

Borough of Crafton
Council Meeting
Thursday, May 13, 2021.

(Meeting was held via Zoom Webinar and can be viewed by going to www.craftonborough.com/council-meeting-videos)

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Levasseur called to order the Discussion Meeting of the Crafton Borough Council, Thursday, May 13, 2021, at 7:15 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Mr. Levasseur.

3. ROLL CALL

Interim Manager Sample recorded seven (7) members of Council, present as follows: Mr. Amendola, Mr. Chandler, Mr. Crouse, Mr. Crown, Mr. Levasseur, Mr. Oliverio and Ms. Perry. Also present were Mayor Bloom, Solicitor Korbelt and Engineer Minsterman.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Perry/Crown*) to approve the May 13, 2021, Consent Agenda (including the Meeting Minutes dated April 22, 2021, and the Bill List dated May 13, 2021).

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no citizen comments on agenda items.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Levasseur noted that he will save his comments for the Committee Reports.

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bloom announced that the Body Cameras and the new Police Vehicle 11-4 have been received and are in service.

8. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Minsterman stated that the Engineer report was submitted for Council to review prior to the meeting. He added that there would be a slight delay in the Broadhead/Busway and Crafton Park Grow projects due to a request by ALCOSAN for additional information.

9. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Korbelt had nothing to report.

10. MANAGER'S REPORT

Interim Manager Sample stated that he spoke with Lydia Herring regarding the Community Garden and announced the spring weeding and clean up on Saturday, May 15, 2021, at 10 AM. He added that anyone is welcome to stop by and volunteer, tools will be provided or you may bring your own.

11. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Ms. Perry noted that the Finance & Administration Committee held its first meeting and will meet regularly on the first Thursday of the month at noon. She stated that in attendance was Mr. Oliverio, Interim Manager Sample, two representatives from Basic Business Concepts (BBC), Marilyn Landis and Greg Voss, and herself. Ms. Perry reported that the Committee finalized the 2020 Financial Statement which has been posted to the website for review. She added that with considering the slight downfall in some income and increase in some expenses, the Borough ended 2020 in a great financial position. Ms. Perry noted that these fluctuations were COVID related. Ms. Perry announced that the Financial Consultants, BBC, the Interim Manager and Administration are working together to upgrade financial software, as well as the process for financial reporting which will allow for better comprehension of the financial reports. Lastly, Ms. Perry noted that BBC is working with Interim Manager Sample on updating the Borough's assets to ensure that they are insured properly, updating the 5-Year Capital Improvements Plan, and implementing a budgeting tool. Ms. Perry stated that going forward, the Finance & Administration Committee will review the financial statements and make any comments/notes prior to Council and Public inspection.

**Please note that following this meeting, the Finance & Administration Committee Meeting time has changed to 8:00 AM*

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. Chandler noted that the first meeting has yet be held and that he had no report this evening.

Mr. Levasseur stated that a meeting was held with Gateway to discuss the deficiencies with the Magistrate/Library Roof and the pointing/cleaning of the main Borough Building. Mr. Levasseur noted that this summer will be a big year for construction throughout the Borough and added that communications will be forthcoming via the website, SavvyCitizenApp and the newsletter.

COMMUNICATION, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mr. Oliverio noted that the Communication, Recreation and Community Events Committee will consist of Ms. Perry, two members of the public, and himself. He added that the first meeting is pending.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Mr. Amendola stated that the Emergency Preparedness Committee will meet on the first Wednesday of each month at noon, beginning June 2, 2021.

12. BUSINESS AGENDA

2021 SEASONAL HELP HIRING

MOTION #2: It was moved and seconded (*Crown/Perry*) to approve the 2021 Seasonal Positions as submitted by the Pool Manager and Public Works Foreman.

Mr. Oliverio inquired about the lack of female attendants.

Interim Manager Sample noted that the Manager will pull females from other positions to ensure the women's bathroom is cleaned thoroughly.

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

WAGE RESOLUTION

MOTION #3: It was moved and seconded (*Oliverio/Crouse*) to adopt Resolution 2021-09 establishing salary and wage rates for seasonal employees.

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

RECREATION BOARD APPOINTMENTS

MOTION #4: It was moved and seconded (*Crown/Crouse*) to appoint Michele Smith to the Crafton Recreation Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

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

MOTION #5: It was moved and seconded (*Crown/Perry*) to appoint Michael Gawles to the Crafton Recreation Board for a term to expire on September 30, 2022.

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

13. DISCUSSION ITEMS

BOROUGH BANKING SERVICES

Ms. Perry noted that Interim Manager Sample had recommended that Crafton Borough move the banking accounts from PNC Bank to Huntington Bank, stating the increase in service charges and decrease in interest being received.

Interim Manager Sample stated that PNC Bank had recently started charging a service fee of about \$600.00 per month and noted that it is widely known that PNC Bank is moving away from Government Banking. He added that Huntington Bank has been taking over many of PNC Banks government customers.

MOTION #6: It was moved and seconded (*Crown/Crouse*) to move Crafton Borough funds out of PNC Bank and into Huntington Bank per the recommendation of the Manager.

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

2021 CCTV INSPECTIONS & CLEANING CONTRACT

Interim Manager Sample noted that this is the annual SHACOG contract for CCTV and Cleaning which is budgeted in the Sewer Funds. He noted that this will be a motion on the next agenda.

COUNCIL MEETING FORMAT – IN PERSON/HYBRID MEETING

Mr. Levasseur opened the discussion of moving to a hybrid style meeting due to the relaxation of restrictions by County and State Governments.

Mr. Crouse agreed with Mr. Levasseur and mentioned the increased rate of those who have been vaccinated. He added that he would like to see the Zoom meeting platform continue when Council returns to in person meetings to allow for virtual attendance.

Mr. Levasseur also noted that the Zoom platform has allowed for a bigger audience and an increase in public participation.

Interim Manager Sample noted that he is working with a few companies on a solution to broadcast the in-person meetings on Zoom Communications.

Mr. Amendola noted that he also agrees with the in person/hybrid meeting platform.

Solicitor Korbel noted, in relation to the allowance of full virtual meetings authorized by the current Emergency Declaration, there is a bill pending to eliminate the quorum requirement for Boroughs.

DOG ORDINANCE/PARK RESTRICTIONS

Mr. Crouse expressed a concern from a resident regarding some confusion with the permittance of dogs in the park.

Interim Manager Sample stated that he would work with Solicitor Korbel to clarify this ordinance and bring forth recommendations for changes in the language.

14. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Borough Administrative Office is now open to the public. Administrative Staff is available during normal business hours (8:30 AM to 4:00 PM) to address all Borough business. Residents wishing to conduct business in person are asked to come to the rear of the building. Please press the intercom/buzzer and the staff will assist you. No one will be granted access into the building without a proper mask. In addition, there is a drop-box in the rear of the building for any written correspondence. Administrative Staff can be reached by phone at (412) 921-0752 x 10. Non-Emergency Police Matters can be directed to the Police Secretary at (412) 921-2016.
- Crafton Public Library has reopened to the public on March 22, 2021. They are so excited to be able to welcome you back into our building. Please visit the Library's website for details concerning more details.

- Crafton Pool will operate daily starting on Saturday, June 12th to August 22nd, August 28th and 29th, and September 4th to 6th. Daily Hours will be Monday thru Saturday 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM and Sunday 1:00 PM till 6:00 PM. All CDC, State, and County guidelines will be followed.
- Extension of Local Income Tax Deadline has been extended to May 17th, 2021.
- The American Legion will not be holding its annual Memorial Day Parade. However, our area Veterans will continue to honor each stop along the parade route. At noon, the sons and daughters of Crafton who have served their Country will be honored at the Borough War Memorial located outside of the Borough Building.
- A Groundbreaking Ceremony is taking place on Friday, May 14th at 11 AM at corner of Noble Avenue and Crafton Blvd across from Crafton Elementary School for the Crafton Blvd Sewer Separation Project. This project will separate stormwater runoff of approximately 25 acres from the combined sewer system. The drainage from this system will be collected into underground detention tanks located in the open space property across from Crafton Elementary School. After the tanks have been installed, a new 28 space paved parking lot with landscaping, sidewalks, and lighting will be installed for the school. In addition, streetscape improvements will be incorporated on Crafton Boulevard between Baldwick Road and Dinsmore Avenue. These improvements will include landscaped areas, decorative street lighting, concrete sidewalks and curbing, and repaving of the roadway. Lastly, once all the new storm sewers are installed, the roadways will be restored with new paving, curbing, and sidewalks, as needed. The total estimated cost of this project is \$3,273,900.00, with grants from ALCOSAN and the State's H2O program accounting for 70% of the cost.

Mr. Levasseur added that, in attendance will be, Senator Wayne Fontana, State Representative Dan Deasy, Huntington Bank, Gateway as well as members of the Borough Council and the Carlynton School Board.

Mr. Amendola inquired about the possibility of planning a parade for the fourth of July.

Council continued the discussion regarding the relaxed restrictions on masks, the timeline to organize a parade and the status of the Crafton Celebrates Committee.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no additional public comments.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary