

**COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 4, 2013**  
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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, Ramish, Li

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

Staff Present:

Guests: Joanne Tosti-Vasey; Romaine B. Naylor; Sally Houser; Helen Alters; Joseph Griffin; Melady Kehm; Gary V. Hoover; Susan B. Hoover; Mary Vollero; Joanne Knupp; Bob Lamb; Sam McGinley; Tim Schreffler; Keith Koch; Nancy O. Miller; Jon Hart; R. Michael Prendergast; Eric Summey; Travis DeCistro; Monteca Confer; Bonnie Leathers; Arthur Curtze; Bob Dannaker; Julia Kasdorf; Jan Freeman Knisley; Francy & Richard Shreve; Patrick Cheney; Colina Seeley; Ralph Seeley; Kim Kowalczyk; Sherri Button; Robert L. Caserio; Jonathan Eburne; Sean Flynn; Megan Tooker; Kristoffer Jacobson; Jennifer Zeigler; Carla Mulford Conklin; Larry Boone; Sue Carhevale; J. Karen Arnold; Sharma Musser; Dave Kurtz; Robert Keal; Patrick North; Dan Quialey; Jeff Johnson; Kerri Zelman; Tim Mullen;

**CONSENT AGENDA**

(The following items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of

these items unless members of Council request specific items to be removed for separate action.)

- Minutes - Approval of October 21, 2013 minutes.
- Written - Letter request from Saint John's Catholic School.
- Planning - Ted & Carla Conklin Lot consolidation, Bellefonte Borough Streetscape Project.
- HARB - Certificate of Appropriateness - 101 West Linn Street - Paving; 111 South Spring Street - Signage; 135 South Spring Street - Signage.
- Old Business - CATA Resolution/Contract
- New Business - Police Pension Plan Resolution keeping employee contributions 3.9%.

Mrs. Brown would like to remove Old Business and New Business from the list. Mrs. Dunne made a motion to approve the other items on the Consent Agenda. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. For clarification none of the HARB issues involve anything regarding the Garman or the Do-De. A voice vote was unanimous.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the CATA Resolution and Contract. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. Mrs. Brown asked if payments are being made in the current budget. CATA has a fiscal budget that begins on July 1. They presented a proposed budget in April or May and the budget numbers in the resolution are very close to what was proposed in the spring of the year. The motion passed with Mrs. Brown voting no.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the Police Pension Plan Resolution #11-04-13-001 keeping employee contributions at 3.9%. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. Mrs. Dunne doesn't understand the calculations based on a letter from Mockenhaupt Benefits Group. She feels it doesn't appear that the Borough has \$80,086.00 in contributions to make up the amount necessary for the MMO. Mr. Stewart stated the Borough doesn't. He stated there is nothing changed in employee contributions and that number has not changed for twenty years. That is negotiated in a union contract every three or four years when the contract is renegotiated. The letter is for auditing purposes. The highest the number can be is 5% and the lowest is 0%. There is a gap between what the employees pay in and what the pension plan needs to be actuarially sound. The MMO (minimum municipal obligation) that is done every September takes into account that missing gap. State aid is received but there is still a gap. This can go on the table but an arbitrator decides what is paid. The Borough pays the "missing gap" amount from the general fund. A voice vote was unanimous.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

### **WRITTEN**

- Mr. Stewart reported there was a host of Garman letters received. He did his best to get them out to everyone. Council members reported Mr. Stewart did a good job of getting those out.

## **ORAL**

- Mr. Halderman reported there was a showing of the Tavern Collection at Penn State several months ago at the Palmer Museum. He contacted Jennifer Fehan and asked "Request A Print," which reproduces some of the prints they had on display and asked if they could start making prints for Bellefonte. He received an email today and stated a Bellefonte print was just added to the website to reproduce. The website will be posted on the Borough web page.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- None.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Addis reported the recent retirement of James Eric Naylor from the Bellefonte Police Department after more than 35 years of service. His wife Romaine was in the audience. Eric began his employment in 1976 as a Dispatcher Records Clerk. He was known as the "human phone book" within the department as well as the department "Mr. Fix-it". He was the IT guy before there were IT's. Mayor Addis wished him the very best in the future. Council asked Romaine to express their appreciation to Eric. She informed Council he is doing well at the moment.

## **OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

### **ZONING/PLANNING**

- The Planning Commission Meeting Draft Minutes from October 28, 2013 were in the packet for review.

## **CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS**

Ms. Dainty made a motion to reschedule the Certificate of Appropriateness for 110 East High Street and 116 East High Street. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. The rescheduled meeting date, time and location will be published. A voice vote was unanimous.

The October 22, 2013 HARB meeting minutes were in the packet for review.

## **COMMITTEES**

Building & Property – No report.

Finance and Government Performance – There was a Finance Committee meeting and work is progressing on the budget.

Auditor bids were opened and were as follows:

Young, Oaks, Brown & Co. Auditors - 2013 - Municipal Audit - \$10,300.00; Bellefonte Borough Authority - \$5,525.00; Real Estate Tax Collector - \$650.00; Total \$16,475.00. A single audit - \$2,500.00; IDA Audit - \$4,075.00.

2014 - Municipal Audit - \$10,600.00; Bellefonte Borough Authority - \$5,700.00; Real Estate Tax Collector - \$675.00; Total \$16,975.00. A single audit - \$2,575.00; IDA Audit - \$4,200.00.

2015 - Municipal Audit - \$10,925.00; Bellefonte Borough Authority - \$5,875.00; Real Estate Tax Collector - \$700.00; Total \$17,500.00. A single audit - \$2,650.00; IDA Audit \$4,325.00.

Matt Foster, CPA, Philipsburg - 2013 - Municipal Audit - \$3,500.00; Bellefonte Borough Authority - \$10,500.00; Real Estate Tax Collector - \$500.00; Total - \$14,500.00. A single audit - \$1,500.00; IDA Audit - \$1,200.00.

2014 - Municipal Audit - \$3,500.00; Bellefonte Borough Authority - \$10,500.00; Real Estate Tax Collector - \$500.00; Total - \$14,500.00. A single audit - \$1,500.00; IDA Audit - \$1,200.00.

2015 - Municipal Audit - \$3,500.00; Bellefonte Borough Authority - \$10,500.00; Real Estate Tax Collector - \$500.00; Total - \$14,500.00. A single audit - \$1,500.00; IDA Audit - \$1,200.00.

Both bids will be turned over to the Finance Company for review and recommendation.

Park & Recreation – Mr. Holderman will get a report from Howard Long regarding Kepler Pool.

Tom Schrack did finish the paperwork for the land transfer for the pool to the Nittany Valley Recreation Authority.

The public restrooms have been closed for the winter and will reopen in the spring.

Human Resources – No report.

Safety – Mr. Wilson reported the Fire Executive Committee met October 24, 2013. Lori Walker presented a packet for the Operating Fund for the Fire Departments. The budget was reviewed and Ms. Walker asked that the departments try to pare some things down. At that meeting they were able to pare \$3,300.00 off the budget. The overriding contributor to a higher budget is workmen's compensation. The overall budget increase is approximately 7.8% and 5.7% of that is because of workmen's compensation. Mr. Holderman clarified with the \$3,300.00 decrease that reduces the percent increase and the increase is only when you take the operation budget into account. If you combine that with the overall budget it is an increase of approximately 3.5%.

The next meeting of the Fire Executive Committee will be December 19, 2013.

Chief Jon Hart addressed Council regarding the purchase of a new apparatus. The Undines have investigated a replacement for the current 1997 Ariel truck. The Undines are offering to incur all the debt in the purchase price of the vehicle. They would expect that the maintenance, fuel, preventative maintenance and annual inspections on the vehicle would be covered as the current unit is. They would like any money recouped on the sale of the current vehicle be returned to the fire company to be used to pay down the loan. The cost of the brand new vehicle is approximately \$655,000.00. Council commended them for taking care of the expense.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the apparatus and approve returning funds from the sale of the old apparatus to the fire department and the Borough will continue the maintenance, fuel and inspections on the new vehicle. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. The fire department was commended for their willingness to take on this debt.

Eric Summey will be the Undine Fire Department Chief for 2014. He was introduced to Council. Chief Jon Hart was thanked for his service to the community.

A draft Fire Prevention Task Force Report is in the review stage.

Water/Sanitation – Mr. Beigle reported there will be an Authority meeting on Tuesday, November 5, and budget items will be discussed.

Streets – Mr. DeCusati reported the Borough has started leaf collection. The vacuum truck will follow the trash pick-up schedule. Residents are reminded not to put the leaves in the street. Leaf collection will continue until snow begins.

The last brush collection was October 31, 2013 so the brown and yellow lids will not be picked up again until the spring. You can still take compostable waste to the landfill.

Mr. Beigle requested residents shovel out when they put their trash containers out to make it easier for the refuse collectors.

The Streetscape Project was approved. Work is currently being done on the drawings for the Highway Occupancy Permit. It is anticipated that work will begin in the spring.

The survey for East Logan Street has gone out to residents and approximately four of the fifteen have been returned.

Signs are ordered for the Wingate Way access way.

Mr. Stewart mentioned he is still waiting for the study for the intersection of McAlister and High Street from the PennDOT group.

PennDOT officials did a walk-through of the Water Street corridor. They are doing an upgrade of the traffic lights in that corridor and it will include the traffic light at the intersection of Spring and High Street.

Mr. Holderman reported the application was submitted to the County for the \$15,000 Liquid Fuels Grant. That will be used for lights to stop traffic on Bishop Street for the Undine Fire Department.

Mr. Halderman questioned the manholes on Bishop Street. Bill stated it was intentional for the manholes to be a little lower so the snowplows don't catch on it.

Energy & Environmental Conservation – No report.

Junior Council Report – No report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- The Solicitation Ordinance Amendments will be discussed further at the next work session.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Courtesy Parking for the Holidays the first two hours are free from Thanksgiving through January 1, 2014. After the first two hours a courtesy ticket is given and then if the vehicle does not move they receive a parking ticket.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the Courtesy Parking for the Holidays as explained. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- Council discussed a personnel matter.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

- With no other business to come before Council Mr. Provan made a motion to adjourn the meeting of November 4, 2013 at 8:55 p.m. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.