

COUNCIL MEETING OF APRIL 2, 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. Members were asked to turn off their cell phones or put them on vibrate.

Mr. Halderman announced Council will go into Executive Session immediately following the regular Council meeting to discuss real estate issues.

ROLL CALL

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

Members Excused: Dainty, DeCusati,

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

Staff Present:

Guests:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the minutes of the Bellefonte Borough Council meeting of March 19, 2012. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. Mr. Wilson pointed out that Goldman Lane would go from Linn Street to Church Lane rather than Linn Street to Curtin Street. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as corrected.

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- A letter from Sarah Edge, Office Manager, ClearWater Conservancy, thanking Bellefonte Borough for the contribution of \$201.00 made to the Spring Creek Watershed Commission.

- An invitation from Heather L. Emminger, Governors Gate, to the Housing Development Corporation's fifth annual "*Faces of Affordable Housing*" banquet to be held on Wednesday, May 30, beginning with a reception at 6:00 p.m. followed with dinner at 7:00 p.m. at the Penn Square Marriott Lancaster Convention Center.

They are also seeking sponsorship from the Borough.

- An email from Kim Wyatt, CPA, Finance Director, Patton Township, with the Centre County Tax Collection Committee, providing information in regard to employer training with the new VIP Tax Collection, which will be completed through the Centre Tax Agency.

- A letter from Melissa Mangan requesting Council explore the option of installing a STOP sign near Governors Park Road at the crest of the hill. Airport Road is a state road. Mr. Stewart will write a letter to PennDOT so they can examine this situation.

- A letter from Heather Heckman, Early Care and Education Program Director, requesting permission to use Governor's Park for the Summer Camp Program. The program will run in the same manner as the past 17 summers from June 11 through August 29.

Mr. Provan made a motion to approve this request pertaining to the letter that was provided. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Charles Salvanish, President and Troy A. Smith, Parade Chairperson, Logan Fire Company No. 1 requesting permission to hold the 40th Annual Logan Fire Company No. 1 "4th of July Celebration". The parade is scheduled for Saturday, July 7, beginning at 5:00 p.m. beginning at the Bellefonte Elementary School, proceeding along Allegheny Street to East Bishop Street and ending at the Bellefonte Armory Grounds (Carnival Grounds).

The request also includes permission for use of PA State registered, inspected, insured ATV's and riding tractors for use on State roads for the selling of soda and water along the entire parade route.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve this request. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. Mr. Schneider questioned the asking of permission for beverage vehicles along the parade route. This has been done the last several years. A voice vote was unanimous. Mr. Schneider abstained due to conflicts.

- A letter from Ken Martin, Executive Director, American Philatelic Society, requesting parking permits for their annual Summer Seminar on Philately from June 17–22. They would like to purchase 30 permits for use by their employees in the municipal lot near CVS from Monday, June 18 through Friday, June 22.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve this request. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion.

- The Bellefonte Cruise will hold a 5K run/walk on Sunday, June 17, to benefit the YMCA. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Gary V. Hoover, Executive Director, Bellefonte and Intervalley Area Chamber of Commerce, requesting permission to use the Greens Area of Talleyrand Park for the annual Croquet tournament on September 30, 2012.

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

- An agenda and information was provided for the Clearfield Centre County Borough Association meeting on Thursday, April 26, in Grampian. Interested Council members should inform the Borough office as soon as possible.

- A letter from HBI regarding the Big Spring Festival. They are requesting the use of Talleyrand Park on Sunday, May 20, from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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

ORAL

- Mr. Beigle had a request from the Bellefonte Museum to obtain two parking permits for the volunteers at the museum to use in their vehicles.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to provide two parking permits to the Bellefonte Museum. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. Permit parking is only good for parking lots and not street parking. The only time the permits can be used are when the volunteers are working at the museum. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Halderman reported this month he had a bear on his property. The bear ate a lot of bird feed and left a deposit. Residents should be on alert that the bears are about.

- Mr. Beigle had a request from a resident that the recycling collection on Bishop Street ties up traffic and he requested the schedule be changed possibly by an hour to eliminate the problem.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Ms. Dunne reported on the March 21 meeting of the Spring Creek Watershed Commission. The presentation of the USGS model simulating the water budget of the

Spring Creek Watershed was very interesting. It identified the Gatesburg Formation as a very good recharge area. This information can be used in future land development or land use planning. They did work with climate change, putting several climate change models into the USGS model to see what might happen if warming occurs. It changes several parameters. They were not told of the results. The model could also be used in the future to predict what would happen in the watershed if there were large increases in water withdrawal.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 18, with the speaker being Tony Buda from Penn State Agriculture Department. He is associated with USDA. His topic will be Nutrient Management Practices for Environmentally Sensitive Landscapes.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Goldman had nothing to report.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

- The Planning Commission reviewed a Model Solar Panel Ordinance. They reviewed it several times and asked Council to review it to determine what they would like done with it.

Mr. Halderman suggested it be turned over to the Energy and Environmental Conservation Committee and the Building and Property Committee for review and recommendation.

- A sidewalk inspection list is provided to Council members. Mr. Shuey, the Code Administration Officer, reviewed approximately one quarter of the Borough and produced this list. The residents have a short timeline to get their sidewalks repaired.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to move forward with the sidewalk repair list as submitted by Mr. Shuey. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

ZONING/PLANNING

The Planning Commission meeting draft minutes from March 26, 2012, are in the packets for review.

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

- 1) 177 East Curtin Street – Erect 10 ft. x 16 ft. storage shed. No foundation.
- 2) 101 West Linn Street – Install new sign in place of existing sign. To be mounted on existing ground posts.
- 3) 246 West Curtin Street – Demolish existing historic garage. Erect new garage at the same location.
- 4) 226 West Curtin Street – Install new aboveground swimming pool.

- 5) 163 East Linn Street – Renew Certificate of Appropriateness for previously approved HARB application. There are no changes to proposed colors for painting of existing front porch and window trim.

Mr. Provan made a motion to approve all five Certificates of Appropriateness. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. Mr. Schneider questioned if it is typical to install the shed on concrete blocks and not anchor it. The Borough does not have any requirements regarding this. A voice vote was unanimous.

The March 27, 2012, HARB meeting minutes are in the packet for review.

COMMITTEES

Building & Property – There was no report.

Finance and Government Performance – There was no report.

Park & Recreation – Mrs. Brown reported there was a Pool Authority Meeting at the YMCA. Conversations are ongoing and everyone is in agreement that a Pool Authority will be formed.

Mr. Stewart reported they are open to a Pool Authority but everyone is concerned about the expenses of renovating the pool and if there is interest in a group of volunteers/organizers to start fundraising for capital for the project.

The pool will open after the last day of school. This year the pool will be managed by the YMCA.

There will be a visit on the 12th to the Park Forest Pool to see what they have done.

The mud sill work is ongoing and should be completed this week.

Human Resources – There was no report.

Safety – Mr. Wilson reported there was a scheduled Fire Task Force meeting for Wednesday, March 28, but only three people came. The future of the Fire Task Force is unknown.

A Fire Executive meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 29, but there was a fire and the meeting did not take place.

Water/Sanitation – Mr. Beigle reminded the citizens that beginning on Wednesday, April 11, grass clippings will be picked up. Brush will be picked up also.

Riff-raff week will be held May 21–26.

The Borough yard sale is the weekend of May 18 and 19.

All this information was included in the Borough newsletter. Mr. Beigle stated how nice the newsletter was.

The next Sewer and Water Authority meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 3.

Friday, March 30, Mr. Holderman attended a workshop that the Department of Environmental Protection held at the solid waste authority in regard to the Act 101, Section 902, Recycling Grant. The last grants were provided in 2008. There will be another round of those grants in 2012. There is \$15 million available. The 2008 grants were not received until 2010. The recipients of 2008 grants are ineligible in 2012. Mr. Stewart and Mr. Holderman will submit the grant.

Council members are interested in having a collection site for electronics and also for plastic containers that are being recycled. It was recommended that Mrs. Dunne contact the solid waste authority to see if they would provide a container.

Streets – Mr. Provan made a motion to eliminate two parking spaces on West Linn Street near Shugart Lane (one on each side) and place the pedestrian crossing sign at the crosswalk and have the Borough paint a location as to where the sign is to remain so when it gets nudged by ongoing vehicles it can be put back in place. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

The downtown tree trimming work has been completed.

Mr. Holderman obtained information regarding the Radar Speed Display. The sign is capable of collecting data as to how many vehicles are speeding. The display could be moved around. The data that is collected records the speed and the time so the Police Department could target enforcement. The cost is approximately \$4,500. Highway Aid Funds could be used for this type of purchase. Currently the Borough is borrowing one from Spring Township. This is not a budgeted item.

Mr. Schneider feels the amount of time Council has spent regarding speeding this would be an effective deterrent beyond having an officer sitting there. Data could be gathered to determine if it is a location where an officer should be placed. He feels it gives a message to the residents that Council is being proactive. Mr. Wilson feels he can report that data just from walking and observing traffic. He feels blinking lights and signs may slow vehicles down, but consistent enforcement works the best.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to purchase the light. Mrs. Dunne recommended turning it over to the Safety Committee. Mr. Stewart is willing to contact Spring Township and determine how much time their sign would be available.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to table the motion to approve the radar speed display. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

A tractor trailer hit the light pole on Allegheny Street near Dairy Queen. The repairs will be paid for by the insurance company of the truck.

Energy & Environmental Conservation – There was no report.

Junior Council Report – Mr. Confer reported Bellefonte High School took third place at the Lake Erie Model United Nations Conference. Ms. McCullough reported quite a few delegates get Excellent and one received Valiant.

The Bellefonte Area High School Drama Fest will do a production of Grease on April 12, 13 and 14 at 7:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Beigle made a motion that the Building Code Administration Penns Valley Code Enforcement Agency be the new Building Code Administrator. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A letter stating the conditions using them as a third party contractor will be sent. A voice vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

A change in the Yard Waste Disposal Agreement Between Bellefonte Borough and Spring Township has one change and that is that it will renew automatically every year without needing to come back before Council.

Mr. Halderman expressed concern that the keys be marked “do not duplicate.” Mr. Stewart stated the keys for the landfill are special keys that cannot be duplicated. The agreement does not state there is a deposit required for the key and it does not say if somebody loses the key they are responsible for paying for it. Mr. Halderman also feels if there are fee increases Spring Township should have to pay more, which is not stated in the agreement.

Mr. Provan stated Penn State has good language regarding keys and keying.

Mr. Provan suggested a uniform policy/procedure be made and a copy given to Spring Township so everyone is doing the same thing.

This agreement will be revised and brought back to the next Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council, Mr. Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting of April 2, 2012, at 8:25 p.m. and go into Executive Session. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.