

COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING
Minutes of July 9, 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. Christman. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded seven members of Council present (7), as follows: Mr. Bloom, Mr. Byers, Mr. Cindric Mr. Donovan, Mrs. Luxbacher, Mrs. Viola and Mr. Christman – Also present were Mayor O’Connell, Manager Sample, Solicitor Ayooob, and Engineer Minsterman. (*Absent: Mr. Ogden, Mrs. Sappie*)

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to approve the July 9, 2008 List of Bills. **COMMENTS:** Mrs. Viola – Amcom Office invoices: Admin. copier and add’l. invoice for excess copies; copies in excess of 5,000 per month. Also, questioned charges on the Campbell, Durant I legal invoice (#404.31) – personnel matters; to be reviewed in Executive session, also put together information for review for a policy handbook..

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mr. Cindric, to approve the June 25, 2008 Meeting Minutes.

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

CITIZEN’S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Joseph Onesta, 325 Clearview Avenue - Mr. Onesta reported street and curb deterioration, missing bricks and sinking areas on Harris Avenue; provided pictures. Areas accumulate water, and ice in winter, causing further deterioration and driving hazards. Manager Sample advised that some temporary repairs were made to divert the water, but he would look into it further and report back to Council

Rev. E. Bowen, Crafton U.P. Church, Bradford Avenue – Rev. Bowen reported that they are sponsoring a fund drive for school supplies for needy families.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman reported that during the change order concrete work, serious deterioration of the expansion dams were found, which has halted further concrete work until remedied. HDR Engineering can inspect same and make recommendations, and prepare an additional change order for the repair and/or replacement of the expansion dams. Manager Sample added that a motion is on the Agenda to authorize HDR, per their scope of services, for a proposal for design and engineering services, for repair and replacement of both expansion dams; their cost for services is \$2,000.

Manager Sample added, the work will be done by Facchiano Contractors but will extend the project another 6-8 weeks, into September. He noted that the estimates provided in March of 2007 for replacement was \$21,400, for both ends (107 L.F.), but will now need to saw cut the concrete at both ends of the bridge deck approx. 3’-4’, which will add onto the cost. HDR has not provided any more recent estimates. Mr. Bloom inquired about repairs to the rocker bearings. Manager Sample noted the bridge inspection report of Feb. 2008, by Tish & Kunkel, indicating 14 bearings at a cost of \$1,000. each (\$14,000); which may be a low estimate considering recent increases in costs. Mr. Cindric added that the underneath side of the bridge still needs maintenance. This work can be separately bid out (painting, etc.), and that work should have little or no effect on bridge traffic; possibly temporary closing.

Engineer Minsterman also reported that Mongiovi & Sons has completed the street restoration work and has completed their contract; a final invoice will most likely be presented for payment at the next Council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS and NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. Resolution 2008-04 – CDBG Year 35 – Mr. Sample reported that the standard concurrent Resolution is on the Agenda, in accordance with the CDBG requirements for the ADA curb cuts application. Engineer Minsterman advised that the cost estimates, if based on prior years, have more than likely, increased. Either the cost to the borough for the project will increase or some curb cuts may need to be removed from the project.
- b. Boiler/Rooftop Unit Replacement – Mr. Sample advised that a Scope of Services has been provide to Council from Gateway for the proposed boiler replacement in the borough building and the replacement of the HVAC system in the District Court building. The boiler replacement has been budgeted in, and will be paid for from, the General Fund; and the District Court HVAC will be paid for from the Special Rental Account.

BUSINESS AGENDA

ADMINISTRATIVE

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Luxbacher, seconded by Mr. Cindric, to accept the Boiler/Rooftop Unit Replacement design and engineering proposal as submitted by Gateway Engineers at a cost not to exceed \$5,865.00.

MOTION carried by a Six Yes, One No (*Viola*) Roll Call Vote (6-1).

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to authorize Gateway Engineers to prepare and advertise demolition specs for the 192 Promenade Street property.
COMMENTS: Mr. Byers questioned the owner's access to the property and removal of items. Solicitor Ayob noted that the Judge made no written order denying the owner access to his own property or the removal of his personal items; so this is his right as the property owner. He added that the Borough has the right to place a lien against the property for all demolition costs incurred. Due to the litigation aspects of this matter, it should be further discussed in Executive Session.

MOTION carried by a Six Yes, One No (*Viola*) Roll Call Vote (6-1).

FINANCE/GRANTS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Viola, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to adopt Resolution No. 2008-04 being the Concurrent Resolution formally requesting grant funds, in accordance with the Year 35 – CDBG program, for ADA Curb Ramps.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to accept the Expansion Dam Repair Plans and Specification proposal for design and engineering services as submitted by HDR Engineering at a lump sum cost of \$2,000.00. **COMMENTS:** Solicitor Ayob noted that is subject to their legal review and advice.

MOTION carried by a Six Yes, One No (Donovan) Roll Call Vote (6-1).

SET AGENDA BUSINESS FOR REGULAR MEETING (July 23, 2008)

- a. Public Hearing, 6:30 pm, Conditional Use request – 248 Noble Avenue front yard parking pad. Manager Sample explained that this is different from a zoning variance request. This property does not have access to the

side or rear of the property and, therefore, it qualifies for conditional use consideration by Council, for a front yard parking pad.

b. Bridge Repair Items – Discussion and possible action.

COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Byers – Commented on recent news articles concerning the City of Pittsburgh considering a charge, host or rental fee, for sewage flowing from municipalities through City sewers to Alcosan. Solicitor Ayoob noted that concern, at this time, is premature and it is too early to speculate. It was also noted that the municipalities and COGS would most likely challenge it.

Mrs. Luxbacher – Thanked Mr. Christman and Mrs. Tremblay for their hard work and leadership with the Crafton Celebrates festival; despite the rainy weather, it was a very nice event, with a lot of new attractions. She thanked Brandon Wolfe for his recycling efforts during the festival; Eagle Scout Project. She noted that Movies in the Park start on Sunday, July 13th, and the Performing Arts stage performances start on Thursday, July 17th with Big Band Memories. She referred Council to a letter from the Library explaining their concerns with regard to the control of RAD monies; the county libraries are resistant to turning total control and funds over to the Carnegie Library for the entire technology for all county libraries (approx. \$3 million); may go to a vote within the next 2-3 weeks.

Mr. Cindric – Commented on outdoor fires in the borough; that Allegheny County permits fires in containers (chimnias, etc.), but to check with local municipalites. By ordinance, it is illegal to have open fires in Crafton unless for the purpose of cooking/grilling. Solicitor Ayoob deferred any further comments until after he has reviewed the ordinance.

Mr. Donovan – Reminded everyone to support local volunteer fire departments.

Mrs. Viola – Noted that the Celebrates 5K Race was very successful, with over 140 participants. She thanked Sharon Gaitens and Susan Kozy for help with the youth triathlon. She encouraged 2nd ward residents to attend the upcoming Zoning Hearing, Thursday, July 10th, at 6:30pm, with regard to a variance being requested by the Baptist Church on Oregon. Allegheny West article, collection of hard to recycle items, is scheduled for July 26th in Robinson Mall parking lot – for more information call 412-431-4449 (ext. 236) or visit www.prc.org

Mayor O'Connell – Reported that the two new patrolman are scheduled to start on August 1st. A reception is planned for Wed., August 6th, at 7:30, to welcome the new officers in conjunction with CrimeWatch. She reminded everyone that applications for the Mayor's Community Service Award are due by July 14th. She asked that more discussion and efforts be made regarding the parking issues/public meetings/meeting with Port Authority. Mrs. Luxbacher noted that the 2-hour parking restrictions must be enforced. Mr. Bloom noted that each area's needs are different, and need to consider two hour parking between certain hours (8am-4pm), in addition to resident parking permits. Mr. Cindric had requested that the Solicitor provide a copy of Dormont's resident parking ordinance for Council's review. Angle parking on East Crafton was also mentioned for consideration; Manager Sample noted that it would require one way traffic and it may double the number of parking spaces, or more, in that area. It was decided to schedule a meeting for July 30th, at 7pm – Mrs. Luxbacher requested that Chief Rost attend and offer input as well. Lastly, the Mayor commented on a card received by a constituent noting their appreciation of the professionalism and courtesy of Capt. Sumpter with regard to an incident.

Mr. Christman – Thanked the residents and volunteers for making the Celebrates festival a success. A Crafton Celebrates meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15th, at 7pm, and start working on the plans for next year. He thanked the police department. First of many fundraisers for Crafton Celebrates is scheduled for August 12th, Dive-In-Movie, at Crafton Pool – pool party and movie, and refreshments.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Owner, Capretti's, Crafton Blvd. – Noted their dismay over the closing of Black's Bridge again, and also reported that the resale shop on the Boulevard was going out of business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Christman reported that Council would be adjourning to an Executive Session to discuss a litigation matter (192 Promenade) and a personnel matter (Bill list inquiry/Labor Counsel).

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary