

Borough of Crafton
Monday, January 27, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Levasseur called to order the Regular Meeting of the Crafton Borough Council, Monday, January 27, 2020 at 7:16 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. Alo.

3. ROLL CALL

Interim Manager McKibben recorded six (6) members of Council present as follows: Mr. Alo, Mr. Crouse, Mr. Levasseur, Mr. Niemann, Ms. Perry and Mr. Saba. Also present were Mayor Bloom, Solicitor Korbel, Engineer Minsterman and Public Works Director Kaczorowski. Absent was Mr. Amendola.

4. RATIFY THE BILL LIST

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Crouse*) to ratify the Bill List dated January 13, 2020, as presented.

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

5. APPROVAL OF THE BILL LIST

MOTION #2: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Saba*) to approve the Bill List dated January 27, 2020, as presented.

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

6. APPROVAL OF THE PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES:

MOTION #3: It was moved and seconded (*Crouse/Perry*) to approve the Public Hearing Minutes dated December 9, 2019, as presented.

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

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

MOTION #4: It was moved and seconded (*Crouse/Niemann*) to approve the Meeting Minutes dated January 6, 2020, as presented.

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

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

Mr. Levasseur noted that there are no citizens signed up to speak on agenda items.

9. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

Mr. Levasseur acknowledged the receipt of the following written reports for November and December 2019: Treasurer's Report, Financial Report, Act 511, Trash Collection, Property Tax Collection Report, Police Report (including annual report), Ordinance Officer's Report, Building Inspection Report, Public Works Report, Fire Department Report and Library Report.

Mr. Levasseur reminded everyone to contact the administrative office or Jordan Tax Service with any questions regarding their trash or property tax bill.

10. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Levasseur noted that the meeting with the Port Authority this past Friday was very productive, and he looks forward to carrying on the conversation.

11. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bloom announced that the Police Department passed the State Audit with flying colors and thanked the Chief of Police for his efforts.

Mayor Bloom added that the Police Department will be taking delivery of the two new police cruisers that were purchased out of the 2019 budget.

12. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman gave a brief update on the meeting with the Port Authority and added that they are interested in supporting the GROW separation projects that were awarded from ALCOSAN. Engineer Minsterman noted that they also discussed Transit Oriented Development and marketing options to attract developers into the area.

Engineer Minsterman spoke regarding the next steps in the GROW grant process and stated that it is important for Crafton to proceed with any additional projects as ALCOSAN will run out of funds quickly. Engineer Minsterman added that there are seven additional sewer projects pending and suggests that Council approve the work authorizations for these projects at the next voting meeting to allow Gateway to prepare an accurate estimate of cost for each project. Engineer Minsterman noted that there are two projects that will be too large to include, the Broadhead project and the Busway project.

Ms. Perry asked if the estimated costs will be available for discussion at the next meeting.

Mr. Levasseur confirmed that the information will be available for discussion.

Mr. Crouse inquired about the funding that is available for Transit Oriented Development.

Engineer Minsterman noted that the T.O.D. funding has become less abundant as the funds are quickly being utilized by developers.

Mr. Crouse added that Council has had past discussion on how T.O.D. can help alleviate Crafton's parking issues.

Mr. Levasseur noted that the Port Authority mentioned the possibility of investing in the Parking Station depending on gains in the appraised value of the area. Mr. Levasseur also stated that they had discussed with the Port Authority, the possibility of working with Ingram Borough and the owners of the Shopping Center, to use the parking in the Shopping Center as a Park & Ride.

Mr. Crouse asked the Engineer if the proposed sewer projects will have any effect on the Sterrett Street flooding issues.

Engineer Minsterman noted that the Perrine Street project will take a significant amount of flow out of Sterrett Street and discharge it away from Perrine Street.

Mr. Niemann stated that expanding the parking lot and involving the Shopping Center will alleviate the parking along N. Emily Street and help the commercial businesses in the Shopping Center.

Mr. Levasseur added that over the next twenty years there will be a greater need for easy access to this type of transit for commuters and added that Crafton is in the position to be a model community.

13. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Korbel noted that he had no report.

Solicitor Korbel announced that Council has held two executive sessions since the last regular meeting to discuss Personnel and Collective Bargaining Agreements.

14. MANAGERS REPORT

Interim Manager McKibben took a moment to thank Council and the Citizens of Crafton for the opportunity to be working here in Crafton. He also thanked the Public Works Director and Chief of Police as well as the Administrative Staff for assisting with the transition.

Interim Manager McKibben gave an update on the Boroughs open grants. Interim Manager McKibben stated that he will be attending a training class that will focus on administering and executing the Gaming grant and added that M & D Construction will begin work on the Traffic Signals as soon as the weather breaks; however, he added that there is a thirty week lead time on the poles themselves. Interim Manager McKibben announced that a pre-bid meeting was held for the N. Emily/Johnston Street sewer repair project and added that the bid opening will be held on January 29, 2020 at 10AM.

Interim Manager McKibben noted that the Borough received a recalculation for the 2020 MMO which came after the adoption of the 2020 Budget. He added that it may result in a thirty-thousand-dollar shortfall depending on the amount of State Aid awarded to Crafton later in the year.

Council continued discussion on the green light go grant and the traffic signal replacements.

15. BUSINESS AGENDA

A. ADMINISTRATION

MOTION #5: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Crouse*) to authorize the Interim Manager to execute a contract with Traffic Systems and Services for \$2,975.00 for a replacement controller at the Noble and East Crafton intersection.

Interim Manager McKibben noted that due to the lead time on the signal replacement and the age of the existing equipment both the Public Works Director and Chief of Police recommend replacing the controller for public safety reasons.

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

16. DISCUSSION ITEMS

CHAR-WEST COG APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Saba was appointed as the primary delegate for the CHAR-West COG.
Mr. Alo was appointed as the alternate delegate for the CHAR-West COG.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY BOROUGH ASSOCIATION APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Alo was appointed as the primary delegate for the ACBA.
Mr. Saba was appointed as the alternate delegate for the ACBA.

Mr. Levasseur noted that, for the Char-West COG, if the delegates cannot attend any member of Council may fill in and have a vote in their place.

ALOM SPRING EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Council discussed the dates as well as who will be planning to attend the conference.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Levasseur announced a change in the structure of the meetings going forward. Mr. Levasseur stated that the first meeting of each month will be discussion only where Council will be given an opportunity to discuss business matters as well as any department or staff requests, questions or concerns and added that the second meeting will be held as a voting meeting where

Council will take action on the items discussed at the first meeting. Mr. Levasseur explained that these changes will help Council conduct business more efficiently.

17. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Borough offices will be closed for Presidents Day on February 17th
- State Representative Dan Deasy will be in the Community Room to assist senior citizens with obtaining a P.A.T. ConnectCard on February 10, 2020 from 2-4 PM and on Saturday, March 21, 2020 from 3:30 – 5 PM (prior to the Senior Dinner). All questions can be directed to Dan Deasy's office at 412-928-9514.
- The annual COG meeting/dinner will be on February 20 in the Community Room.

18. ADDITIONAL CITIZENS COMMENTS

Matt Megyesy, 617 Broadhead Avenue, announced that he has taken over as Chair of the 5K race and asked for the opportunity to meet with the Manager and the President of Council to discuss what is expected as well as financial information.

Mr. Levasseur noted that Celebrates is now a function that falls under the Recreation Board. Mr. Levasseur suggested that Mr. Megyesy put in a letter of interest to serve on the Recreation Board noting that it will help move the process forward. Mr. Levasseur also invited him to reach out to the Manager to schedule a time to meet.

Cody Sheets, 152 Promenade Street, read a statement to Council of his concerns regarding a newly elected Councilman, Roy Niemann, and his alleged questionable behavior as a representative of the community.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary