

COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING
Minutes of March 11, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

President Christman 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. Crown, Mr. Donovan, Mrs. Luxbacher, Mrs. Sappie, Mrs. Viola and Mr. Christman– Also present were Manager Sample, Mayor O’Connell, Solicitor Ayoob, and Engineer Minsterman. (*Absent- Mr. Byers*)

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Mr. Crown, to approve the March 11, 2009 List of Bills, as presented. **QUESTIONS:** Mrs. Viola - #410.37-\$650. – Police Car #11-2; brakes and regular maintenance, #411.23 \$444.40 NAPA – Fire Dept. vehicle batteries – correction noted: Should be Vehicle Maintenance, #411.37, not minor equipment #411.23. Mr. Bloom - #404.31 – Campbell, Durant & Beatty – P/D grievance: A portion of the invoice was for the advise, research and written response with regard to an officer’s complaint; more detail could be provided in an Executive Session due to personnel matter (Council moved to Executive Session; no further public comments). Mrs. Luxbacher - #409.50 Jefferson Parks – Equipment rental for grinder; mulching, etc. at the public works facility, used them last year as well.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (8-0), exception noted (*Mr. Donovan-#404.32*).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve the February 25, 2009 meeting Minutes.

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

CITIZEN’S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman reported that specs have been awarded for the 2009 Road Paving program, Bid opening scheduled for March 20th, 10:00 am; should have information and Motion to award contract at the next Council meeting - bid documents for a base bid for Crafton Blvd. (Backbone Rd) and an alternate bid to include additional paving of Backbone Road from Broadhead to Duncan. Roto Rooter, was suppose to start the CCTV work in Crafton this week, but have not yet. Information/Gateway’s Scope of Work was provided to Council for the Clearview, Harris and Barr Avenue; drainage problems; Motion to authorize is on the Business Agenda. **QUESTIONS:** It was asked if there is any reduction in asphalt cost this year due to the decrease in fuel costs. Engineer Minsterman said no; asphalt is a low cost/low margin item, so production is limited which keeps the cost high. Mrs. Luxbacher inquired on several sites of activity: Manager Sample advised that these are emergency repairs; Mongiovi at Elmwood – crushed sewer line with back-up problems, not in same area as previous Mongiovi work; as well as Haldane Street – similar problem; sinkhole. Mongiovi doing work at last years’ contract pricing. Alley at Creighton – this is Equitable Gas Company job; new gas line. Mr. Bloom also inquired on the Maplewood sewer lateral problem/sinkhole – Manager Sample noted that he has been in touch with the homeowners, and they will be scheduling televising of the lateral, and eventually schedule for repairs.

OLD BUSINESS and NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. Clearview Avenue Drainage Study – Discussed during Engineer’s Report. Mrs. Viola added that test borings were done several years ago on Clearview, under Engineer Handelsman, and if so, it should reduce this cost item in the scope of work. Engineer Minsterman advised that he would look into the records back at Gateway.

- b.** SHACOG Agreement – CCTV Year 5 – Motion on Agenda; multi-municipal contract, at a savings, through SHACOG.
- c.** DCED -- Department Peer Reviews – Manager Sample reported that Council would need to prioritize the review requests - Public Works Department, Administrative, Police regionalization, Volunteer Fire Department merger & consolidation. Then adopt, by motion, a Letter of Intent, to proceed with the request. Would take approx. 4-6 months per review; possibly do two per year. This service is provided by the DCED at no cost. Mrs. Sappie inquired on a report from the meeting with Ingram, regarding any department mergers or shared services. It was reported that, at this time, Ingram does not have any interest.
- d.** Grass Cutting RFP – Mr. Sample reported that three proposals were received; City Limits provided the lower bid (22 Cut Season \$15,977-\$726.23 per cut). Borough's John Deere tractor will still need to be repaired and the purchase of one new weed wacker for Public Works use, for areas not covered under the contract. Pros and cons were discussed; timeliness of cuts on a once per week schedule, whether needed or not, would lack personal attention such as grounds clean-up, bare spots, reseeding, etc. vs. having full time employees available for other work, such as brick street repairs, paving and sewer repair jobs, requiring more skill, and not paying them approx. \$20. per hour for cutting grass. Manager Sample reported that only one application for summer laborer has been received so far; during most of last season, four employees were available. He inquired on hiring more skilled part-time laborers, at \$10. per hour, as they would require less supervision and guidance.
- e.** Sprout Fund – Public Art Project: Preliminary evaluation that the Stotz side of the Rea building would be a good wall for a mural, also being a public building, positive comments. Motion on Agenda to authorize Manager to execute a Letter of Intent with the Sprout Fund.

BUSINESS AGENDA
ADMINISTRATION

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Luxbacher, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, the Borough Manager to execute the Letter of Intent with the Sprout Fund to allow for a permanent community mural to be applied to the eastern wall of the Community Center Complex.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Viola, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to authorize the Borough Manager to execute the administrative agreement 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: It was regularly moved by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to authorize the Borough Manager to execute the Scope of Work and Budget Estimate for the Clearview Avenue Drainage Study with the Gateway Engineers at a cost not to exceed \$22,000.00. **COMMENTS:** Manager Sample confirmed that this expense will be paid for through the Sewer Fund since it is for stormwater management, curbing for same and catch basins; and auditor was consulted/deemed appropriate from the Sewer Fund.

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

~~**MOTION:** I move to accept the grass cutting Proposal of City Limits Landscaping & Garden Center, for the 2009 seasonal contract in the amount of \$15,977.00, in accordance with the specifications of the Proposal.~~ *MOTION withdrawn; to be considered at the next meeting of Council.*

Manager authorized to re-advertise for part-time, skilled laborer-Crafton resident, in Suburban Gazette.

SET AGENDA – REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 25, 2009

1. Grass Cutting RFP and Contract Award.
2. Paving Bids; Contract Award.
3. 1962 Seagrave Fire Truck.

Reminder of the EMS Service provider interviews (3) next Wednesday, March 18th, commencing at 7pm, following the Finance Committee meeting (5pm) and Ordinance Review meeting (6pm).

COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Crown – Remind Council/spouses of the CVFD annual Banquet on March 21st.

Mrs. Sappie – Inquired on the policy for obtaining a copy of a police report; requested that it be provided in writing. Solicitor Ayoob noted that under the Right-to-Know law, it should be available. She also noted that a Parks & Rec Survey was given to Council for review; that it will be in the next newsletter. She reported a recent incident in Noble Park, and she requested more police presence and visibility in the parks. She reported that the Senior Citizen dinner is scheduled for March 28th, and reminded of the increase cost to \$6. per person. She also reminded everyone of the Finance Committee meeting, and asked for advance input from the Committee chairs.

Mrs. Luxbacher – Reported a lot of events and activities in April and May; Arbor Day, April 22nd, Children’s Library Room Grand Opening on April 25th with a ribbon cutting and activities for all ages, May 2nd the Great PA Cleanup, May 7th Crafton Celebrates/Library Fireworks Bingo, and May 8th/9th – Library’s Spring Book & Bake Sale. Also, on March 29th a Blood Drive at the CVFD.

Mr. Cindric – Library could use volunteers to assist in supervision of teenagers, particularly in the new childrens area. Charwest COG annual Dinner is April 16th, Cost \$25. per person, to be held at Jrs. Restaurant in Coraopolis. Basin Group meeting/Consent Order: 1998 Cost estimate for repairs in the Alcosan communities was \$3 billion, has gone up, and today it is estimated to be \$5 billion. The 3RWW has acquired a grant, and is seeking to evaluate the costs incurred by the Alcosan communities due to the Consent Order requirements, and will be asking for input from all of the communities on their costs, to date, related to the Consent Order. Also, seeking an extension of time to complete the requirements. He reported that 540 flow meters were installed by Alcosan, of which only about 10 still need to be collected, at which time they will be analyzing the information and merging it into the planning for the next two years. He also reported a good turn out for the Historical Society’s Restoration Fair, and thanked all of the participants.

Mr. Donovan – Wished all a Happy St. Patrick’s Day, and reminder to support the local volunteer fire companies.

Mrs. Viola – Reminded everyone of the Ordinance Review meeting on Wed. 3/18, at 6pm. Also, noted that a Town Hall Meeting sponsored by State Rep. Dan Deasy, is scheduled to be held in the Crafton Community Center on Thursday, March 19th, at 7pm.

Manager Sample – Reported that a form is available in the office and online to report Property Maintenance issues and complaints to the Borough.

Mayor O’Connell – Noted that with the nice Spring weather, energetic youths are a little over zealous and rowdy, and she encourages residents to call 911 if you see anything getting out of hand. She reminded all of the Opt-In Crime Watch alert program; link on the police dept. website. Also, the annual Mayor’s Community Service Award applications are available (nominations due by 7/13, award ceremony on 9/2, at 7pm). She noted that she will, once again, be participating in the MDA jail cell lockup fundraiser; needs your support to get the Mayor out of jail.

Mr. Christman – Reminder; Crafton Celebrates meeting on Tuesday, April 14th.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

M. Rectenwald, Coulter Street - Inquired on the cost for residential parking permit; unclear in the ordinance. Mrs. Tremblay advised that she had just sent an e-mail to Mr. Rectenwald answering his questions, and also provided him with the current Rate Resolution. She confirmed that fees were established for the various parking permits (residential, guest/visitor, etc.).

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 (8-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary