

**COUNCIL AGENDA MEETING  
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 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. Sappie. 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. Sappie, and Mr. Christman – Also present were Manager Sample, Engineer Minsterman, Solicitor Ayoob and Andrew Sheariss, Jr. Councilperson. (*Absent: Mrs. Viola, Mayor O’Connell*).

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mr. Crown, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve the September 9, 2009 List of Bills, as presented.

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to approve the Minutes of August 26, 2009.

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

**CITIZEN’S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL**

April Weitzel, 60 Grace Street – Deteriorating condition of retaining wall/curbing/sidewalk along Grace Street; feels it is the Borough’s responsibility to repair, and provided a survey of her property. Hazardous conditions, spikes sticking up, etc. C. Jurzak, Grace Street – Noted that Public Works did some major repairs to the railroad tie wall with materials provided by Port Authority; early-mid ‘90’s. Mr. Cindric expressed concerns, being that this area on Grace Street is beyond the cartway, items such as right-of-way maintenance work, tree removal, and sidewalk repairs/replacement are the property owner’s responsibility – if the borough does this sidewalk/wall work on Grace Street, will other property owners expect the same consideration. Solicitor and Manager Sample stated that additional research and information is needed before commenting further.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Engineer Minsterman reported: Marion Street paving contracts have been sent out for execution, once the signed documents are received, and their insurance and bond, they can proceed with the preconstruction meeting and work scheduling; should begin the work in early October. Mr. Bloom inquired on the October closings of the asphalt plants. Engineer Minsterman said that it should not be a problem, that the contractor is aware of his responsibility to complete this project in a timely manner, and is aware of the activities of asphalt plants at that time of year.

**OLD BUSINESS and NEW DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- a. Civil Service Eligibility List – Mr. Bloom stated that, economically speaking, why void the list and expend funds to start the process (advertising, testing, background investigations) all over again, there are four viable candidates on the current list, and also an immediate need to hire police officers. It was the consensus of Council to go to

Executive Session, inviting the members of the Civil Service Commission to join the, to further discuss the candidates/eligibility list.

- b. Act 32 Tax Collection Committee Delegates – Previously discussed; one person, Mark Schuster, has expressed interest, Motion for Delegate appointment is on the Business Agenda.
- c. South Emily Street, One Way – Previously discussed, traffic study performed, criteria has been met to change the traffic direction; Motion to prepare and advertise Ordinance is on the Business Agenda. In addition to being advertised, area will be posted to make residents aware of the proposed action and their right to attend the meeting and speak.
- d. Garbage Contract – Mr. Byers and Manager Sample are looking into alternate collection options, such as truck sizes and eliminating alley pickups, and also recycling requirements. Motion is on the Agenda authorizing the Borough Manager to prepare and advertise for bids.
- e. Part Time Crossing Guard – Motion on the Agenda.
- f. CITF Grant – Previously considered for the salt bin, but guidelines were changed, and the new deadline is Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – possible considerations are LED lighting, recreation, sewer and infrastructure projects. Manager Sample reported another sewer failure at Bells Run, and emergency repairs were made. This work could not be considered under the grant, as reimbursement for work done is not allowed.

## **BUSINESS AGENDA**

### **ADMINISTRATIVE:**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mr. Cindric, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to appoint Mark Schuster as Crafton Borough's Voting Delegate to the Act 32 Tax Collection Committee; who shall serve without pay or compensation however may be reimbursed for any expenses incurred, who shall provide Act 32 Tax Collection updates and reports to the Borough Council, and who shall only have the authority to vote and represent Crafton Borough as so directed and decided by a majority of the Borough Council.

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

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mr. Byers, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to authorize the Borough Manager to prepare and advertise an RFP for the Borough's Garbage and Recycling Collection. **COMMENTS:** Mrs. Luxbacher inquired about single stream collection and collection points. Mr. Byers inquired about joint municipality collection and possible COG assistance to initiate something. Manager Sample noted that the Char-West COG had looked into this previously, with no success – Mr. Cindric added that the difficulty is the different borough requirements as well as coordinating with the different contract expiration dates. Mr. Cindric inquired about rear yard pickup being available in the contract for elderly and handicapped residents. It was noted that this option is in the current contract; not sure on the cost or how many residents use this service – Manager Sample will look into it.

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

### **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Mr. Donovan, to authorize the Borough Manager to prepare and advertise an ordinance for adoption, which shall amend Section 214-19 of Chapter 214 of the Crafton Borough Code of Ordinances, Vehicles and Traffic, One-

Way Roadways, to include South Emily Street; establishing one-way traffic in a southerly direction from Crafton Boulevard to Ewing Road.

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

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mr. Crown, seconded by Mr. Bloom, to hire Pete Vasilatos as a part-time crossing guard at a rate in accordance with the current wage resolution.

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

**MOTION ADDED:**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mr. Bloom, seconded by Mrs. Sappie, to request the Crafton Civil Service Commission certify the next three candidates from the current eligibility list.

MOTION carried by a Seven Yes, One No (*Cindric*) Roll Call Vote (7-1).

**SET AGENDA – REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 26, 2009**

1. CITF Resolution for grant.
2. Clearview Avenue; parking changes and safety issues.
3. South Emily – One-Way Traffic Ordinance

**COUNCIL COMMENTS/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Mr. Byers – Thanked Mr. Donovan for his regular reminders to support the volunteer fire departments. Also, Friday is Patriot day - it's a day to remember fallen ones; police officers, firefighters, passengers of flight 93, and those whose lost their lives on 9/11.

Mrs. Sappie – Finance committee will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm, followed by the Ordinance Review Committee at 6:00 pm. Citizen dinner is September 26th. Rec Board met this past Monday, a decided to do a Craft/Vendor show on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>, and rent out tables, etc. to fund raise to offset costs for entertainment for the Senior Citizen dinners; on the same weekend as the Library's Book & Bake Sale. Also, a resident called her to acknowledge and thank NorthWest EMS for their quick response and getting her niece to the hospital, and she is doing well.

Mrs. Luxbacher – Mural Committee will be meeting at the library on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> to plan the mural dedication.

Mr. Christman – Crafton Celebrates putting together a few fundraisers; Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> Tailgate Party, and also joining the fire department on their Monte Carlo Night/Night at the Races on October 10th.

Mrs. Tremblay – Reminded Council of the Thursday morning meeting with Rep. Deasy.

**ADDITIONAL CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Charlene Krenke, Clearview Avenue – Inquired if any additional information was available with regard to the enforcement and remedies concerning parking of recreational vehicles and trailers on property. Solicitor Ayoob noted that his opinion was offered previously to Mrs. Krenke, and he stands on that position; she would have to go through the normal process and request a variance from the Zoning Hearing Board. A resident inquired on how ordinances can be changed – the process was briefly summarized, and reminded the residents of the upcoming Ordinance Review Committee Meeting which would be an opportunity to discuss these issues. Mrs. Luxbacher asked if there are any public areas where residents can store these types of vehicles. Manager Sample stated there were none, and noted that there could be liability issues.

Blair Cress, Bradford Avenue – Spoke regarding a recent event, whereas some teenagers were given citations for skateboarding down the street, and their skateboards were taken and the Chief will not return the skateboards to them. He is asking on behalf of one of the parents who could not attend the meeting. He also asked if there is a skateboard ordinance in the borough, and, also, if the borough is still looking into creating a skateboard park so these kids have somewhere to use the skateboards and give them something to do. Manager Sample said that a comprehensive recreation plan is in the works, and will include this type of activity; then, Council would proceed from there.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** It was regularly moved by Mrs. Luxbacher, seconded by Mr. Bloom, that this meeting be adjourned.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Tremblay, Borough Secretary