

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
March 16, 2015
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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: Brachbill, Brown, DeCusati, Dunne, Halderman, Harvey, Walker

Members Excused: Beigle, Spicer, Li

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

Staff Present:

Guests: Jim Dunn; Courtney Dickman; Officer Dan Holliday

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 March 2, 2015 Meeting Minutes
- Communications - Memo re Talleyrand Park Waivers
- Mayor - Police Report - February 2015
- Mayor - Police Exonerations - February 2015
- Finance - February 2015 Voucher Summary: \$732,530.46
- Finance - February 2015 Treasurer's Report

Ms. Dunne made a motion to approve the Amended Consent Agenda with the Communications - Memo re Talleyrand Park Waivers removed for discussion. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mrs. Dunne would like to suggest an addition to the list of waivers for Talleyrand Park. She feels the BHCA should be added to the list for the Summer Sounds Concerts. Mr. Brachbill questioned why the list was necessary since it was decided that an event without a charge would have the fee waived. Mrs. Dunne suggested adding something to the application to catch the unknown groups. If a group is not on the list they would need to come before Council to have their fee waived.

Mrs. Dunne made a motion to approve the list of Waivers for Talleyrand Park with the addition of BHCA. It waives the fees for reservation and fee deposit but it does not waive the non-refundable \$20.00 application fee. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Brachbill voting no.

REGULAR AGENDA

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- An email from Sarah Wetzel of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Bellefonte Legion informing that they will be cancelling their Easter egg hunt this year due to insurance issues and the condition of the park with the melting/freezing.

Mayor Wilson made a clarification that there are two Easter egg hunts. One is conducted by the American Legion and the other is considered the Community Egg hunt, which consists of multiple organizations. The Community Egg hunt will go on as planned on April 4.

- The answer to a question from the "Encouraging Positive Public Involvement" webinar.

- A letter from Cory Cunningham, on behalf of the Pleasant Gap Peppers, requesting permission to use the baseball field at Governor's Park. They would coordinate their schedule with the Bellefonte Legion baseball team and with Mr. Joe Menna. They plan to play 20-30 games this year from May - August.

The request was turned over to the Parks & Recreation Committee for review and recommendation.

- A letter from James H. Dunne, BHCA Secretary, requesting that the agenda for the upcoming meetings and the minutes of all Council Authorities, Boards and Commissions be placed on the Borough website when approved.

Mr. Dunne was at the meeting and emphasized that this is a real service to the community. Having the agendas on before the meeting will let the people select which meetings they need to attend.

Mr. Dunne requested that Council members speak louder so everyone can hear what they say.

Mrs. Brown stated the agenda was removed from C-NET to lower the fee.

Mr. Brachbill made a motion that minutes of Authorities, Boards and Commissions public meetings be posted on the Borough website after approval. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. Mr. Stewart clarified that sometimes the agenda is not provided until the day before or the day of. Mr. Dunne requested at least the IDA and HARB agendas be posted. Courtney Dickman asked if there was a deadline to get things on the agenda. She serves on the Planning Commission and does not typically get her agenda ahead of time. Mrs. Dunne stated major issues should be there in advance. Mr. Holderman stated there is typically a very generic agenda every month with the exception of things that come in such as invoices. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Lisa K. Erickson, Library Director, Centre County Library & Historical Museum thanking Council for their contribution of \$24,525.00.

- A letter from Nina D. King, P.E.R, Flag Day Chairman, B.P.O.E. of Bellefonte #1094 requesting permission to reserve Talleyrand Park for June 14, 2015 for Flag Day Services. The request is to use the Gazebo and lawn in front of it. They will set up at 12:30 p.m. and be done by 4:00 p.m. The service will start at 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Brachbill made a motion to approve this request. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- An email from Jordan Parks, Centre County Fire Wire Founder, and a Volunteer Firefighter with the Undine Fire Company, requesting permission to conduct a Boot Drive on May 30 from Noon - 6:00 p.m. to benefit the family of Jeff Buck. The request would be to use the sidewalks in front of Talleyrand Park on West High Street and at the intersection of West High Street and State Route 150.

Mr. Brachbill made a motion to approve the request. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. This would be similar to the baseball doing Tag Day or the Scouts doing a food drive. They would not be stopping traffic. They would wait until the red light and take the boot to the car to solicit donations. A voice vote was unanimous. Mrs. Brown would like them to publicize this event so the public is aware that this will be happening.

ORAL

- Mr. DeCusati forwarded to Council some of the training information received from CCMPO. He will forward them as they are received.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Brachbill has notification that the group reviewing the 1998 Fire Prevention Plan will meet on Sunday evening, March 29. They will need a key to the building.

- Mr. Halderman asked Officer Holliday if there has been any problems with the people that protest in front of the Courthouse every Wednesday. One day when Mr. Halderman came through town there was a man in the middle of the intersection of Spring and Allegheny Streets and there were three other ones blocking traffic. Mr.

Halderman called 911 to send someone to look at it. Officer Holliday stated there were some times when they are on the move that there are questions whether they are obstructing traffic. Officer Holliday feels the leader of the group does not want to cause problems. If a complaint is received the officers respond and deal with it in an appropriate manner. Officer Holliday stated when they first began doing that they had to talk with them.

- Mr. DeCusati stated from the coordinating committee of the CCMPO that Ken Roan has been the representative from our region and Mr. DeCusati is the alternate. Ken will be resigning and will not be finishing this year since he is resigning in his position as township supervisor. Mr. DeCusati would like a thank you letter sent to him for the time he has worked on the CCMPO representing the Nittany Valley. Mr. DeCusati will be attending the rest of the year. At the end of the year there will be voting on the representatives.

- Mrs. Brown reported the Volunteer Fair at the APS on March 7 went very well. There were 24 non-profit attendees there. They were visited by approximately 80 people. This was the fifth year and it grows every year.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Wilson reported Sergeant Holliday is at the Council meeting to answer any questions regarding the police report in the package and the types of incidences reported.

Mayor Wilson reported that on Monday, March 9, he and Councilman Walker attended the meeting at the Willowbank Building in regard to renaming the High Street Bridge. It was also attended by a number of organizations such as the Legion, the VFW, the County Veterans Office, and people from Talleyrand Park. This is moving forward. There will be some funding efforts to get flags to pass out to the community for the parade.

Mayor Wilson mentioned the Easter egg hunt that will be held on Saturday, April 4. Activities will begin at 1:00 p.m. and the hunt will begin at 2:00 p.m. He said the turnout of the community is amazing.

Mayor Wilson showed a tag that the Police Department will be using as a notice to businesses that the police department will be checking stores in the downtown to be sure their stores are securely locked. This will provide accountability that the foot patrol is checking businesses. Mayor Wilson is happy with the Police Services Task Force.

Council members like the new incident report that the Police Department has provided.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

-Ms. Dainty provided a memo informing that the Zoning Hearing Board denied the request for 114-116 West Bishop Street to allow an apartment on the first floor at a meeting on March 11, 2015.

- Mrs. Brown reported Charlie Hackett will be the representative for the Chamber of Commerce for the Facade Grants.

HARB

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

- None.

- HARB draft meeting minutes from the March 10, 2015, meeting are in the packet for review.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY - No report.

FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE - Mrs. Dunne reported the auditors are doing their work.

The February 2015 Current vs. Prior and February 2015 Budget vs. Actual are in the packets for review. Mr. Stewart will check with Ms. Walker to see if there needs to be a motion to file for audit.

Mr. DeCusati asked how the Chief can track his budget because it is not nicely laid out together in line items. Mrs. Dunne will address this with the Police Task Force.

PARK AND RECREATION - Mrs. Brown reported there will be a Park and Recreation meeting this week to discuss some items.

Mayor Wilson requested a clarification on the Talleyrand Permit Fee for two organizations that hold multiple events. They would be BHCA and HBI. He feels these organizations are serving the citizens, and they should not have to pay a fee every time they use the park. Mrs. Dunne read from the March 2, 2015, minutes - "there are no exceptions from the fee and if a user has multiple events there would be a one-time application fee". Mr. Stewart stated the answer should be in the resolution.

This will be discussed at the next work session to clarify the question.

HUMAN RESOURCES - The Human Resources Committee met tonight and conducted interviews. All candidates were excellent. The Committee made a recommendation and staff is working on it.

SAFETY - Mr. Brachbill informed Council there is a copy of a letter in the packet to Tim Shreffler, Bellefonte Fire Department Chief, informing him that the Fire Chief vehicle should be housed in the Borough.

- A letter and report from Dominic Santanna, Manager- National Processing Center, ISO, is in the packet. This lowers Bellefonte Borough from a 4 to a 3 in the insurance rating, which could lower insurance rates. Chief Shreffler will address this report at a future meeting.

WATER AND SANITATION - The February 2015 Daily Water Withdrawal report is in the packets for review.

- The draft Authority Meeting Minutes from March 10, 2015 are in the packet for review.

STREETS - The Lamb Street reconstruction bids were opened. They were as follows:

1) (?) - Section 1 main project - \$488,495.00; Alternate #1 - Spring Street Drainage - \$50,700.00; alternate #2 - Lamb Street overlay - \$32,845.00. Total Lump Sum Bid - \$572,040.00.

2) R. C. Bowman - Section 1 main project - \$288,131.00; Alternate #1 - Spring Street Drainage - \$32,529.10; alternate #2 - Lamb Street overlay - \$17,152.90. Total Lump Sum Bid - \$337,8113.00

3) John Nastase Construction - Section 1 main project - \$333,200.00; Alternate #1 - Spring Street Drainage - \$57,800.00; alternate #2 - Lamb Street overlay - \$30,600.00. Total Lump Sum Bid - \$421,600.00

4) Mid-State Paving - Section 1 main project - \$325,017.05; Alternate #1 - Spring Street Drainage - \$45,975.55; alternate #2 - Lamb Street overlay - \$22,581.00. Total Lump Sum Bid - \$393,573.60.

5) Ameron Construction Company - Section 1 main project - \$253,566.31; Alternate #1 - Spring Street Drainage - \$46,277.68; alternate #2 - Lamb Street overlay - \$26,024.38. Total Lump Sum Bid - \$320,074.42.

6) Glenn O. Hawbaker - Section 1 main project - \$369,650.00; Alternate #1 - Spring Street Drainage - \$52,620.00; alternate #2 - Lamb Street overlay - \$13,830.00. Total Lump Sum Bid - \$436,100.00.

Mrs. Brown made a motion that the bids be turned over to the Streets Committee for review and approval for the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION - No report.

JUNIOR COUNCIL - No report.

OLD BUSINESS

- The Resolution to Revise the 2015 Fee Schedule for Talleyrand Park will be held until after the next work session.

- Mr. DeCusati made a motion to accept Ordinance #03162015-01, the Ordinance of the Borough of Bellefonte amending the Codified Book of Ordinances Chapter 495 Streets and Sidewalks, Article III Snow and Ice Removal and section 495-25 Violations and Penalties. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mrs. Brown made a motion to remove "failure to shovel walks and snow blown, plowed or tossed on the streets" be removed from the amended ordinance that was just passed. Mr. Walker seconded the motion.

- A copy of an email Mr. Stewart sent to the various organizations that will help review the Facade Improvement Grant. Council needs to designate a representative and alternate for this committee. Ms. Harvey will be the designated representative and Mr. Brachbill will be the alternate for the committee. The contract from the state has not yet been received.

- The PSAB Conference is April 26-29 in Lancaster, PA. Room reservations are due by March 31st and the voting delegate form is due April 13th.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Brachbill made a motion to approve Resolution No. 031615-02, a resolution extending sincerest condolences to the bereaved community and family of Janice Livingston, a paramedic from West End Ambulance, Johnstown, PA, who died while assisting at the scene of two accidents in Upper Yoder Township, PA; and Resolution No. 03162015-03, a resolution extending sincerest condolences to the bereaved community and family of Jeffrey Buck, a firefighter from the Lawrence Township Fire Company, who died while battling a fire in Clearfield, PA. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- There is a list of upcoming Boroughs Association Webinars at the table.

- Mr. Holderman reminded the residents that beginning Wednesday, April 1, the Borough will begin picking up grass clippings and brush.

- Mr. DeCusati stated when running a snow blower he tries very hard to keep it off the street. Mr. Stewart stated that ordinance has been on the books for many years. Serious violators will be fined.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council Mr. DeCusati made a motion to adjourn the meeting of March 16, 2015, at 8:32 p.m. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.