borough Council. MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Council President Nomination: Mr. Christman

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mr. Ogden, to appoint James Christman as President of Council.

MOTION carried by Six Yes, One Abstention (*Christman*) Roll Call Vote.

Council Vice President Nominations: Mr. Cindric, Mrs. Sappie, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Viola (*Mrs. Viola declined the nomination*).

MOTION: Roll Call Vote of Council for the appointment of Vice President of Council – Mr. Cindric Five (5) votes, Mrs. Sappie Two (2) votes, Mr. Ogden One (1) Vote.

MOTION carried by a vote of Five (5) members to appoint Mr. Cindric as Vice President of Council.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the April 23, 2008 List of Bills. **QUESTIONS:** Mrs. Viola - #400.21- Purchase of Roberts Rules of Order; Mgr. Sample advised that there are two copies, on file in the Borough Office for both administrative and Council’s use. #410.76 Police Computer – Service contract purchased through DEP in blocks of 10 hours, at a savings; this is for the purchase of a second 10 hour contract. Special Rental Account – Repairs at District Court: Mgr. Sample advised that this was for ceiling replacement and painting of a waiting area and judge’s chambers, which was a condition of the Lease renewal negotiations. Sewer Fund – Street Sweeper expense: Hoses for sidebrush and rear vactor; normal wear and tear, not covered under warranty.

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

APPROVAL/ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

(2005) MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to accept the February 23, July 13 and September 28, 2005 meeting Minutes.

MOTION carried by a Six Yes, 2 Abstention Roll Call Vote (6-2) (*Abstentions/Mrs. Luxbacher/Mr. Ogden*).

(2008) MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Viola, seconded by Mr. Ogden, to approve the April 9, 2008 meeting Minutes. **COMMENTS**

MOTION carried by Seven Yes, 1 Abstention Roll Call Vote (7-1) (*Abstention/Mrs. Luxbacher*).

CITIZEN’S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Bob Gentile, 51 Taylor Street – Remarked that school zone signage is needed on Noble Avenue at the approach to the elementary school and Crafton Blvd. He commented on the pothole condition on Backbone Road, and considering the increase in taxes this year, will anything be done. Manager Sample reported that a scratch, overlay, and roll project is being planned, to be performed in-house. 2008 Road Tax Funds are already earmarked for debt service (\$100,000.) for last years paving program, and approx. \$70-\$75,000. for this year’s paving project.

RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

The following written reports were provided in Council’s Packet: Treasurer’s Report, Financial Report, Act 511 and Trash Collection Fee Reports, Property Tax Collection Report, Police Report, Ordinance Officers report, REMs Report, Animal Control and Engineers Report. Also, the Fire Marshal’s 1st Qtr 2008 Report.

MOTION (Byers/Donovan) to accept the Written Reports was carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Manager Sample referred Council to Gateway Engineer’s written report: Sewer Defect Corrections/Mongiovi complete; street and general restoration work to be done to complete the contract. 2008 Road Program bids to be open on May 13th, and presented by Engineer to Council at the next meeting (May 14th). An alternate bid for the asphalt work only was piggybacked through Ingram Borough’s bid specs; received bid of approx. \$28,000 which is \$11,000. less than originally estimated. Chartier’s Avenue rockslide remediation project, lump sum contract. Once contract is awarded by Council, contractor can start next Monday. Contractor is responsible for contacting utility companies and bus companies. A joint contract for the CCTV year five, through the SHACOG, is again being proposed, and recommended by Gateway, to continue the televising of the remaining 35,000 Lf. of sewer in the borough, in accordance with the Consent Order requirements. Manager Sample noted that Gateway’s Scope of Work for the 2008 Paving Program was provided to Council, at a cost of \$8,000. Mrs. Viola asked for clarification of meetings as shown on pg. 3 of the Scope indicating one meeting. Manager

Sample advised that he had a review meeting with Gateway and they have made changes, which are reflected on the revised estimate; there may also be some minor curb modifications. Mrs. Luxbacher questioned Mongiovi's asphalt patches and restoration work; Manager Sample noted that he and Gateway will be inspecting this work, and a two year maintenance bond is in place for any defects or failures related to their work. Mr. Cindric inquired on existing ADA curb ramps at the bridge; if existing or not. Manager Sample believes they are existing, and, if need be, they would corrected accordingly.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor O'Connell referred Council to the written report; department responded to 200 complaints for the month of March. The Police Dept. is working expeditiously on background checks for police candidates; various inquiries have been sent out or done by computer, and interviews have been completed. Once all responses are received back, by mail, the background checks can be completed; so it is just a matter of time, waiting for this information. Verizon was sponsoring a training session on domestic violence, and they had donated a digital camera to the Police Dept. She also reported that a call to 911 by a citizen reporting something suspicious and good police work resulted in the apprehension of individuals who have been stealing sewer grates and manhole covers in Crafton and Ingram, and other areas. Mr. Cindric noted to be aware that residential driveway drain covers could be stolen as well for scrap value. Mr. Christman asked if the monthly police reports could be posted on the police department website; Mayor O'Connell would look into it.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thanked everyone for appointing him as Council President and will make every effort to do a good job; and will not shirk his duties as Chairman of Crafton Celebrates.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Sample advised that Public Work will be starting the Ewing Road project on Monday, and the road will be closed from S. Grandview down to the ballfield driveway, and should be completed in about a week. A follow up re: stop signs on State road (Bradford and Crafton Blvd.) – PennDOT needs a request from the municipality to perform a traffic survey and study at the proposed stop sign locations, at no cost to the borough. Manager Sample advised that this will be reviewed and scheduled for Council discussion. Mr. Christman asked the status of moving the parking back from the corner on Bradford at the Blvd., due to site line problems. Manager Sample advised that he would look into it and place it, also, on a future agenda for discussion. He advised that PAWC will be performing hydrant flushing from April 23rd to May 7th, so residents may experience discolored water due to sediments; this is regular scheduled maintenance. A group called Urban Hike will be hiking through Crafton, for 2 or 3 hours, on April 26th; starting from the Sharp Edge Restaurant at 1:30pm; visit their website for information. Manager Sample reported that he, Mr. Cindric, Rege Patton and Fred Bigham of the Flood Control Authority met at the creek to inspect the work performed by the Corp of Engineers. The road that runs along the creek is in need of repair and the Corp will be fixing it at no cost to the borough, but it was proposed that the Borough using public works summer help to maintain the area and be reimbursed by the Flood Control Authority.

DISCUSSION ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

1. **Commission Vacancies** – Letter of Interest received from Patrick Gilligan for the Park & Shade Tree Commission; Motion on Agenda. Request Letters of Interest for the vacant seat on the Crafton Planning Commission, and try to make an appointment to the Commission at the May 14th Council meeting. Mr. Cindric noted that Council should consider changing the Park & Shade Tree Commission back to just a Shade Tree Commission with 3 members; he added that residential alarms and other ordinance changes are being discussed at the Committee meetings.
2. **Rock Slide on Chartiers Avenue** – Discussed during Engineers report. Parking will be limited and some periods of road closing. Mr. Cindric inquired about parking at the bus stop/yellow line; who enforces – Police or Port Authority.
3. **Proposed Ordinances** – Stricter UCC Requirements, Automatic adoption of Amendments to the UCC – Discussion/comments during Business Agenda.

- 4. **Part Time Summer Help** – Manager Sample advised that there are a few additional hirings to be considered; Motions on Business Agenda.
- 5. **Spring/Summer Newsletter** – Final Draft provided to Council for review; Mrs. Tremblay noted an age change on the front page (18 – 62 yrs), and on the inside page will remove Ms. Koerbel’s information and replace with Mrs. Luxbacher. Mrs. Luxbacher inquired if Council will consider opening the pool on weekday afternoons, after school. Manager Sample noted that it was discontinued previously due to staff shortages; extra curriculum activities, etc. – Manager Sample will review this with Ms. Lewis, the pool manager.
- 6. **SHACOG CCTV Year 5 Contract** - Discussed/Engineer’s Report
- 7. **CDBG Pre-Applications** – Manager Sample indicated that historically handicapped curb ramps were funded through this program, and with recent requests to install or correct some curb ramps, he proposes to submit application for this project.

BUSINESS AGENDA

ADMINISTRATIVE

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Ogden, to hire Brigitte Suchma as a cashier and Andrew Rose to work in the concession stand for 2008 Summer Employment.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Viola, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to hire Michael Schneiderlochner, George (Yurko) Honchar and Jenn Sweeney Cylenica as swim coaches for the 2008 season per the recommendation of the Crafton Crocodile Board.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Viola, seconded by Mr. Cindric, to approve the 2008 Spring/Summer Borough Newsletter articles; as submitted, subject to any necessary formatting adjustments by the Newsletter Committee.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to appoint Patrick Gilligan to the Park and Shade Tree Commission for a term that will expire on March 31, 2013.

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to authorize the advertisement of a public hearing and adoption of the proposed amending the Chapter 90 Code Enforcement of the Borough Code of Ordinance, Section 90-3 Part B, modifying the Uniform Construction Code to require building permits for certain accessory structures and alterations.
COMMENTS: Mr. Cindric noted that one of the changes was to require a permit for an accessory structure or shed larger than 200 sq.ft.; current language is 1,000 sq.ft. which is a pretty large structure. Mrs. Viola added that there is language requiring a permit for the replacement of a deck, porch or stoop. Mrs. Tremblay noted that there were calls of concern for safety of second floor porches being constructed/replaced without any oversight by an inspector. Manager Sample noted that permit info is also provided to the County to assist them in accurately assessing property values. It was noted that items listed under Section 1.d. do not require a permit, but will continue to be exempt.

MOTION carried by a Four Yes, Four No (*Byers, Donovan, Ogden, Viola*), and Mayor Tie-breaking Yes Vote. (5-4)

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to authorize the advertisement of an ordinance to automatically adopt amendments to the Uniform Construction Code. **COMMENTS:** Manager Sample noted that when the borough opted-in to the UCC the original ordinance stated using the 2003 ICC codes, and there was no language included to adopt revisions or updated versions of the codes. This amendment will allow the borough to use the most up-to-date versions of the ICC codes. Mrs. Tremblay noted that the Building Inspector is using the 2006 codes in most boroughs and had brought this to our attention. It was also noted that a set of the new codes books would be expensive.

MOTION carried by a Six Yes, Two No (*Byers, Ogden*) Roll Call Vote (6-2).

PUBLIC WORKS:

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve payment #10 to Mongiovi and Son Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$69,575.62, per the recommendation of the Engineers.

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

MOTION: I move to authorize the proper Borough Official to complete the required participation questionnaire with the South Hills Area Council of Governments for Year 5 of the CCTV work.

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

MOTION: I move to award the Chartiers Avenue Rock Slope Remediation Contract to Michael Facchiano for the amount of \$9,426.00, per the recommendation of the Engineers. **COMMENTS:** Mrs. Viola expressed financial concerns as funds were not in the budget for this project. Manager Sample noted that this is a matter of safety concern, and liability issue, and must be remedied, and felt the budget should be able to handle this amount by keeping other line items under budget. It was confirmed that Road Tax Funds could not be used for this project.

MOTION carried by a Seven Yes, One No (*Viola*) Roll Call Vote (7-1).

COUNCIL COMMENTS/ COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Ms. Barger – Noted the Carlynton Choral Concert is planned for the end of May.

Mr. Byers – Reported on the Arbor Celebration in the park, and the tree plantings for the Witt brothers this past Saturday; and a Mayor's proclamation was read, and acknowledged the borough's 19th year as a Tree City USA. He welcomed Mr. Gilligan to the Shade Tree Commission. He reminded everyone of the hazardous household waste disposal at Settlers Cabin Park.

Mr. Ogden – Reported that he owes an apology to the Crossing Guard at Noble and Bradford, for a bit careless driving..

Mr. Cindric – Reported that the cost of the 2006 Codes is \$693. He reported attendance at the annual COG dinner; Mr. Onarato and Congressman Murphy were both speakers. They spoke on the subject of consolidation of County and City Government. Mr. Onarato is looking to place this matter on a countywide referendum; it would eliminate Mayor of Pittsburgh and City Council. He reported that the Pension Advisory Committee met with PNC, and PNC will be providing a recommendation to amend the current Asset Allocation. The plans have done well over the past 12 months, but the first 3 months of this year reflect little growth. The recommended changes will provide a more balanced structure. Lastly, he noted that Public Works employee, Rege Patton, received a Silver Beaver award, which is given to adult leaders – it is the highest and most distinguished award, and was nominated by his peers.

Mrs. Sappie – Thanked all of the volunteers for coming out for the Crafton Clean Up day. She reported the next meeting of the Recreation Board is May 4th, at 6:30 pm. A Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wed., May 7th, at 7:30 pm. She also reported that the next Sr. Citizen dinner is this Saturday, April 26th.

Mrs. Luxbacher – Thanked Council for her appointment to Council and noted that she will probably have a lot of questions.

Mr. Donovan – Reminded everyone not to forget to support the local Volunteer fire departments.

Mrs. Viola – Reported that the Zoning & Ordinance Committee met on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday, and recently reviewed Chapters 60 – 93, and will provide recommendations to Council for consideration regarding some that are outdated or need changes. There will be no meeting scheduled for May 7th.

Mr. Christman – Welcomed Mrs. Luxbacher, and acknowledged her work with Crafton Celebrates. The next meeting of the Crafton Celebrates Committee is Tuesday, May 13th at 7pm – they plan on stuffing and preparing Celebrates programs and Borough newsletters for mailing.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Lynn (Salon on E. Crafton Avenue) – Expressed concerns over parking problems on E. Crafton due to the Park ‘n Ride vehicles. She noted that the 2 hr. parking restrictions are not being enforced, but she received a parking tag for parking partially on the yellow line. Manager Sample advised that this will be a discussion item at the May 14th Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary