

**REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2008**

Vice President Cindric called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center; Flag Salute was led by Mr. Donovan. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded eight (8) members of Council present, as follows: Mr. Bloom, Mr. Byers, Mr. Cindric, Mr. Donovan, Mrs. Luxbacher, Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie, and Mrs. Viola. Also present were Mayor O'Connell, Manager Sample, Solicitor Austin, Engineer Ministerman, and Ms. Barger, Jr. Councilperson. *(Absent: Mr. Christman)*

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mr. Ogden, to approve the June 25, 2008 List of Bills. Note: Correction made to #410.63 and #430.63

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (8-0), with exception noted by Mr. Donovan (#410.63).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Mr. Byers, to approve the June 11, 2008 meeting Minutes.

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

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Pam Palchowski– Mrs. Palchowski noted that she, and her husband, will be starting the Movies in the Park on Sunday, July 13th; every Sunday night, at dusk, throughout the summer at the park stage.

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, CVFD report, REMs Report, Animal Control and Engineers Report. MOTION (Byers/Viola) to accept the Written Reports was carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Ministerman reported that during the excavation of the bridge approach slabs, at both ends of the bridge, it was found to have badly deteriorated back abutment walls. Since the new concrete needs to be poured to the back walls, the back abutment walls must first be removed and replaced; Contractor's Change Order provided at \$16,500. Estimate indicated sales tax on materials; it was suggested to see if the sales tax could be removed from the contractor's materials cost since the borough is tax exempt.

Mongiovi & Son have started the street restoration and should be completed by the end of the month. Asphalt paving specs for the bridge approaches were reviewed with the City of Pittsburgh. The City's recommendation is a 4" overlay, which would increase costs for the work and cause the curb reveal to disappear or be very minimal; leaving nothing to collect or direct the surface water, and is not being recommended by the Engineer. Council questioned the application of asphalt paving over the surface concrete. Engineer Ministerman stated that this is a common practice and acceptable; that the ground is hard and stable underneath, unlike the bridge.

The scope and budget was provided to Council to prepare plans and specs for the new Borough building boiler and the Rea Building rooftop HVAC unit.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Sample stated that, according to Gateway Engineers, the \$16,500. is a very reasonable estimate; that they had made some calls for cost comparisons. Re-bidding would delay the project and the reopening of the bridge. Mrs. Luxbacher asked why this deterioration wasn't visible previously by engineers, consultant or previous contractor during last year's bridge resurfacing. Engineer Ministerman stated that the bridge side of the abutment walls is fine, which is the side they would have seen during the

resurfacing work; the deteriorated side faces the approaches. It was also noted that the PennDot bridge inspectors failed to recognize this condition in their recent inspection, since it was hidden behind concrete and asphalt.

He reported that he, Mrs. Luxbacher and Mr. Ogden met with the CVFD to review financing and specs for the new aerial truck. He also reported that the Library project started today; this work does not include electrical or plumbing yet.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor O'Connell reported that the physicals and psychological exams for the new officers have been completed. The state-required reporting form was not used by the examiners, so there were some delays in proceeding. She noted an informative article in the PSAB Borough News with regard to police hiring procedures and Civil Service Commission duties. Police Chief of Greentree acknowledged the assistance of Capt. Tolkacevic and Officer Harvison for assisting Greentree with an incident involving a barricaded gunman. The Department received a thank you from Crafton Elementary 3rd Grade class for their tour of the Police Department. She reported that Capt. Sumpter has attained Advanced Level Emergency Management Coordinator training/status. Officers will be receiving CPR & AED training updates. She reminded everyone of the deadline for name submissions for the Mayor's Community Service Award; due July 14th, award ceremony held on September 3rd.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

- a. Adoption of Ordinance No. 1591 – Manager Sample re-iterated the proposed amendments: No parking area on Bradford at Crafton Blvd. and Crafton Blvd. at Baldwick to improve visibility, Stop sign at Stotz and Bradford, and 2 hr. limited parking in the municipal parking lot. There is also a motion on the agenda to contact Penndot regarding a traffic study for a stop sign on Bradford and Crafton Blvd.
- b. Revised Travel Policy – Manager Sample noted that the existing travel reimbursement policy only covered travel outside of the borough. He is doing a lot more travel within the borough and is requesting inclusion due to the gasoline cost increases and wear/tear on his personal vehicle. Recently, a log was kept by him which totaled 60 miles over a 2 week period.
- c. Other: Mr. Cindric advised that we have until January to comply with changes and requirements regarding Open Records; refer to the recent PSAB Borough News. Need for an Open Records Officer, request forms, etc., and to have this reviewed by the Solicitor. Mrs. Tremblay noted that much of this is already in place; adopted previously and more recently advised by Solicitor Ayoob on forms and procedures.

BUSINESS AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Ogden, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to revise the Borough's Travel Expense Policy to include reimbursement at the IRS mileage rate for travel made within the Borough, to be effective July 1, 2008. **COMMENTS:** It was noted that reimbursement would be in accordance with IRS Rate. It was agreed that this revision would include all administrative employees and also the police secretary doing any borough business.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the hiring of Raymond Murrman as summer public works laborer for 2008 Summer Employment. **COMMENTS:** Manager Sample reported that he currently has two vacancies; one of the previously hired was let go for poor performance and one was experiencing poison ivy problems. Also, of two others previously approved, one was a no show and one accepted other employment.

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

CODE ENFORCEMENT

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Viola, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to adopt Ordinance No. 1591 amending Chapter 214 of the Crafton Borough Code of Ordinances, establishing additional parking restrictions on certain streets in the Borough.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to authorize the Borough Manager to request that Penn DOT conduct a traffic study at the intersection of Bradford Avenue and Crafton Boulevard for the purpose of installing a stop sign at the north westerly corner of Bradford Avenue; creating a three way stop intersection.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to ratify Change Order No. 1 to the Blacks Bridge Approaches Contract for the removal and replacement of the top portions of the existing abutments resulting in a net increase of ~~\$17,704.17~~ (*Amended) \$16,500. per the recommendation of the Engineer. *Amendment accepted by Unanimous Voice Vote.

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

COUNCIL COMMENTS/ COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mrs. Viola – Crafton Celebrates reminder: Volunteers and 5K Run/Walk event. Also, cell phone was stolen at the pool; reminder to be careful and watch your belongings.

Mr. Bloom – Expressed concerns for traffic problems during the parade due to Black’s Bridge being closed; with Steuben Street closed for the parade, traffic will use Crafton Blvd. and dead end at the bridge. Chief advised that this was also the situation last year and plans, and placement of officers giving direction, will be in place.

Mr. Byers – Inquired on the status of the marker/plaque naming the community center after Vince Rea. Mrs. Tremblay noted that a Resolution was adopted several years ago and, at that time, Mr. Rea said he would like the plaque to read “Vince & Italia Rea Family”

Mrs. Sappie – Reminded everyone of the upcoming Sr. Citizen Dinner. She also noted that there are no Council Committee meetings scheduled for Wed. July 2nd.

Ms. Barger – Thanked everyone for the kindness and support given her and her family.

Mrs. Luxbacher – She reiterated that the general contractor has begun work on the library expansion, and acknowledged the assistance of Dollar General in allowing space for a dumpster on their lot. Mrs. Luxbacher expressed concerns for a delay in response by REMS to an accident at the corner of Noble & Bradford on Friday. There was a quick response from police and fire department.

Mr. Cindric – Reported his attendance at the COG meeting last Thursday; speaker Dan Cessna, District 11 of PennDOT, spoke about the condition of bridges, structural deficiencies throughout the State. He attended the Port Authority Connect ’09 Open House in Carnegie. He noted that with the elimination of the 31A it is a burden and inconvenience for residents in upper First Ward.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary