

COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 2012
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CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President Frank Halderman in the Bellefonte Borough Municipal Building.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council remained standing for a moment of silence. It was requested that cell phones either be placed on vibrate or turned off.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Wilson, Dainty, Brown, Provan, Beigle, DeCusati, Dunne, Halderman,

Members Excused: Schneider, McCullough, Confer,

Officials Present: Ralph Stewart, Borough Manager
Don Holderman, Assistant Borough Manager
Mayor Kent Addis

Staff Present: Lori Walker, Finance Director

Guests:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the minutes of the Bellefonte Borough Council meeting of December 3, 2012. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- A letter from Matt Foster, CPA, MBA, Iron Furnace, Certified Public Accountants, interested in doing auditing work for the Borough.

Ms. Dainty feels an RFP should be put out next year for bids to be obtained from several people. There is not sufficient time this year to do this.

- A letter from Elise Gurgevich, Cub Master, Bellefonte Cub Scout Pack 330, requesting permission to hold chicken barbecues at Talleyrand Park on the following

Saturdays in 2013: April 20, May 18, and June 22. They would begin in the early morning and end by approximately 2:30 p.m.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve this request as submitted. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. They did this the past two years and there was no conflict. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Daniel W. Bradley, CPA, Principal, Young, Oakes, Brown & Company, P.C., the current auditors providing a proposal to do the 2012 audit along with the fees.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to renew the contract with Young, Oakes, Brown & Company, P.C. for the 2012 audit in the amount of \$17,425.00. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. This amount includes several audits. This amount is the same as it was in 2011. A voice vote was unanimous.

- An email from C. Nathan Elliott, MHA, Director, System Decision Support, Mount Nittany Health System, providing additional information on the Community Health Needs Survey. His contact information is provided as well as information regarding the January 14 summit. Mayor Addis and Mrs. Dunne are going for the Public Health Consultants Interview on Tuesday, December 18.

ORAL

- None.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Beigle reported a new belt has been installed at University Park Airport. The previous belt was causing problems so with a grant and money from the Authority a new belt was installed. The belt is the only one of its kind in the United States because it is a European-style belt. The functioning of it is much smoother. The contractor that installed the belt is going to showcase the airport with this type of belt installation.

Work is progressing on the long-term parking across the road from the airport. It will take at least another year before that happens.

The airport is in good shape financially.

- Mrs. Dunne reported the Task Force minutes were in the packets. She summarized what happened at the last meeting and what will happen at the next meeting. The Task Force was unanimous in agreeing upon the very great value of sprinkler systems to protect buildings from extensive fire destruction. The Task Force wants to move forward to be able to make recommendations regarding this.

The next meeting will be January 3, 2013, in Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be devoted to compiling all the information available regarding sprinkler systems as well as costs and fees associated with them.

They hope to get fair, accurate quotes on the buildings. Members of the public are invited to attend this meeting.

MAYOR’S REPORT

- There was no report.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

1) 342 East Linn Street - Expansion of existing one-car garage to create new two story apartment unit.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve 342 East Linn Street for a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted by HARB. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. Mrs. Dunne compared this month's minutes and discussion by HARB with the preceding months when the same project was brought up and she detected some concern by the consultant. She feels Council should think about what Mr. Keal, HARB Consultant, is saying. The HARB consultant does not feel the Board had enough drawings to determine what it will look like when it is finished. There is a clause in the Zoning Ordinance that says you can take existing structures and convert them into an apartment on your property. The homeowner met the minimum square footage requirements. Mrs. Dunne suggested it would be good for drawings to be required under certain circumstances defined by HARB. HARB does request drawings. Mrs. Brown withdrew her second to the motion. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mrs. Brown, Mr. DeCusati and Mrs. Dunne voting no.

COMMITTEES

Building & Property – There was no report.

Finance and Government Performance – Mr. DeCusati made a motion to file for audit the November 2012 Vouchers in the amount of \$1,040,008.88. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the vouchers as submitted.

November 2012 Vouchers

General	20331 – 20431	\$ 217,498.23
Streetlighting	854 –860	\$ 5,673.05
Bellefonte Fire Dept.	1424 – 1435	\$ 5,169.51
Fire Equipment	191 – 194	\$ 4,152.37
Parks & Recreation	1743 – 1755	\$ 4,082.15
Water	8880 – 8929	\$ 92,505.97
Sanitation	10028 – 10082, 114	\$ 608,867.08
Refuse	2696 – 2723	\$ 65,920.85
Swimming Pool	533 – 535	\$ 7,316.89

CDBG	–	\$	0.00
Special Projects	166	\$	4,079.15
Highway Aid	–	\$	0.00
Capital Projects	–	\$	0.00
Bulk Water Sales	207 – 213, 998	\$	24,743.63
	Total:		\$ 1,040,008.88

- Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve payment of the invoice to McQuaide Blasko for services rendered through November 30, 2012, in the amount of \$188.49. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the revised 2013 Bellefonte Borough Comprehensive Fee Schedule. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the 2013 Budget in the amount of \$11,765,419.00 as submitted along with a 1.5 mill tax increase. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. That budget comes with a 1 1/2 mill tax increase with the 1/2 mill increase being dedicated to street repairs and projects. There was no feedback from the public regarding the budget. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve Tax Levy Ordinance No. 12172012-01 for the year 2013. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. The tax rate for general purposes is 9.805 mills; streetlights is 1.000 mills; Fire Department is .680 mills; Fire Equipment is .430 mills; and Parks & Recreation is .900 mills. A voice vote was unanimous.

Park & Recreation – Mrs. Brown made a motion to nominate John Tooker from Bellefonte who is an assistant professor at Penn State in entomology and also is a grant writer; and Buddy Johnson, one of the mayoral candidates and a Teacher at the Bellefonte Area Middle School, to serve on the Recreation Authority. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. They will be sent a letter of thanks for volunteering.

- Mrs. Brown would like a letter sent to the Christmas Committee for all the help and wonderful Victorian Christmas held in Bellefonte. The train rides this past weekend were also a wonderful event. There were ten rides and they all were filled.

- The Bellefonte Victorian Christmas Community Choir event is on C-NET. It will be shown Thursday, December 20, at 5:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; Friday, December 21, at 9:00 p.m.; Sunday, December 23, at 12:00 a.m.; Monday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m.; and Tuesday, December 25, at 11:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.

- Mrs. Brown reported there is a brand new Bellefonte Inter-valley Area Chamber of Commerce book that includes a new Bellefonte map with streets alphabetized with a grid to find the streets very easily. The book is available for free at the Train Station.

- Mr. Halderman reported C-NET showed "Our Town" Bellefonte.

Human Resources – Mr. Provan reported negotiations are going well.

- Mr. Provan addressed the monthly reports from the Police Department. Two reports have been given since the new traffic officer was hired. He would like Council members to review the reports and provide feedback to Mr. Provan regarding their satisfaction with the reports.

Mr. DeCusati reported in the downtown area during Victorian Christmas where the carriages were located there was a lot of buggy traffic and auto traffic. He suggested perhaps the next Victorian Christmas and other main events the traffic officer could be located on that corner to be visible. Mr. Provan suggested perhaps fire police could be located in that area to keep the buggy moving safely.

Safety – Mr. Wilson reported the draft minutes from the November 29, 2012 Fire Department Executive Committee Meeting are in the packet for review. The next meeting will be January 24, 2013. He feels the new chief is doing a nice job of updating a lot.

- Mr. Wilson hoped the Task Force Committee members received the last installation from Mr. Gentzel that he emailed to them with additional posts about fire suppression systems and ways to offset the cost from various places in the United States.

Water/Sanitation – Mr. Beigle reported things are flowing very well.

Streets – Mr. DeCusati reported he received a request from a resident to look at South Spring Street where it comes into Bishop Street. There is no stop sign there. A pedestrian thinks vehicles traveling down will stop at a sign. Mr. Wilson feels if a stop sign is installed there it may create more of a safety issue than having an occasional pedestrian not know there isn't a sign there. He feels if a stop sign is installed it would take an educational process to have people aware of the sign. The Streets Committee will revisit this issue.

- The School Zone signs on Allegheny Street are completed. Once permit approval is received from PennDOT it will be submitted for reimbursement from the county for Liquid Fuel Funds to pay for those to be installed.

- Mrs. Brown would like the Borough crew to check the light at the corner of Cherry Lane and Allegheny Street by the Bellefonte WOK. She feels it needs to be turned somehow.

Energy & Environmental Conservation – There was no report.

Junior Council Report – There was no report.

OLD BUSINESS

- Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the 2013 Meetings Schedule. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Holderman reported on the 2010–2011 CDBG allocation. A public hearing was held on Monday, December 10, and no one showed up to make comments so things are proceeding with working with DCED to re-allocate the funds to get started soon on the streetscape project for Allegheny Street and Bishop Street.

NEW BUSINESS

- A proposal on the cell tower equipment with Black Dot Capital & Real Estate Group, LLC will be reviewed by Council and the Authority. Mr. Beigle reviewed the lease and feels the Borough should handle their own and not turn that revenue over to somebody else. Black Dot stated there is a lot of room for negotiation. This will be discussed at a work session.

- Council members are requested to review the Purchasing Manual Draft and provide comments at the January 7, 2013 meeting.

POLICE EXONERATIONS

- Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the Police Exonerations. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council Ms. Dainty made a motion to adjourn the meeting of December 17, 2012 at 8:26 p.m. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.