

Borough of Crafton
Monday, August 24, 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, August 24, 2020 at 7:18 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 and Solicitor Korbel (**Mr. Amendola joined the meeting following the citizen comments*).

4. APPROVAL OF THE BILL LIST

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Saba*) to approve the Bill List dated August 24, 2020, as presented.

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

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

MOTION #2: It was moved and seconded (*Alo/Crown*) to approve the Meeting Minutes dated August 10, 2020, as presented.

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

6. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF WRITTEN REPORTS

Mr. Levasseur acknowledged the receipt of the following written reports for July 2020. Treasurer's Report, Financial Report, Act 511, Trash and Property Tax Collection Report, Police Report, Engineer's Report, EMS Report, Code Enforcement Report, Building Inspection Report, and Manager's Report.

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

Mary Luxbacher, 71 Dinsmore Avenue, Crafton Borough, asked if there has been any update on scheduling a joint public meeting with the Crafton Council and the Carlynton School Board. Ms. Luxbacher also announced that the Mini-Golf has had over one-hundred golfers in the past two weeks.

Mr. Saba noted that the Carlynton School Board has not responded to the request for a joint meeting.

Mr. Crouse added that he had reached out to Mr. Schriver who agreed to attempt to facilitate a joint meeting with the public to clear the air. He added that there has not been a definite time scheduled yet.

Ms. Perry stated that she attended the previous Carlynton School Board meeting requested a joint meeting between the Crafton Council and the Carlynton School Board meeting.

Manager McKibben noted that he had a conversation with the Superintendent and added that they are both waiting on policy decisions from both boards.

**Mr. Amendola joined the Zoom meeting.*

Mr. Amendola stated that he felt there is no need for an additional meeting. He added that the community has made it very clear that the proposed development is not wanted.

8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Levasseur announced that Crafton Borough has been awarded \$250,000 by the Governor's Office to support the Crafton Boulevard Sewer Separation project. Mr. Levasseur stated that these funds will go toward Crafton's matching funds for the ALCOSAN grant. He thanked State Representative Dan Deasy and Senator Wayne Fontana for their continued assistance and support of the Crafton Community.

Mr. Levasseur noted that construction is well underway for the Green Light-Go Traffic Signal Replacement project and recognized the Mayor and Council for their hard worked over the last three years. Mr. Levasseur note that he had received a few concerns based off the aesthetics of the new poles. He stated that these poles are the standard and required by code.

Mr. Levasseur added that due to the recent extreme heat, leaf season is expected to arrive earlier than usual and noted that Public Works Department is working quickly to get the equipment up and ready to help with keeping the catch basins and storm drains clear.

Mr. Levasseur thanked the Administrative Staff, Management, and the Public Works Department for their efforts. He noted that there will be a new edition of the Newsletter hitting home soon.

Mr. Levasseur also announced that he has been working with the Borough Manager and the Assistant Manager to invite Council to visit the different areas of the Borough and planned Capital Improvements.

Mr. Amendola spoke to clarify for those in attendance that the Green Light-Go project was initiated by a previous Manager, Ann Scott and the Public Works Director, Rob Kaczorowski.

9. MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Bloom had nothing to report.

10. ENGINEER’S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman was not in attendance.

11. SOLICITOR’S REPORT

Solicitor Korbel had nothing to report.

12. MANAGERS REPORT

Manager McKibben gave a summary of the resolutions on the agenda as follows; 2020-12 is the MAP grant for the joint zoning overlay with Ingram, 2020-13 is the Allegheny County grant for COVID expenses stating that Crafton will use the funds in accordance to their procedures, and 2020-14 for the 4-Guys Firetruck Financing through Leasing 2, in the amount of \$535,000.

Manager McKibben added that the two easements agreements on the agenda are for the Crafton Boulevard Sewer Separation project: one, for the Carlynton School District and two, for Chartiers Nature Conservancy.

Manager McKibben noted that there are a few items needed from the contractor for the Pool Improvements project and added that, once they are received, discussions can take place with the Recreation Board.

Manager McKibben announced that there will be a Newsletter hitting homes within the next week or so.

13. BUSINESS AGENDA

MOTION #3: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Saba*) to re-appoint Ms. Lydia Herring to the Crafton Borough Planning Commission for a four-year term expiring April 13, 2024.

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

MOTION #4: It was moved and seconded (*Alo/Saba*) to approve Resolution 2020 – 12 authorizing an application to the Pennsylvania Municipal Assistance Program for a DCED grant to help off-set the cost to re-write the current Crafton Borough Zoning Ordinance and create a shared overlay district with Ingram Borough.

Mr. Crouse asked if this grant is part of the process put into place last year when the Planning Commission made the recommendation to interview companies for the Re-Zoning project.

Mr. McKibben noted that this grant is for both Crafton and Ingram to update the zoning codes separately but also implement a joint shared overlay. He added that the grant amount will be \$25,000 and both Crafton and Ingram will budget and put in \$25,000.

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

MOTION #5: It was moved and seconded (*Saba/Perry*) to approve Resolution 2020 -13 approving the Corona Virus Fund recipient agreement between the Borough and Allegheny County.

Manager McKibben noted that once the paperwork is submitted the fund would become available almost immediately.

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

MOTION #6: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Saba*) to approve Resolution 2020 – 14 authorizing the Borough Manager with authority to enter into a 10-year Lease Purchase Agreement with Leasing 2 Inc. to finance the purchase of a 2020 Four Guys 2250 GPM Pumper Truck in the amount of \$607,969.00.

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

MOTION #7: It was moved and seconded (*Saba/Perry*) to approve payment of \$9,200.06 to SHACOG for the Year-9 Joint O&M Preventive Maintenance Project as recommended by Gateway Engineers.

Manager McKibben stated that this is part of the shared joint municipal sewer work requirements that are administrated by SHACOG.

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

MOTION #8: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Saba*) to award the 2020 Sewer Excavation Repairs Contract to Soli Construction Inc. for the low bid of \$154,360.00 and the 2020 Sewer Lining Repairs Contract to Jet Jack Inc. for the low bid of \$138,075.00 as tabulated and recommended by Gateway Engineers.

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

MOTION #9: It was moved and seconded (*Saba/Perry*) to approve the second and final payment application from Mele and Mele Inc. of \$142,507.50 for the 2019 Crafton Borough Road Program as recommended by Gateway Engineers.

MOTION #9 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

MOTION #10: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Saba*) to approve payment application #1 from M and B Services LLC of \$11,549.04 and \$30,004.03 for work completed at the Noble and Bradford Avenue and Crennell and Linwood intersections respectively as recommended by Gateway Engineers. (Green Light Go Project)

Manager McKibben noted that this construction is all part of the grant work.

MOTION #10 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

MOTION #11: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Crown*) to reject the bid of \$59,999.70 from Yarborough Development for the 1528 Barr Avenue Asbestos Abatement and House Demolition project and re-bid the project as recommended by Gateway Engineers.

Manager McKibben stated that there was only one bid received for the project which came in fifteen to twenty thousand over the Engineers estimate.

MOTION #11 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

MOTION #12: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Crown*) to accept a proposal from Independent Enterprises Inc. to extend the road reconstruction on South Grandview Avenue to Crafton Boulevard at an estimated price of \$245,301.00 plus Engineering fees.

Manager McKibben noted that this bid came in slightly lower than the original estimated cost.

Mr. Levasseur added that this will match and be contiguous of the reconstruction where the current sewer project is being completed.

MOTION #12 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

MOTION #13: It was moved and seconded (*Alo/Saba*) to approve the negotiated Easement Agreements with the Carlynton School District and the Chartiers Nature Conservancy that help further the Crafton Boulevard Sewer Separation Project.

Mr. Amendola noted for the record, that he will vote no due to flooding concerns with Bells Run and Morange Road.

Mr. Levasseur stated that this project has been approved by ALCOSAN and several engineers.

MOTION #13 carries by a Voice Vote (6-1).

MOTION #14: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Saba*) to authorize the advertisement and hiring of two part-time employees in the Public Works Department to assist in the 2020 Leaf Program. Funds for this employment will come from the Sewer Fund.

Manager McKibben noted that this was a request from the Public Works Foreman adding that all the Seasonal help has left due to College or other engagements. He noted that he is expecting an early and heavy leaf season due to the heat and humidity.

Council discussed the current staffing requirements and needs for public works for the current year and the next few years to come, the possibility of hiring full-time positions rather than seasonal, budgeted funds for these wages, as well as the cost and availability of advertising the positions.

MOTION #14 carries by a Unanimous Vote (7-0).

14. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Levasseur noted that there are no discussion items.

15. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Borough parks are open and shelters available for Crafton residents to rent. The Borough strongly advises that social distancing should be maintained. 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.
- The Crafton Library will continue with limited hours for curbside-only service. Please visit their website for further details.
- Crafton Borough will be having its annual fireworks display on Sunday, September 6, 2020 @ 8:30 PM.
- The Deasy/Fontana Shred Event will be 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM at Crafton Park on Saturday, September 19th.
- The Crafton VFD has organized a free milk giveaway where families can receive 2 gallons of free milk on Wednesday August 26th from 9:00 AM to Noon. The drive thru event will take place behind the Borough Building along Station Street – which can be accessed by both White Avenue and E. Crafton Avenue.
- The Planning Commission is kicking off a series of Community Planning Workshops with an intro session this Wednesday, August 26th at 7:00 PM via a Zoom webinar. Registration information is on the Borough website.
- The discount period for Carlynton School District and Borough property taxes ends at the end of this month (8/31/2020). Representatives from Jordan Tax Service will be in the lobby

of the Community Building on Thursday, August 27th from 9:00 AM till Noon, and Monday, August 31st from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM.

Mr. Saba announced that the Crafton Recreation Board is organizing a “Haunted Crafton Tour” and asked that any residents who have a haunted story to tell about their home, and would like to participate in this family friendly event, can reach out to the Recreation Board via the website contact submission form or by email at recreation@craftonborough.com.

Mr. Amendola asked Council to consider having in person Council Meetings either in the Borough Building parking lot, or at the Main Park, and still utilize Zoom.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary