

Borough of Crafton
Thursday, January 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 Council Meeting of the Crafton Borough Council, Thursday, January 27, 2022, at 6:32 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. Chandler.

3. ROLL CALL

Interim Manager Sample recorded six (6) Members of Council present as follows: Ms. Bollenbacher, Mr. Chandler, Ms. Compitello, Mr. Marks, Mr. Oliverio, and Mr. Ridilla. Also present were Mayor Perry and Solicitor Korbel.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Sam Nucci, Borough of Ingram Council President, introduced himself to the newly elected Council Members and invited them to meet and discuss future joint projects.

6. INTERVIEWS FOR COUNCIL VACANCY

Mr. Oliverio announced that there are two candidates in attendance for the vacancy interviews.

Fred Amendola, 27 W. Crafton Avenue, congratulated the newly elected officials and thanked them for the opportunity of consideration. He stated that he is a retired Crafton Police Officer and served for thirty-three years. Mr. Amendola stated that he was elected to Council in 2014 and spoke about the accomplishments that Crafton Council had made at that time, including building strong leadership within the Administration, Public Safety and Public Works Departments.

Council engaged in a Question-and-Answer session with Mr. Amendola regarding Public Safety and Infrastructure, as well as potential programs that could be implemented to help better Crafton Borough.

Phillip Levasseur, 401 Clearview Avenue, stated that he has been a resident of Crafton Borough since 2012 and thanked the Council Members for the opportunity of consideration. He stated that he previously served on Crafton Council and is deeply invested in the Crafton Community. Mr. Levasseur spoke regarding the infrastructure improvements and multiple projects that he has worked on with the previous Council and the bond acquired that will allow these projects and capital plans to be completed.

Council engaged in a Question-and-Answer session with Mr. Levasseur regarding Sustainable Redevelopment, Joint Municipal Services, Transit Oriented Development and Fiscal Stability.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

Mr. Oliverio acknowledged the receipt of the following written reports for November & December 2021, including the Financial Statement, the Act 511, Trash and Property Tax Collection Report, Police Report, EMS Report, Building Inspection Report and Code Enforcement Report.

8. PRESIDENTS REPORT

Mr. Oliverio stated that he had nothing to report.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Perry announced that the County is providing the opportunity to purchase updated radios to the surrounding municipalities to increase bandwidth.

10. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman was not in attendance.

11. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Korbel announced that the Council will hold an executive session immediately following the meeting to discuss personnel matters, potential litigation and to seek advice from the Solicitor.

12. MANAGERS REPORT

Interim Manager Sample stated that his written report was available for review on the OneDrive.

13. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Perry stated that the Finance Committee will be meeting next Thursday to discuss the 2021 Financials after which the reports will be available for the Council to review.

Mayor Perry also spoke regarding the Organizational Assessment that has been open for discussion at several past Council Meetings. She noted that, after reviewing the bids submitted and completing interviews, the Committee is ready to make a recommendation.

MOTION #2: It was moved and seconded (*Chandler/Ridilla*) to award the Operational and Organizational Assessment to Grass Roots Solutions at a cost not to exceed \$21,330.00.

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

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Ms. Compitello gave an update on the Planning Commission meeting earlier in the week. She spoke regarding a presentation about potential community events and/or possible joint community events with Ingram. She also noted that the Planning Commission voted to recommend that Borough Council move quickly on the Zoning project.

Ms. Compitello spoke regarding the Master Site Plan update and stated that the project is underway, and the Consultants are putting together a list of priority recommendations. She added that a report will be available to Council Members in time for the opening of the grant cycle in March.

Ms. Compitello reported on the Joint Zoning project with Ingram. She noted that one Consultant from 2019 has offered to extend their bid pricing. Ms. Compitello added that this company was not the Commissions first choice. Ms. Compitello added that the Council may also choose to re-advertise for bids as there have been some changes, including the Master Site Plan and the need for increased communication within the community. She also spoke about potential amendments to the RFP, which is available for the Council to review, that includes those items as well as redefining public participation. Ms. Compitello also clarified that the grant project cost would be \$50,000 per Borough and added that each Borough would be reimbursed \$25,000.

MOTION: #3: It was moved and seconded (*Bollenbacher/Chandler*) to authorize the Interim Manager to advertise and solicit the Request for Proposal (RFP) to update the Borough's Zoning Ordinance.

Mr. Marks noted that he had spoken with two members of the Planning Commission who expressed their frustration that Council Members are reopening the bidding process and added that the project has been ongoing for three years.

Ms. Compitello stated that the Planning Commission strongly supports this project moving forward quickly but noted that there have been several changes and new planned improvements that should now be considered as a part of the project.

Council continued discussion regarding changes to the RFP, selection and qualifications of the Consulting companies, public engagement, and changes in cost consideration for the Zoning project.

Mr. Nucci, Ingram Borough, noted that Ingram Borough is on board with Crafton's decision.

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

COMMUNICATION, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mr. Marks stated that the Committee met with the Recreation Board and are working on upcoming community events. He also gave an update on the AV Upgrades currently taking place, which should be up and running by the next meeting.

Ms. Perry noted that the newsletter should be in the mail by mid-February.

COMMISSION VACANCY

Mr. Chandler noted that the Commission met with the Borough Manager yesterday. He added that they discussed the updates for the application process and hoped to have more information by the next meeting.

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG)

Mr. Ridilla announced that he attended the COG meeting last Thursday at which time a presentation was held by the Cohen Law Group regarding the franchise agreements between Comcast and the Borough. He also noted that Senator Fontana's office announced funding for a regional policing program.

Mayor Perry spoke regarding the regional policing program and noted that there has not been much interest by surrounding municipalities.

14. BUSINESS AGENDA

MOTION: #4: It was moved and seconded (*Chandler/Compitello*) to accept Coletta Perry's resignation from Crafton Borough Council.

Solicitor Korbel stated the acceptance of this resignation will begin the thirty-day timeline for appointment.

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

COUNCIL VACANCY NOMINATIONS

Mr. Oliverio opened the floor for vacancy nominations and asked each Council Member to state the last name of the candidate each member would like to appoint.

- Ms. Bollenbacher nominated Mr. Amendola.
- Mr. Chandler nominated Mr. Levasseur.
- Ms. Compitello nominated Mr. Levasseur.
- Mr. Marks nominated Mr. Levasseur.
- Mr. Oliverio nominated Mr. Levasseur.
- Mr. Ridilla abstained from the nominations.

Solicitor Korbel noted that Mr. Levasseur has provided the required affidavit.

MOTION: #5: It was moved and seconded (*Chandler/Marks*) to adopt Resolution 2022-002 appointing Phillip Levasseur to Crafton Borough Council to fill the vacancy resulting from the resignation of Coletta Perry, which expires on December 31, 2023.

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

Mayor Perry performed the swearing in of Mr. Levasseur.

Mr. Oliverio thanked Mr. Amendola for his services to the Community.

27. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Upcoming Council Meeting – Thursday, February 10, 2022, at 7:15 PM.
- The Borough’s garbage contact has been renewed with Waste Management and the items that are collected and the schedule will remain the same for 2022. Please visit the Borough’s website at <https://www.craftonborough.com/trash-recycling> for more information. Please note that the Borough’s contract with Waste Management states that glass is an acceptable item to recycle.

Mr. Oliverio stated that Waste Management will be sending out the annual schedule and list of acceptable items for collection.

Ms. Compitello noted that she has confirmed that glass items are going through the proper recycling process and added that Crafton is fortunate to still have this option.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no additional citizen comments.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary