

Borough of Crafton
Monday, July 22, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Perry called to order the Regular Meeting of the Crafton Borough Council, Monday, July 22, 2019 at 7:18 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. Levasseur.

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 (*Amendola/Crouse*) to approve the Bill List dated July 22, 2019, as presented.

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

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

MOTION #2: It was moved and seconded (*Glaser/Crouse*) to approve the Minutes dated July 8, 2019, as presented.

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

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

Ms. Perry stated that residents signed up to speak on non-agenda items will wait until the end of the meeting.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

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

Ms. Perry noted that the 2019 June Treasurer's Report will be included in next month's reports.

8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Perry announced that Council held an executive session regarding personnel and real estate, no actions were taken.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bloom was not in attendance.

10. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman noted that the monthly Engineer's Report was submitted to Council for review and stated he had no additional comments.

11. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Korbel noted that the advertisements for both the Parking Ordinance and the Backflow Prevention Program will be out this week.

12. MANAGERS REPORT

Manager Susko gave a quick update on the motions for approval on the agenda, including the O&M Sewer Repair Contract B change order and payment application and noted that the Resolution, pending approval, is for a RAAC (Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County) Grant to help offset any expenses incurred toward the Block Party event.

Manager Susko noted that there are plans to set up a workshop meeting with the Planning Commission and the TOD, possibly in October, to go over the latest updates and opportunities available for transit-oriented development.

Manager Susko discussed the plans to revise and bring back the Edward L. Stewart Community Service Award. Manager Susko noted that this event was created to show appreciation toward all the volunteer groups and organizations and added that it will help raise awareness for the need of volunteerism in the hopes to keep organizations functioning.

Manager Susko announced that two new pieces of equipment will be added to Noble Park from the funds raised by the House Tour and added that no decision has been received regarding the safety surface grant.

13. BUSINESS AGENDA

A. PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION #3: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/Crouse*) to approve Pay Application #1 for the 2019 O&M Sewer Repairs, Contract B – Lining Repairs project to Insight Pipe Contracting, Inc. at an amount of \$2,492.28 as recommended by the Borough Engineer.

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

MOTION #4: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/Crouse*) to Change Order #1 for the 2019 O&M Sewer Repairs, Contract B – Lining Repairs project for an increase of \$5,226.40 to the total contract price as recommended by the Borough Engineer.

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

B. PLANNING & ZONING

MOTION #5: It was moved and seconded (*Levasseur/Glaser*) to approve Resolution No. 2019-10 requesting grant funding from the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County (RAAC) to offset costs associated with the inaugural Downtown Crafton Block Party.

Mr. Crouse asked who is charged with planning this event as well as what types of ideas are being considered.

Manager Susko noted that a group of Planning Commission and Recreation Board members are collaborating on the planning of this event and shared a few ideas, such as, the I heart Crafton branding launch, sidewalk chalk, bubble wands, a reading corner, as well as other ways to showcase the businesses and invite the public to experience the “downtown” Crafton as a place to be, not just drive through. Manager Susko stated that the grant match is expected to be around 35% with projected expenses at a minimal \$500 to \$700. Manager Susko announced that the next Working Group meeting will be held tomorrow (7/23/2019).

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

14. DISCUSSION ITEMS

EDWARD L. STEWART COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Ms. Perry gave a brief background of the Edward L. Stewart Community Service Award and its origin noting that in 2011 Council adopted a resolution to make this event a Council organized function where each volunteer organization is invited to nominate a member and a small award ceremony is held to recognize each of the candidates.

Manager Susko noted that steps will need to be taken to extend the deadline if Council wishes to bring back the Edward L. Stewart Community Service Award this year.

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION FUND GRANTS – DCED AND PENNDOT

Mr. Levasseur spoke regarding grants offered by DCED and PennDOT that are created to help Municipalities with economic development, sidewalk and pedestrian safety, and other expenses geared toward transit safety. Mr. Levasseur asked if Gateway could provide an outline of the grants and differences for Council to review and consider.

Manager Susko explained that these are different agencies with separate funds, however they operate under similar goals. Manager Susko noted that PennDOT concentrates on points of transportation such as Airports, Seaports and Train Stations where GROW funds go toward stormwater capture projects.

Engineer Minsterman added that the differences can be very confusing and recommends a spreadsheet be put together outlining the agencies information, deadlines, what types of projects the funds can be used toward and if they can be used as grant match funds for other grants.

Mr. Levasseur asked if there are any project ideas ready that would follow the guidelines of the Comprehensive Plan such as ADA ramps or Beautification projects. Mr. Levasseur urged Council to continue discussion on how to leverage funds in conjunction with the ALCOSAN projects as well as any TOD projects funds available and to work with PennDOT and CONNECT.

Manager Susko reminded Council of the grant projects in progress such as the, multi-million-dollar Crafton Boulevard GROW Project as well as a few smaller, one or two hundred thousand-dollar, projects pending.

Ms. Perry noted that Council should concentrate on the projects currently being undertaken and focus on efforts to move these projects forward and look to the Engineer to keep Council updated on available grants and opportunities.

Mr. Valcheff inquired about the process for residents to give input on community needs and recommendations.

Manager Susko noted that the best course of action is to contact the Borough Manager who can filter requests to the appropriate department, board or commission.

Mr. Valcheff asked for an update regarding the volunteer hours for Crafton Celebrates in respect to earlier years.

Rich Kraemer, 26. S. Grandview Avenue, Celebrates Member, stated considering all the volunteer spots that need filled for Celebrates as well as monthly meeting and annual fundraising, they have approximately 15 to 20 dedicated volunteers and 3 or 4 non-profit organizations as compared to the 1980's where there were 15 to 20 committed organizations and hundreds of volunteers.

Mr. Levasseur requested to have a few items of information added to the website; such as, the ALCOSAN Assistance Fund, the Allegheny County Lead Safe Homes program, and a Matrix for resident taxes.

Council discussed a few issues concerning pool safety and the need for increased police presence.

15. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The **Crafton-Ingram Rotary Annual Rib & Chicken Fest** will be held on August 1, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM, at Crafton Park. Contact DEP Technologies for more information at 412-922-8824
- **Crafton Pool** will switch to end-of-summer hours starting August 1. The pool will close no later than 7:00PM daily during end-of-summer hours.
- **Refunds for the Firecracker 5K** will be mailed out this week. Everyone's patience has been appreciated and we hope to be back next year.
- Anyone interested in participating in the **2019 House Tour** should contact the Borough Office at 412-921-0752 x 10.
- Mission of Mercy is holding a free dental clinic at PPG Paints Arena on Friday, July 26 and Saturday July 27. Doors open at 6:00 AM and the clinic opens at 7:00 AM. Patients will be seen on a first come, first serve basis. More information: https://www.peoples-gas.com/events/_images/Mission_Mercy_Patient_Flyer.pdf

16. ADDITIONAL CITIZENS COMMENTS

Karen Falbo, 257 Noble Avenue, expressed her concerns and dissatisfaction with the contractors hired by Duquesne Light to trim trees.

Mona Rush, 794 Clearview Avenue, again asked Council to consider permit parking on the street. Ms. Rush added that the parking issues on her street continue and added that the same rusty truck has been sitting on the street which blocks her view from her living room window.

Manager Susko noted that there are a few codes that may work as tools to combat these issues and stated that this is one reason that it is important for the Borough to complete the re-zoning.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary