

Borough of Crafton
Monday, April 27, 2020

(Meeting was held via Zoom Communications Webinar)

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Levasseur called to order the Regular Meeting of the Crafton Borough Council, Monday, April 27, 2020 at 7:15 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. Alo.

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 Public Works Director Kaczorowski.

4. APPROVAL OF THE BILL LIST

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Crown*) to approve the Bill List dated April 13, 2020, and the Bill List dated April 27, 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/Alo*) to approve the Meeting Minutes dated March 23, 2020, as presented.

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

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

Mr. Crouse stated that the meeting will be open for citizens comments and asked that participants use the "raise hand" function if they wish to speak.

Mary Luxbacher, 71 Dinsmore Avenue, spoke on behalf of the Recreation Board and fellow Borough Citizens concerning the opening of the community's recreational facilities.

Mr. Levasseur stated that, at this time, there are no recommendations from the State or County Government to relax any restrictions on Public Recreation Facilities.

Solicitor Korbel added that Council can expect to have some guidance from the Governor or the Department of Health by the next meeting.

Mr. Saba thanked Ms. Luxbacher for handling the community outreach regarding these concerns.

7. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

Mr. Levasseur acknowledged the receipt of the following written reports for March 2020: ~~Treasurer's Report~~, Financial Report, Act 511, Trash Collection, Property Tax Collection Report, Police Report, EMS Report, ~~Ordinance Officer's Report~~, Building Inspection Report, ~~Public Works Report~~, ~~Fire Department Report~~ and ~~Library Report~~.

Manager McKibben noted that some reports are not available at this time.

8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Levasseur announced that Council has continued to meet several times a week with the Manager McKibben, Mayor Bloom and the Emergency Management Coordinator in response to the pandemic.

Mr. Levasseur stated that dumpsters have been placed at the Borough Building for use by residents to help with the restrictions placed by Waste Management on residential curbside pickup.

Mr. Levasseur thanked the Manager, Public Works, Administrative Staff and the Police Department for their efforts and stated that the Borough is in good standing at this time.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bloom stated, in response to the monthly Police Department report, that the amount of Police Calls is down from previous months noting that people are staying home. Mayor Bloom thanked the Police Department and the Public Works for their hard work.

10. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman noted that an Engineers Report was submitted for the previous meeting and added that he had a few updates.

Engineer Minsterman announced that two grants, with a fifty percent match, had been submitted. First, the Recreation Master Plan Grant at a cost of \$40,000 and second, the Trail Planning Grant at a cost of \$20,000. Council can expect to approve the resolutions for these grants at the next meeting.

Engineer Minsterman stated that Storm Separation projects are moving ahead adding that the LOI's (letters of interest) are being submitted as scheduled.

Engineer Minsterman also noted that the bids for the South Grandview project came in lower than expected and added that there is a motion on the agenda for approval.

Engineer Minsterman stated, regarding Mr. Crown's request for clarification, that Independent Enterprises and Jet Jack are owned by the same owner.

11. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Korbel stated that the drop pension amendment to the Police Pension Ordinance is ready and will be on the next agenda for Council to vote on.

Solicitor Korbel noted that there are two amendments required to approve the 5G Wireless Communications: first, an amendment to Chapter 225, Zoning Ordinance and second, an amendment to Chapter 193, Streets & Sidewalks. Solicitor Korbel added that the Zoning Ordinance amendment will regulate the Wireless Communication Facilities location when placed outside of a Public Right-Of-Way or if it is over fifty feet. He noted that it will continue to be a conditional use in the C2 District. Solicitor Korbel also added that the Chapter 193, Streets & Sidewalks amendment will regulate placement of the Wireless Communications Facilities via a permitting process. Solicitor Korbel suggested that Council approve the Chapter 193 revisions and a Resolution for the Zoning Ordinance amendment the next meeting. Solicitor Korbel noted that the Planning Commission will review and discuss both discussion items at their meeting tomorrow evening.

Manager McKibben noted that these 5G communication devices would be added to existing poles, in most applications.

12. MANAGERS REPORT

Manager McKibben gave a quick update on the recent storm damage cleanup and thanked the Public Works and Administration for their efforts.

Manager McKibben noted that the Borough continues to monitor the advice and direction of the Governor's Office and the Allegheny County Health Department as far as reopening measures.

Manager McKibben stated that he will continue to work and communication with the Contractors and Gateway to keep the Boroughs construction projects going forward.

Manager McKibben announced that there is a motion on the agenda to extend the discount and face value payment deadlines for the Borough Property Taxes.

Manager McKibben added that he spoke with a representative from the Elections Office who are asking communities to limit the voting polls to one per municipality and noted with use of the external doors, the Community Center would be a good central location.

Manager McKibben stated that he had submitted a grant application to revamp the Borough Building and the Community Center to help with the many needed upgrades for both buildings.

Manager McKibben announced that he will be meeting with the Managers from the surrounding communities to discuss recreational efforts.

Mr. Saba asked for an update on the 2019 Road Program.

Engineer Minsterman noted that once the asphalt suppliers are open Mele & Mele will be in to quickly complete the remaining items on the project.

Manager McKibben stated that BIU will be back to work on Monday, May 4, to begin working on inspections and permitting again. He added that Council needs to continue discussion regarding bringing these services in-house.

13. BUSINESS AGENDA

A. ADMINISTRATION

MOTION #3: It was moved and seconded (*Alo/Saba*) to approve Resolution 2020-03 to implement the provisions of ACT 15 of 2020 extending the discount period for payment of property taxes to August 31, 2020 and waiver of all fees and penalties if paid in full by December 31, 2020.

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

MOTION #4: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Alo*) to accept the low bid of \$438,065.00 from Independent Enterprises for the South Grandview Storm Water Separation project as recommended by Gateway Engineers, Inc.

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

14. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Saba thanked the Borough Departments for their efforts, as well as, the Community the overall community outreach and support.

Mr. Crouse spoke regarding an email request from Greentree Borough for a research study to consolidate Police Department services.

Mr. Saba stated that it is a topic that Council should discuss at length at a future meeting.

Mr. Alo added that there is no time limit to participate in this study.

Mr. Levasseur announced that he established a committee including Mr. Saba, Ms. Perry, Manager McKibben, Mark Schuster (turnKey Taxes) and Jordan Tax Services to evaluate the physical state regarding the financial impact from the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Levasseur noted that there may be other shared services suggested from surrounding communities.

Mr. Crown stated that, regarding the opening of the Pool, the Manager will need to follow guidelines from the Allegheny County Health Department.

Mr. McKibben added that the Allegheny County Health Department has control over all aspects of public pools from safety to lifeguard training and the concession stand.

15. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Community Center and Borough parks will remain closed until further notice and all activities and bookings cancelled indefinitely. 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.

- Waste Management's limited pick-up rules (no loose items – including cardboard - and no recyclables outside the container) are still in effect. The Borough has placed two dumpsters behind the Borough building for citizens to unload these restricted items. No, tires, electronics or items containing freon allowed.

Mr. Levasseur noted that the Property Tax deadline extensions will be communicated via SavvyCitizen and the Borough Website.

Mr. Levasseur also thank all the Council Members specifically Council Woman Perry for updating the website and putting communications together.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary