

COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING
Minutes of October 14, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Cindric called to order the Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute led by Mr. Donovan. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded six members of Council present (6), as follows: Mr. Cindric, Mr. Crown, Mr. Donovan, Mrs. Luxbacher, Mrs. Sappie, and Mrs. Viola. (*Absent: Mr. Byers, Mr. Bloom, Mr. Christman*) – Also present were Mayor O’Connell, Manager Sample, Jr. Council Sheariss and Solicitor Brown.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mr. Cindric reported that Council had met in Executive Session, prior to the meeting, to discuss a personnel matter; and two legal matters of potential litigation. No action to be taken.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Crown, to approve the October 14, 2009 List of Bills, as presented. **QUESTIONS:** Mrs. Luxbacher – NRA membership for M. Sumpter; advised that this is not a personal membership, that M. Sumpter is registered as firearms instructor for the benefit/training of all officers.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Crown, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the Minutes of September 9, 2009 and September 23, 2009.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0), with Mrs. Viola abstaining from approval of the September 23, 2009 Minutes (*absent*).

CITIZEN’S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Michael Lewis, 104 S. Linwood – He reported that the hearing with the magistrate is over; the case settled, so he, again, requested of Chief Rost that his sons skateboard be returned to him – which, again, was refused by the Chief. He wanted to take this opportunity to bring this to Council’s attention, and give Council/the Mayor an opportunity to settle this matter so he would not have to pursue legal action. Solicitor Brown advised that Mr. Lewis could motion to the Court of Common Pleas for release of the property. A few members of Council requested to discuss this matter in Executive Session – Council moved to an Executive Session. Council reconvened and Solicitor Brown commented that Council does not have the authority to order Chief Rost to return the property. Mr. Lewis inquired if the Mayor had the authority, and if she could request that of the Chief. Mayor O’Connell stated that whether she did or not have the authority, she would not order the Chief to return the skateboard.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Manager Sample reported: The Marion Street repairs are started and are progressing with no problems. The ADA curb cut project has already started; primarily around the borough building, Noble Avenue and Stanwood Street areas. Mrs. Viola inquired on the status of the solid limestone curbs that were removed to accommodate the ADA curb cuts. Manager Sample noted that no plans were made to retain them, but if it is Council’s wish, he would have them moved into storage at the Public Works property.

OLD BUSINESS and NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. Parking Restrictions – Clearview Avenue:** Mgr. Sample reported that he had visited Clearview Avenue on garbage day and found that even with the parking restrictions in Alley A there still remained ample parking spaces on Clearview. The only portion of Clearview that would prohibit parking is from 601 to 607; and this is a temporary situation until Phase I of the project is completed.
- b. CDBG Grant Year 36 Projects:** The CDBG funds are not sufficient to complete all of the projects; need to decide if to withhold projects until next year/work with another community or only do more handicapped curb ramps. Suggests submitting the handicapped access projects for the borough building, community center and library as separate applications or phases next year.
- c. Resolution 2009-16 – Energy Efficiency/Conservation Block Grant Program:** Resolution is on the Business Agenda for action. Not required, but would permit Crafton Borough to participate in an energy audit, and Allegheny County would receive Federal funds. They would provide a contractor to inspect the borough building, and prepare a report. This could be used as a guide for improvements and assistance in obtaining grant funds in the future for such projects.
- d. Lease Agreement – Miniature Golf Course:** The School District had a problem with signing the Indemnity Agreement with regard to the student use of the property, but compromised and were agreeable with an Indemnity clause being made a part of a lease – which has been prepared for \$1. rental, and appears on the Business Agenda for approval. It was noted that the students have been working very hard cleaning and renovating the facility for use – Grim’s Ghostley Golf, weeknights and weekends until Halloween, \$5. Adults and \$3. children under 12 yrs. old.

BUSINESS AGENDA**ADMINISTRATIVE:**

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to adopt Resolution 2009-16 authorizing the Borough to participate in an Energy Audit as part of Allegheny County’s Energy Program for Municipalities which is being financed by a block grant through the U.S. Department of Energy.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Sappie, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the lease agreement between the Carlynton School District and the Borough of Crafton for the use of miniature golf facility located at West Steuben Street and Linden Avenue per the terms of the lease.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

PUBLIC SAFETY:

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Luxbacher, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to authorize the Borough Manager to prepare and advertise an ordinance for adoption, which shall amend Section 214-35 of Chapter 214 of the Crafton Borough Code of Ordinances, Vehicles and Traffic, Parking Prohibited at All Times in Certain Locations, to include Clearview Avenue from 601 Clearview to Willard Avenue on the Easterly side.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Crown, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve payment to Pavement Technology, Inc., in the amount of \$8,847.75, for the Reclamite Road Program. **COMMENTS:** Manager Sample reiterated the list of streets that were treated; Mrs. Viola inquired about cracking on some of those streets. Manager Sample stated that they would be taken care of by Public Works during crack-sealing in the Spring.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Viola, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve payment to SHACOG, in the amount of \$7,822.47, for the second, third and final invoices for Year 5 - Joint CCTV Project per the recommendation of the Engineer.

MOTION carried by Unanimous Roll Call Vote (6-0).

SET AGENDA BUSINESS FOR REGULAR MEETING (October 28, 2009):

1. Adoption of Ordinance regarding parking restrictions on Sterrett and Clearview.

COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Sappie – Reminded everyone of the Sr. Citizen Dinner on October 24th, and the Rec Board sponsored Craft/Vendor show on November 7th.

Mr. Sheariss, Jr. Council – Reported information for the miniature golf fundraiser.

Mrs. Luxbacher – Noted that the Wall Mural dedication and block party was a success; nice turnout and was a lot of fun. She thanked the Mayor for her attendance and speech. She reminded everyone of the Library's Book and Bake Sale on November 6th and 7th.

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

Mrs. Viola – Inquired on the advertisement for the garbage contract RFPs. Manager Sample advised that it has been advertised and bids are due in to the office by November 4th. She also inquired on the status of the landscaping at the Family Dollar. Manager Sample advised that letters have been sent to them addressing the grass/landscaping issues. She also advised that the Ordinance Review Committee will be meeting on November 18th, at 6pm.

Manager Sample – Reported that there is a change in the Budget Meeting schedule; that no meeting will be held on November 11th since it is a Holiday.

Mayor O'Connell – Reported that the Police Department is over-budget in the overtime line item due to being down two officers, but it is offset, somewhat, by the regular pay which is about 2.2 percent under budget. The department is working quickly on conducting background checks for the two police candidates, as requested by the Civil Service Commission. She noted that three CrimeWatch alerts were recently sent regarding break-ins at homes where no one was home; she reminded residents to be careful to avoid leaving any indications of being away so as not to attract these types of crime. She, too, noted that the Wall Mural dedication was a great party; the Sprout Fund had representatives in attendance who had complimented our community. Trick or Treat is on Halloween, October 31st, from 6 to 8pm. She reported that the Borough Website now has a trash schedule posted to assist residents who may not be certain if there are any changes in pickup due to Holidays. The dates, times, and information for the miniature golf fund raiser were reiterated by Mr. Sheariss, at the Mayor's request. She then spoke directly to Mr. Lewis, suggesting that he meet with her after the meeting and arrange to meet with her and Chief Rost.

Mr. Cindric – As a follow-up to the skateboard matter; advised that a Borough Ordinance exists, under Section 214-85 of the Ordinance Codification, whereas it states that such activity on borough streets is unlawful. Unfortunately, the Borough does not have an area for this type of activity or a skateboard park, except on private property. He welcomed input from residents and volunteers to coordinate something and bring it to Council; but it would be an expensive project.

Mrs. Luxbacher commented on behalf of Mr. Christman, reporting that Crafton Celebrates and the Library will be holding a Turkey Bingo fundraiser on November 19th; information available on the borough website.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION carried by a Unanimous Voice Vote (6-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary