Borough of Crafton Thursday, February 13, 2025

(Council Meetings are broadcast live via Zoom Communications Webinar and can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC iL1uJ842r9UF1M0zNoEoQ)

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Oliverio called to order the Regular Meeting of the Crafton Borough Council, Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

2. FLAG SALUTE

Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Manager Price recorded five (5) Members of Council, present as follows: Ms. Bollenbacher**, Ms. Compitello, Mr. Hough, Mr. Oliverio, and Ms. Pulkownik. Also present were Mayor Perry, Solicitor Korbel and Engineer Keenan. Absent were Mr. Chandler and Mr. Ridilla. **Ms. Bollenbacher left the meeting shortly at 7:12 PM and re-entered via Zoom at 7:28PM.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the consent agenda for February 13, 2025, including:

- 1. Meeting Minutes January 23, 2025;
- 2. Bill List February 13, 2025.

MOTION #1: It was moved and seconded (*Pulkownik/Bollenbacher*) to approve the February 13, 2025, Consent Agenda, pending the bill list approval by the President, Manager, and Treasurer.

MOTION #1 carries by a Unanimous Vote (5-0).

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Steve Crescenzo, 79 *Duncan Avenue*, asked for clarification of what section on Duncan Avenue is being considered for two-way traffic.

Dave Supertzi, Duncan Avenue, expressed his concerns with the cost of completing an impact study for the changes on Duncan Avenue.

Justin Marks, 31 Oregon Avenue, spoke regarding the board appointments and expressed concerns about one individual who he feels may not be an ideal candidate.

Bill Petrie, Duncan Avenue, spoke regarding concerns about potential two-way traffic on Duncan Avenue and the cost expenses associated with this matter.

Debbie Reagan, Duncan Avenue, agreed with the previous speakers and noted that the width of the roadway raises a concern for vehicles and walkers.

Greg Wozniak, 1773 Barr Avenue, spoke in support of the Duncan Avenue residents. He also inquired about the interview process of the Boards and Commissions interview process.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Oliverio had nothing to report this evening

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Perry stated that a Commendation Ceremony was held prior to the meeting for the Crafton Volunteer Fire Department, Crafton Police Department and the Crafton Public Works Department and thanked them for their services, specifically in regards to their efforts during the house fire on January 20, 2025.

8. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Korbel gave the following announcement.

• *Executive Session* – Council will hold an executive session following tonight's meeting to discuss personnel matters.

9. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Keenan gave an update on the following projects.

- **Broadhead Project** Responding to a new set of EPA comments received 2/7. Reached out to the property owner's attorney to let them know we are going to be moving forward with the project and need a response by end of the month.
- *Ewing Road Closure* Infrastructure committee is exploring options to address road closure. Gateway is currently assessing the alternatives and options. Looking at around two weeks before going over the findings.
- Stairs Replacement Project Completed, the \$200k grant disbursement was received.
- *C-20 Sewer Project* Bid recommendation letter received to award the project to lowest-bidder contractor Tedesco Excavating and Paving (verified no relation or affiliation to current staff member with same last name).

^{**}Ms. Bollenbacher left the meeting at 7:12 PM.

MOTION #2: It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Pulkownik*) to award the C-20 Sewer separation project to Tedesco Excavating and Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$2,349,052.50 as recommended by Gateway Engineers.

Ms. Compitello added that the bids came in lower than estimated or the project, and each company was fully vetted prior to making a recommendation.

Engineer Keenan stated that the roadways that will be impacted by this project are Steuben Street and Linden Avenue, and a portion of Richmond Street.

MOTION #2 carries by a Unanimous Vote (4-0).

- **Storm Sewer Retention** Crafton Elementary Parking Lot In-house inspections to take place at an ideal time. Looking at early summer when school is done.
- **DPW Facility** A. Merante has completed the sanitary sewer lateral work. The final build-out decisions and plan revisions are being made on remaining work.
- 2025 Sewer O&M Repairs Currently out for advertisement. Pre-bid meeting was held on 2/11.
- Station Street Retaining Wall Expecting first round of design documents any day. A new retaining wall will likely be the resolution.
- **Peoples Gas Main Work** Gas line work complete. Restoration work begins early spring when the weather improves.
- **Duncan and Ingram Ave** One way conversion to two-way. Seeking Gateway Engineer's opinion regarding traffic control devices. Estimate to conduct a traffic study would be around \$10,000.

Ms. Compitello clarified that this was a request made by a resident and noted that it is clear that the residents on Duncan Avenue are not in favor of this change.

Manager Price added that the roadway is not as wide as originally thought and parking would need to be adjusted in order to convert Duncan Avenue to two-way traffic.

Mr. Oliverio stated that there has been no positive reception to this discussion and suggests that Council put their efforts in other avenues.

- *Lindwood/Noble Parks* Surveyor is out this week conducting the survey of the parklets.
- *Permit applications* Newly received permit applications and street utility work are being shared on SavvyCitizenApp and Facebook.

10. MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Price spoke on the following matters.

■ *Trail Study Committee* – The committee held their first meeting on January 27, 2025, and members will be meeting up on Sunday to conduct a tour of the trails.

• *Full-Time Ordinance Enforcement* – Approve changing the Ordinance Enforcement Officer from a part-time to a full-time position.

MOTION #3: It was moved and seconded (*Hough/Compitello*) to approve changing the ordinance enforcement officer position from a part-time position to a full-time position with benefit.

Manager Price stated that this would take effect immediately at the start of the next pay period.

MOTION #3 AMENDED: It was moved and seconded (*Hough/Compitello*) to approve changing the ordinance enforcement officer position from a part-time position to a full-time position with benefit, effect at the start of the next pay period.

MOTION #3 carries by a Unanimous Vote (5-0).

■ *Wage Resolution* – A resolution setting the wages for non-union Borough Staff for 2025.

MOTION #4: It was moved and seconded (*Pulkownik/Compitello*) to approve Resolution 2025-02 Wage Resolution setting the wages for non-union employees for 2025.

**Ms. Bollenbacher re-entered the meeting via zoom at 7:20 PM.

MOTION #4 carries by a Unanimous Vote (5-0).

- **New Website** Crafton Borough is moving their website over to a .gov site. Council has been in the review process for a few weeks. The goal is to make information more readily available on the website, such as submitting permits, making reservations, etc.
- **Summer Intern LGA** Crafton's goal for the summer intern position will be to focus on business development strategies. The Local Government Academy covers a portion of the interns wages.
- Business Development Subcommittee Interested candidates should apply by end of business on February 15, 2025.

11. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION, & SUSTAINABILITY

Mr. Hough has no update for this meeting.

INFRASTRUCTURE & LAND USE

Ms. Compitello met earlier in the week and gave the following update.

- EV Chargers Crafton was awarded a USDOT grant to help with adding EV Charging stations.
- *Energy Audit* Crafton was awarded a MORE grant for the Borough to conduct an Energy Audit of the Borough Complex Buildings.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Manager Price gave the following report on the Planning Commission.

- Zoning Update
 - o *Next Meeting* Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 6:30 PM Council Chambers.
 - Website Update New updates on the website were made to help residents find information on the Zoning Update process easier.
 - Further discussions, forums, and meetings are being planned (as needed) before the revised draft is prepared for community review.

COMMUNICATION & RECREATION

Ms. Bollenbacher gave an update on the following events.

- Upcoming Events Save the Date
 - o *Valentines Day Community Dinner* Murder Mystery Dinner "Til Death Do Us Part" themed Murder Mystery Party! Tickets are Sold Out!
 - o *Clean Up/Shred Event* Saturday, April 12, 2025, beginning at 8AM.
 - o Arbor Day Celebration Saturday, April 26, 2025.
 - o Community Farm "Garden Party" Saturday, May 17, 2025.
 - o *Independence Day* Friday, July 4, 2025.

- o *Fall Fest* Saturday, September 27, 2025.
- o Celebration of Lights December 6, 2025.
- o *Holiday House Tour* Sunday, December 14, 2025.
- Volunteers Always looking for interested folks wishing to volunteer for various events.
- *Newsletter* Newsletter is expected to be delivered early March.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS RECRUITING COMMITTEE

Ms. Pulkownik spoke regarding the community comments made earlier in the meeting and stated that there is an interview committee that handles the appointment recommendations. She noted that there is not a script of questions asked at these interviews but rather they are tailored to the specific board or commission and their needs. Ms. Pulkownik expressed her dissatisfaction with the conversations being held online regarding these candidates.

Ms. Pulkownik made the following appointments.

• Recreation Board Appointments

MOTION #5: It was moved and seconded (*Bollenbacher/Hough*) to appoint Chris Nickelson to the Recreation Board seat expiring on 2/28/2026.

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

MOTION #6: It was moved and seconded (*Bollenbacher/Compitello*) to appoint Cory Roma to the Recreation Board seat expiring on 12/31/2027.

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

MOTION #7: It was moved and seconded (*Hough/Bollenbacher*) to appoint Mandy Guerino to the Recreation Board seat expiring on 2/28/2029.

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

MOTION #8: It was moved and seconded (*Compitello/Bollenbacher*) to appoint Gabrielle Backner to the Recreation Board seat expiring on 2/28/2029.

MOTION #8 carries by a Unanimous Vote (5-0).

Current Open Vacancies

1. Civil Service Commission – (2) alternates, 6-year term – expiring 2/1/2029.

Upcoming Vacancies

- 1. Shade Tree Commission (1) vacancy, 5-year term open on 4/1/2025
- 2. Planning Commission (2) vacancies, 4-year term open on 4/13/2025
- 3. Zoning Hearing Board (1) vacancy, (1) alternate, 3-year term open on 12/31/2025

COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG)

Ms. Bollenbacher stated that the next meeting is February 20, 2025, at 6:30 PM in Stowe Township.

12. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *Upcoming Council Meeting* Thursday, February 27th, 7:00 pm
- *Valentine's Day Murder Mystery Community Dinner* Friday, February 14th at 6:00 pm at the Crafton Public Library –SOLD OUT!
- 2025 Summer Employment The Borough of Crafton is accepting applications for the following seasonal positions: Pool Manager, Assistant Pool Manager, Concession Manager, Head Lifeguard, Lifeguards, Junior Lifeguards, Cashiers, Attendants, Concession Stand Workers, and Seasonal Public Works. Applicants must be able to pass a State Criminal Background Check, a ChildLine Abuse & Registry Clearance and a Drug & Alcohol Test. Paper applications may be obtained in the Administrative Office or can be submitted online at the following link:
 https://craftonborough.wufoo.com/forms/mdp3uka1kvttis/. All applications must be submitted to the Administrative Office NO LATER THAN 4:00 PM on March 14th.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Wozniak, 1773 Barr Avenue, spoke regarding the credentials for committee and board applicants.

Cory Roma, W. Steuben Street, thanked Council for their appointment and apologized for the contentious nature of the appointment. He stated that he is excited to use his time and talents to help improve the community.

James Mangan, Sterrett Street, spoke regarding the Waste Collection company who is damaging the curbs at the intersection at Rush Way. He also inquired about a resolution for vehicles not stopping at the stop sign on Sterrett Street at Hall Avenue.

^{*} Interested candidates should apply on the Borough's website at www.craftonborough.com/commissions.

Manager Price stated that there has been communication with the City of Pittsburgh to help resolve this issue.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Carissima Kerns, Borough Secretary