

**COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of July 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. Stewart. ROLL CALL, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded eight (8) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Donovan, Mr. Grapes, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Pellegrino, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Stewart Mrs. Viola and Mr. Cindric – Also present were Mayor Bloom, Manager (Interim) Callen, Solicitor Ayoob and Engineer Minsterman (*Mayor Bloom not in attendance*).

PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Cindric introduced Manager Callen.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Viola/Stewart*), to approve the July 14, 2010 List of Bills. **QUESTIONS:** Page 5; correction to #414.14 should be 31 Elmwood, not Maplewood. Mrs. Viola - \$37,500 - #411.90 Fire Equipment Fund; noting that the Borough is contributing an additional \$7,500. rather than the Fire Dept. Mr. Pellegrino noted that the Borough co-signed the loan, so the Borough owes it. Mr. Cindric noted that Item #435.245 - \$12,097.00 payable to the Char-West COG - This represents an advance of the payment for the contractor who installed the handicapped sidewalk ramps, under the County CDBG grant program, and has not yet been paid due to some grant close-out problems and delays with the County. We should expect this amount to be repaid to the Borough by the COG within two weeks. Mrs. Viola noted that this was the project that was completed last year.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 23, 2010 – Not Available

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Connie George/J. Brett Robinson, 31 Elmwood - Ms. George reported on the events resulting from enlarging her garage at 31 Elmwood without a permit; Zoning Hearing was held, twice, and debated various interpretations of the Zoning Ordinance relating to accessory structures vs. building. She explained the financial hardship this is causing her and she asked for Council's support and understanding. (*Ms. George provided a packet of information and photo's to Council.*)

Mike Rattay, 221 Maxwell Street – Mr. Rattay reiterated previously comments regarding flooding and sewer problems on Maxwell Street; and asked if there was any update. Engineer Minsterman advised that they are attempting to verify all pipes that could impact that area; notices have been sent to the owners of the shopping center properties, requesting they provide physical characteristics of their systems and any changes. Flow monitoring and other efforts are being reviewed. He noted that this involves a lot of work and research, and are a few weeks away from finding any answers or remedies. Engineer Minsterman noted that he, too, attended Ingram's Borough Council meeting on July 12th, and it was confirmed that both Ingram and Crafton have joined efforts on this problem.

Donovan Radford, 103 Broadhead Road – Mr. Radford complained of various stormwater runoff problems behind their home and along Broadhead. Also have noticed recently an odor from the sewer. It was noted that Public Works would check out the sewer and use the sewer camera.

Terre Diven, 20 Broadhead Road – Ms. Diven previous comments concerning flooding of her driveway and garage during heavy rain events. This never happened before; feels something has occurred to cause this problem. Also, again, noted that road water is not flowing to an inefficiently located catch basin. She, again, questioned a black pipe coming out of the hillside, which she had never noticed before; possibly adding to the flooding problem. *(Ms. Diven provided her phone numbers to the Secretary so she may be contacted after investigated by Public Works.)*

Mary Luxbacher, 91 Dinsmore – She reported that the Crafton Celebrates festival was a great event; she thanked the many volunteers that make it possible. She noted that the Library, with help from the Rec Board, cleaned up the mini golf, and the Library made the facility available during the festival; approximately 400 golfers during the five days. She suggested that the Borough continue to make the facility available a few days a week and for party rentals, since it is in good, useable, condition – pool management is agreeable to take over using some pool staff for this limited use. Library news - Offered two programs recently; over 100 attendees. Received a grant for Summer Reading programs; have a picnic and swim party planned for the end of the month. Noted that the State Budget cut additional funding for libraries.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman provided an update: Working on the Fountain Street steps/slope design. Mongiovi & Sons will begin the sewer line repair project this month; focusing on structural defects and areas that have already been identified. Working with contractor, Bioni Drilling, to complete the contracts, for the handicapped curb ramp project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS and NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a. Administration

1. Second Ward Council Seat Vacancy/Appointment – Only one Letter of Interest received. Nomination and appointment motions on the Agenda.
2. Civil Service Commission Vacancy/Appointment - Only one Letter of Interest received. Nomination and appointment motions on the Agenda.
3. Mr. Cindric noted that a review of the employee policies (such as computer use, harassment, ethics) has been requested. Should forward over to the Solicitor for review as well. Mr. Cindric noted that there is a seminar on Friday, 7/16, at the University of Pittsburgh - Institute of Politics, entitled “The Impact of Local Government Revenue Losses and Possible Responses”, and inquired if anyone could attend. Manager Callen believes someone from RDM will be attending and may be able to report to Council.

b. Finance and Grants

1. CharWest COG-ADA Handicapped Ramp Project/Payment – Addressed earlier; appears on Bill List for approval.

c. Parks and Recreation

1. Swim Team Coaches Hiring/Substitute Crossing Guard – Mrs. Tremblay noted that this is usually done with the summer employee hiring list, but the names were just recently provided to the office; Coaches are paid at the end of the Swim Team Season – end of July. Also, one of the summer crossing guards was sick and Ms. DeSalvo, who is a regular school crossing guard, agreed to fill in as needed.

Mr. Cindric noted that it was agreed to reimburse Crafton Celebrates for the Crossing Guard for the five days of service, on behalf of the borough, in the amount of \$200.

Mr. Cindric also noted that repair or replacement of the movie projector has been requested by Mr. Palchowski. Mr. Palchowski runs the Movies in the Park program each summer. Cost is estimated at \$500-\$600 (Best Buy/Sam's Club). As soon as replaced, Mr. Palchowski could start the program. It was the consensus of Council to replace the equipment, rather than repair it; and to include additional money for an extended warranty or service agreement – total considered, \$750.

Council consensus was to open the mini golf, on a limited basis, using pool attendants. Mrs. Luxbacher added that she has been reviewing this with pool management, and no money would be collected or kept at the facility – the pool cashier would collect the fee and provide a bracelet that would be presented to the attendant. It was noted that the rate resolution would need to be amended, and available for the next Council meeting. Mrs. Luxbacher will review this with Mrs. Tremblay and the Pool Manager, and get something prepared for Council's consideration. Mr. Stewart inquired on winter maintenance; should remove structures from the property-protect from the weather.

d. Ordinance and Planning – Reminded of Committee meeting on 7/21/10, at 6:30pm; will address various recent inquiries as well as the Fire Marshal issue. Mr. Cindric noted that he had received calls/complaints about receiving violation notices-1. Linwood; flowers in right-of-way, and 2. Hedges at Emily and Crafton Blvd. Mr. Johnston said there is no question on procedure; if they receive a violation notice, they must comply. He added that a triangulation measurement must be performed at the Emily/Crafton Blvd. location (30 ft. triangle from middle of street/intersection). Mrs. Viola suggested that anyone that has received a violation notice/warning should come to the Ordinance Committee meeting to review the ordinance requirements. Mr. Cindric noted that there is still a vacancy on the Planning Commission; and that two members of Borough Council may sit on the Commission. Since he is a member of the Planning Commission, one other may also be appointed. He suggested that Councilman Johnston consider appointment, since no one has submitted a Letter of Interest, and soon the Zoning Ordinance changes are to be addressed by the Planning Commission. Mr. Cindric noted that there is some upcoming Planning Commission business/Conditional Use Request and has quorum concerns. Mr. Johnston agreed to fill the vacancy; motion will be added to the Agenda for the appointment.

e. Public Safety

1. Public Safety Committee Meeting – First Wednesday of each Month. Mr. Pellegrino noted that he has established Public Safety Committee meetings for the 1st Wed. of each month, at 7pm. First meeting will be August 4th; an Agenda will be prepared. Plan to discuss feasibility of local Fire Training Facility.

Fire Dept – Hose Testing. Mr. Pellegrino also noted that the fire hoses were recently tested and that several hoses had failed; could cost approx. \$4,000 to replace them. He also reported that vendors have been demonstrating various rescue tools. The CVFD's current tools are inadequate and inefficient.

He noted that the CVFD is looking into becoming more "green"; it was reported that an energy audit was being performed at the fire department, and also at the borough building. He also noted that Rescue #128 is having gasket problems and also some failures on pump tests.

f. Public Works – Mr. Phillips reported that the City of Pittsburgh repaired the wall along Chartier's Ave, Public Works is replacing the Barr Street steps, residents from Franklin Alley thanked the Borough for some remedial work done to the road surface

to help relieve some of the problems, Department is at full staff with the recent hiring of Dave Killen. Will be looking at the Broadhead Sewers and working on the Woodlawn street/curbs. Mr. Cindric/Mrs. Viola inquiring on 64 East Crafton and the intersection of Crafton Avenue/Noble/Dinsmore – had requested camera of the sewers at that intersection; believes there is a problem – e-mail referencing specific manholes. Mr. Cindric requested that she resend the e-mail to Mr. Callen, c/o of the Secretary's e-mail and also a copy to Mr. Phillips.

1. New Hire/Shoe Allowance Proration – It was the consensus of Council that the annual \$265. Shoe Allowance for new employee, David Killen, as provided by Contract, will be prorated at 9/12 (9 mos. of 12).
2. Working Foreman – Only one Letter of Interest was submitted by a Public Works employee, Regis Patton. Per the Contract, if no employee was interested in applying for the position, the Borough could seek outside applications. The position, working foreman, provides for an additional \$1.00 per hour. A job description has been prepared/provided. Motion is on the Agenda.

OTHER MATTERS:

Mr. Grapes reported that he had met with Director Nemec of REMS regarding Financial situation for EMS & Ambulance Services; particularly the Post Gazette article re: report prepared by Controller Lamb, of Allegheny County. He had forwarded information to Council. It was noted that there would not be a quorum for the July REMS meetings, so no meeting will be held. Mr. Cindric noted that Bellvue/Ross area is considering mandatory membership for EMS services; additional comments were discussed.

BUSINESS AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL

SECOND WARD COUNCIL SEAT: Nominations –Floor Opened; Closed: April Weitzel

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Johnston/Viola*) to adopt Resolution #2010-13 to appoint April Weitzel to fill the unexpired term of Deborah Sappie, Second Ward Council seat; with a term that shall expire December 31, 2011.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (8-0)

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Viola/Phillips*) to appoint Susan O'Connell to the Crafton Borough Civil Service Commission for a term that shall expire on July 1, 2016.
COMMENTS: Mr. Pellegrino noted, for the record, that Ms. O'Connell is his wife – and it was noted that there is no conflict of interest or incompatibility issues. Mr. Stewart/Mr. Cindric requested that a Thank You letter be sent to Mr. Bertocchi for his many years of service on the Civil Service Commission.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (8-0)

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Phillips/Stewart*) to appoint Regis Patton as Working Foreman, in accordance with the wage and terms set forth in the Labor Agreement, and in accordance with current job description.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Johnston*) to adopt Resolution No. 2010-14 being the Concurrent Resolution formally requesting grant funds, in the amount of \$16,000., in accordance with the Year 37 – CDBG program, for ADA automatic door opener projects; Community Center and Library.

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

PARKS/RECREATION

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Stewart/Grapes*) to approve the hiring of Kathryn Lopez, Kristin Kipke, and Erin Firestone as Swim Team Coaches for the 2010 season, and Sharon DeSalvo as a substitute Summer Crossing Guard; in accordance with wage rates established by resolution.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Pellegrino/Stewart*) to authorize a conditional offer of employment for the probationary period required by the Civil Service Rules and Regulations to Nicholas Mollo for the position of patrolman with the Crafton Police Department, to be effective as soon as possible, subject to satisfactory completion of a physical examination and psychological evaluation.

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

ADDED MOTIONS

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Phillips/Viola*) to appoint Douglas Johnston to the Crafton Borough Planning Commission for the term to fill the existing vacancy.

MOTION carried by a Seven Yes, One Abstention (*Johnston*) Voice Vote (7-1)

MOTION: It was regularly moved and seconded (*Johnston/Pellegrino*) to authorize the purchase of new movie projector and extended warranty and/or service agreement, at a cost not to exceed \$750.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Voice Vote (8-0)

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN/OTHER COMMENTS

Citizens - None

Mrs. Viola added that Crafton Celebrates had a great week of weather for the festival; she thanked the many volunteers that made it possible. It was announced that Performing Arts stage performances start this Thursday evening. It was noted that recyclables are no longer being picked up in the alley between Linwood and S. Grandview.

Mr. Johnston, and all, welcomed Ms. Weitzel to Council. Mr. Donovan reminded everyone to support their local volunteer fire departments.

Mr. Cindric noted that Manager Sample was our CONNECT representative; the next meeting is July 20th. He reported that Ruth Ann Omer, of Gateway Engineers, may now represent Crafton.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary