

Borough of Crafton
Monday, October 28, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Perry called to order the Regular Meeting of the Crafton Borough Council, Monday, October 28, 2019 at 7:20 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Ms. Damits.

3. ROLL CALL

Manager Susko recorded seven (7) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Crouse, Ms. Damits, Ms. Glaser, Mr. Levasseur, Mr. Valcheff, Mr. Amendola and Ms. Perry. Also present were Solicitor Korbel, Engineer Minsterman and Public Works Director Kaczorowski. Absent was Mayor Bloom.

4. APPROVAL OF THE BILL LIST

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Glaser/Levasseur*) to approve the Bill List dated October 28, 2019, as presented.

MOTION #1 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

MOTION #2: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/Amendola*) to approve the Minutes dated October 14, 2019, as presented.

MOTION #2 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

6. CITIZEN'S PRESENT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL/Agenda Items Only:

Jerry Petronsky, 16 Taylor Street, expressed his disappointment with the delay of the Road Paving Program and urged Council to provide a solution for Highland noting that the alley has become increasingly dangerous.

Engineer Minsterman stated that the paving delay is due to the contractor's negligence and inability to follow the deadlines agreed upon in the contract. He added that Gateway recommended that the contractor complete the prep work, such as the sidewalks and ADA curb ramps, and push the paving off until spring. Engineer Minsterman suggested Council discuss with the Solicitor any possible actions that could be taken to penalize the Contractor.

Ms. Perry assured Mr. Petronsky that Public Works will be out to assess the situation on Highland and come up with a solution for patching and repair that will help residents get through the winter months until paving in the spring.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

Ms. Perry acknowledged the receipt of the following written reports for September 2019: Treasurer's Report, Financial Report, Act 511 and Trash Collection Reports, Property Tax Collection Report, Police Report, ~~E.M.S. Report~~, Ordinance Officer's Report, Building Inspection Report, Public Works Report, ~~Fire Department Report~~ and ~~Library Report~~.

8. PRESENTATION/ADDRESS TO COUNCIL:

Malachi Brown, Crafton Resident, read a statement to the Members of Council and to the Audience regarding the importance of recycling and economic peace (*Full Statement Letter is available in the Borough Administrative Office*).

9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Perry announced that Crafton had been awarded a GEDF (Gaming and Economic Development Fund) grant in the amount of \$200,000. Ms. Perry added that this is the second grant awarded to the Borough for Park Rehabilitation and will be used toward new safety surfaces and the replacement of the Pool Liner.

Public Works Director Kaczorowski noted that the new liner will include the floor, the walls and the gutters.

Manager Susko also added that this new liner will include stainless steel gutters which will eliminate the issue with the current gutters causing damage to the patrons bathing suits.

Ms. Perry announced that the first Budget meeting was successful and added that Council discussed increasing the budget lines for the tree maintenance to keep in line with the tree inventory project.

Ms. Perry spoke to clarify the rumors regarding the Crafton Athletic Field property stating that the Borough owns the front portion that is utilized by the Mini Golf and the School District owns the remainder of the property and added that it is not Crafton's property to sell. She also added that Council has only met in executive session for informational discussions regarding this Real Estate matter. Ms. Perry noted that the School District has proposed an intergovernmental agreement to revert the front portion back to the School District for a potential sale and stated that Council has not entered into any agreement. Ms. Perry also noted that at any time Council wished to take official action an ordinance would need to be passed. Ms. Perry stated that this would require an advertised open public hearing which will give the community the opportunity to hear and discuss the matter prior to voting.

Mr. Amendola shared that State Representative Dan Deasy and his Office Staff were critical in the award of the two recent park rehabilitation grants.

10. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bloom was not present to give a report.

11. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman spoke regarding the traffic study on Church Hill and stated that the roadway is not wide enough to have two-way traffic and a dedicated parking lane. Engineer Minsterman suggested that Council consider posting the roadway as No Parking Except Sunday or No Parking Anytime and direct the Police Department to enforce it.

Engineer Minsterman added that the study also included the intersection of Belvidere Avenue, Broadhead Avenue and W. Crafton Avenue. He noted that the study found there to be no visibility issues with the exception of traffic turning out of Broadhead Avenue. Engineer Minsterman suggested that Council consider placing a No Parking "Here to Corner" for a fifty foot section to improve driver visibility.

Engineer Minsterman announced that there will be a pre-application meeting with ALCOSAN regarding the GROW Cycle 5 grants and added that these grants could potentially be additional funding for the Crafton Boulevard Separation Project that was previously awarded a GROW Grant and added that Council would have until February to submit a grant application.

Ms. Damits asked Public Works Director Kaczorowski to investigate adding a stop sign at N. Emily Street and Crafton Boulevard and also questioned the reasoning for the existing stop sign at S. Emily and Crafton Boulevard.

12. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Korbel announced that Council held an executive session prior to the meeting to discuss labor contracts and real estate matters.

13. MANAGERS REPORT

AGENDA ITEMS

Manager Susko noted that the motions on the agenda for this evening are for purchasing of the new Police Cars, the new Pool Liner, the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department KME Rescue replacement and the Bid Requests for the Johnston Street Sewer Repairs.

UCC BOARD OF APPEALS

Manager Susko also announced that the Char-West COG has asked surrounding communities about interest in a Joint UCC Appeals Board and noted that the information is in the Council Packets for review.

DEER POPULATION CONTROL

Manager Susko gave a follow up on the deer population control discussion from the previous meeting and added that the Game Commission is extremely busy at this time. Manager Susko noted that the Game Commission has meetings scheduled with neighboring communities which Council Members are welcome to attend. Manager Susko added that in the past several years there have only been four vehicle related incidents involving deer. Manager Susko reminded Council that this information was also provided on the Council Drive.

14. BUSINESS AGENDA

A. ADMINISTRATION

MOTION #3: It was moved and seconded (*Valcheff/Levasseur*) – to accept the bid from Four Guys Stainless Tank and Equipment, Inc. for the 2250 GPM Pumper installed on Spartan Motors Gladiator MFD Cab and Chassis, PA COSTARS Vendor #013-100, as requested by the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department, at a total cost of \$607,969.

*Final payment will be due at delivery, which will take approximately 1 year from approved contract. Options for financing can be solicited once the bid is accepted.

Mr. Levasseur asked if the note will be taken out under the Borough of Crafton and if there are long term financing plans.

Ms. Perry stated that it is assumed that the Borough will take on the financial burden and added that this purchase is in line with the Fire Departments 10-year replacement plan.

ROLL CALL VOTE: *Mr. Crouse (YES), Ms. Damits (YES), Ms. Glaser (YES), Mr. Levasseur (YES), Mr. Valcheff (YES), Mr. Amendola (YES), Ms. Perry (YES).*

MOTION #3: carries by a Roll Call Vote (7-0).

MOTION #4: It was moved and seconded (*Amendola/Valcheff*) to authorize the advertisement and sale of the 2005 KME Rescue Engine, 2250 GPM Pumper, as requested by the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department.

ROLL CALL VOTE: *Mr. Crouse (YES), Ms. Damits (YES), Ms. Glaser (YES), Mr. Levasseur (YES), Mr. Valcheff (YES), Mr. Amendola (YES), Ms. Perry (YES).*

MOTION #4: carries by a Roll Call Vote (7-0).

MOTION #5: It was moved and seconded (*Amendola/Valcheff*) to approve the purchase and installation costs for a Coverlon mesh safety cover for Crafton Pool from Schmidt Supply in the amount of \$17,700.

MOTION #5: carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

MOTION #6: It was moved and seconded (*Amendola/Levasseur*) to approve the purchase of a 2019 Ford Interceptor K8A AWD and related equipment for the Police Department to replace current patrol car #1 in the amount of \$34,538.

Ms. Perry clarified that the funds for both Police Cars were included in the 2019 Budget.

Mr. Valcheff questioned if the purchase could be pushed off for another year.

Ms. Perry stated that the Police Department is already one year behind on the vehicle replacement plan because there were no new vehicles purchased in 2018.

ROLL CALL VOTE: *Mr. Crouse (YES), Ms. Damits (YES), Ms. Glaser (YES), Mr. Levasseur (YES), Mr. Valcheff (ABSTAINED), Mr. Amendola (YES), Ms. Perry (YES).*

MOTION #6: carries by a Roll Call Vote (6-0-1). *VALCHEFF ABSTAINED*

MOTION #7: It was moved and seconded (*Damits/Levasseur*) to approve the purchase of a 2019 Ford Interceptor K8A AWD and related equipment for the Police Department to replace current patrol car #2 in the amount of \$32,388.

Mr. Levasseur inquired about the \$2000 price difference.

Manager Susko noted that the difference is due to equipment that will be salvaged from the current vehicles and installed in the new vehicles. Manager Susko added that this equipment is only compatible with the 2019 Model.

Mr. Valcheff inquired if Crafton should do an early purchase of the 2020 Budgeted police vehicles considering the discount on the 2019 model.

Ms. Perry stated that it could be discussed with the Chief of Police and can be brought up at the next budget meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: *Mr. Crouse (YES), Ms. Damits (YES), Ms. Glaser (YES), Mr. Levasseur (YES), Mr. Valcheff (ABSTAINED), Mr. Amendola (YES), Ms. Perry (YES).*

MOTION #7: carries by a Roll Call Vote (6-0-1). *VALCHEFF ABSTAINED*

B. PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION #8: It was moved and seconded (*Amendola/Levasseur*) to advertise the Johnston/N Emily Sewer Repair project as presented by the Borough Engineer, for publication dates of January 3 and January 10, 2020. Bids must be received at the Borough Administrative Office by 10:00 AM on January 22, 2020.

Mr. Valcheff inquired if it would be beneficial to bid earlier and avoid any delays in construction similar to the Road Program.

Engineer Minsterman noted that there would be no difference in bidding in December or January.

MOTION #8: carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

15. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Levasseur inquired about the status of the Fountain Street/Sycamore Sewer Project.

Engineer Minsterman stated that they are still waiting on an easement to be granted by the City of Pittsburgh and suggested that Council send an official letter requesting a response.

Mr. Levasseur spoke regarding the opportunity to utilize the Duncan Property for storm water retention projects.

Mr. Amendola asked Engineer Minsterman if this is something that could be brought to ALCOSAN.

Engineer Minsterman noted that there was an original plan for ALCOSAN to use the Duncan Property, however, under the previous agreements it was cut from ALCOSAN's plans. Engineer Minsterman added that he would inquire about any interests in future plans.

Mr. Valcheff asked if the Borough could post official signs directing traffic for the CIT fields down Chartiers Avenue rather than Fountain Street.

Ms. Perry directed Public Works Director Kaczorowski to look into this matter.

Mr. Valcheff inquired if the Shade Tree ordinance deals with sidewalks and damage from trees.

Solicitor Korbel stated that the ordinance does not cover sidewalk damage.

Mr. Valcheff suggested using the tree inventory to assess the trees that are causing damage to sidewalks and also added that Council could discuss an assistance program for property owners.

Manager Susko noted that the Borough can use this information from the inventory to pioneer a shared cost program to help property owners fix and repair damaged sidewalks.

Mr. Valcheff reminded the audience about the Service Request portal on the website.

16. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The October **Planning Commission meeting** has been rescheduled for Wednesday, October 30, at 7 PM due to commissioner scheduling conflicts.
- **Trick or Treat in Crafton** will be on Halloween Evening from 6 PM to 8 PM.

- House Tour tickets will be on sale starting November 1. Contact the Borough Administrative Office for more information.
- **Daylight Savings Time** ends on November 3 – don't forget to turn your clocks back by 1 hour!
- **Election Day** is Tuesday, November 5. Polls will be open from 7 AM to 8 PM. For questions regarding how to locate your voting place, contact the Allegheny County Election Office at 412-350-4500.
- **Budget Workshop #2** will be held on Thursday, November 7 at 6:30 PM.
- The Borough Administrative Office will be **closed for Veterans Day** on Monday, November 11.
- The **Crafton Elves** are looking for volunteers to help decorate the Borough for Light Up Crafton on November 30. Please contact the Borough Administrative Office if you're interested in lending a hand!

17. ADDITIONAL CITIZENS COMMENTS

Manager Susko gave a brief explanation of the Road Tax fund program and stated that one quarter of the Borough's property taxes received are reserved for improvements to the Borough's roads and cart-ways and is specifically used to fund the Road Program each year.

Mr. Levasseur also reminded everyone about the ClearGov site that will provide the public with the Borough's financial information regarding infrastructure programs and plans.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary