

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 5, 2014
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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: Beigle, Brachbill, DeCusati, Halderman, Harvey, Spicer,

Members Excused: Brown, Dunne, Li, Ramish, Schneider,

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

Staff Present:

Guests: Sue Hannegan, CCPCDO; Lori Falce, CDT; Beth Whitman, Belle Market;

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 April 21, 2014 meeting minutes.
- Communications - Approval of Bill MacMath as MPO Rep for Nittany Valley
- Communications - Letter Request re 2015 Easter Egg Hunt
- Communications - Letter Request re Bellefonte Little League Tag Day
- Communications - Letter Request re Hanging Banner in Support of Bellefonte Athletics
- Communications - Letter Request re Use of Back Field at Governor's Park
- Mayor - Exonerations
- Mayor - Police Report

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Spicer seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- A letter from David Peifer, Special Agent-in-Charge, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of Attorney General, thanking the Bellefonte Police Department and Officer Andrew Berry and Officer Shawn Luse for their help in an investigation.

- A letter from Peter MacMaster (Nextel), and a letter from Anthony Perez (Sprint) Pyramid Network Services, informing the Borough that their cell tower lease on Hughes Street is coming to an end. They are offering the structure on the property free-of-charge to the Borough.

Mr. Halderman referred this to the Building and Property Committee for review and recommendation.

- A letter from Kitty Wunderly providing a report on the Watershed Cleanup Day, which was held on Saturday, April 26.

- A letter from Serena G. Bellew, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission informing the Borough that Vana Dainty, the Keystone Community Coordinator, has received a scholarship to attend FORUM 2014 from July 16-20 in Philadelphia.

- A letter from Michael Brungo, the prospective owner of the Gamble Mill expressing interest in purchasing a portion of the building that is owned by the Borough that is the former waterworks portion of the building.

- A letter from Senator Toomey's office informing that he is co-sponsoring a bill making it easier for builders, owners and developers to install sprinklers. Council would like a letter of support sent to Senator Toomey's office.

- A thank you letter from The Easter Bunny and the B.E.E.H. Committee for all the help they received with the 2014 Easter Egg Hung.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the request as submitted for the Easter Egg Hunt on April 4, 2015. Mr. Spicer seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Beth Whitman, President, Belle Market LLC, requesting a parking space be turned into a loading zone for the new Belle Market.

- The annual Letter Carriers Food drive (NALC) will be held on Saturday, May 10. Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the request for the use of the meters in front of the food bank for May 10. Mr. Spicer seconded the motion. Mayor Wilson will issue a proclamation.

- An invitation to a reception in honor of Hugh A. Mose upon his retirement from the Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA) on Friday, June 20, 2014, from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Nittany Room at the Ramada Inn. Please RSVP by June 6.

ORAL

Beth Whitman, President of Belle Market, requested the assistance of Council in alleviating a perceived parking issue at the market. There is much concern as to how the people will get their groceries to their car. They are requesting permission to place a sign during their business hours that says “For Loading Only” on parking space #113, which is at the entrance of the market. The market is open Wednesday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve this request. Mr. Spicer seconded the motion. Mr. DeCusati feels there will be an issue with other businesses in the downtown area. Mayor Wilson feels this is more of a community convenience rather than a business convenience. This would be for loading only. Store employees will be available to carry groceries to the vehicles, and they will monitor the situation. When the business is closed, the sign will be removed.

Mr. Beigle amended his motion to make it for a 90-day trial basis with the understanding that Ms. Whitman will monitor the situation and provide a monthly report to Council. Mr. Spicer seconded the amended motion. The motion passed with Mr. Brachbill voting no.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- None.

MAYOR’S REPORT

- Mayor Wilson read a proclamation declaring Saturday, May 10, 2014 as Stamp Out Hunger Day in observance of the National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive. He commended all postal workers and participants of this worthwhile cause.

- Mayor Wilson reminded everyone that the Big Spring Festival will be held Sunday, May 18, from noon to 4:00 p.m. at Talleyrand Park. Please go to www.visitbellefonte.com or www.bellefonte.net for all the details.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

- The draft Planning Commission meeting minutes from April 28, 2014 are in the packet for review.

- All the conditions of the County have been met and incorporated into the plan. Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the lot addition plan as amended for Theodore & Leah Ranio. Mr. Spicer seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Ingram's Fuel Lot was given conditional approval at the March Council meeting. The condition was a study of Triangle Road to see if it would withstand truck traffic. An expensive CGR test was completed where they took three core samples of the road. In the meantime, PennDOT was approached and has agreed to allow a truck to enter from the right only, for a fuel delivery approximately one time a week during peak months. A sign has been added to the plans that trucks will not enter onto Triangle Road.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the request as submitted. Mr. Spicer seconded the motion. This is following the plan designated by PennDOT to enter and exit the building. A voice vote was unanimous.

HARB

1) 203 North Spring Street (First Presbyterian Church) - place a hand rail on the ramp walkway that goes into the church; it would be black powder coated and meet ADA requirements.

2) Centre County Courthouse Annex Addition: The building is 10' wide and it is designed to provide access between the floor levels of the Temple Court Building and the Annex.

3) Centre County Courthouse Walkway: Bollard design was tabled and it was suggested they find a lighted one that would match the Bollards at the Courthouse courtyard.

Mr. DeCusati made a motion to approve the Certificates of Appropriateness for 203 North Spring Street and the Centre County Courthouse Annex Addition. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mr. Stewart informed Council there is a joint meeting on the walkway with the Shade Tree Commission and the Council Streets Committee and noted that the Walkway has not yet been approved.

- HARB draft meeting minutes from the April 22, 2014 meeting are in the packet for review.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY - No report.

FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE - The CATA FY2014/15 Draft Budget is in the packet for review or comment.

PARK AND RECREATION - Mr. Stewart, Ms. Harvey, Mrs. Dunne and Mrs. Brown met on site at Masullo Park to examine the situation where dogs are unleashed. They then reviewed the ordinance and it stated the dogs are to be leashed and under control at all times, so it will not need amended. The signage will be improved to clarify that dogs

need to be kept on a leash at all times. A temporary fence was installed between the park area and the neighboring property. They are seeking funding for a permanent fence. They are also exploring increasing enforcement of the Dog Leash Law.

HUMAN RESOURCES - Mr. Spicer reported there is a vacancy on the Zoning and Hearing Board. He encourages interested residents to submit a resume.

There will also be a position for a part-time Code Compliance Officer.

The information is available on the website.

There was a personnel issue discussed prior to the meeting.

SAFETY - Mr. Brachbill reported there was a special Fire Executive meeting on April 22 but no action was taken because some of the executives from one of the departments did not participate in the meeting. The next meeting will be on May 22.

WATER AND SANITATION - Mr. Beigle reported there will be an Authority meeting on Tuesday, May 6.

- The withdrawal report is in the packets and the withdrawals are average.

- Riff-raff collection will be the week of May 19.

STREETS - Mr. DeCusati gave an update on the Streetscape project. While waiting for PennDOT, the contractor has begun work that is outside the right-of-way. It is hoped that the project will be in full swing by July 12.

- The Streets Committee will meet and review recommendations from the Mayor and Chamber of Commerce.

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION - No report.

JUNIOR COUNCIL REPORT - No report.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. DeCusati made a motion to approve the changes in Chapter 410. Peddling and Soliciting. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Beigle made a motion to move ahead with the Civil Service Promotional Exam and clarify that they can move ahead regardless of the status of the Chief. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Stewart stated the list of outstanding fire safety permits is shrinking.

NEW BUSINESS

- Bellefonte Borough Community Yard Sale is May 16 and 17.

- The Big Spring Festival is May 18. In coordination with the festival is the James "Billboard" Jackson historic marker dedication at 2:00 p.m. on the downhill side of East High Street adjacent to the Courthouse rear parking lot.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council Mr. Brachbill made a motion to adjourn the meeting of May 5, 2014 at 8:17 p.m. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.