

Borough of Crafton
Thursday, February 22, 2024

(Council Meetings are broadcast live via Zoom Communications Webinar and can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_iL1uJ842r9UF1M0zNoEoQ)

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Oliverio called to order the Regular Meeting of the Crafton Borough Council, Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 7:03 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Manager Price recorded six (6) Members of Council present as follows: Ms. Bollenbacher, Mr. Chandler, Ms. Compitello, Mr. Hough, Mr. Oliverio, and Ms. Pulkownik. Also present were Mayor Perry, Solicitor Korbel and Engineer Keenan. Absent was Mr. Ridilla.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the consent agenda for February 22, 2024, including:

1. Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2024,
2. Bill List – February 22, 2024, with exception of the Gateway Bathhouse invoice, the Zoneco invoice, and the Maher Duessel invoice.
3. November & December Reports – Treasurer’s Report, Jordan Tax Collection Report, Crafton Police Department Report, NorthWest EMS Report, Building Inspection Report, Library Report and the Manager’s Report.

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Hough*) to approve the February 22, 2024, Consent Agenda, with exceptions.

MOTION #1 carries by a Unanimous Vote (6-0).

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no citizens requesting to speak on agenda items.

6. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Oliverio spoke on the following topics.

- *Updated Speaker System* – New microphones installed in the Council Chambers.

- ***Giving Grove Project*** – The Shade Tree Commission held a meeting on Monday evening and met with Tree Pittsburgh regarding a program to help plant fruit trees that will be utilized to boost the community food banks.

7. MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Perry had nothing to report.

8. SOLICITOR’S REPORT

- ***Executive Session*** – Council held an executive session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel matters and Borough property.

9. ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Keenan gave an update on the following projects.

- ***Broadhead Project*** – An appraiser has been hired to investigate assessment costs for the property easements.
- ***Public Works Building*** – \$200,000 grant will expire in June of this year, which is intended to be used to install garage doors on the building. Estimates came in ranging from \$67,000 to \$117,000.
- ***Stairs Replacement Project*** – Belvidere Stairs will be pushed back to March due to fabrication delays. The remaining projects were put out to bid separately. These projects are identified as follows: Contract A – Clearview to Crafton Boulevard & Crafton Boulevard to Walnut Street, Contract B – Barr Avenue to Alley A, Contract C – Fountain Street to Promenade Street. ([Presentation Attached](#))

Ms. Compitello gave a quick background to the process of the bidding on the stair’s improvement projects.

Manager Price noted that the Walnut Street to Crafton Boulevard stairs are the most used by residents and added that there is a house that has no other access to their residence without these stairs. He added that the Fountain Street to Promenade stairs are a through way to the busway. Manager Price recommended that Council choose Contract A and Contract C, or select all three and use bond funds to complete the remaining project, Contract B.

MOTION: #2: It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Bollenbacher*) to award Contacts A & C to the lowest bidder.

Ms. Bollenbacher clarified that approximately \$2,000 will come from the bond fund.

Mayor Perry added that there may be some work that Public Works can complete.

MOTION #2 carries by a Unanimous Vote (6-0).

- **2024 Road Paving Plan** – Road planning is moving forward with the Vialytics software. A list of potential roadways will be provided to Council for review.
- **PAWC Water Main Replacements** – A meeting was held with the project manager on the upcoming line replacements. These projects are still in the planning stage but are expected to start in March.

Mr. Hough inquired about the Union Avenue replacement and clarification of the location.

Manager Price confirmed that this is not the section of Union Avenue that was recently reconstructed and paved.

- **2024 Sewer O&M Plan** – Combined Sewer System sees more flow than a separated system, therefore the combine sewer requires more maintenance to assure the flow is effective and efficient. This is completed through CCTV work. The Borough has budgeted \$500,000 for 2024.
- **Pool Bathhouse** – Project is moving along well. The construction is being completed as planned. Public Works will begin their portion of the sidewalk work in March.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager price spoke on the following items.

- **Wage Resolution** – This document sets the annual wage for non-union staff for the 2024 budget year.

MOTION: #3: It was moved and seconded (*Bollenbacher/Compitello*) to approve resolution 2024-02 A resolution setting the wages for the nonunion Borough Staff for 2024.

MOTION #3 carries by a Unanimous Vote (6-0).

- **JTS Tax Refunds** – Refunds due to assessment changes from the previous two years.

MOTION: #4: It was moved and seconded (*Chandler/Hough*) to approve payment of the 2022/2023 Real Estate and Road Tax Refunds in the amount of \$9,395.33 as presented and submitted by Jordan Tax Service, Inc.

Solicitor Korbel noted that the Borough should see another wave of refunds by April.

MOTION #4 carries by a Unanimous Vote (6-0).

10. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, & SUSTAINABILITY

Ms. Perry gave an update on the following items.

- **Waste Management Contract** – No updates on the contract, the current trash bill will be the final bill under this contract. The Borough is actively seeking other options to help keep the cost increases going into the next few years as low as possible.

Manager Price stated that the increase in 2025 is expected to double the current cost at the lowest possible option.

- **New Payroll System** – The administration is in the process of implementing a new payroll system which will save approximately \$3000 annually.

Mr. Oliverio also announced that the new invoice approval and payment software is going very well.

INFRASTRUCTURE & LAND USE

Ms. Compitello gave an update on the following project.

- **Multi-Municipal Zoning Project** – Steering Committee met yesterday.

Manager Price added that the committee discussed the public engagement feedback, which was mainly focused on getting the commercial district up and going.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Ridilla was not in attendance.

COMMUNICATION & RECREATION

Ms. Bollenbacher gave an update on the following items.

- **Upcoming Events – Save the Date**
 - Senior Dinner Dates
 - March 2, 2024 – Wizard of Oz Themed, Dinner, Prizes & Entertainment. Cost is \$10. RSVPs were due today, but late reservations can be called into the Borough Office.
 - May 4, 2024
 - August 3, 2024
 - November 2, 2024
 - Clean-Up/Shred Event & Arbor Day Celebration
 - April 27, 2024
 - Music Festival
 - June 1, 2024
 - Independence Day Celebration
 - July 4, 2024
 - Fall Fest
 - September 28, 2024
 - Trunk or Treat

- October 19, 2024
 - Haunted Crafton
 - October 19, through October 31, 2024
 - Celebration of Lights
 - December 7, 2024
 - Holiday House Tour
 - December 15, 2024
 - More detailed information is to come on these events.
- ***Crafton Logo*** – No update at this time.
- ***Newsletter*** – Next newsletter planned for early April; articles will be due March 1, 2024.

VACANCY COMMITTEE

Ms. Pulkownik gave an update on the open seats.

- ***Current Open Vacancies***
 1. Civil Service (1 alternate)
 2. Zoning Hearing Board (1 alternate)
 3. Upcoming in 2024 – Listed in the order they are expiring:
 - a. Library Board expiring 1/31/2024
 - b. Library Board expiring 2/28/2024
 - c. Shade Tree Commission expiring 3/31/2024
 - d. Planning Commission expiring 4/13/2024
 - e. Civil Service expiring 7/1/2024
 - f. Recreation Board expiring 9/30/2024
 - g. Recreation Board expiring 9/30/2024
 - h. Zoning Hearing Board expiring 12/31/2024
 - i. Zoning Hearing Board expiring 12/31/2024
 - j. Zoning Hearing Board (alternate) expiring 12/31/2024

* *Interested candidates should apply on the Borough's website at www.craftonborough.com/commissions.*

Ms. Pulkownik noted that the SavvyCitizenApp notices have ramped up the interest in these open vacancies.

Manager Price added that the Borough's appointment schedule needs to be adjusted to coincide with the Library's Board expirations.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG)

Ms. Bollenbacher announced that the next COG meeting will be held Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 6:30 PM, in Ingram.

12. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Upcoming Council Meeting** – Thursday, March 14th at 7:00 PM.
- **2024 Summer Employment** - The Borough of Crafton is accepting applications for the following seasonal positions: Pool Manager, Assistant Pool/Concession Manager, AquaRobics Instructor, Head Lifeguard, Lifeguards, Cashiers, Attendants, Concession Stand Workers, Swim Coaches, and Seasonal Public Works. Paper applications may be obtained in the Administrative Office, 100 Stotz Avenue, 2nd Floor, during normal business (9 – 4 PM, Mon – Fri) or at www.craftonborough.com/employment. All paper and online applications must be submitted to the Administrative Office by 4:00 pm, March 8, 2024.
- **There’s No Place Like Home Senior Dinner** - March 2 at 4:30 PM until 7:00 PM at the Community Center. Wizard of Oz theme with dinner, entertainment, and prizes. Tickets are \$10 (cash only). RSVP by Feb 23 on the website or calling office.
- **Trash/Recycling Bill Payments** – Jordan Tax Service will be in the Borough building for in person bill payments on Feb 27th from 9 AM – 12 Noon.

Ms. Compitello stated that the County will be sharing the feedback they received from the municipal surveys that have been sent out via SavvyCitizen.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Matt Greiner, 91 N. Emily Street, asked Council to consider the request to install a stop sign at Crafton Boulevard and Johnston Street.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary