

Borough of Crafton
Council Meeting
Monday June 11, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

President Levasseur called to order the Discussion Meeting of Crafton Borough, Monday June 11, 2018 at 7:15 PM. The flag salute was led by Mr. Rosario.

ROLL CALL, by Interim Borough Mr. Kaczorowski included Mr. Amendola, Mr. Crouse, Ms. Perry, Ms. Glaser, Ms. Damits, Mr. Rosario and Mr. Levasseur. Also present was Solicitor Korbel. Absent was Mayor Bloom.

BILL LIST APPROVAL

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Rosario*) to approve the ratified Bill List dated May 30, 2018.

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

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Rosario/Crouse*) to approve the Bill List dated June 11, 2018.

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

ACCEPTANCE/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Rosario*) to approve the Minutes dated May 21, 2018 as presented.

MOTION#3 carried by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

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

Mr. Levasseur noted Residents signed in to address Council will speak at the end of the meeting.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Korbel noted that he had nothing to report for the evening.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mr. Levasseur noted that the Mayor was absent from the meeting.

BUSINESS AGENDA***ADMINISTRATION***

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Rosario/Crouse*) Resolution Allegheny County Side Yard for 1656 Crafton Boulevard.

MOTION #4 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

Mr. Rosario provided a brief update regarding the Borough Manager candidates; a meeting is set up for later in the week to review applications. Ms. Perry noted that the committee may inquire professional assistance to help with the hiring process. They have received 14 applications and 2 candidates that they are interested in pursuing. There will be another update at the next Council Meeting later in the month.

PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Rosario/Damits*) authorize the Solicitor to draft a resolution establishing a weight limit for Ewing Road.

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

Mr. Kaczorowski noted that the weight limit will be 5 tons and some of the work will be completed by the Public Works Department; a retaining wall with supplies the Borough already has and tree removal starting sometime in mid-July.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Crouse*) to award the bid to State Pipe Services Inc. for the SHACOG Joint Municipal project with Crafton Borough's share being \$26,345.50.

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

PLANNING AND ZONING

Intern Chris Bell gave a general overview of what he will be working on during his time at the Borough; GIS Mapping, Zoning and Ordinance. He will also be working with the Borough's other intern regarding Blight Enforcement Action Team (B.E.A.T.). Mr. Bell looks forward to working within the Borough and hopes to learn from his experience and leverage his knowledge to implement data etc. for future projects within the Borough.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Crouse*) to authorize Gateway Engineers to prepare the plans and specifications for the demolition of 1508 Barr Avenue.

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

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Rosario/Crouse*) to approve the Advertisement for the Planning Commission meetings for the remainder of 2018.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Levasseur noted the option to work with Pittsburgh Public Partners for them to help with the daily operations of the Interim Borough Manager during the summer months which are the busy times for the Public Works Department. Mr. Kaczorowski noted that he would like to work with the interns to give them an opportunity to help with what Council may have concerns with during this time.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Kaczorowski noted that Duquesne Light Company offers a conversion of LED lights throughout the Borough; locations will need to be determined, there are several options.

Mr. Kaczorowski discussed the directional sign plans and specifications regarding the Crafton/Ingram shopping Center. The sign is a blue and white sign with directional arrows; suggestions are to place it at main intersections off of W. Steuben near Linden and Foster Avenue. The cost of the sign is \$155 per sign.

Mr. Kaczorowski reviewed the Allegheny Global Environmental, Inc asbestos test regarding 1508 Barr Avenue and reported that the test came back negative. This result will reduce the overall cost of the demolition.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- i. SAVVY CITIZEN- <https://savvycitizenapp.com/SignIn>; downloadable as an application for your smart phone, tablet or other device connected to an application store.

Savvy Citizen app appears to be improving the overall communication among the community notifying Residents and Non-Residents of upcoming events etc.

- ii. CRAFTON POOL OPEN – Regular Season Hours!!
 - Monday through Saturday 12PM to 8PM
 - Sunday 1PM to 8PM

Mr. Kaczorowski made note of the record breaking weekend that the Crafton Borough Pool had over Memorial Day weekend; surrounding pools were not opening leaving the Crafton Pool as the major destination for numerous communities. There were a few hiccups regarding patrons at the pool and Mr. Kaczorowski requests patrons to report inappropriate behavior to Pool Management so that it can be resolved. Also, in the case of an emergency please call 911 and the Police will assist in all matters.

iii. CRAFTON AWAKE- Poetry Series at the Crafton Public Library
Wednesday June 13, 2018, 6:30PM-8PM

iv. CRAFTON PUBLIC LIBRARY SUMMER HOURS

- Monday, Friday and Saturday 10AM to 6PM
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10AM to 8PM

v. SENIOR DINNER- Saturday June 16, 2018

- Doors open at 5PM

vi. 2018 SIDE YARD AND BLIGHTED STRUCTURE PROGRAM

- Accepting applications through August 31, 2018
- More information on our website www.crafton.org

vii. CRAFTON CELEBRATES – June 30 – July 4, 2018

Parade – June 30, 2018– 2:00 pm; Fireworks – July 4, 2018 (Dusk)

John Richnavsky, 92 Noble Avenue, spoke on behalf of his tenant that would like to open a tattoo parlor and his support regarding the potential new business opportunity.

Dave Plummer, 25 Harrison Street, discussed the plans for his business as a photography studio, tattoo parlor and art studio located at 92 Noble Avenue which is not permitted in a C-2 Zoning district in Crafton Borough. Tattoo parlors are categorized as Adult Oriented Business in the Borough Code. He has concern for the written definition in the Borough Ordinance regarding tattoos being affiliated with Adult Oriented businesses. The definition eludes to sexual connotation which his parlor will have no connection with; they will not do body piercings or tattoo sensitive areas. Mr. Plummer would like to see a separation of tattoo parlors as Adult Oriented business in the Ordinance. Mr. Plummer creates tattoos for clients as a form of art that signifies and underlying meaning; keeping it more personal. He will have photography appointments and an art studio in the back encouraging new artists to pursue their interests. His parlor will adhere to the proper protocol regarding the following concerns; no tattooing minors, staff with proper background checks etc. and parking concerns. Mr. Plummer was drawn to the Crafton area by its small town historic charm, walkability and location to the surrounding areas. His hope is to attract more artists in to the area, maintaining the reputation of the community and contributing to the growth of the area.

Rebekah Ciedro, 25 Harrison Street, spoke regarding the opening of a tattoo parlor at 92 Noble Avenue. She expressed that she is in favor of the tattoo parlor and that the tattoo that the one she had done by Mr. Plummer is symbolic of a personal experience that she went through several months ago. Her experience with getting a tattoo was more therapeutic and she feels that the tattoo industry is changing; she hopes that Crafton Borough will change with it.

Johnny Conners, a longtime resident of Crafton, spoke in favor of the tattoo parlor at 92 Noble Avenue. He is in full support of the creative styling of Mr. Plummer and hopes to be part of the staff bringing art to the area.

Matt Greiner, 91 N. Emily Street, is in full support of the tattoo parlor and is encouraging Council to consider allowing this business.

Solicitor Korbel gave some background information as to why this type of business is not permitted within the Zone. He noted that Mr. Plummer would either have to file a Zoning Use variance with the Zoning Hearing Board to seek approval or Council could amend the Zoning Ordinance that would permit a tattoo parlor in the zoning district or any other district.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Rosario*) to approve the Solicitor to draft an Ordinance pertaining to Adult Oriented Business, removing them from Chapter 225.

Christin Sculli, 25 N. Emily Street, spoke about parking issues created by the overflow of patrons utilizing the Park 'n Ride leaving Residents without parking spots when they come home in the evening. She is looking for a solution to share the busway with non-resident, commuters, where it would not prevent the residents from having spots when they return home from work in the evenings.

Patty Thomas, 4 Parke Street, presented a petition to have their street remain as cobblestone when it is repaired by Peoples Gas to keep the charm and character of the street.

Mr. Kaczorowski gave an update from the gas company who will be paving areas within the Borough including Parke Street, all the way to Broadhead Avenue; they will be putting in new gas lines. He also responded to Ms. Thomas' concern regarding the cobblestone roads; he suggested Council add a budget line item in the 2019 Road Program Budget to include repairing brick streets. He also noted that there is a sufficient amount of bricks at the Public Works that can be used for street repairs as well.

Christine S., W. Steuben Street, spoke regarding the flooding that takes place during heavy rains since the paving of the street a few years ago. She is concerned with the catch basins not working to relieve the flooding. Mr. Kaczorowski mentioned that the Public Works Department will review the situation and address it the best that they can; pictures will be submitted to PennDot for review as well.

Matt Greiner, 91 N. Emily Street, spoke about the lack of parking on N. Emily Street because of the busway patrons, apartment buildings and the emergency No Parking spaces added for Public Works vehicles to turn the plow around in the winter months.

Mr. Levasseur encouraged Residents to attend the Planning Commission Meeting on June 26, 2018 at 7pm to address their concerns regarding the parking issues.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Forgenie, Administrative Clerk