

Borough of Crafton
Council Meeting
Monday, November 9, 2020.

(Meeting was held via Zoom Webinar and can be viewed by going to www.craftonborough.com/council-meeting-videos)

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Levasseur called to order the Discussion Meeting of the Crafton Borough Council, Monday, November 9, 2020 at 7:15 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. Levasseur.

3. ROLL CALL

Manager McKibben recorded seven (7) members of Council, present as follows: Mr. Alo, Mr. Amendola, Mr. Crouse, Mr. Crown, Mr. Levasseur, Ms. Perry and Mr. Saba. Also present were Mayor Bloom, Solicitor Korbel, Engineer Minsterman and Assistant Manager Sample.

4. APPROVAL OF THE BILL LIST

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Saba*) to approve the Bill List dated November 9, 2020, as presented.

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

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION #2: It was moved and seconded (*Saba/Amendola*) to approve the Minutes dated October 26, 2020, as presented.

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

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mary Luxbacher, 71 Dinsmore Avenue, first thanked Mr. Sample, Mr. Killen, and the Public Works Department for the planting of fourteen new street trees. She also thanked the members of the Park & Shade Tree Commission for their tireless work. Ms. Luxbacher also thanked the Homeowners who welcomed the new trees on their properties. Ms. Luxbacher then thanked the Recreation Board for all the work on the new Haunted Crafton Tour and Devont Smith for volunteering at the Mini-Golf. She added that these events raised nearly three-thousand dollars for the Crafton-Ingram Food Pantry. Ms. Luxbacher also thanked the Administrative Office and everyone who helped make these events successful. Lastly, she announced the Holiday "Celebration of Lights" event and noted that volunteers can go to the Borough's website to submit their information.

Greg Wozniak, 1773 Barr Avenue, requested an update on the status of the Athletic Field.

Mr. Levasseur stated that there is no change and added that Council is focused on the infrastructure improvements at this time.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Levasseur stated that Crafton's "Trick or Treat" and the Haunted Crafton Tour both were carried out safely and successfully. He added the Crafton continues to work with the Engineer on the grant project construction and submission for grant reimbursements. Mr. Levasseur also noted that the pool liner project is on target to be completed for next pool season.

8. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bloom had nothing additional to report at this time but will comment on discussion items later in the meeting.

9. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman noted that the monthly report was submitted for Council review. He added that Gateway continues to work on the grant reimbursement submissions in a timely manner. Engineer Minsterman stated that an Engineer Meeting will be held at the Borough tomorrow to discuss 2021 projects.

Mr. Levasseur asked when the Green Light-Go traffic signals will be turned on and the old poles removed.

Engineer Minsterman stated that the contractor is finishing up the final power connections and then they will go into a 30-day testing phase. He added that once the testing is complete, and all lights are working to PENNDOT specifications, the old poles can be removed.

10. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Korbel noted that the revised ordinance for Chapter 177, Sewer and Sewage Disposal, is available on the drive. He noted that Council should approve advertisement at the next meeting if they plan to adopt the amendment by the end of the year.

11. MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager McKibben noted that there are four action items on the agenda for this meeting stating that they are time sensitive issues and cannot wait to be passed at the Regular Voting meeting on November 23rd.

12. ACTION ITEMS

MOTION #3: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Crouse*) to appoint Huntington Capital Markets as Bond Underwriter for the proposed 2020/21 Bond issue by Crafton Borough.

MOTION #3 carries by a Voice Vote (6-1). *AMENDOLA - NO*

MOTION #4: It was moved and seconded (*Saba/Crown*) to appoint Attorney Patrick Healy from the law firm Bruce E. Dice and Associates as Bond Counsel for Crafton Borough.

MOTION #4 carries by a Voice Vote (6-1). *AMENDOLA - NO*

MOTION #5: It was moved and seconded (*Alo/Crouse*) to publish the Pre-Enactment of Debt Ordinance as prepared by Bond Counsel.

MOTION #5 carries by a Voice Vote (6-1). *AMENDOLA - NO*

MOTION #6: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Crown*) to adopt Resolution 2020 - 16 and Resolution 2020 - 18 requesting CDBG monies for planned demolition of blighted properties within the Borough and a storm water flood reduction project at Duncan and Steuben Streets and authorizing the CharWest COG as the official to file all applications, documents and forms between Crafton Borough and Allegheny County Economic Development.

MOTION #6 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

13. DISCUSSION ITEMS

PROJECT UPDATES

Manager McKibben gave a brief update on several projects, first, the S. Grandview project is complete with exception of the water line repair restoration by the Water Company, second, the Pool and Park projects are nearly complete with just a few items left to finish up, and lastly, the Master Parks Plan Grant agreement will be on the agenda for approval at the next meeting.

Council held a brief discussion regarding process and timeline from the grant award to receiving proposals, and when to expect possible project construction to begin.

Manager McKibben and Assistant Manager Sample both suggested that any movement on this project should wait until the agreement is fully executed.

Engineer Minsterman noted that there is a Kickoff meeting with DCNR on Thursday.

Mr. Saba inquired about the state of the playground.

Manager McKibben noted that the Playscape is complete, however the park remains closed at this time, as it is an active construction zone.

WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT EXTENSION

Manager McKibben stated that the Borough signed a five-year agreement with Waste Management in 2015. He noted that the agreement includes the option to extend for five additional years, up to ten. Manager McKibben added that Council approved to extend the contract for 2020 and stated that this is his recommendation for 2021.

Assistant Manager Sample noted that this would not be a good time for the Borough to consider going out to bid for a new vendor as the bidding process would be too long.

VERIZON CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

Manager McKibben stated that the five-year renewal of the Franchise Agreement with Verizon is finally ready and will be on the agenda for the next meeting. He added that this type of income can be expected to decline over the next several years due to the rise in streaming services.

Solicitor Korbel agreed and suggests that Council approve the agreement as presented at the next meeting.

POLICE SERVICE AGREEMENT – THORNBURG

Manager McKibben announced that the current contract with Thornburg Borough for Police Services will expire at the end of 2020 and recommends renewing the contract for an additional three years at the current year contract rate.

Mayor Bloom agreed with Manager McKibben and added that Crafton provides a great source of protection and service for Thornburg.

Council agreed to move forward with the renewal of the contract.

PAYMENT REQUESTS

Manager McKibben spoke regarding the pay requests that will be on the agenda at the next meeting. First, he noted that the final pay request has been received for Youngblood Paving and added that they did a great job on the 2020 Road Program, next he noted that invoices were received for the Green Light-Go project and added that these pay requests are for a substantial amount of the construction costs, lastly, he noted that the first pay request for the park renovations had been received. Manager McKibben stated that, other than Youngblood Paving, these requests must be paid for Crafton to submit for grant reimbursement. He stated that the Green Light-Go reimbursement is an 80% match, and the Park Renovations reimbursement is 100%.

ALCOSAN GROW GRANT AGREEMENTS

Manager McKibben announced that the final agreements were received for the Crafton Boulevard and the Woodlawn/Fountain Sewer Projects and noted that these items will be on the next meeting agenda for approval.

Engineer Minsterman also noted that there will be a meeting with ALCOSAN to discuss the Broadhead and the Crafton Park projects for the next grant cycle.

BUILDING UPGRADE GRANT (\$180,000)

Manager McKibben stated that the Borough has received a fully funded grant from the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County, with no match requirement from the Borough,

in the amount of \$180,000 for renovations and upgrades to the Municipal Building. Manager McKibben added that he hopes to include sandblasting of the Municipal Building, a new boiler, as well as carpet and paint throughout.

Council discussed the possible improvements that should be considered and the timeline for bidding projects.

STORMWATER ORDINANCE UPDATE

Solicitor Korbel again noted that the Stormwater Ordinance amendment is available for Council review and stated that he will gladly answer any questions regarding these changes.

Mr. Levasseur noted that Council will hold an executive session to discuss the Library Lease when available.

14. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Borough Office will remain closed to the public; however, staff is available during normal business hours and can be reached via telephone or e-mail. There is a drop-box in the rear of the building for any written correspondence. Any changes to this action will be posted on the Borough website and Savvy Citizen.

Mr. Levasseur urged the community to continue to follow social distancing guidelines during the Holiday Season to help slow the spread of COVID.

- The Crafton Library is open (with Covid-19 Safety Limitations) M/W/F from 9A-1P and T/H from 2P-6P.
- The Rec Board would like to thank everyone who organized and participated in the Haunted Crafton Tour. As well as the generous donations for the Crafton Ingram Food Bank. Reminder that the Crafton Celebration of Lights will begin on December the 4th. Information of how to participate can be found on the website.

Mr. Saba stated that the Celebration of Lights will be like the Haunted Crafton Tour and added that interested homeowners should go to the website and submit their information.

Mr. Crown stated that the new fire truck is in the final stages of painting and is expected to be received by Christmas. He added that the new SCBA equipment purchased by the Borough was received and placed into service.

Mayor Bloom announced that Santa's annual visit by Fire Truck will be on Saturday, December 19th, 2020.

- Council Budget Sessions will re-convene on Wednesday November 18th @ 7:00 P.M. and will continue the same day and time each week until further notice. Login information will be on the Website and Savvy Citizen before each session.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary