

Borough of Crafton
Thursday, January 11, 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, January 11, 2024, at 7:01 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

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

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the consent agenda for January 11, 2024, including:

1. Meeting Minutes – December 14, 2023, and January 2, 2024.
2. Bill List – January 11, 2024 (with exception of the NorthWest EMS bill).

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Chandler/Compitello*) to approve the January 11, 2024, Consent Agenda.

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Gladdy Carlin, 10 Afton Avenue, spoke regarding the opening of the gates on Afton Avenue for the winter season. She stated that in past years the gates were open to allow residents to navigate the narrow roads through the snow and to allow EMS a secondary route to the homes in case of an emergency.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

▪ COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Oliverio announced the following Council Committees and Council Leaders.

Finance, Administration & Sustainability Committee – Ms. Perry
Infrastructure & Land Use Committee – Ms. Compitello
Communication & Recreation Committee – Ms. Bollenbacher
Vacancy Committee – Ms. Pulkownik
Council of Government Committee – Ms. Bollenbacher, Ms. Perry as alternate.
Planning Commission Committee – Mr. Ridilla

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Perry had nothing to report.

8. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

▪ ZONING HEARING BOARD

Solicitor Korbel stated that a meeting will be held by the Zoning Hearing Board to discuss and announce their decision on the Greiner variance will be held on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 7PM.

Solicitor Korbel announced that Council will hold an executive session following the meeting to discuss personnel matters.

9. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Keenan gave an update on the following items.

- **CONSENT ORDER AGREEMENT** – A list of sewer shed projects for the C20 and C25 were presented to Council, all of which were reviewed by ALCOSAN and received positive feedback. The possible projects could include the redirection of flow from Duncan Avenue and Maxwell Street, a collection tank installation under the Jason West Ballfield, green infrastructure projects on Crafton Avenue, Noble Avenue, Lincoln Avenue, and Richmond Street, and water retention tanks off Steuben Street. The specifications and cost are included in the presentation slides which can be found here: [GROW Project Presentation](#)

Mr. Keenan stated that the 1B option focused more on the areas outside of the cartway and would cause more disruption to trees and private property, which was why those options were not chosen.

Engineer Minsterman added that these projects were chosen in anticipation that ALCOSAN would award grant funds close to the 85% match.

Council continued discussion of the project options, percentages of water capture, where the exact locations are for these projects and what streets would be affected by these projects.

MOTION #2: It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Pulkownik*) to approve the engineers to move forward with the design work for the proposed projects in the C-20 and C-25 sewer sheds.

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

- **BROADHEAD PROJECT** – Senator Fontana and Representative Deasy secured an additional \$2.3 million dollar grant through the Commonwealth for the Broadhead Project. Easements are ongoing due to legal review.
- **PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING** – Pitt has reached out to Crafton regarding a sustainability class project where the Pitt students would help with ideas on how to make the new Public Works Building sustainable and more efficient. The \$200,000 grant extension has been approved.
- **STAIRS PROJECT** – Project bid advertisement has gone out and bids will be opened on January 25, 2024. They will be presented at the next Council Meeting.
- **2024 ROAD PAVING PLAN** – Vialytics Software is being utilized to assess the current conditions of Crafton’s Roadways.
- **POOL BATHHOUSE UPDATE** – Construction is on schedule.

Manager Price added that there are pictures uploaded on the Council Share Drive with the progress of the bathhouse construction.

Mr. Keenan gave a brief explanation of the software process and how Vialytics works. He noted that the brick streets will be exempt from the assessment.

10. MANAGER’S REPORT

Manager Price gave an update on the following items.

- **LOGO CONTRACT** – The agreement has been amended as per Councils suggestion with the inclusion of the termination process and the description.

MOTION #3: It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Hough*) to approve the logo creation proposal in the amount of \$4,875 and have the manager move forward with the contract.

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

- **SKID STEER PURCHASE** – Purchase of a skid steer was discussed at previous meetings and the expense was budgeted for 2024.

MOTION #4: It was moved and seconded (*Chandler/Compitello*) to approve Resolution 2024-01 for the purchase and financing of a 2024 Caterpillar Skid Steer 289D3 HF with tracks, and trade in the 2016 John Deere Skid Steer for a total purchase of \$68,894.

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

- ***AUTOMATED INVOICING & LINE OF CREDIT*** – Automated accounts payable software would also include a line of credit. This software would eliminate the time of processing invoices, getting approval, printing checks, and mailing out payments. Additionally, this software would provide the administrative staff with better control over credit card purchases. Invoices will be approved electronically, and most payments will be made via ACH.

MOTION #5: It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Chandler*) to approve the purchase of Bill.com’s Corporate Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable plan with an estimated annual cost of \$3,000 and open a line of credit using Bill.com’s Spend and Expense plan.

MOTION #5 carries by a Unanimous Vote (6-0).

- ***AFTON AVENUE GATES*** – Several residents have contacted the office to express their concern about the Afton Avenue gates being closed for winter. The gates are typically closed during the summer months for safety and open during the winter months. The master parks plan recommended keeping the gates closed to allow for safe use of the park facilities all year and expanding its functions.

Council continued to discuss any concerns with opening the gates and potential conflicts with the pool bathhouse construction. Council verbally agreed to allow the gates to be open for the winter months.

- ***CONGRESS OF NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES (CONNECT)*** - CONNECT will attend the February 8, 2024, meeting to make a presentation.

11. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, & SUSTAINABILITY

Mayor Perry had no update. She noted that the committee will be meeting to discuss future meeting dates and times.

INFRASTRUCTURE & LAND USE

Ms. Compitello gave an update on the following projects.

- ***MULTI MUNICIPAL ZONING PROJECT UPDATE*** – A public outreach event was scheduled for February 3, 2024, at 11:00 AM, in the Community Center. Details will be sent out in a mailed flyer to all residents.
- ***TRAIL PLANNING GRANT*** – The committee is reassessing the remaining work to determine the best path forward.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Manager Price stated the first Planning Commission Meeting of the year will be on January 23, 2024.

COMMUNICATION, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ms. Bollenbacher noted that the Recreation Board will be meeting Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 6:30PM. She added that they will be discussing the dates and times of future meetings.

Ms. Bollenbacher gave a quick update on the following events.

- ***UPCOMING EVENTS – SAVE THE DATE***
 - Senior Dinner – March 3, 2024.
 - More information to follow.
- ***NEWSLETTER*** – No update.

COMMISSION VACANCY

- ***APPOINTMENTS***

MOTION #6: It was moved and seconded (*Bollenbacher/Chandler*) to appoint Miranda Micire to Crafton’s Recreation Board for a term expiring February 28, 2025.

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

Ms. Pulkownik announced the following open appointments.

- ***Current Open Vacancies***
 1. Civil Service (1 Alternate)
 2. Zoning Hearing Board (1 Alternate)
 3. Upcoming in 2024
 - Library Board (2 Regular)
 - Shade Tree Commission (1 Regular)
 - Planning Commission (1 Regular)
 - Civil Service Commission (1 Regular)
 - Recreation Board (2 Regular)

- Zoning Hearing Board (2 Regular, 1 Alternate)

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

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG)

Ms. Bollenbacher announced that the next COG meeting will be held Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 6:30 PM in Collier Township.

POLICE CHIEF SEARCH COMMITTEE

Mayor Perry had nothing to report this evening.

12. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ***UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETING*** – Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 7:00 PM.
- ***ZONING UPDATE PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT*** – Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 11:00 AM in the Community Center. The Zoning Steering Committee and the Zoning Consultants will share progress with the public and will ask for public input.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Gladdy Carlin, 10 Afton Avenue, thanked Council for agreeing to open the gates on Afton Avenue for the winter months.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary