

COUNCIL MEETING OF OCTOBER 3, 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 Chair Frank Halderman in the Bellefonte Borough Municipal Building. It was requested that cell phones either be turned off or put on vibrate.

Pledge of Allegiance:

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

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Wilson, Taylor, Schneider, Provan, McCullough, Beigle, Dunne, Halderman, Confer

Members Excused: Dainty, DeCusati, Ralph Stewart, Borough Manager

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

Staff Present:

Guests: Alfred Jones, Jr., Georgia Abbey; Gregg Kohlhepp,

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Dunne made a motion to approve the minutes of the Bellefonte Borough Council meeting of September 19, 2011. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A correction needs to be made on page five (5), last paragraph. It should state vehicles turning right onto Cherry Lane. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as corrected.

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- A letter from Lisa Korman, Administrator, Centre County Home Nursing Agency, requesting Council to consider a donation in the amount of \$150.00. In previous years the Borough has not donated to agencies.

- A letter from Gregg Kohlhepp, Bellefonte Softball, requesting permission to place a sign at three "entrances" to Bellefonte Borough—one on the Benner Pike; one near Pacific Pride coming from Milesburg; and one on Bishop Street near the I-99 bypass. The signs acknowledge the second straight District 6 championship for the Bellefonte Lady Raiders softball team.

Mr. Kohlhepp addressed Council. Work was commissioned on the three signs. The request is for permission to install the signs at previously mentioned locations. The second portion of the request is for donation of posts and labor to install the signs.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to support the request of Mr. Kohlhepp by supplying the posts and labor to install the signs at the appropriate requested locations. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A PSAB Legislative Alert from the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, Department of Government Affairs regarding Prevailing Wage reform.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to support the actions requested under the PSAB Legislative Alert; and to send letters to the representatives stating Council supports PSAB's position on those bills. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- The Clearfield Centre Borough Dinner will be held on Thursday, October 27, at the Bellefonte Elks beginning at 6:30 p.m. at a cost of \$15.00 per person. RSVPs are requested by Monday, October 24.

ORAL

- None.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- At a previous Council meeting there was a letter in the packet regarding the Shade Tree Commission that Mr. Halderman turned over to the Shade Tree Commission for review. The letter regarded regulating older trees on private property. The Shade Tree Commission does not think that would be something for them to do and recommends the ordinance not be changed. Letters will be sent out regarding dead trees that need removed.

- The Fire Executive Committee meeting that was required for the Borough to have with the townships for a budget proposal was held. Feedback from Benner Township and Spring Township appear to be okay with the nominal increase that will happen in the budget next year.

- Mrs. Dunne attended the Spring Creek Watershed Commission meeting on September 21, 2011. Items of note in the ground water status report are: the aquifer contains 50 feet more than it did one year ago and this is the third wettest year on record.

The Commission is hosting a First Water Protection Technical Assistance Plan information session on Wednesday, October 19, for all those water companies within the Spring Creek Watershed who have not yet started work on their source water protection plan to offer them some assistance. The session will be televised.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- There was no report.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

HARB

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

- 1) 139 West Howard Street—Install new shingle roof to match existing. As an option, the owner may elect to install a new metal roof, light grey in color.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 139 West Howard Street. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mrs. Dunne questioned whether the tax incentive seminar promoted by Weber Murphy Fox Architects applies to both commercial and residential properties. Mr. Holderman verified that it does apply to both commercial and residential properties. Mr. Keal is working with Weber Murphy Fox to set up that work session. The session will be held somewhere in the Borough.

COMMITTEES

Building & Property—Mrs. Dunne provided an update regarding the Daughenbaugh purchase/right-of-way request. She reported that the Building & Property Committee and Mr. Stewart had a meeting with some of the Little League representatives at the 5th Avenue field to learn about their activities and plans for the future. The next step is to convene a meeting with all parties involved, which include the Borough, the Little League and the Daughenbaughs.

- Mr. Taylor would like to know what ABCD is doing regarding various buildings in Bellefonte. He feels ABCD may need to start helping landlords and prospective tenants so more business can be kept in Bellefonte rather than turning everything into offices. Many businesses cannot afford to install a fireproof ceiling. Mr. Holderman will invite ABCD to a work session. Mr. Holderman reported the ABCD is made up of volunteers. Mr. Holderman reported three new businesses opened this week on High Street.

Finance and Government Performance—There was no report.

Park & Recreation—Mr. Taylor referenced the minutes regarding the meeting with the Teener League Field. Everything is moving along very smoothly. One area is 98% completed. Teener League is working with CPI on the dugouts and the press box. Some walkways that were gravel will be paved. The outfield will have a better warning track. Behind the catcher's plate there will be a better backfield. Mr. Taylor feels it will be a very classy Teener League field.

- A meeting will be held October 20 with the YMCA regarding Kepler Pool. The meeting will be at the YMCA at noon with Walker Township, Spring Township and Benner Township.

- Mr. Holderman is trying to proceed on two Spring Creek projects. One is the extension of the small two foot wall by the waterfalls and a mud sill near where there has been some erosion on the other side of the playground. The work is anticipated to be completed by late fall.

Human Resources—Mr. Provan reported the flu vaccine policy was discussed in the work session. It will be examined in more detail.

- The Industrial Development Authority candidate Greg Wendt supplied a resume that is in the packet for review. Mr. Halderman asked the HR Committee to review and make a recommendation at the next Council meeting.

- An article is included in the packets from Pennprime Insurance Trust titled *How Public Officials Can Avoid Email and Texting Liability Landmines*. Mr. Provan suggested when emailing you must keep everyone's feelings in mind so you do not get yourself in trouble with emailing.

Safety—Mr. Wilson reported Mr. Shuey received a letter from Albert Drobka Architect regarding the sprinkler system and water pressure that is needed to supply the systems. Mr. Drobka is requesting Council explore this in regard to the overall water pressure in the Borough and whether there would be funding available to upgrade that pressure.

Mr. Halderman turned the letter over to the Water/Sewer Authority to review and examine the existing water pressure. Mr. Schneider requested that it be explored to see whether CDBG money can be used for operation of that piece since a pump may need to be installed.

Water/Sanitation—Mr. Beigle reported the Authority meeting scheduled for October 4 has been postponed until October 11.

Streets—Mr. Stewart attended the SR 150 Corridor Study. The meeting lasted three hours and will be discussed at the work session of October 17, 2011. There are still funding issues with this project.

Energy & Environmental Conservation—There was no report.

OLD BUSINESS

- Garbage Cans—Mr. Holderman reported there have been a lot of positive comments and a lot of critical comments regarding the garbage cans. When the Borough first discussed the garbage cans, there were two sizes available, but the recommendation was to provide one container first and then wait approximately six months before any switching is done. There have been some problems discovered with the 95 gallon container so some exchanges may be made before the six month period. If residents only have one bag, they are encouraged to just sit the bag out rather than using the large container.

There are approximately twelve residents that would like a second container at a cost of \$50.00.

All trucks have been retrofitted. Mr. Taylor reported Wednesday, October 5, and Wednesday, October 12, you can put your old trash cans out to be collected for recycling.

- A letter from Allen R. Wiedemann, Office Manager, New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc., requesting a time extension for the completion of your 2011 road program for the asphalt paving works with a completion date of October 31, 2011. If they are unable to complete the work by October 31, 2011, they are requesting an extension date until May 15, 2012.

North Monroe Street and Beaver Street have manhole covers sitting approximately 1½” above the road. Council members would like the roads with raised manhole covers paved this year. They must hold the original bid price. Council members are not in favor of giving them until May 15 to complete the work because there is not more than a month’s worth of paving. They are willing to accept an April 15, 2012, extension for the streets other than Beaver and Monroe.

- USDA options on removal of fowl from Talleyrand Park—Mr. Wilson made a motion to table this information in order to provide Council members a chance to review the options and discuss them at the meeting of October 17, 2011. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

- There is a Facade Grant in the amount of \$30,000.00 for downtown businesses to do something to the facade of their building, at which time they could get a 50% reimbursement up to \$5,000.00. There is approximately \$12,000.00 that has not been used, and Mr. Holderman recommends the committee meet, with Mr. Shuey heading it, to distribute the \$12,000.00.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council, Mr. Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting of October 3, 2011 at 8:58 p.m. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.