

Borough of Crafton
Thursday, October 27, 2022

(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, October 27, 2022, at 6:40 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Interim Manager Sample recorded five (5) Members of Council present as follows: Ms. Bollenbacher, Ms. Compitello, Mr. Marks (ZOOM)*, Mr. Oliverio, and Mr. Ridilla. Also present were Mayor Perry and Solicitor Korbel. Absent were Mr. Chandler and Mr. Levasseur. *Mr. Marks joined the meeting via ZOOM at 7:00 PM.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Ridilla/Compitello*) to approve the October 27, 2022, Consent Agenda (including the Meeting Minutes dated October 13, 2022, and the Bill List dated October 27, 2022).

MOTION #1 carries by a Unanimous Vote (4-0).

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Cody Sheets, 152 Promenade Street, spoke regarding the new PA Fireworks Law and noted that enforcement of a ban would put a burden on the Borough's Police Department and suggested that setting day and time restrictions would be a more reasonable approach.

6. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

Mr. Oliverio acknowledged the receipt of the following written reports for September 2022, including the Treasurer's Report, Financial Statement, Act 511, Trash and Property Tax Collection, Police, Building Inspection, Code Enforcement and Library.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

NOVEMBER MEETING CHANGE

MOTION: #2 It was moved and seconded (*Ridilla/Compitello*) to change the date of the November 24, 2022, meeting to November 21, 2022, at 6:30 PM, and advertise accordingly.

MOTION #2 carries by a Unanimous Vote (4-0).

MARKET STUDY

Mr. Oliverio announced that the Borough Council will hold an executive session following the meeting to seek advice from the Solicitor on this matter.

8. MAYOR'S REPORT

PA FIREWORKS LAW

Mayor Perry stated that the Borough Council will not be amending the ordinance at this time. She noted that the Solicitor will make recommendations and present those to the Borough Council for consideration.

Solicitor Korbel spoke regarding the new PA Fireworks Law, that regulates commercial grade fireworks, and the options that the Borough Council could consider. He stated that the options are to ban fireworks entirely, allow fireworks by permit, or enact a partial ban that would allow fireworks on certain days/holidays. Solicitor Korbel added that in any of these cases, the 150-radius rule would be into effect and is enforceable by the Borough's Police Department, even if the Borough decides not to act on these changes.

Ms. Compitello stated that she did investigate a few properties within the Borough that could potentially fall under the 150-radius rule and stated that she did not find any areas of concern.

Solicitor Korbel noted that because of the 150-radius rule there would be no permissible areas within the Borough and the Borough Council could easily pass a ban of consumer fireworks.

Council Members continued discussion of the 150-radius rule, safety concerns surrounding this rule, the resources needed to enact a permitting process to allow fireworks, and the process of responding to complaints.

****Mr. Marks joined the meeting via Zoom at 7:00 PM.***

Solicitor Korbel stated that he would recommend one, to ban fireworks entirely or two, to update the current ordinance with the newer language. He added that this would avoid making a decision that would be misleading by allowing fireworks with a permit when there are no areas that fall under the 150-radius rule.

Mayor Perry added that she has met with the Chief of Police regarding this matter and noted that the Police Department is more than capable of dealing with these issues.

Solicitor Korbel stated that the next step would be for Borough Council to authorize the advertisement of the ordinance changes and explained the process and the need for a public hearing.

Mr. Oliverio recommended that Solicitor Korbel prepare a revised ordinance that would retract the Boroughs current ordinance, adopt the state ordinance language, and advertise as needed, as well as to communicate and educate the public on these changes.

9. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING UPDATE

Solicitor Korbel noted that there is no change to the PPG strike and recommends the Borough continue to advertise in an alternate paper.

10. MANAGERS REPORT

Interim Manager Sample stated that the Fire Inspection Ordinance is underway, and the office is already receiving paperwork back for inspections.

11. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Ms. Perry had nothing to add for Finance and Administration as any matters will be discussed during the Budget Workshop following the meeting.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

BROADHEAD SEWER SEPARATION

Ms. Compitello stated that the Borough has been awarded an ALCOSAN grant in the amount of \$3,738,400.00 for the Broadhead Sewer Separation Project. She noted that the grant award was less than expected but added that there will be additional grant opportunities to help with the Borough's cost on the project, which is estimated at \$4,633,478.72.

MOTION: #3 It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Ridilla*) to accept ALCOSAN's GROW Program Grant Agreement for the Broadhead Sewer Separation Project in the amount of \$3,738,400.00.

MOTION #3 carries by a Unanimous Vote (5-0).

DCNR GRANT RESOLUTION

Ms. Compitello noted that this grant application project for the Trail Feasibility Study was outlined in the Parks Master Plan study completed earlier in the year and stated that the project cost is \$60,000.00.

MOTION: #4 It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Bollenbacher*) to adopt Resolution 2022-025 requesting a grant of \$30,000.00 from DCNR for a Trail Feasibility Study for the Creekside and Chartiers Avenue Trails.

MOTION #4 carries by a Unanimous Vote (5-0).

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION FUND GRANT RESOLUTION

Ms. Compitello stated that the Borough is applying for \$1,452,949.05 in grant funding for the Crafton Boulevard Streetscape Project Phase II and III which will improve safety and walkability along Crafton Boulevard. She added that the project cost is \$2,190,614.05, of which \$737,665.00 is already under contract for Phase I and II of this project.

MOTION: #5 It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Ridilla*) to adopt Resolution 2022-026 requesting grant funding in the amount of \$1,452,949.05 for Phase II and III of the Crafton Boulevard Streetscape Project.

Mayor Perry asked for clarification on what the actual cost to the Borough will be for this project.

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

UPCOMING GRANT APPLICATIONS

Ms. Compitello spoke regarding the upcoming grant opportunities, such as the H2O Grant and the Small Water and Sewer Grant, both of which can be used toward the Broadhead Sewer Separation Project.

MULTI MUNICIPAL ZONING PROJECT

Ms. Compitello stated that the Consultant has completed the first phase of this project and is reviewing the existing codes. She added that the final diagnostic report was shared with the Council for review and requested that it be shared with the Public via the Borough's Website. Ms. Compitello stated that the next step would be to continue with the re-write of the codes.

STOP SIGN ON BRADFORD AVENUE

Interim Manager Sample noted that the Gateway Engineers has reviewed the intersection and stated that the Borough will work with the surrounding property owners on removal of existing vegetation to comply with any visibility requirements. He added that there will be a communication campaign to get the word out to the public regarding the traffic change.

Council Members continued discussion regarding the stop sign changes and the sight requirements to allow the stop sign to be moved from Crafton Boulevard to Bradford Avenue.

Ms. Compitello noted that the intersection does not meet the requirements to have a three-way stop.

COMMUNICATION, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mr. Marks stated that the Recreation Board is wrapping up the Haunted Tour and has begun planning for Crafton Celebration of Lights.

NEWSLETTER

Mr. Marks stated that the newsletter should be hitting mailboxes today.

COMMISSION VACANCY

Ms. Bollenbacher stated that the commission still has a few interviews scheduled.

ZONING HEARING BOARD

MOTION: #6 It was moved and seconded (*Bollenbacher/Ridilla*) to appoint Jeff Clark as an alternate to the Zoning Hearing Board.

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

Ms. Bollenbacher gave a brief update on the open seats.

Solicitor Korbel stated that the Commission is not required to interview all applicants.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG)

Mr. Oliverio stated that he attended the COG meeting in Ingram and announced that there were six applicants for the Joint UCC (Uniform Construction Code) Board.

Mr. Oliverio announced that Crafton will be hosting the December 15, 2022, COG meeting in the Community Center at 6:30 PM.

Mr. Oliverio added that the next COG meeting will be November 17, 2022, at 6:30 PM, at Bridgeville.

12. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Upcoming Budget Workshop and Council Meeting** – Thursday, November 10th, 2022, at 6:30 PM. The following meeting will be November 21, 2022, at 6:30 PM.
- The 3rd Annual **Haunted Crafton Audio Tour** will run from October 22nd to the 31st. If you are interested in featuring your home on the tour or would like further information regarding the event, please go to the borough website <https://www.craftonborough.com/haunted-crafton-tour>.
- **Spooktacular Haunted Mini-Golf** will be open weather permitting, Fridays & Saturdays in October. Stop down and have some spooky family fun, October 7th through October 29th from 7PM to 9PM. \$2 per person to play.

- The annual tradition of **Trick or Treating** will be observed in Crafton Borough on October 31, 2022, between 6PM and 8PM. The Crafton Borough Police Department and the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department will be on patrol to ensure the safety of those participating.
- **Election Day is Tuesday**, November 8th from 7 AM – 8 PM. Please make sure to confirm your polling locations as they have changed this year.
- **Crafton Blvd Ribbon Cutting** – Tomorrow, Oct. 28 at 10AM at the new Parking Lot. Rep. Deasy, Senator Fontana, School Officials, Borough elected officials and Gateway Engineers will be attending. The public is encouraged to join, and light refreshments will be served.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Cody Sheets, 152 Promenade Street, spoke regarding the state of the Borough Council and the efforts of each member as well as the lack of participation.

Mike DeCecco, 42 Coulter Street, inquired about changing the stop sign at Bradford Avenue to a three-way stop sign.

Ms. Compitello noted that the Engineers would need to look further into this request.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary