

COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING
Minutes of July 8, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

President Christman called to order the Meeting of Crafton Borough Council, in Council Chambers of the Community Center. Flag Salute led by Mrs. Luxbacher. Roll call, by Mrs. Tremblay, recorded eight members of Council present (8), as follows: Mr. Bloom, Mr. Byers, Mr. Cindric, Mr. Crown, Mr. Donovan, Mrs. Luxbacher, Mrs. Viola and Mr. Christman (*Absent: Mrs. Sappie*) – Also present were Mayor O’Connell and Solicitor Ayoob (*Manager Sample absent*).

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council convened to an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter concerning Officer Breedon. Council reconvened; action will be taken on the matter.

APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Crown, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to approve the July 8, 2009 List of Bills, as presented. **QUESTIONS:** None.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None (*June 24, 2009 not available*)

CITIZEN’S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Becky Heffner, 28 Oregon Avenue– A member of the DOXA church; she and other members, volunteers, performed the restoration work on the playscape, on June 19th, and would like to do more community projects, and will work closely with the Rec Board.

PERSONNEL MATTER

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Crown , to continue the suspension of Officer Donnie L. Breedon, with pay, pending completion of investigation by Crafton Borough.
COMMENTS: None

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

ENGINEER’S REPORT

Mr. Christman referred Council to Engineer’s letters of recommendation to approve the final estimate for Mongiovi for the Elmwood Sewer project, payment of estimate #2 to Folino, and to review their letter regarding the NPDES permit.

OLD BUSINESS and NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- a. EMS Agreement – Section 2-A; confirmed that the 24/7 team would be ALS. Confirmed that Northwest has established an extra crew already, that will be stationed in Crafton, and may respond to Ingram, other nearby areas, but will then dispatch another unit to Crafton, in that event. Confirmed that NorthWest is “For-Profit”, and Crafton would not have board representation. Confirmed that it is usual procedure to honor all subscriptions even though service provider changes. Confirmed that there are no arrangements made with the CVFD’s QRS, but they welcome their assistance on calls. NorthWest noted that although call volume may be light during the hours of 11pm – 7am, profit balances out over the volume for the entire 24 hours. Detailed reports will be provided to Council on a monthly basis.
- b. CDBG Year 36 Concurring Resolutions – Mrs. Tremblay noted that these are an administrative requirement to complete the grant applications.

- c. Ordinance 1596 – PEMA Loan – Solicitor Ayoob referred Council to his letter explaining this matter; whereas, Borough is required to guarantee the \$160,000. loan and submit required documents to the DCED. Mrs. Viola questioned the Agreement between the CVFD and Relief Association, as required by Ordinance #1593; Solicitor Ayoob confirmed receipt of a copy, dated October 2008. She also questioned the percentage change – Mr. Crown explained that, by statute, the percentage needs to be the same percentage as was paid by the Relief Association, being 26%. Mr. Cindric inquired on any problems with the signers. Solicitor Ayoob confirmed that there is no problem with the signatures on the agreements. Mr. Crown noted that the signers for the CVFD, for the loan only, could not be the same as the signers for the Relief Association; so they complied with two different signers for each entity. Mr. Crown reported that formal approval was given on June 27th, CVFD secured short term loan and third party financing since PEMA will not pay directly to the manufacturer.
- d. Bike Donation – Resolution required; Motion on the business Agenda, donating to the Boys and Girls Club of Carnegie.

BUSINESS AGENDA

ADMINISTRATIVE:

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Luxbacher, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the Emergency Medical Service Agreement between NorthWest EMS and the Borough of Crafton.

COMMENTS: Mrs. Viola noted that residents appeared before Council, including Thornburg Mayor, Tom Mackin, and asked that Council continue EMS service with REMS, and that some actions may have consequences. Mrs. Luxbacher noted that this has been thoroughly discussed for several months, that only a segment of the population appeared before Council. That quality service, 24-7, has been the issue, and she has heard from many other residents, and they desire the 24-7 ALS service. Mr. Cindric expressed concerns that since Crafton has an agreement with Thornburg, to provide Police Service, this EMS change may influence Thornburg's decision to continue this Police service. He noted that Thornburg pays Crafton approx. \$64,000 per year, and without that revenue, there may be the need to lay off a police officer. Mr. Bloom stated that Thornburg's action, whatever it may be, is of no concern to him and Crafton should not feel threatened; he is only concerned with what is best for Crafton. Providing ALS service, 24-7, in Crafton, is what he will be voting for.

MOTION carried by a Five Yes, Three No (*Byers, Cindric, Viola*) Roll Call Vote (5-3).

FINANCE:

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Donvoan, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise Ordinance No. 1596 and execute all necessary documentation as is required by the Local Government Unit Debt Act in order to guarantee the \$160,000. PEMA Loan on behalf of the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department. **COMMENTS:** Mrs. Viola asked why this Ordinance is necessary if the fire department already has the loan. It was explained that this is a requirement for the 2% loan, this loan reflects a large interest savings to the CVFD. It was further explained that, if, in the event, the CVFD defaults on the loan, and repayment is required by the Borough, it is this 2% PEMA loan that would be preferred, and this Ordinance is necessary to meet the PEMA requirements.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to adopt Resolution No. 2009-10 being the concurrent Resolution formally requesting grant funds, in accordance with the Year 36 – CDBG program, for ADA Curb Ramps.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to adopt Resolution No. 2009-11 being the concurrent Resolution formally requesting grant funds, in accordance with the Year 36 – CDBG program, for ADA Curb Ramps.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mrs. Luxbacher, seconded by Mr. Crown, to adopt Resolution No. 2009-12 authorizing the Borough of Crafton to donate, to the Boys and Girls Club of Carnegie, all abandoned and unclaimed bikes found and presently in the possession of the Crafton Police Department.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve the final estimate to Mongiovi & Son Excavating, in the amount of \$21,560. for the Elmwood Avenue Emergency Sewer Repair.

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

MOTION: It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to approve payment estimate #2 for the 2009 Road Resurfacing Project, in the amount of \$2,340. to A.Folino Construction, Inc.

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

SET AGENDA – REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 22, 2009

1. Ordinance Review Recommendations - Discussion
2. Ordinance No. 1596
3. Full-time Status/Promotion – Patrolmen, D. Berry and J. Chedwick

COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Bloom – Reported that a sewer collapse was discovered on Marion Street, in addition to the street damage caused by the storm; Public Works made repairs to the sewer line and also installed a manhole halfway between Woodlawn and the top of the hill. Waiting for Engineer to complete specs for bidding, for the proposed repair and asphalt paving of Marion Street.

Mr. Crown – Thanked Mr. Christman for his efforts, and all of the volunteers, for another great Celebrates festival.

Mrs. Luxbacher – Thanked Ms. Heffner, on behalf of the Rec Board, for the cleanup and restoration work done on the playscape; try to keep the playscape graffiti free.. She noted that she, Mayor O’Connell and Tom Pelligrino, had met with the LED lighting representative. They reviewed various sites for consideration; the Core District, Borough Building, and Park. She reported that the Sprout Fund wall mural should commence by the end of July. She also thanked Mr. Christman and Mrs. Tremblay, and the many volunteers, for all of their hard work; it was a great event. She reminded everyone that the tear down work party is scheduled for Saturday. Referring to a recent incident on her street, she warned residents to be alert late at night; if you see someone suspicious and feel threatened, stay in your car, use your cell phone, be quick to call 911, or drive to the Police Station, and report anyone suspicious.

Mr. Cindric – With regard to the NPDES permit analysis, he suggested that, during budget planning this year, Council consider these DEP requirements and borough’s responsibilities, and budget for expenses through 2013, rather than just one year.

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

Mr. Byers – Requested the quarterly report for the Police and Employee’s Pension Funds be provided for the next meeting.

Mrs. Viola – She asked that the Engineer look at two manholes on Steuben Street (at busway and at Linden), which appear to be sunken, and may have been affected by the recent storm. She also commented

on the Crafton Celebrates festivities; it was a great event despite the four days of rain. She reported that the Ordinance Review Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15th, at 6pm.

Mayor O'Connell – Also commented on the Celebrates festivities, and noting that the many volunteers made it possible, it was a great community effort – also, noted that the Fireworks were the best ever. She reiterated comments on the LED lighting meeting, there is a good bit of information, and may have a report for the next Council meeting.

Mr. Christman – Noted that everything, the parade, the entertainment and fireworks were great. He thanked the many volunteers, by name, for their work. The Celebrates wrap-up meeting may be rescheduled to July 21st since he will be away next week, and soon, we get to start the planning all over again. Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, in Council Chambers – always looking for new volunteers for the Committee.

ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mike Nemec, REMS – Thanked council for the opportunity to serve Crafton over the past ten years, and wished Crafton the best with their new service provider.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary