

**COUNCIL MEETING OF APRIL 1, 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. Those with a cell phone were requested to either turn the phone off or turn it on vibrate.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Members Excused: DeCusati, Confer

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

Staff Present: Chief Weaver;

Guests: Tim Schreffler; Margaret Herbstritt; Janet Irons; Robert Sandow;  
Pat Ward; Kathy Ward; Kim Gasper;

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the minutes of the Bellefonte Borough Council meeting of March 4, 2013. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as presented.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**WRITTEN**

- A letter from Holly A. Wilson, President, Historic Bellefonte, Inc., requesting the use of Talleyrand Park on Sunday, May 19, 2013, for the annual Big Spring Festival. The request is for 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with the actual event time being Noon to 4:00 p.m.

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

- A letter from Erick Brown, P.E., District Traffic Engineer, Engineering District 2-0, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), regarding a request for a multi-way stop sign at the intersection of North Spring Street and West Linn Street. The Department's study indicates a multi-way stop is not justified at that intersection based on a review of traffic volumes and crash data and compliance with state and federal regulations.

## **ORAL**

- Mrs. Kim Gasper, BAHS Head Cross-Country Coach, informing Council the 7th annual Herbie's Hometown Loop 4 mile run/walk, 10 mile run and 14 mile (non-competitive) bike ride will be held on Saturday, August 17, beginning in downtown Bellefonte in conjunction with the Arts and Crafts festival. They are adding another run and changing the bike course. They would like to utilize Borough Streets, Benner Township and part of Spring Township. A packet showing the proposed routes was presented to Council. They are requesting the use of the roads and the assistance of the Fire Police at the major intersections. They have the necessary permit application but need the permission of the three municipalities.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the request with the requirement that the organization works with both the Police and Fire Departments. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. Mr. Halderman reminded them not to place permanent markings on sidewalks or roadways. A voice vote was unanimous.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- IDA minutes from the March 13, 2013 meeting and draft IDA minutes from the "Kick off" March 25, 2013 meeting are in the packets for Council to review.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Addis provided Police reports for January 2013 and February 2013 for Council to review. On the report "Traffic Control" is where Police Officers help cross people at the Catholic Church during high-traffic times. The January and February 2013 Police Exonerations were also in the packets.

Two meetings ago there were some folks that had questions and concerns. Chief Weaver wanted Council to be aware of how much traffic enforcement actually gets done. There are a lot of speeding stops on Howard Street. On Allegheny Street there is enforcement in the 25 mph speed zone. On Zion Road coming in to Bellefonte the speed limit comes from 45 mph to 35 mph to 25 mph. There is a 500 foot setback so the Police Department cannot run speed within that 500 feet. A lot of traffic stops are not strategic traffic enforcement such as sitting in the school zone and target vehicles going through there. A lot of stops are from a patrolling officer seeing an expired registration sticker or a moving violation.

The numbers in the March report do not include the entire month. They will be shown in the next report.

Chief Weaver and Mayor Addis discussed all the facts and figures and decided to monitor the school zone. It is a new sign and people are not used to it being there yet. The School Resource Officer talked to the crossing guards and they feel the speeding is slower since the signs have started going up. Chief Weaver stated there are four school zones and they are all important. They try to go to each one and make sure all the crossing guards have shown up. Chief Weaver stated when you consider "Safe Speed" it does not necessarily mean just the speed being driven, but you have to take all factors into consideration.

With regard to the School Zones under the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code 3365, subsection B, the last paragraph reads that the location and the hours of operation shall be approved by the Department, which means PennDOT. The school zone on West Linn Street was never approved by the Department. Chief Weaver met with PennDOT and they are going to leave it up and it will be timed the same as the one on Allegheny Street. It is a zone, but it is not enforceable. When you come onto the street from a side street PennDOT will place signage to make drivers aware they are in a school zone. The penalty for violating the school zone speed limit of 15 mph is a \$35 fine added on to the other attached fund fines. It ends up being \$130. If it is a speed of more than 11 mph above the 15 mph the fine is up to \$500.

- Mayor Addis stated through good investigative techniques the Police Department caught the arsonist responsible for the fire at Mattress World. He was found guilty. Chief Weaver stated that was a combination of the Police Department and the Fire Department. The Police Department, the Fire Chiefs, the State Police Fire Marshall, the Canine Unit, the DA's office all worked together and had it wrapped up within two hours after Chief Weaver got on scene.

- Chief Weaver wants the residents of Bellefonte to know if there ever is an issue he would like them to voice their complaints.

- Mayor Addis reported the Spring Creek Watershed Cleanup Day will be Saturday, April 20, 2013. The Bellefonte site coordinator is Kitty Wunderly. Mayor Addis read an email from her. The Bellefonte Crew will be Bill Monsell, DJ Lily, Kitty Wunderly, all of Bellefonte; Barbara Dinsmore, State College; and Ellen Peachey, Spring Mills. They plan to clean the perimeter of Talleyrand Park, along the Match Factory edge of the creek and Potter Street as far as the JJ Powell facility and Krauss Park. They will also do what they can on the creek side of the Waterfront District. She provided photos from last year's project. Ms. Wunderly has enough help for Bellefonte but any residents interested in helping in another area can go to [www.clearwaterconserve.org](http://www.clearwaterconserve.org) website for more information. The cleanup time is 8:00 a.m. - noon with a picnic following at Spring Creek Park, State College.

## **OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

### **ZONING/PLANNING**

- The CCMPO minutes from the March 13, 2013 meeting are in the packets for review.

- Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission minutes and information is in the packets for review.

### **CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS**

- 1) 132 East High Street/Install new gutter. Install vinyl siding on rear gable of the house.
- 2) 121 South Potter Street/Install pre-manufactured shed.
- 3) 111 East High Street/Sign application.
- 4) 122 East High Street/Sign application.
- 5) 100 Match Factory Place/Sign application.
- 6) 219 East High Street/Install new painted steel handrail.
- 7) 409 West High Street/Install new metal roof. Existing dormers to remain. New vented wood soffit.
- 8) 139 South Allegheny Street/Install new windows to replace windows damaged by fire.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve Certificates of Appropriateness for all the projects except the one at 409 West High Street. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Bob Sandow, 409 West High Street, addressed Council requesting they consider issuing a Certificate of Appropriateness modifying one of the HARB recommendations. He is requesting permission to remove the dormers because they are non-original to the house. He feels the HARB board is the guardians of history. He presented evidence to HARB that the dormers are not originally built on the house. They were installed on the house 70-80 years after the home was built in 1840, probably in 1910. Mr. Sandow would like to restore the house to its original roofline.

Mr. Sandow requested Dr. Janet Irons, Vice-Chair of the State Preservation Board, gave her third-party neutral interpretation of how the state has interpreted the National Park Service Guidelines for Historic Preservation. Dr. Irons has been a member of the state board for approximately six years. She stated when it is decided a building is historic it is done for a few reasons and this is to evoke a particular era. She stated Bellefonte has the potential to evoke the pre-civil war period quite well with this home and several other homes in the town. She encouraged everyone in Bellefonte to start embracing that idea. Historic preservation adds value to neighborhoods and communities. If alterations involve removal of fixtures or additions and it makes the house more appropriate in historical significance then the State Board is all for it. She stated it is okay to get rid of assets of the house that are outside the period of

significance and therefore she endorses getting rid of the dormers because they do not belong in the time period of the home.

- Mr. Beigle made a motion to allow Mr. Sandow to remove the dormers from his home; allow a standing seam roof; and install vented wood soffit. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. Mr. Provan spoke in support of this motion. He stated the dormers are not original, they disrupt the original form of the house, and he feels that just because ornament is added and the owner of the property wants to put it back to a period that is consistent he feels it is legitimate to say look, the building has been here from some point of time to current and pick a period of time you want to restore the building to; he feels the gutters should be half-rounds and possibly a copper gutter. He also feels Council should not be stating what period of time the house should be restored to. A voice vote was unanimous.

1) 318 North Allegheny Street/Install new metal framed canopy over existing concrete ramp - HARB recommends denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness for this project.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to deny this request. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. The project has gone before HARB twice. They requested changes, the architect made the requested changes, and HARB still denied the project. Council supports the finding of HARB. A voice vote was unanimous.

The March 12, 2013 HARB minutes and the March 26, 2013 Draft HARB minutes are in the packets for review.

## **COMMITTEES**

Building & Property – There was no report.

Finance and Government Performance – Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve filing for audit the February 2013 vouchers in the amount of \$695,146.96. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the vouchers as submitted.

### February 2013 Vouchers

General	20666 – 20772	\$ 295,291.10
Streetlighting	875 – 879	\$ 1,804.90
Bellefonte Fire Dept.	1469 – 1486	\$ 10,298.23
Fire Equipment	202 – 203	\$ 3,666.26
Parks & Recreation	1769 – 1773	\$ 116.71
Water	9043 – 9106	\$ 106,867.60
Sanitation	10188 – 10256	\$ 155,039.46
Refuse	2782 – 2813	\$ 93,999.13
Swimming Pool	539 – 541	\$ 275.40
CDBG	–	\$ 0.00

Special Projects	209	\$	61.90
Highway Aid235	- 238	\$	13,327.20
Capital Projects	-	\$	0.00
Bulk Water Sales	225 - 231	\$	14,399.07
	Total:	\$	<u>695,146.96</u>

- Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve payment of the McQuaide Blasko invoice in the amount of \$1,509.98 for services rendered through February 28, 2013. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Ms. Dainty questioned putting out an RFP for Borough Insurance Coverage. Mr. Stewart stated there are no issues with the service from the Hartman Agency. They have been outstanding. They continually answer questions and there are no issues at all with service.

Park & Recreation – Mrs. Brown provided an update on the Recreational Authority. Tom Schrack, the Attorney for the Authority, has coordinated with all the municipalities in regard to advertising and preparing the Articles of Incorporation. The Authority should be firmly established in the next week or two with the first meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 8, 2013.

Human Resources – There was no report.

Safety – Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve amendments to Ordinance 35, concerning the Fire Department, and Ordinance 39, concerning the Fire Prevention Bureau. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mr. Schneider reported the Logan Fire Company is audited by a third party auditor annually and has done this for numerous years. Because it is a private corporation the Borough does not get a copy of their audit.

- A copy of the Fire Prevention/Code Enforcement report for February 2013 was in the packets for review. Things are moving forward with that.

- The Logan Fire Department will not be having their annual carnival this year. This in part due to 4th Fest and the logistics of how everything falls out. The 4th Fest falls on a Thursday night and it does not allow enough time for a carnival. They did not want to make this decision because of the long-standing tradition of holding the carnival but felt there was no other alternative. This includes the cancellation of their fireworks and their parade.

- Mr. Wilson encouraged the citizens of Bellefonte to help rectify the speeding situation by driving the posted speed limits.

- Mrs. Dunne reported the next Fire Protection Task Force meeting will be held on Thursday, April 4, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. The main event will be discussing Mr. Holderman's ten-year plan proposal for the Task Force.

The Fire Protection Expo that was planned for Saturday, April 13, has been postponed until a more suitable time.

Water/Sanitation – Mr. Beigle reported the next Authority meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 3, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend.

- The draft Authority Meeting Minutes from March 5, 2013 are in the packet for review.

Streets – The Streetscape Engineering Bids were opened. They were as follows:

Keller Engineers, Inc., State College, PA - \$49,600.00  
Stahl Sheaffer Engineering, State College, PA - \$90,888.40  
HRG, State College, PA - \$29,450.00  
Durke & Etson, Bellefonte, PA - \$58,000.00  
Weber Murphy Fox, Inc., State College, PA - \$25,000.00  
Cyttec Consultants, Bellefonte, PA - \$40,000.00  
Buchart Horn, State College, PA - \$38,865.00  
Uni-Tec Consulting Engineers, State College, PA - \$25,780.00  
Stiffler McGraw - Hollidaysburg, PA - \$75,000.00

The bids were turned over to the Streets Committee for review and recommendation.

Energy & Environmental Conservation – No report.

Junior Council Report – Bellefonte High School is entering the 4th and final quarter of the year.

- The High School Drama Club is presenting the musical, South Pacific, April 11 - 13.

- Ms. McCullough is helping Council find a replacement for her for next year. Council members thanked her for her service on Council.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- The Undine Fire Apparatus bids were opened. They were as follows:

Mark Watson - \$800.00  
North Star Fire - \$1,555.55

The bids were turned over to the Safety Committee for review and recommendation.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- The PSAB Conference will conflict with the May 6 Council meeting. It was suggested the meeting be moved to Wednesday, May 8.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to move the Council meeting to Wednesday, May 8. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- The Borough now owns the Waterfront Properties. An email was sent regarding a sign that will be removed by Tuesday morning, April 2.

## **BOROUGH MANAGERS REPORT**

- Mr. Stewart provided his Borough Manager's report that was to be for the March 18 Council meeting, which was cancelled due to inclement weather.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

- With no other business to come before Council, Mr. Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting of April 1, 2013 at 8:40 p.m. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.