

COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING
Minutes of May 14, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

President Christman called to order the Agenda Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute led by Mr. Ogden. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded all nine members of Council present (9), as follows: Mr. Bloom, Mr. Byers, Mr. Cindric Mr. Donovan, Mrs. Luxbacher, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie, Mrs. Viola and Mr. Christman – Also present were, Mayor O’Connell, Manager Sample, Solicitor Ayoob, Engineer Minsterman and Ms. Barger (Jr. Council).

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to approve the May 14, 2008 List of Bills. **COMMENTS:** Rockslide/Facchiano invoice and work was discussed. Mrs. Viola questioned the four Sam’s Club memberships; it was decided to remove Mrs. Keeley and Mr. Perkey and to look into paying for one membership and another one free membership. She inquired on the LGA seminar invoices for Manager Sample’s attendance; asked that reports be provided to Council by him. She noted that the Civil Service line item was over budget, and inquired of the CBCInnovis invoice; advised that it is a credit reporting service used for the police candidate background examinations. Manager Sample noted that materials were purchased for road sealing; that rental of a crack sealer has been scheduled through the Quaker Valley COG. This will be done throughout the borough with the intention of extending the life of the paved streets. Mrs. Sappie asked what #410.21 Dickman Directories was; advised that it is for a reverse lookup directory used by the Police department. Manager Sample also clarified that #410.37 was for police car washes and Public Works #430.24 was for Diesel fuel purchased at both Miley’s and Sunoco. Mr. Cindric noted that the registration fee for Sustainable Pittsburgh is for Manager Sample, but elected officials may attend at no charge, if anyone on Council is interested in attending.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote, (9-0), exception noted (*Viola #400.43*).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mrs. Viola, to approve the April 23, 2008 meeting Minutes.

MOTION carried by an Eight Yes, One Abstention (*Bloom*) Roll Call Vote (8-1).

CITIZEN’S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Rev. Edward Bowen - Rev. Bowen spoke about the need to continue donations for the food pantry. He had recently learned that approx. 40 people in the Sr. hi-rises may possibly be asking for assistance. Mr. Christman noted that Crafton Celebrates will be promoting food drop off in the park on July 4th.

Michael and Ginny Rectenwald, 5 Coulter, and Ginny McCaw, 4 Coulter St. – Spoke of the need for establishing either two hour parking or resident parking on Coulter, and other streets in the area of the Park ‘n Ride lot; that it is very difficult to park near their home during the hours of 8am and 7pm.

ECSI PRESENTATION

Ron Shell and John Lynch of ECSI spoke of an online payment service the borough may want to consider for pool pass purchases, payment of taxes, police fines, etc., which could increase efficiency, earlier depositing of revenue, and provide a convenience to residents who are not able to come to the borough building during normal hours.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman reported that the Chartiers Avenue Rockslide remediation has been satisfactorily completed and recommends payment to Facchiano. He also recommended the award of the “Base” Bid

Paving Contract to Facchiano for the concrete work. He recommended that the Alternate "A" Bid for asphalt paving contract not be awarded, and to authorize the performance of this work by Amity Asphalt through the shared paving bid with Ingram Borough; which is \$7,000. less than bid. He recommended that Alternate "B" Bid for sidewalks not be awarded, due to the cost exceeding the available funds. Mr. Byers asked if further work should be done, such as trenching at the base of the Chartiers Avenue slope, to catch and retain any additional falling rocks/debris. Engineer Minsterman noted that the slope is unpredictable, and he does not recommend any further disturbance to the area. Mr. Bloom suggested that perhaps the Jersey barriers, being stored at the Public Works facility, be placed at the site, behind the curb line, to retain any falling matter. Mr. Bloom also inquired about a bridge closure period during the paving project. Engineer Minsterman stated that these concerns and any options to minimize inconvenience can be discussed with the contractor during the pre-construction meeting, but it will ultimately be the decision and schedule determined by the contractor; his bid and pricing were most likely based on completing the work in a certain manner and time frame. The concrete will need 2-4 weeks to cure; by attempting to work on only ½ of the bridge at a time, will actually delay completion of the project, and may take more time than doing a complete closure and all of the work at the same time. Mrs. Viola noted that the borough is anticipating ¼ of the cost to be reimbursed by the City of Pittsburgh, and she inquired on the status of this request. Manager Sample had nothing definite to report at this time; that the matter was going to the City's legal department then on to City Council for approval; but he will contact them for any update on our request.

Mr. Cindric questioned whether the Hydraulic Characterization report would be completed and filed by 5/31, in compliance with the DEP Consent Order Agreement. Engineer Minsterman confirmed that it would be completed and filed by 5/31. Mr. Cindric also noted that the borough posted basic signs at the CSO overflows and Alcosan is going to provide more detailed signs. Engineer Minsterman reported that Alcosan will remove our signs, and replace them with their signs, and the DEP should be notified. He also reported that the ongoing GIS mapping work on the sewers should be minimal; that new and hidden manholes found during the surveying need to be added and just basic, minor corrections to the old mapping.

OLD BUSINESS and NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. Parking Solutions for East Crafton – Mayor O'Connell reported that a meeting was held on Tuesday, May 6th with the business people and residents in the E. Crafton Avenue area, she, Chief Rost and Manager Sample attending. She noted the various parking issues and possible resolutions (refer to written report); better signage, enforcement by police, as well as possibly Mr. Londino, and/or the Crossing Guards. Restricting parking in this area will cause the parking problem to extend into other areas and other residential streets. Manager Sample suggested starting with minimal restrictions; enforcement of a 2-4 hr. limit in the municipal lot only which would make it available for business customers and clients. He noted that the land the borough purchased for additional parking at 37 White Avenue will only provide an additional 4-5 parking spaces, and the paving, sewer and drainage work would cost approx. \$20,000, and funds for this project are not available at this time. Various conditions and limitations at the Dollar General lot, CVFD – PAT parking lot were discussed. Mr. Bloom noted that parking of Park 'n Ride cars is an increasing problem at Woodlawn, Chartiers, Fountain and Marion, as well. It was suggested to talk with Port Authority to see if parking at the shopping center would be a feasible Park 'n Ride option, with PAT providing a shuttle service to the busway. It was also suggested that Manager Sample make PAT aware of the problems and see if this problem exists elsewhere and look to them for a possible remedy. It was later decided to try to arrange a meeting with Port Authority for the first or second week of June to discuss these problems.
- b. CDBG Pre-Applications - Manager Sample reported that he will prepare a pre-application for the installation of 13 handicapped curb ramps; Phase III, which will require approval by Council for a Year 35 CDBG grant (See Agenda Motion).
- c. Crafton Planning Commission Appointment – Manager Sample noted that a Letter of Interest has been received from Mr. Cindric to fill the vacant position (See Agenda Motion).

- d. Ewing Road Update – Manager Sample reported that the retaining wall, at one area of Ewing Road, has been completed by Public Works; at an approx. cost of \$4,000. Additional work further down on Ewing Road is planned for June. The gas company will finish the paving in that area to S. Grandview extension. All agreed that the work done there by Public Works was very good. Manager Sample noted that the area will be paved to divert water over the road and hillside. This remedy was questionable and other possible options were discussed; i.e., trenching, catch basins, sewer piping, etc. to remove the water from atop the road. Manager Sample reported that this could become very expensive; but he would continue to look into water runoff problem and remedies. Manager Sample reported that Public Works will also be doing some work on Crafton Blvd., from S. Grandview to Home, beginning in June (scraping, filling, rolling and smoothing).
- e. Pool Hours of Operation – Manager Sample noted that he had discussed opening the pool on weekdays while school is still in session, with the Pool Manager, Julie, and she said that they should be able to accommodate staffing from 4-8pm, but may not open the concession stand on those days. School should be out of session and the pool open on June 6th for the season.

BUSINESS AGENDA
ADMINISTRATIVE

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the hiring of Adam Davis as an alternate summer public works laborer.

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

PLANNING

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mrs. Viola, to appoint Dan Cindric to the Crafton Planning Commission for a term which shall expire on April 13, 2012.

MOTION carried by Six Yes, three No (*Bloom, Donovan, Sappie*) Roll Call Vote (6-3).

PUBLIC WORKS:

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Ogden, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve submission of the Pre-Application to the CharWest COG, for a Year 35 CDBG grant for a handicapped curb ramp project.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve final payment to Michael Facchiano Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$9,426.00 for the Chartiers Rockslide Remediation Project, per the recommendation of the Engineers.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to award the Black’s Bridge Concrete Contract to Michael Facchiano Contracting for the amount of \$62,920, per the recommendation of the Engineers.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Byers, to award the Black’s Bridge Paving Contract to Amity Asphalt for the amount of \$28,335.50, per the recommendation of the Engineers.

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

A Motion was made, and Withdrawn (Ogden/Byers), to authorize ECSI to provide an Online Bill Payment service subject to review and approval of contract documents. Solicitor Ayoob advised that since this would be for a professional service there would be no bid requirements. He also advised Council to first review a written proposal and the specific terms before taking any action. He added, there is a lot to look at from a practical and legal standpoint; and suggested it be further reviewed and discussed at the next Council meeting.

SET AGENDA BUSINESS FOR REGULAR MEETING (MAY 28, 2008)

Discussion: Parking
ECSI Online Service
Paving schedule and City of Pittsburgh Update

Action: Public Hearing at 6:30 – Ordinance to Amend Building Permit Requirements
Adoption of Ordinances – Building Permit Requirements and UCC automatic updates.

COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Donovan – Reminded residents to support local fire departments.

Mrs. Viola – Reminded residents of the public hearing on May 28th, at 6:30pm, regarding amendments to the building permit requirements; for resident to come and voice their opinion. She does not support this amendment and does not feel these amendments are in the best interest of borough residents. She reported that a television news story reported on municipal dept in Allegheny County; Crafton being 1 of the top 5 municipalities – however, it is her belief that Crafton is still one of the best kept secrets in the Pittsburgh area. The Ordinance and Code Enforcement Committee continues it's review of the ordinances, and she has been working with Mr. Londino and Manager Sample on establishing a 15 area schedule; focusing on high grass and weeds, sidewalk repairs, illegal parking pads, house painting/maintenance and rubbish violations. The next meeting of the Committee is May 21st, at 6:30 pm. She noted that residents should be receiving the Borough Newsletter soon, which contains the Crafton Celebrates program and 4th of July 5K Run (Walk) information.

Mr. Bloom – Again, commended Public Works for a job well done on Ewing Road; it was worth the money. He noted that the street sweeper is in operation, but is limited to the cleaning of one side of the street on most streets, due to parked cars. He suggested that the Borough offer the 37 White Avenue property to Port Authority, at their expense to improve it for additional parking to help remedy the parking problem in the area.

Mayor O'Connell – Reported that Crossing Guard Ed Rush has retired and acknowledged, and thanked him, for his years of service. The Police Department has received a grant for a car video monitor for car #11-1; and helped to keep this line item under budget. Background checks have been completed for police candidates within the estimated 4-week time period, and the information has been provided to the Civil Service Commission. She reported that Crimewatch has put out information regarding Teen Driving Safety; statistics show that this is the time of year with more Teens are on the road. She also noted that, since 1962, a National Peace Officers Memorial Day has been acknowledged for what they do for the public – a Mayors Proclamation has been prepared for this day. She also noted that a former Crafton police officer, Henry Hufnagel, was killed in the line of duty, in 1919; and across the country it is estimated the 200 peace officers are killed in the line of duty.

Mr. Ogden – Reported that he had met with Chief Hermes and CVFD President Mike Crown to discuss the purchase of a new ladder truck. The current truck is becoming out of date, and will soon not meet regulations and codes. They are beginning to look now, being pro-active, and shop around for the new equipment, good interest rates, etc.; looking at a 2011 purchase date. More information will be provided. Mr. Cindric noted that the CVFD will be looking to at a Home Land Security grant which could provided up to 95% of the cost of the new equipment estimated at approx. \$650,000; 20-30% chance. They will be looking at other financing alternatives and, noted that the current truck is 26 years old, and should be taken out of service at 30 years old.

Mrs. Sappie – Reported that she has been working with Manager Sample on a 5-year capital spending budget. Next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for June 4th. The next Sr. Citizen dinner is scheduled for May 31st.

Ms. Barger (Jr. Council) – Reported on the various upcoming Carlynton High School events planned in May, including school picnic on 5/22 and Senior prom on 5/23.

Mrs. Luxbacher – Reported that the Library has an upcoming Book & Bake Sale scheduled for June 5th and 6th; accepting donations of books, videos and baked goods, and volunteers. She noted that pool passes are now on sale and encouraged use of the many nice park facilities in the borough.

Mr. Cindric – Also noted that residents will be receiving the Crafton Borough Newsletter and Celebrates program, and encouraged residents to join in the 5K Run (Walk).

President Christman – Noted that a resident letter and donation envelope have been provided inside the Celebrates program, and encouraged donations. The last meeting of Crafton Celebrates, before the festival, is June 10th at 7pm – noting that all booth representatives must attend.

President Christman also announced that an Executive Session of Council will be held following the Council meeting with regard to 192 Promenade, Duncan II litigation, Personnel issue and Police Contract.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ginny Rectenwald, 5 Coulter – Reiterated similar comments concerning parking situation; again suggesting a 2 hr. limit or permit parking as a solution. They also noted that PAWC had done some work on newly-paved Coulter, and the patch job has sunk, and inquired on the status. They also noted that the water main break had caused substantial damage and undermined the street, and believe this should be looked at by the Borough. Manager Sample advised that this is a temporary patch; they have this site, and others, to repair in accordance with the curb-to-curb ordinance, and all of the work will be scheduled at one time. The condition of the street would be looked at, at that time.

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 (9-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary