

COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 2, 2011

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CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Council Vice-Chair Vana Dainty in the Bellefonte Borough Municipal Building.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council remained standing for a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Wilson, Dainty, Schneider, Provan, Beigle, DeCusati, Dunne,

Members Excused: Taylor, Halderman

Officials Present: Ralph Stewart, Borough Manager
Don Holderman, Assistant Borough Manager
Mayor Stanley Goldman

Staff Present:

Guests: Justin Packer, Rita Snyder, Scott Rhoat, Kerrie Bodle

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the minutes of the Bellefonte Borough Council meeting of April 18, 2011. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- An email from Elise Gurgevich, Cub Master, Bellefonte Cub Scout Pack 330, informing Council they are interested in continuing to hold their chicken BBQs at the Talleyrand Park location. They felt that location worked very well and they would like to add two more dates to their schedule, which are June 11th and July 2nd.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the additional dates for the Bellefonte Cub Scout Pack 330 Chicken Barbeque, which are June 11th and July 2nd. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. There was no feedback from any restaurants or other charitable organizations. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Heather Heckman, Early Care and Education Program Director, YMCA

of Centre County, requesting use of Governor's Park for their summer programs.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to table this request until the meeting of May 16th. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Joe Rocco, Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs, Comcast, providing notice that the Comcast Payment Center will be moved to 60 Decibel Road in State College and will open on May 23, 2011.

- A letter from Michael R. Cook, Bellefonte Junior High Assistant Wrestling Coach, requesting permission to have the parking lot behind the YMCA reserved on Friday, May 20th from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM for weigh-ins of approximately 300 people for the Freestyle and Greco Pennsylvania State Tournament.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the request to reserve the parking lot behind the Bellefonte YMCA. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. The parking lot would be blocked off and someone would provide access to the lot. The participants will not put money in the meters. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Information is in the packet regarding Northwest Savings Bank. They will continue to have their downtown office open until the new location is completed. They anticipate a Fall 2011 opening at 1127 Zion Road.

- A letter from JoAnn L. Knupp, chairperson, requesting permission to have concerts in Talleyrand Park in the gazebo every Sunday evening from June 12, 2011 through August 14, 2011. They would require use of the electricity in the gazebo.

Mr. DeCusati made a motion to approve this request. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Diane Jordan, HFHGCC Board President and Mike Lebo, "A Brush With Kindness Coordinator" informing Council of a program that will have an official kick-off May 20, 2011 from 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM. It is an exterior home improvement program that will be offered to qualified, low-income home owners.

- A letter from Sherry Snyder, Para-transit Manager, CATA, regarding the CATA Ride program that provides curb-to-curb, reduced fare transportation to senior citizens over the age of 65 and to those with disabilities. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, May 11, 2011, at 1:00 PM in the CATA Board Room located at 2081 West Whitehall Road, State College to hear suggestions for improving the program and to discuss any other concerns or issues related to the program.

Mr. DeCusati suggested putting the information on the Borough website for other organizations to be able to participate in the meeting.

- An invitation to Bellefonte Borough's annual HARB awards reception on Thursday, May 5, 2011, beginning at 7:00 PM in the community room above the lobby on second floor of the Brockershoff House.

- A letter from Robert E. Lamb, Bellefonte Children's Fair, Bellefonte Sunrise Rotary

Club, requesting permission to hold the fair at East Curtin and Armor Streets on Saturday, June 4th with a rain date of Sunday, June 5th. The request is to close the 400 block of East Curtin and Armor Street from East Linn Street to East Curtin Street from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM; the request also includes special trash pickup at the conclusion of the fair; also requested is permission to hang a banner at a prominent location either along West High Street or along Allegheny Street.

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve this request. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

ORAL

- Scott Rhoat, Executive Director, Bellefonte EMS addressed Council to provide a brief update on the Bellefonte EMS. Two to three months ago a deputy director's position was added and Kerrie Bodle moved into that position. The role of the position is operational with a focus on quality improvement and staff development as well as some administrative duties.

There has been a significant increase in the call volume this year. In 2009, the average was 5.3 calls per day. In 2010, the average was 5.6 calls per day. In the first quarter of 2011, the average was 6.5 calls per day. In 2010, the average amount of traveling was 46,000 miles with the ambulances. The Para-transit van traveled 47,000 miles with 1,200 incidents. There has been no change on staffing.

The EMS has a goal of becoming better financially by paying off debt. They are trying to save money to be able to move to a larger building. The goal would be a 14,000–15,000 square foot building. They also would like another location because the current building is in the flood plain.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mrs. Dunne attended the Spring Creek Watershed Commission meeting on April 20th. There was a report by Todd Giddings, a hydro geologist. Mrs. Dunne was fascinated to learn that they can calculate the amount of water that is in the aquaphor and comparing it to a year ago there is 15' more water. It now holds 8.21 billion gallons, which equals 513 days of water supply. The Pennsylvania Source Water Protection Plan was discussed. There is some enthusiasm from members of the Watershed Commission for each municipality developing and implementing a plan. There will be an event on Thursday, May 5th, at the Centre County Courthouse Annex, which is the County Commissioner Candidates forum in environmental issues only, sponsored by the Spring Creek Watershed Association and Commission jointly.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Goldman encouraged citizens to enjoy themselves since the weather is getting nicer.

- Mr. Holderman read a proclamation claiming June 2011 as Fair Housing Month and asks that all citizens of the Borough abide by the Fair Housing Laws and reaffirm their commitment to Fair Housing opportunities for everyone.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to pass the Fair Housing Resolution. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Holderman read a proclamation designating the week of May 15, 2011, as Emergency Medical Services Week. The Theme is “EMS: Everyday Heroes” and the community is encouraged to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

On behalf of Bellefonte EMS, Scott Rhoat thanked the Mayor, Borough Council and Borough Staff for the proclamation.

- Mr. Holderman read a proclamation proclaiming Saturday, May 14, 2011, as “Stamp Out Hunger Day” in conjunction with the National Association of Letter Carriers (AFL-CIO) 19th annual National Food Drive.

Rita Snyder, Bellefonte Letter Carrier, on behalf of the National Association of Letter Carriers, the Postal Service, all the carriers, the people that run the Faith Centre Food Bank and staff, and all the people that will benefit from the generosity of the people of Bellefonte from their donations on May 14th thanked Bellefonte Borough for the proclamation and also for encouraging the citizens of Bellefonte to donate food to the food drive.

Mr. DeCusati made a motion to bag two meters in front of the Faith Centre on May 14th for the food drive. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. A notice will be placed on the Borough website for the food drive. A voice vote was unanimous.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

- The Draft April 25, 2011, Planning Commission Meeting minutes were in the packet for review. Mrs. Dunne questioned whether the Planning Commission expected something from Borough Council regarding the parking regulations. Mr. Stewart will discuss this with Mr. Gallo.

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

- 1) 116 South Spring Street: Install wall sign and hang double-sided sign for the new business “Mishock Medical Spa.”
- 2) 109-111 East Bishop Street: Install upper roof deck in wood above roof of lower building. Deck will be mostly obscured behind false front of building, except for a single safety rail.
- 3) 414 West High Street: Replace rotting soffit, fascia and cornice with same form in modern azac material, to be white in color. Also continue previously approved alterations of windows, paint and gutters.
- 4) 348 East Linn Street: Add exterior lamppost and wall-mounted lights on garage. Install gutters on garage, same as previously approved for house.

5) 310 East Curtin Street: Replace aluminum siding on house in area covered by front porch, with cementitious siding, to match that already approved and installed on recent rear addition.

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve all six Certificates of Appropriateness as recommended by HARB. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

COMMITTEES

Building & Property – There was no report.

Finance and Government Performance – There was no report.

Park & Recreation – Mrs. Dunne made a motion to award the Parkview Heights Park low bid to John Nastase with a bid of \$102,177.00. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. The grant money is in hand as well as the Teener League contribution. Dugouts are included in the bid. The Borough covers the cost of the permits. The drawings are being reviewed by the Borough inspector. A voice vote was unanimous.

On April 21st there was an annual spring survey of Talleyrand Park where the flora and the fowl are examined to provide recommendations on what maintenance needs to be done.

Visible work will begin on the edible garden on Tuesday, May 3rd.

Human Resources – There was no report.

Safety – Mr. Wilson reported on the progress being made regarding the physicals for firefighters and emergency services people. A committee comprised of Tim Shreffler, Mark Baney, J. R. Toner and Walt Schneider was formed.

Mr. Schneider reported criteria were established for three different levels of firefighter. They are interior fire fighter, exterior firefighter and someone in an auxiliary or fire police role. The physicals will be mandatory. If someone chooses not to get a physical or does not pass a physical, they will not be permitted to participate in firefighting activities. Bids will be obtained for providing these services.

The tour of the Howard Fire Company went well. At the next meeting, a representative from the Huntingdon area will discuss their experiences with joint services.

Water/Sanitation – Mr. Beigle reported the Authority meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3rd.

Orders for the new trash receptacles will be placed soon. Details are still being worked out.

Streets – Mr. DeCusati reported the corner of Linn Street and Allegheny Street had upgrading to the sidewalk by the gas company. At that same intersection, Mr. DeCusati reported the potholes are very bad, and he would like Mr. Stewart to contact PennDOT regarding this.

The crews have been doing a good job cleaning the streets.

Mr. DeCusati reported the sidewalk along Water Street needs repaired. Mr. Holderman reported currently they are examining PennDOT criteria to be sure it is repaired correctly. Proposals for that repair will be brought to Council.

At the May 16th Council work session the straightening of the street will be on the agenda.

Energy & Environmental Conservation – There was no report.

OLD BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Holderman reported there was an advertisement in the CDT for the first public hearing for the 2011 CDBG allocation. The hearing will be Thursday, May 12th, at 4:00 PM in the Borough Building. Information is being obtained from the grant administrator. The amount of the grant allocation is unknown at this time.

- A draft of an agreement regarding the Musser Lane Landfill and Spring Township is in the packet for Council to review before the meeting of May 16, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council, Mr. Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting of May 2, 2011, at 8:55 PM. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.