

Borough of Crafton
Thursday, June 22, 2023

(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, June 22, 2023, at 7:15 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

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

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the consent agenda for June 22, 2023, including:

1. Meeting Minutes – June 8, 2023,
2. Bill List – June 22, 2023,
3. Written Reports – Manager’s, EMS, Library, Budget vs. Actual, Bond Fund Sheet, Treasurer’s, Act 511, Trash and Property Collection Reports, Crafton Police Report, Building Inspections Report.

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Marks/Compitello*) to approve the June 22, 2023, Consent Agenda.

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no citizens signed in to make comments on agenda items.

6. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Oliverio had nothing to report.

7. MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Perry spoke regarding the following concerns:

- ***Speeding on Crafton Boulevard*** – a speed monitor has been posted and an increase in enforcement should be noticed in the coming weeks.
- ***Recreational Burning*** – the ordinance's intent is to allow occasional burning for recreational purposes using clean wood only. Nuisance fires should be reported to the Crafton Police Department, by calling 9-1-1, at the time of the offense.

Mayor Perry also gave the following announcements:

- ***Welcome Home PA*** – Program designed to provide employment opportunities to veterans. The information will be linked to the Borough's website.
- ***Property Tax Rebate Program*** – Deadline for the rebate program has been extended to December 31, 2023. The information will also be linked on the Borough's website.

8. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Jewart had nothing to report.

9. MANAGERS REPORT

Manager Price gave an update on the following items:

- ***Pool Pass Update*** – the Borough has sold 274 memberships, or 992 individual members. Complaints have been received regarding pool closures due to weather and air quality. Discussions will be held on a policy to give guidance to the Pool Manager when making these tough decisions.
- ***Crafton Boulevard Speeding*** – The Administration is working with PENNDOT to add calming measures and Speed Reduced Ahead signs will be posted to allow for proper enforcement.
- ***Public Works Collective Bargaining Agreement*** – 3-year term agreement, negotiations have been ongoing since March.

MOTION #2: It was moved and seconded (*Bollenbacher/Marks*) to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement negotiated with and approved by the Crafton Public Works Bargaining Unit.

Manager Price noted that the only notable change is the increase in Salary for the first year of the agreement and allowing for a 30-minute drive time rather than the 5-mile radius.

Mr. Marks noted that the agreement is comparable to other local communities.

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

10. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Perry stated that the Committee meeting was held. She noted that they continue to work on improving reporting and financial analysis. Mayor Perry added that there have been no large, unexpected expenses and the finances are right where they should be for May. She spoke regarding the bond sheet and stated that the full cost of the Broadhead Project will be updated to reflect Council's decision on the project.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Ms. Compitello gave an update on the following ongoing projects.

- ***Broadhead Separation Project*** – a presentation was held at the June 8, 2023, meeting by the Engineers. Additional grant funding is being explored by Council and the Engineers. The final plan will be presented at the July 13, 2023, meeting.
- ***2023 Road Paving*** – paving will take place the week of June 26th and residents have been notified and information shared on SavvyCitizen. Parking will be allowed on the street during weekends and overnight. Intended areas of paving are portions of Station Street, Johnston Street, Chartiers Avenue, Kingston Avenue, Crafton Boulevard, Chess Street. The full details are available on the website.
- ***Crafton Boulevard Streetscape Phase II*** – final installation is still pending and testing will be held when the remaining parts are delivered.
- ***Multi-Municipal Zoning Project*** – a joint Planning Commission meeting with both Crafton & Ingram will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, to discuss the Multi-Municipal Zoning Project.
- ***Pool Bathhouse*** – final design review was presented at the meeting on June 8, 2023, where the Council discussed the recommended changes regarding the doors and exits. If approved, the bid notice will be advertised and the contractor awarded at the August 10, 2023, Council Meeting. This will allow for construction to begin in the fall and be completed by next pool season.

MOTION #3: It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Marks*) to approve the Final Crafton Pool Bathhouse designs and direct the Borough Engineers to move forward to the next phase of the project.

Mr. Oliverio noted that the information is available on the website and has been discussed for several years.

Manager Price added that Solar Panels will be considered when the roof replacement is completed.

Mayor Perry stated that there was a shortfall in grant funding that was originally expected for the Bathhouse project, as well as increases in project costs.

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

COMMUNICATION, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ms. Bollenbacher gave a quick update on the following items:

- ***Car Cruise & Vendor Fair*** – not attended as well as the prior year due to several other Car Cruises in neighboring communities. The Committee will discuss possible date changes for 2024.
- ***Fourth of July*** – Tuesday, July 4, 2023 – from 3:00 PM until end of the Fireworks. Vendor and Food Trucks are still being accepted. There will be sweet and savory food vendors, lawn games, inflatables, etc.
- ***Upcoming Events – Save the Date – More Details to Come***
 - Fall Festival – September 30th.
 - Haunted Crafton Tour – October 21st through the 31st.
 - Light Up Night – December.
 - Christmas House Tour – December.
 - Library Weekly Events
 - Monday's – Yoga at 7:00 PM.
 - Monday's – Story Time at 11:00 AM.
 - Thursday's – Lego Night 4:30 PM.
 - Aqua-Robics at the Pool.
 - Monday's & Thursday's at 7:00 PM.
 - Pride Festival & Parade.
 - Sunday – June 25, 2023 – Parade beginning at noon, gathering for events in the park after.
 - Concerts In the Park. (Beginning June 29th)
 - Thursdays at 7:30 PM.
- ***Crafton Park Digital Sign*** – Design is being finalized with installation planned for August or September.
- ***Newsletter*** – Mail Date of August 1st, articles due by July 1st.
- ***Military Banner Program*** – An updated memo was provided to Council by the Borough Manager.

MOTION #4: It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Marks*) to approve Resolution 2023-13 amending the fee schedule to adjust the prices of the Borough's Military Banner program to account for the cost of processing applications and installing the Banners.

Manager Price noted that most municipalities have a volunteer group of veterans that operate the program on behalf of its municipality. He added that in the few municipalities that do run the program itself, they do not charge for labor or administrative costs. The updated amended fee resolution would split the labor and administrative costs between the Borough and the purchaser.

MOTION #4 carries by a Voice Vote (5-1). *RIDILLA (NO)*

COMMISSION VACANCY

Manager Price gave an update on the remaining open vacancies.

- **Current Open Vacancies**
 1. Civil Service (2 Alternate)
 2. Recreation Board (1 Opening)
 3. Zoning Hearing Board (1 Alternate)
 4. Upcoming
 - a. Recreation Board (12/31/23) (3 Regular)

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

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG)

Ms. Bollenbacher stated that the COG is on its Summer Break, the next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 6:30 PM in Neville.

11. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Upcoming Council Meeting** – Thursday, July 13, 2023, at 7:15 PM.
- **Crafton Pool Season Pass** – The Pool is open daily from noon to 7:00 pm. Please visit craftonborough.com/crafton-pool if you would still like to buy a season pass and sign up for Savvy Citizen notifications for updates on weather related closures. (*Corrected to note Sunday hours are 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM*)
- **Mini Golf** –The Mini Golf Course on Steuben is open on Friday and Saturday nights from 7 pm to 9 pm.
- **Fourth of July Celebration** – The bands and food will start at 3:00 pm in Crafton Park. and the Borough has extended the length of the Fire Works show. Fireworks are scheduled to start about 30 to 40 minutes after sunset (9:30 pm).

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

James Mangan, 96 Sterrett Street, spoke regarding speeding concerns and vehicles running the stop sign on Sterrett Street. He also asked for clarification on the permit requirements for recreational burning.

Mayor Perry stated that a Permit is required for all recreational burning in the Borough and added that they can be obtained from the Borough Administrative Office.

Manager Price stated that residents could consider smokeless options for social gatherings. He reiterated that burning should not take place during the day and if it becomes a nuisance to your neighbors, you will be made to put it out, regardless of whether you have a permit.

Mayor Perry announced that Council did adopt an updated Firework Ordinance which states that fireworks cannot be set off within 150 feet of any structure or vehicle, whether or not it is owned by the consumer, nor if your abutting neighbor gives permission.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary