

**BOROUGH OF CRAFTON
COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of February 26, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

President Levasseur called to order the Regular Meeting of Crafton Borough Council of February 26, 2018 at 7:15 pm, in the Council Chambers of the Community Center of the Municipal Building. The Flag Salute was led by Ms. Damits.

ROLL CALL, by Manager Scott, recorded Six (6) Members of Council present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Mr. Crouse, Ms. Damits, Mr. Rosario and Mr. Levasseur; Ms. Glaser attended via Skype. Absent, Ms. Perry. Also present Mayor Bloom, Solicitor Korbel, Engineer Minsterman, Public Works Director Kaczorowski and Manager Scott.

BILL LIST APPROVAL

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Damits/Rosario*) to approve the Bill List dated February 26, 2018 as presented.

MOTION #1 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

ACCEPTANCE/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Rosario/Damits*) to approve the Minutes for the February 12, 2018 as presented.

MOTION #2 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (6-0).

For the record, Ms. Perry arrived at approximately 7:24 pm.

CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL/Agenda Items Only:

Mr. Levasseur noted, no one from the Audience signed up to speak regarding Agenda Items.

ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

Mr. Levasseur acknowledged receipt of the following written reports for January 2018; Treasurers Report, Financial Reports, Act 511, Trash Collection, Property Tax , Managers Report, Police Report, EMS Report, Ordinance Officer's, Building Inspection Report, Public Works Report, Fire Department and Library Report.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Bloom noted, the Borough paved Ewing Road in 2017 and the residents in the area are concerned for speeding into the ballfields. Mr. Barry attended the last meeting and requested Council to consider the installation of speed humps. Mayor Bloom noted, he has reviewed the area, and is recommending Council authorize the purchase of the "portable" or rubber speed humps versus the permanent asphalt humps. The engineer had recommended during the paving of Ewing Road, six (6) speed humps, at various placements. Mayor Bloom is suggesting the Borough install three (3) portable speed humps at locations determined by the Public Work Department, Engineer and Public Safety. He noted at the end of the baseball season, the humps could be removed and moved to another location if necessary. The estimated cost per unit is \$5,000 for the portable humps.

Mr. Levasseur suggested Council authorize the Manager to procure the three (3) speed humps are recommended.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Crouse/Rosario*) to authorize the purchase of three (3) of the portable rubber speed humps at the locations determined by the Public Works, Public Safety and Engineer.

Attorney Korbel noted this will require three telephonic bids for the purchase, unless the item appears on CoStars.

Ms. Perry inquired if Mr. Kaczorowski would provide his opinion on the difference between the asphalt and the rubber speed humps.

Mr. Kaczorowski recommends the rubber humps, as noted, they are portable and could be moved to another location if required. Noting the rubber could be installed immediately upon receipt, the asphalt, the Borough would have the work completed through the 2018 Road Program.

Mr. Crouse inquired how often the speed humps would be moved to another location. Mr. Kaczorowski stated, his intention would be to leave them on Ewing Road year round, moving only at Council or Police Department request and approval.

MOTION #3 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (7-0).

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman noted the monthly Engineer's Report has been submitted to Council for review.

Mr. Minsterman noted the final listing for the 2018 Program is completed, plans and specifications are near completion, anticipating advertising in the next few weeks.

Mr. Minsterman noted in regards to the Corrective Action Program, project details are being submitted to SHACOG for bidding purposes, including CCTV, cleaning, spot repairs, lining and open cut repairs. Those contracts will be going out in a few weeks.

Mr. Minsterman provided an update on the ADA Ramp Project, CDBG Year 43, the contractor is expected to complete their last pour on two ramps this week. This will complete this project, a walk-through of the project will be completed and a two year Maintenance Bond will be maintained.

The next item on the Agenda is the Manhole Rehabilitation Project a meeting with the contractor is scheduled for later this week to determine a schedule when work will start back up. The Contractor is fully cooperating with the Borough requirements and plans and specifications.

Mr. Minsterman noted in reference to the Splash Pool Project, the contractor has agreed to complete the agreed upon repairs through the Maintenance Bond. This work will begin in a few weeks once the weather breaks. Gateway will provide part time inspection services to oversee the work to assure compliance with the specifications.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Korbel noted his office is in receipt of the files from the former solicitor, which are being reviewed.

Solicitor Korbel noted he and the Manager have discussed three properties that are blighted, including, 96 Noble, 52 Baldwick and 1508 Barr Avenue, he is reviewing the files and options for moving forward at the next meeting.

BUSINESS AGENDA

PERSONNEL

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Rosario/Crouse*) to adopt Resolution No. 2018-02 Wage and Salary Resolution for Swimming Pool and Other Personnel.

Mr. Crouse inquired if this item was in the budget. Ms. Scott noted the wages and salaries of summer personnel are in the budget.

MOTION #4 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (7-0).

Mr. Levasseur reminded everyone that Applications for Summer Personnel are still being accepted in the Administration office through March 7, 2018.

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Damits/Perry*) to authorize the Civil Service Commission to being the process of administering the Civil Service Examination in accordance with the Rules and Regulations to maintain a current Eligibility Listing, including the advertisement of the testing.

MOTION #5 was moved and carried after a Roll Call Vote (7-0).

PLANNING & ZONING

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Damits/Rosario*) to authorize advertise Planning Commission Meeting 2018 for the purpose of Reorganization and update on the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Levasseur noted the Commission hasn't met for some time, they need to come together to reorganize and discuss the adopted Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Scott will coordinate an agreeable date with the Commission before advertising.

MOTION #6 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (7-0).

LIBRARY

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Rosario/Crouse*) to open the floor for nominations to appoint Two (2) candidates to serve a three year term on the Crafton Library Board as the Borough Council approve appointees.

MOTION #7 was moved and seconded by Vote (6-1 Abstention).

Ms. Damits nominated Gerard Eonta; Mr. Crouse nominated Megan Grabowski

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Damits/Crouse*) to close the floor for nominations to the Library Board .

MOTION #8 was moved and seconded by Vote (6-1 Abstention).

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Damits/Crouse*) to approve the appointment of Gerard Eonta and Megan Grabowski to the a three year term on the Crafton Library Board as the Borough Council approve appointees.

Mr. Amendola noted, there were four applicants interested in the position, it was a difficult decision and encouraged them to apply through the Library for consideration. Mr. Crouse and Mr. Levasseur, agreed each of the candidates were outstanding and thanked them for their interest.

MOTION #9 was moved and seconded by Vote (6-1 Abstention).

ADMINISTRATION

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Damits*) to authorize the Spring Campaign letter to be mailed out from Service Line Utilities as presented.

Ms. Damits inquired if this is the final campaign going out by this company. Ms. Scott noted a letter terminating the contract was sent out.

MOTION #10 was moved and seconded by Vote (6-1).

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Amendola/Crouse*) to adopted Resolution 2018-03 the intent of the Borough to work along with Allegheny County to accomplish the Goals of the Live Well Campaign.

Ms. Scott noted the County Executive and the Health Department are doing a comprehensive initiative toward living well. Crafton has proclaimed to participate in a number of programs including; Maintaining walking trails, encourage volunteerism, promote the Community Gardens, recognize Crafton Celebrates, non-smoking Municipal Building and healthier choice foods at Borough Concession Stand.

MOTION #11 was moved and seconded by Unanimous Vote (7 - 0).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **JORDAN TAX COLLECTION** – Wednesday, February 28, 2018
Trash Collection Invoice - 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Borough Building
- **ANNUAL SHRED EVENT** – Saturday, April 14, 2018, 9:00 am to Noon
Swimming Pool Parking Lot Area; Sponsored by Representative Deasy and Senator Wayne Fontana
- **ANNUAL COMMUNITY CLEAN UP**- Saturday, April 28, 2018, 9 am to Noon – Crafton Park (W. Steuben Street Entrance)
Collection Items – Building Materials, bulk items, household clutter, yard debris, small appliances
Non-Collected Items– Tires or rims, refrigerators, paint or electronic waste
- **REMINDER** – If you would like to receive a copy of the monthly newsletter, you must register your email through the Borough website www.crafton.org

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Aubrey Allen, 79 Taylor Street, was not able to attend the meeting, but submitted a Thank You Note to Council and the Borough. She thanked the Borough for all of the efforts completed to reduce speed and improve visibility and increase safety in the area. She stated she will continue to research problems regarding the paper street and the lighting matter.

Season Ciechanowski, 1753 Barr Avenue, she thanked Public Works Director and Manager for working with her on litter clean up along Crafton Boulevard, looks great.

Ms. Ciechanowski is requesting Council consider purchasing/installing public trash cans and placed on busier sidewalks throughout the Borough. Ms. Scott noted, the Borough typically puts trash cans in Parks, around the Municipal Building, Borough owned & maintained property.

Mr. Kaczorowski noted the City of Pittsburgh places trash cans on sides in their business district for maintenance.

Ms. Ciechanowski requested consideration to place cans on each of the Borough steps. The stairs at Crafton Boulevard and Maplewood, there is trash everywhere in the area.

Mr. Levasseur noted the new screen in the rear, displaying the Crafton GIS Mapping System. Various layers may be added to system in the future, and will be a useful tool for future projects. One of the top four ideas addressed by the Comprehensive Plan is walkability of the Community. A map of the trails and walkable areas could be a layer on the system.

Mr. Crouse inquired how the Borough would go about ordering more trash containers for these areas. Ms. Scott noted, she will obtain pricing on the numerous types of containers. Mr. Levasseur suggested an Eagle Scout project constructing a wood trash container for service credit.

Mr. Kaczorowski will obtain a few prices on various cans, purchase 10 or 12 and place around the Borough for easy disposal before spring.

Ms. Perry inquired if GIS System could be utilized for an application where the walkers in the Community could notify the Borough of areas where trash is a problem.

Mr. Levasseur stated, ESRI GIS system can assist a Community in countless applications, including notification from a resident from their phone with problem areas. Some of the tools to build in the future.

Ms. Glaser inquired if the rain garden and the status of the project. Ms. Scott noted the planting has been completed, the plants were installed in late November. She contacted the engineer regarding concerns with the planting and the amount of wet weather. She noted the project is under a maintenance bond at this time.

Mr. Levasseur wanted everyone to be reminded, with the amount of wet weather over the past few weeks it has been all over the news, several communities have had problems with various landslides. If anyone notices changes in their homes or cracks in foundations, please contact the Borough immediately.

Mr. Crouse inquired the status of a Joint Code Enforcement Officer with Ingram and the Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Scott noted a meeting with Ingram has been scheduled for Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 6:30 at Ingram to discuss the comprehensive plan and what areas the Communities can work together.

Mr. Amendola questioned when a joint Code Enforcement Officer was discussed, he didn't recall discussing any such matter.

Mr. Levasseur noted that conversation regarding Code Enforcement was discussed with Council and whether Crafton has the manpower to provide this service to both Communities. He noted Mr. Morgan who retired from Crafton and Ingram last year, is back working in Ingram, however, he stated until Ingram can locate a replacement.

Ms. Perry stated that when she met with the Manager regarding the recommendations of the Early Intervention Program, the discussion was not replacing the Code Enforcement Officer, but whether there is a need to augment this service. She noted, Mr. Kaczorowski is the Public Works Director, working part time as the Code Enforcement Officer. With these added responsibilities along with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan, can we justify partnering with Ingram on full time code enforcement, in addition to the work completed.

Mr. Amendola noted in the Early Intervention Program there was a recommendation to looking into merging the Police Departments. Crafton agreed to have an evaluation completed at no cost by the State, however, Ingram would not agree to the evaluation being completed. He inquired, why Crafton should be concerned about the future of Ingram Code Enforcement Officer.

Mr. Crouse noted Code Enforcement in any Community is imperative. The discussion with Ingram is a discussion as recommended by the Plan. He noted, no one on Council wants to see Crafton become a blighted Community. He agreed the discussion is to augment code enforcement.

Mr. Levasseur assured residents, strengthening Code Enforcement efforts in the Community, Council is not intended to strong arm residents, the Borough has compassion and understanding and wants to work with every resident to meet their needs and find solutions. He suggested utilizing civic organizations even boy scouts or girl scouts in need of Community Service hours could assist, complete an Eagle Scout project to aid our senior residents.

Ms. Scott noted, the GIS Map displayed on the screen in the rear, the layer displayed currently is Code Enforcement. The dots represent violation notices sent out, the Green Dots are closed violations, and the Red Dots are open violations.

Mr. Kaczorowski noted, he has been successful since taking over Code Enforcement, meeting with landlords, resolving previous reoccurring violation issues. He also noted a number of properties have been sold and rehabilitated. These are not blighted properties, code violations.

Mr. Levasseur noted, he appreciates a great discussion and encourages similar discussions on various matters at future meetings. He appreciates the efforts and commitment of Council members.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Damits/Perry*) to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm.

MOTION #12 was moved and carried by Unanimous Voice vote (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Ann C. Scott, Borough Manager