

**COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of April 14, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER

President Cindric called to order the Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute lead by Mr. Phillips. ROLL CALL, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded eight (8) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Donovan, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Pellegrino, Mr. Phillips, Mrs. Sappie, Mr. Stewart Mrs. Viola and Mr. Cindric (*Absent: Mr. Grapes*) – Also present were Mayor Bloom, Manager Sample, and Solicitor Brown (*Engineer not in attendance*).

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Sappie/Donovan*), to approve the April 14, 2010 List of Bills. **QUESTIONS:** Mr. Stewart questioned the Campbell Durant legal expense; Manager Sample advised that most of that is for the ongoing contract negotiations for both the police and public works, and the recent police retirement package preparation; these matters are coming to a close, so future bills should be much less. Mrs. Viola inquired on an item on that same invoice; Heart and Lung matter and grievance. It was commented that both of these are police officer related, and a closed hearing had taken place with regard to the grievance. **Executive Session:** Further Council discussion and inquiry on these two issues was moved to an Executive Session as these two items were regarding personnel matters.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Cindric reported that prior to the meeting, an Executive Session of Council was held to discuss personnel matters concerning the hiring of a Chief of Police and a Non-Uniform Employee ordinance regarding opting out of insurance coverage.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Johnston*), to accept the March 10, 2010 and March 24, 2010 meeting minutes.

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

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Manager Sample reported that a mandatory pre-bid meeting was held last week for the Black's Bridge project; in lieu of the questions, the bid opening date was moved to Tuesday, April 20th; painting being removed and should provide for a lower cost. Sewer Repair Contracts – Bid tabulations for Contract A (open cut) and Contract B (lining) were provided to Council. The low bidder for Contract A was Mongiovi, and the Engineers are reviewing the bid documents to make sure everything is in order and a Motion to award the contract may be recommended at the April 28th Council meeting. It is recommended by the Engineer that Council reject the bids for Contract B; since there was only one bid received – Motion to be added to the Agenda to reject the Contract B bid and authorize the Engineer/Manager to rebid the project. Emergency

Contractor bids have been submitted, and it is recommended that the low bidding contractors and bid prices be accepted; per Motion on Agenda – prices to be held for a three year period. Station Street Wall Repair Project – Project will be going out to bid next week; with bid opening date of May 4th – Base bid is the actual damaged section, alternate bid would be for the additional 30 foot section. The insurance carrier, for the driver who damaged the wall, has been put on notice and updated on the necessary repairs and cost.

Mrs. Viola questioned the increased Gateway Engineer proposal for Black's Bridge; from \$5,000 to \$6,000. Manager Sample noted that additional items are being added that were not addressed by HDR, which will require additional work by Gateway. He also noted that the original proposal was \$7,500. which was reduced to \$5,000. Mrs. Sappie added that this is common if the scope of work for Gateway changed from the original scope of work. Manager Sample also commented that this is an unusual project with two engineers handling different aspects of the project. He also noted that the authorization for Gateway to prepare specs for the ADA Curb Ramps project is on the Agenda. Their work involves site locations-conditions (slopes, etc.), preparation of specifications and advertisement, bid review and recommendations, etc. Mr. Stewart asked that Gateway insure that this work be ADA compliant; he doesn't believe that some of the past projects were in compliance with ADA requirements, and also asked to check on the grade of concrete. Manager Sample noted that recent changes for ADA curb ramp installation has caused more engineering input and work for the contractors, which has caused the cost to double (from \$600/\$800 per cut to \$1,500).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS and NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a. Administration/Personnel

1. PELRAS Conference Update – Manager Sample referred Council to his written report; it was noted that it was very informative and relevant on current issues.
2. Resolution 2010-06 – Health Insurance Waiver – Pursuant to the Solicitor, this Resolution is necessary to amend Resolution 2010-03, adopted last month, and will include information concerning the Cafeteria 125 Plan. It was also noted that the Cafeteria 125 Plan will be presented to Council for adoption at the next meeting, so, per the Solicitor, language in Resolution 2010-06 must state “once it is adopted”.
3. Spring/Summer Newsletter – Council was requested to provide articles/input by 4/22 so a draft can be prepared for Council's review on 4/28/10. Mr. Cindric noted that the Historic Society will be having a Renovation Fair and Spring House Tour on May16th – which would not be timely enough for the Newsletter.

b. Finance and Grants

1. CITF Grant – Manager Sample stated that this is Round Two, for sewer repairs, with a application deadline of April 30th. The previously submitted application will be modified for submission and a concurring resolution will be prepared for adoption the April 28th Council meeting.

- c. **Insurance** – Mr. Johnston reported that a meeting was held with the Pension Advisory Committee and a PNC representative. Investments are performing well, and have rebounded from 2008 recovering all that was lost, but funds are still underfunded. They are looking at a possible percentage change in the asset allocations for a more balanced investment policy.

d. Parks and Recreation

1. Miniature Golf Course – Mrs. Sappie reported that she met with Little Cougar representatives who may have an interest in maintaining and operating the facility for the summer, instead of the Borough opening the facility just for parties/rentals. She had spoken to Solicitor Ayoob and he said this could be done by lease. She noted that a fee would be paid to the borough for their use. Solicitor Brown recommended that permission be obtained from the School District as well since they have a perpetual Easement, even though it is owned by the Borough. Mrs. Sappie noted that the Senior Citizen dinner is April 24th. She also reported that Joan Kury has resigned from Performing Arts, and therefore, her representative seat on the Rec Board is now open. Mr. Cindric added that the CIT and Crafton Celebrates seats are also still vacant. Lastly, she reported that interviews were held for summer employment and a hiring list has been presented to Council for approval, on the Business Agenda.

e. Public Safety – Mr. Pellegrino reported and welcomed a new Junior Fire Fighter, Alexandra Viola. He noted that a helmet (special, orange helmet designating Junior Status) will need to be purchased at a cost of \$225. Mr. Cindric and Mayor Bloom thanked the media for their prompt reporting on the boy who was bitten by a dog on Division Street. Dog has not been located at this time; a large black dog with a white chest – report any information to the Crafton Police, so to avoid the need for the child to receive a series of rabies shots.

1. Fire Department Training Site – CVFD asked for an area for training near the Borough Public Works. Had previously trained in locations in Greentree and Thornburg. Mr. Stewart inquired about the availability of water at that site, and location of closest fire hydrant.

2. Fire Department Consolidation Study - Steering Committee – Mr. Cindric reported that he had met with Carnegie Council President, Vice President and Public Safety Chair to discuss this matter. He also reported that Carnegie Council appointed two members of Council to the Steering Committee, in addition to two members from the Carnegie Fire Department. They have not yet acted on submission of a Letter of Intent. It was noted that Crafton's original Letter of Intent was withdrawn, and will need to be resubmitted. It was noted that the outline provided by Rob Brady was only suggestions as a basis, not requirements or recommendations. Mr. Cindric said, additionally, he recommends two members from the private sector be appointed; perhaps one business person and one non-business. Anyone interested should submit a Letter of Interest to the Borough. Mr. Johnston inquired as to why, if this involves a Fire Dept. study, that the Fire Department wasn't consulted. Mrs. Viola asked if Roslyn Farms or Thornburg should have membership on the committee. Mr. Cindric noted that they, as well as Ingram, would like to attend committee meetings, but not appointments to the committee. It was noted that this committee will have no power or vote. Once the committee is established, they will develop guidelines for how and when they will meet, function and operate.

f. Public Works – Mr. Phillips reported that Public Works is working on the pool.

1. 2010 Reclamite Program – A list of suggested streets has been provided to Council. Pavement Technology will be providing a formal proposal to be voted on at the next meeting. The application is an asphalt rejuvenator product, not a sealer, and should add 5 to 7 years to the life of the street surface. It has been successful and is low cost.

2. Emergency Contractor Bids – It was noted that both contractors and bids are being accepted; depending on the type of repair/restoration and lowest bid price. Mr. Cindric noted that the Motion should be amended to define the Contractor's name representing the bids being accepted; Solicitor concurred.

BUSINESS AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Sappie/Donovan*) to adopt Resolution 2010-06, amending Wage Resolution 2009-19, to include additional language for a health insurance waiver option for applicable employees.

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

PARKS AND RECREATION:

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Sappie/Stewart*) to approve the 2010 Summer Employment Hiring List, dated April 9, 2010, as presented to Council.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY:

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Phillips/Stewart*) to appoint Council members Daniel Cindric and Susan Viola to serve as Crafton Borough's representative on the steering committee to prepare the scope of services to evaluate the current Fire and Emergency Service Delivery systems and to determine the most appropriate action for the potential consolidation of those services.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Donovan*) to accept the 2010 Emergency Project Contractors and Bids of Mongiovi and Sons Excavating, Inc. and Creative Enterprises Corp, as recommended by Gateway Engineers.

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

Additional Motions Added – April 14, 2010 (Residents would have an opportunity to speak on each these Motions)

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Pellegrino/Viola*) to Reject all Bids for the 2010 Sanitary Sewer Repair Contract B and authorize the Borough Manager to re-bid the project. **RESIDENT:** Regis Sunny, East Crafton Avenue – Reported storm water back up in basements; water company was suppose to pressurize the line. Manager Sample asked that Mr. Sunny speak to him after the meeting.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Sappie*) to authorize the Borough Manager to notify the Civil Service Commission of two vacancies for Patrol Officer and request the certification of three (3) names from the list of eligibles. **COMMENTS:** Mr.

Cindric noted that they are down one officer, and with the Chief retiring, they will need two officers.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Donovan/Phillips*) to authorize the Borough Manager to execute the work authorization form from Gateway Engineers approving an additional \$1,000.00 for engineering fees for the Rehabilitation of Black's Bridge contract

MOTION carried by a Six Yes, Two No (*Sappie/Viola*) Roll Call Vote (6-2).

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Donovan/Johnston*) to authorize Gateway Engineers to prepare specifications for the ADA Curb Ramps – Phase 4 at a price not to exceed \$6,000.00. **COMMENTS:** Manager Sample noted that this Phase 4 project involves 9 ramps. Mrs. Viola asked how many more curb ramps are needed in the borough; Manager Sample estimated about fifty.

MOTION carried by a Six Yes, Two No (*Stewart/Viola*) Roll Call Vote (6-2).

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Sappie*) to approve the Amendment to Section IV, subsection A (*Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance*) of the Memorandum of Understanding of Terms and Conditions of Employment, dated July 27, 2005, entered into between the Borough of Crafton and Douglas R. Sample, including the Solicitor's handwritten revisions appearing thereon. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Cindric noted that the Solicitor's revisions incorporate Resolution No. 2010-06 and it's date and a typo correction.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Pellegrino/Stewart*) to approve the Police Contract, for a three (3) year period effective January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2012. **COMMENTS:** Mr. Pellegrino noted some of the changes - A 3 ½ % raise each year, over next three years, new officers will lose some vacation days and personal days, officers will be provided a side arm Glock, provided by and the property of the Borough, increase in uniform allowance, and inclusion of a contribution toward health care.

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

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Regis Sunny, East Crafton Avenue – Asked for Council comments regarding the School District's plans and Feasibility Study. Mr. Cindric suggested that Council, at the next meeting, develop a Resolution or consensus as to what Council would suggest be done with Crafton Elementary School – Options are renovating it and keeping it here, or replacing it, which would abandon the current school, and be built elsewhere for Crafton and Carnegie. Read information available on-line (Borough and Carlynton websites, and other sites and links).

Mayor Bloom reported that last weekend, Giant Eagle provided space for a shredding fundraiser project. It was reported that the Food Pantry received \$800 in cash contributions and much food items. Another may be planned for the Fall. Mayor Bloom also requested that the office, with the assistance of the building inspector and ordinance officer, prepare an updated

list of vacant and/or abandoned properties to be provided to the police and fire department; prior knowledge of this status is very important. Mr. Stewart added that, in addition to safety reasons, abandoned homes, and especially if in need of repair, have an adverse affect on neighboring property values and marketability.

Mr. Cindric reminded 2009 public officials to return their Ethics Commission/Financial Statement to the office by May 1st. He also noted that the Boy Scouts are doing their canned goods collection this weekend; Scouting for Food. Also, noting that there is a small reception in the Community Center for Chief Rost, following the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Donovan/Stewart*) that this meeting be adjourned.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary