

**BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**April 18, 2016**  
**www.bellefonte.net**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order by Council President Gay Dunne 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. Mrs. Dunne announced that an Executive Session was just held regarding personnel and real estate matters.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Beigle, Brachbill, Brown, DeCusati, Dunne, Johnson, Tosti-Vasey

Members Excused:

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

Staff Present: Vana Dainty

Guests: Renee Swancer; Berry Pearce; Emma Gosalvez, Lock Haven Express; John Kostas, Grove Park; Frank Swancer; Dennis McDowell; Brian Book; Warren Miller, SBWJA; Jim Balliet, GD&F; Ben Ried, Rhoads & Sinon; Frank Halderman;

**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 4, 2016 Meeting Minutes
- Communications – Letter Request from Elks Lodge regarding Flag Day
- Communications – Letter Request regarding the Big Spring Festival

- Mayor – Police Report
- Mayor – Police Exonerations
- Finance – March Budget to Actuals
- Finance – March Current and Prior Report
- Finance – March Vouchers \$730,894.23

Ms. Tosti-Vasey requested the minutes be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of the minutes. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. Mrs. Dunne expressed her appreciation to the transcriptionist that they will be working a little bit longer and they are trying to provide a recording method that will give better clarity. Mr. Stewart said the transcriptionist asked if when a motion is made that the people making the motion be named.

On page 10, the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph a name is misspelled. It should be Geoffrey Biringer.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to accept the minutes with that correction. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to accept the minutes as corrected.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **WRITTEN**

- An email from Sheila Stever regarding the North Ward vacancy. The letters will be kept on file and there will be interviews at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting.

- A Thank You letter from the Centre County Library thanking the Borough for its annual contribution.

- Thank You letters to the Police Department in response to some of the programs they participate in.

- A letter from SBWJA in response to Mrs. Dunne's invitation to attend this Council meeting. There are representatives at the meeting.

- A letter from Rhoads & Sinon regarding the financing of the WWTP. Mr. Ried will speak regarding the financing under Oral Comments.

- A request to use the Governors Park Soccer Field by the Bellefonte Youth Football Association on Sundays from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Chief Weaver is involved in that.

Mr. DeCusati made a motion to approve this request, providing the schedule works out. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. Mr. Stewart asked for a Certificate of Insurance, which was provided. A voice vote was unanimous.

## **ORAL**

- Mr. Frank Halderman had not seen the agenda for tonight. He noticed they are looking at dropping the Centre County Cable Consortium. He is still the Chairman representing Bellefonte. He questioned why. Mr. Stewart said the member has to be part of the governing body. The Finance Committee looked at the expenses of the last negotiation session and decided it might be worthwhile trying it without going through the consortium. Mr. Halderman agrees there is a lawyer's expense, but they have a lot of expertise in negotiating contracts with Comcast. He feels it the Borough does it on their own it may cost more than the lawyer's expense. He felt it worked well being part of the consortium. He would like Council to think hard about it.

Mr. Brachbill said Council plans to put a letter out because nothing formal can be done before December.

Mrs. Dunne asked if there are minutes from the previous Consortium meeting. Mr. Stewart has a large file of information.

- Renee Swancer, Benner Township, addressed Council to continue the discussion regarding spreading the Biosolids within Benner Township. They are thankful that the Spicer farm graciously withdrew its application to apply the Biosolids, however, they wonder if Bellefonte Authority had explained the Biosolids program and the risks associated with it thoroughly to the Spicers' or did the cost savings for Bellefonte get in the way of this discussion. Mr. Stewart told them to go home and do their homework. They did. They received the Bellefonte/Milesburg Source Water Protection Plan to understand where the recharge zones are for the Big Spring. For Council members to see better they took the liberty to make a large map. They also provided a smaller version of the map for each Council member. The map depicts Zone 1, which is Bellefonte; Zone 2, which is the lighter green; and Zone 3, which is the dark blue, which is the recharge for the Big Spring. Zone 2 encompasses the valley. Zone 3 is the aquifer recharge zone. Their discussion focuses on Zone 2.

On the map it shows the Spicer farm and the Shaffer property. She called the attention of Council to the joint Source Water Protection Plan for both Bellefonte Borough and Milesburg Borough. A steering committee was formed to help formulate this plan. The committee was made up of members, including Mr. Ralph Stewart; Jay Lynch, from Meiser & Earl, Hydrologists; Matt Genture, Pennsylvania Rural Water Association; Bill MacMath, Spring Township; James Gaza, Coca-Cola; Andrew Shields, Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission; Adam Brumbaugh, College Township Water Authority; Max Gill, State College Borough Water Authority; and Jim Baird, Pennsylvania State University. This report had several hydrologists reviewing the documents. On page 20 of the report "verification of potential sources of contamination inventory was completed by the steering committee to confirm the location of the preliminary point source contaminants and identify other sources that were not included

in the database. The steering committee also determined the potential sources of contamination that were of the greatest priority to the water system". On page 21 of the report "each potential source of contamination is giving a ranking of A to F. From A posing the greatest potential threat and F the least potential threat". Zone 2 is defined as a ten-year time of travel. It is the time water travels to the Big Spring. You will see that the Shaffer Farm, which is permitted to allow Biosolids to be spread and is currently being spread starting last week and into this week is the halfway mark to the Big Spring. From page 21 "within Zone 1 and 2 of the potential source of contamination, particularly those in Zone 1 and Zone 2 in close proximity to the Spring pose the greatest threat to the water supply and in general merit the most attention for preventing a contamination problem." For this reason the committee decided to prioritize potential sources of contamination in Zone 2. That received an A ranking. "Within Zone 1 and in Zone 2 the potential source of contamination with the successability ranking of A included a gas station, an airport, Biosolids application, facilities with hazardous waste on site, quarries, land recycling cleanup locations, brown fields, storage tanks, oil, gases and wells". This language is taken straight from your Source Water Protection Plan.

One begins to question with the Big Spring serving 9,500 customers made up of the Milesburg Water Authority, the Water Bottling Plant in Milesburg, the new Distillery and Bellefonte continues to try to attract new businesses to the Bellefonte area why would Bellefonte even want to continue to spread Biosolids in Zone 2 of the Big Spring Recharge Area. Why even risk the potential of contamination? Am I missing the point here? Bellefonte adopted this plan. Why does Bellefonte Authority appear not to care about Benner Township's water? Is it because they don't care about their own spring? It begs the question if Bellefonte needs to have an oversight committee to protect the valuable water supply of the Big Spring. Can you help me understand your thought process on this matter? I'm sure that all the residents paying and drinking the water from the Big Spring as well as the businesses relying upon the Big Spring would like to know.

It's your own plan. It's your own recharge area to Big Spring and you're spreading Class B Biosolids on the Shaffer Farm, which serves your Big Spring and everyone else.

Mrs. Dunne does not have an answer, but she will take the remarks under consideration. Mrs. Swancer feels it is something that Bellefonte needs to very, very much consider to protect their water supply. They are trying to protect theirs.

- Berry Pearce, 130 North Wilson Street, wanted to comment on the Centre Crest Zoning Map Request. He understands this came up on the agenda last month and he was out of town. He wrote a document for the Borough that he will read. If he could just say no that would be great. His answer would be no, but he understands it does take some dialog. He expressed some concerns that he has. He is aware of the project. He and two adjoining members met with Mr. Jones, an engineer, concerning the project. It was decided that if the project were to proceed the drainage pipe would transfer to the north side of his home. The original plan was to go between two houses. The Borough just spent a tremendous amount of time and money repairing damages from previous flood issues and drainage concerns that there are. It's just ridiculous to think to go to that side. If it could be accomplished without interfering with the property

rights of both homes adjacent to his home, but there are concerns as follows. Would this project de-value the property of all the homes within the block within that Zone? Does the project require a fence around the drain pond? They want to take the field behind Centre Crest and turn it into a big drainage pond so they can make a permanent parking lot there. Would the property owners be covered for any water damage associated with the new drainage project? He has personally spent over \$20,000.00 in flood damages. Under no circumstances would any of those involved approve this project without the complete rebuilding of the current culvert on North Wilson Street adjacent to the back entrance of Centre Crest. He has voiced his concern about this culvert for years. Whose responsibility is it? The Borough or the County? Until that time when those eighteen wheelers fall in it will just be left to ride. The culvert is near collapse as it currently is. Each month he personally shovels as much stone, blocks, cinders, to help insure the 24" pipe is somewhat open. He goes in there almost head first. He can only reach so far into the pipe and assures Council that it is operating at least 55% of capacity. When speaking with other engineers and maintenance men at Centre Crest it is his understanding that regardless of what happens to the nursing home it is the County's intention to have that parking lot and move in other agencies that are previously displaced elsewhere and have a large parking lot where they can turn around and run a shuttle for the employees throughout the various entities there are in Bellefonte be it the Courthouse or the Willowbank Building. There is only one way in and one way out. With the amount of traffic on Wilson Street it would floor you. It is a busy street. If they are even thinking about building a parking lot where there is only one way in and one way out is a real, real safety concern. That is why there hasn't been anything there. When he first lived there the County wasn't parking there. It was a beautiful nice field that everybody played in. It was great. When they did the renovations and enlarged Centre Crest obviously there was no parking for the employees so there was an agreement between the Borough, from his understanding, that everybody could park back in this field. Well the construction has been long gone. It is over. The house has been demolished. They are still parking back there. If that is the worst he has to deal with that is fine and so be it. No harm. Putting a permanent parking lot there with lights and possibly a fence...if there is any way he can say no he says no and he asks that Council recommend no.

Mrs. Dunne said they will make note of his comments.

- Ben Ried, Rhoads & Sinon addressed Council regarding the WWTP Financing. He is a Municipal Plans Attorney. Rhoads & Sinon are the Bond Council. They have been primarily represented by Yens Domgard for many years. He was unable to attend the meeting, but Ben has been behind the scenes working for the Borough for six to seven years. There is a bank commitment before Bellefonte Borough Authority for a \$6.6 million maximum amount loan from Northwest Savings Bank. That commitment requires a guarantee of that debt service by the Borough. A copy of an ordinance was made available to Council members last week. It was Notice of the Intent to enact the ordinance was advertised last week in the paper. By enacting the ordinance tonight Council is authorizing the guarantee of the debt in a not to exceed amount of \$6.6 million. They know that SBWJA will be making a contribution that will lower that. It is a draw down loan with a not to exceed amount. There is a debt service schedule on the

back of the ordinance that shows maximum amounts assuming the loan is drawn in full. The closing is tentatively scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup>. You have to show the maximum debt service to the state to get the debt approved. It's not a realistic picture of what the guarantee obligations will be.

The ordinance authorizes the preparation of the paperwork that will be sent to the state. It authorizes preparation of a self liquidating debt report. It is important to note that the guarantee will not count against the Borough's borrowing capacity. A report will be prepared for the engineer that will be sent with the filings to the state.

Mr. DeCusati asked what the impact would be if Council were to table the ordinance for perhaps six months to consider some things for awhile. The interest rate would probably change. It would delay the start of the project. It would delay the financing being closed by the Authority. Northwest Savings Bank has been good to work with in terms of its ability to hold an interest rate for more than thirty days, even sixty days and he feels they are willing to hold that interest rate for another thirty days. They won't hold it for six months. Right now the rate they are committing to is 2.67% fixed for ten years then it resets based on an index.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey said it looks like there were two ordinances, a version one and a version two. Mr. Stewart said there is a guarantee agreement and an ordinance. The ordinance approves the form of the guarantee agreement that will be entered into a closing with the trustee. Ms. Tosti-Vasey said one said V1 and V2. She wanted to know if Council was choosing between them. Mr. Stewart said they are two separate items. Mr. Ried said at the appropriate time if they choose to act on the ordinance it approves the form of the guarantee. A separate motion wouldn't be needed later to approve the form of the guarantee. As required by the state a draft copy of the guarantee agreement is submitted, which accompanies the ordinance. Only one motion will be needed to approve that.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey said there is one called Guarantee Agreement dated May 19<sup>th</sup> and then it has the whereas and therefores and a bunch of definitions. That one is very clear to her. The other one is called Version 2 and is written as an ordinance number. It has the whereases and goes through different sections without definitions. Mr. Ried said she is looking at Ordinance 04182016-01. Enacting this ordinance approves entering into the guarantee agreement at closing. It approves the form of this, which they are providing for reference. They will be voting on the ordinance. By voting on the ordinance they are approving the form of this agreement, but are not entering into the agreement tonight. That won't happen until closing. If the ordinance is approved it allows it to move forward, but it is the Authority that drives the financing. The Authority will be entering into the other closing documents and the loan agreement. The Borough is a party to the guarantee.

Mr. Stewart said there is a two-year interest only period and you only pay on what is drawn down. There is time before anything will be drawn down. Mr. Ried said it can close as early as mid-May. There isn't a firm closing date yet. Under the Federal Tax Law in order for the loan to be deemed issued for tax purposes you have to have a minimum draw of \$50,001.00. You can put that in an account and not use it or pay for costs to reimburse the Authority. Once you have the minimum draw there is no requirement under the bank's commitment and there won't be any requirements under the loan agreements that they draft for the benefit of the Authority that requires it to be

drawn at a certain rate. In two years that is the period of time you have to draw whatever amount you need to complete the project.

Mr. Halderman spoke as a member of the Authority. He said there were several quotes on the interest rates and how to pay it back and so forth. There is a member on the Authority that is a banker, financial advisor, and he helped choose the best rates and the best possible pay back. Quite a bit of work has been done on this already. They have already been delayed three to six months because a little extra study was done to get where they are right now. He would not like to see this held up for another six months because prices go up.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve Ordinance 04182016-01. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. If this ordinance is passed it says in essence that they are moving forward. Mr. Beigle said the parties are here for is an objection, which is by ACT 257C, which the Authority was told by the DEP that they had to perform. That is a normal thing you have to do. He wanted to reassure Council that those issues will all be addressed. DEP is the one behind that. Mr. DeCusati said they got in trouble the last time when they put the cart before the horse when the issue was passed before hearing from the public.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to table the approval of the Guarantee Ordinance #04182016-01. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Beigle and M. Johnson voting no. Mr. Beigle requested a roll-call vote. Beigle—no; Brachbill—yes; Brown—yes; DeCusati—yes; Dunne—yes; Johnson—no; Tosti-Vasey—yes. The approval of the ordinance is tabled.

- Presentation – WWTP Upgrade/Special Study – Robert Decker, Nittany Engineering, has represented Bellefonte Borough Authority for several years. Chuck Thompson, Project Engineer, was also present. Bob Cook, WWTP Superintendent was also present. The question is why are they doing this? Bellefonte WWTP runs great, makes great effluent, meets limits, but there is some equipment that is over twenty-five years old and is failing. That is the whole reason they began evaluating what could be done to replace it. They're called RBC's Rotating Biological Contactors. They polish the effluent coming out of the main treatment system and nitrify the wastewater. They are doing an ACT537 Special Study because they aren't going to replace the RBC's in-kind with new RBC's or rebuild the RBC's. Those options were costed out and are very expensive options. Over the recent years the organic loading has increased significantly at the plant. They are within their loading criteria and are meeting limits, but it has increased. Since they had to do the ACT537 Special Study, which is part of the process if you want to get increased hydraulic or organic loading you can do it through the planning. Since they had to do it, which they were hoping to get an exemption, but they were forced to do it by DEP they are increasing as part of this the organic loading. The organic loading is what is coming into the plant. It is a function of what the treatment plant can handle. They are getting close with peak loads of what the plant can handle.

They have evaluated things from 2011 to 2015. It's been a long process. They originally started looking at just a direct replacement for the RBC's, which basically does the nitrifying. There is some other technology that would work. They also started

evaluating the solids loading and the bulking in the animated clarifiers and they came up with an option that solves that problem as well. It is the Biomatic system.

Chuck presented this at the Centre County Planning Commission and other planning agencies and they are just now getting responses back from them. The revised study will be advertised this week for public comment. SBWJA and representatives from SBWJA have commented also, which will be addressed in writing to them.

They are trying to go through things quickly because there is a lot to present. One thing that is very important that everybody needs to understand is this plant is owned and operated by Bellefonte Borough Authority. They are also responsible for all regulations, effluent limits and right now this has been delayed for quite a while. The RBC's are falling apart literally. If you let this go and begin having permanent changes there will be fines from DEP. We are responsible to maintain the plant and operate the plant as necessary to maintain compliance.

The current flow of the plant is designed and permitted for 3.2 MGD. High designed flows like 100 year floods can put up to 6 MGD through the plant. The average has been less than 2 MGD's. There is plenty of hydraulic capacity there. The organic loading has been charted in the study. It has increased over the years. It's not a problem yet, but it is creeping up and they are doing due diligence to increase that loading rate.

The other thing to mention is in 2006 to 2008 Bellefonte Borough Authority spent quite a bit of money on upgrades at the plant. That was for the Biological Nutrient Removal Chesapeake Bay requirement that came down federally and states administered it. They had to reduce the limits of nitrogen and phosphorous that can be discharged. That project, the BNR portion of it was about \$4.5 million. The whole project with interceptor and other plant upgrades was about \$9 million. It is one of the cheapest per gallon upgrades for BNR that there is. Most plants are spending \$30 - \$50 million to meet this. It has been very successful. It meets the Chesapeake Bay limits. The that limits are set for this plant. In fact there are extra nitrogen and phosphorous credits that can be sold. They are becoming worth something now. They had tried to sell before but they weren't worth anything. That project was very successful. There is rumors out there that this plant over the last several years is not meeting some effluent limits for the Chesapeake Bay. That is not true. Bob Cook runs the plant top notch and does a fine job. The plant runs good. The RBC's did what they were supposed to do when they were not 25 years old and falling apart.

Treatment capability, we are at 98% BOD removal...that's from incoming to going out to the creek. That is great. Total suspended solids are 96% removal. Ammonia Nitrogen levels are less than .13.

Bellefonte has been land applying Biosolids for over twenty-five years. It saves a significant amount of money versus land filling. It is regulated very, very closely. It is regulated much, much more than farmers spreading manure.

Everything comes into the head works, as shown. There is a head works pump station. It goes through screening and grit removal. All flow coming in goes through that. There's three big EQ tanks in the back. All the wastewater goes in there and sort of equalizes, which is a huge savings in this plant in many ways in the variations in the loading you can get both organically and hydraulically. It's pumped back to the

activated sludge main part of the plant, the main treatment process. From there it goes to the RBC's, which are the three trains. That's polishing the ammonia. From the final clarifier it goes into a filter that was done in 2008. Then it goes through UV and out to the creek.

As far as Biosolids, there are quite a bit of solids that the plant has to handle.

Chuck took over the presentation. He stated they have been looking at options for Bellefonte for three to four years. They have been at the plant looking at some of the solutions and getting an opportunity to do some small piloting work with Bob. It's been very worthwhile having that time to ultimately get to this point to do this study to compare the two best options for dealing with the RBC's that are failing. One of the options was simply to replace them. Essentially they are very expensive and that option was ruled out. The two main alternatives are the Biomax system, which the round tanks, the activated sludge units, left of the RBC units, the Biomax system essentially enhances the biology of those two tanks. It takes the treatment capacity of those two tanks and almost doubles it. It's fortunate that they researched this option and it is available. It is an easy construction project to add that capacity and essentially that Biomax system would replace the RBC units, those three trains. Those would go away and this would update and increase the capacity of the two tanks. The other option is to simply just add another one of those round tanks. That activated sludge is really the core part of where the biology treats the wastewater. It's the key part of the treatment plant. It's really those two options...the Biomax, which is enhancing those tanks and adding that capacity; or adding a third tank, which would also remove the RBC capacity, which ultimately the Biomax was a better cost option when they look at things.

The supplier for this system was in last week to take another look at the units. They have been very effective, but they have some structural issues with them, which is simply why they have failed. They have been in there for twenty-six years. Typically the gentleman said twenty years is a good thing. They don't last forever. Essentially what happens is what these guys do is there is media in there, those black plastic sheets. The growth occurs on these media, biological growth. It does nitrification. It does the key stuff in the treatment process. Essentially what happens is you can see the shafts as shown in the middle picture. The shafts support the media and they simply wear out. A little shift in the media over wear on the shafts ultimately cause the shafts to fail. At that point it is pretty much game over. The picture on the upper left corner shows where you have failure of the shafts and the media essentially broke through the cover. There are two units that have that type of failure. These units are supposed to be running all the time. DEP could come in at any point in time and essentially make you replace just these units and force you to rectify the situation at any point in time. Under permit Bob is required to have the system operational at all times. Chuck reiterated that one entire train is down. It is based on two of the units where it is going to come through the sides and some of the other units where the media is falling out. He said this is a good system, but the technology is not typically being used today because of the price point in the RBC's.

Everybody is wondering why the money is being spent...this is why. These units have essentially failed. There some things that could have been done with the units that might have given them thirty years. They are engineered to last a certain point in time and then they fail.

A slide was shown of the new unit. The manufacturer has gone back and re-engineered the units because they failed. What would be purchased today is a pretty enhanced structural system. They do the same thing, but with a significant additional cost to rectify some of the design issues with the previous unit.

Nothing can be done about the RBC's. They have failed. Something needs to be done. The second issue is the activated sludge system, which is the heart of the aeration and treatment process such as BOD reduction and potentially does nitrification. It reduces that ammonia that is really the last thing you want going out to a trout stream.

Essentially everything has capacity and these things have a very defined capacity with the state as far as what amount of solids can be put through them. What they are finding out is very good. On the right slide it shows bulking. Essentially the flow comes in the outer ring, it's aerated where all the biology is. It does all the work and the treatment biologically. Then the flow goes into the center clarifier. Those intermediate clarifiers on the inside are supposed to be clear water going over that saw tooth gear. It's pretty bad. That does that three to four months out of the year. Bob has to try to keep in permit as far as the TSS and everything else that is coming out of those units. They looked at the state criteria recently while doing this study and what they find out is if you look at the calculations and what they are loading these guys with it is very clear that they are overloaded. They should be bulking. They should not be performing the way they are supposed to be. If you do the math and go out in the field and look at what is happening it is doing exactly what they calculations are showing.

At this point there are two issues...RBC fail and activated sludge overloaded. In all fairness these guys have come along with us when looking at the RBC's back in 2012-2013. The RBC's were the only issue back then. At that time they were only looking at them and not looking at the activated sludge units. They looked at some options in 2012-2013. They found some potential options that might work just for that issue. Over time the load has increased to the AS system, so essentially they are looking at a new solution that solves both the RBC's and the activated sludge units.

Chuck said the nice thing is they aren't building tanks, they're not digging up the site. They are using existing tankage. They are adding a little bit of equipment to add the magnetite into the activated sludge system. There is a recovery process. You get 95% of the magnetite back. There's a 5% estimated loss. This is the schematic of the system that they are recommending. The key part of it is this fine magnetite powder essentially goes in with the biology. You can expand the pond, what bugs are in there essentially. Ultimately when it goes to the center clarifier it is holding on to that magnetite. It's like holding onto a rock. As soon as you don't aerate it the clarifier drops right out. That's why they can increase the capacity. Basically increasing the solids count in the activated sludge is called mixed liquor. They increase that and add the magnetite to make the whole system work and not bulk. At the same time they get the nitrification that they did in RBC's.

Biomatic land development has been around a long time, mostly in industry. In 2002 it was introduced to municipal wastewater. It was proven. There will be one starting up soon in Pennsylvania. They took some Bellefonte Borough Authority members and visited a plant in Upper Glen, PA. They use Biomatic for a little different reason. To stop the bulking or losing solids during high flows. That is not Bellefonte Borough Authority's issue at all. They don't have hydraulic issues because they have

all that EQ. That is another benefit. They have done significant work with the vendor. They did a little pilot study at the plant.

Additional activated sludge tank option, which is building the third tank system, most likely would be a solution. It is more costly. There is a little bit of an issue building it and keeping it active during construction. They aren't even sure if they would be able to meet the nitrification with a third tank all the time. It is a questionable solution.

Essentially they looked at cost. They put together a matrix as far as cost. They looked at capital cost, energy, and total operational cost. All those factors play into an overall present worth. You run out the cost, the purchase and to maintain the system for twenty years and essentially the Biomatic system is coming out with the lowest overall present worth cost. In addition to that it has really good control for that pollution. It provides better ammonia. It's one of those systems they looked at and it was kind of ridiculous how many good things the Biomatic system solved for Bellefonte's plant. If a storm event hits the plant or maybe more of a deicing fluid, something happens where you get a bit more of a slug, you got more biology in those tanks. You have more bugs working for you. You have more bugs in there and if you get hit with something chances are they are going to do better than a fewer population.

The footprint change is kind of seamless. All they are adding is equipment that basically augments what is there. There isn't major construction. There isn't building of tanks. You aren't digging down into the ground water and dewatering for weeks and weeks. You don't have erosion potential that could go into Spring Creek. A lot of those things are pretty well controlled, but when you are doing construction next to Spring Creek and you have flooding if you don't have to do that you don't want to do that. You don't want that risk. There is some flip side to it, there's some additional screening that you want to do with the magnetite system, and of course there's the magnetite addition, which is basically an iron oxide. It's a good thing for soil. A lot of people actually use it for soil amendment. There's no issue with using magnetite. They are looking at using it at this process and even water treatment as far as how effective it is.

The next slide showed cost comparison. Looking at capital cost \$6.4 million is what they looked at with Biomag. There are some other things in that cost also. There are other improvements at the plant beyond that. The other system was that new AS tank. More cost, not as good a treatment. It was fairly clear from them to come with this solution.

What will it do for growth and development? It's pretty nice. We are already up against it. They showed the AS system and there are RBC's that are broken and tanks that are full. It's that simple. There isn't anything that can be done about it. It won't go away. Something needs done. What the system does is provide additional capacity going forward. You end up being able to load and bring additional BOD loads, solids into the facility that essentially provide another twenty years of growth in the region.

Part of the heartburn about the project is the fact that a lot of people say Bellefonte is meeting its limits. What is the issue? Why are you spending this money? What they showed is it's not about the limits right now so much as the fact that you have RBC's that are failed and an AS system that is full and essentially at some point you will not be meeting the limits. They want to be in a position of being proactive.

The other big upgrade is the sludge digester. The water side of the plant was discussed. The water side essentially you are trying to clarify all the solids out and

you're trying to put clean water out to Spring Creek down to Sayers. The solid side is all that stuff you've taken out of the water and where we are with that. The intermediate sludge digester essentially to meet your class B solids for your Biosolids program. It's essentially meeting its capacity. It's right there. It's meeting a capacity that is very clearly defined and engineered by the supplier. Essentially we are there so we are adding additional capacity to that sludge digestion so you can continue to meet class B and do Biosolids.

Mr. DeCusati said they showed data saying the sludge volume has increased substantially over the last few years. He asked where it is coming from since Bellefonte's populations hasn't increased. Bob said there is SBWJA flowing to Bellefonte. Their whole system comes into Bellefonte and with SCI Benner expansion...that was a pretty big expansion. If you look at that – 2,000 inmates, support staff, laundry. Bellefonte has 6,500 and when you look at SCI Benner you have 3,000. That was a big jump. That was about 15% - 20% change in the loading for the facility. That is a game changer. The University Park Airport deicing fluid is also very, very high in BOD. Mr. DeCusati understands equipment breaks down. He works at a plant in Mill Hall and they like to replace things when they wear out, but they try to price their product appropriately so you can do the upgrades when they are needed. When he sees this and they are showing the sludge and demand on the plant has increased substantially in the last few years the logical question he has is are things being priced appropriately so the changes can be implemented and cover those funds. He doesn't want the residents of Bellefonte ending up with the financial burden for something outside the Borough. Bob said there is an agreement with SBWJA and a capital portion and the end portion. That is in play. Mr. Stewart stated there are two ways in the agreement. There is the flow ratio, which is ongoing on a quarterly basis. There is also the ratio based on capital projects. These are the two ways people outside the Borough pay. Mr. Stewart reiterated that age is the main issue, not the increased flow. Mr. DeCusati asked when the upgrade was done in 2006 for the \$9 million if that got shared appropriately, which it did. Bob said they share a capital cost with SBWJA. That helps with keeping the Borough's rates down. SBWJA's flow has gone up significantly. Every year that Operation & Maintenance percentage that they are paying has grown. The net effect of that is it has been good for Bellefonte. Mr. DeCusati said the amount the SBWJA residents are paying is a lot lower than Bellefonte Borough residents. That does not excite him. Ms. Tosti-Vasey said he mentioned the University Park Airport has the deicing issue that puts a greater load on the system. She understands that fracking water is also going into it. It's been three or four years since that was done. That is not part of this issue. The deicing issue is managed. The facility provides a significant service to the area. Mr. Brachbill asked what the cost of the RBC's were. The RBC's are \$150,000.00 a unit to replace but does not include installation. If you replace the RBC's it would cost approximately \$4 million. That would just give you the RBC treatment capacity. It won't fix the activated sludge situation or loading. Essentially what NEA is bringing to the table is they are taking that \$4 million and correcting both situations and providing additional capacity going forward. If you replace the RBC units you aren't necessarily increasing capacity for growth. The Biomatic system is fairly new, but it being used in several locations so it is proven. It is permitted in Pennsylvania. The sludge press is failing at the plant. It only puts out 12% solids. It is

twenty years old. The last major upgrade at the plant was done in 2008. The lines for the RAS piping are literally falling apart. The Biomag system is designed to last twenty years. It is important to realize during that last project it was realized that the RBC's and the activated sludge system would need replaced. Mr. Stewart said the BNR project was mandated. It wasn't about age. There were discharge limits that had to be met by a certain date. The project was done because there would have been consequences if there wasn't.

Mrs. Dunne asked if they are receiving positive comments from DEP on this approach. NEA has communicated with DEP, but they won't back anything. They won't tell you what to do. The engineer for the Borough Authority has to guarantee the operation. They are putting permits together. DEP will get the special study and they will act on it. They will either approve or disapprove it, but they won't dictate which process to use. DEP approves the scope of the study.

Mr. Stewart asked if they would recap the process is for going forward. Right now they went through planning agencies to get feedback. After that they will advertise the revised study with some updates to it. The study will be at the Borough office and anybody can come in during that thirty-days, review the study and provide written comments. They will respond to those comments and take that updated report and send it to the state. The state does their review and if they are satisfied that everything is there they will approve the process. There is a defined process to get through. That is the ACT537 Special Study. Mrs. Dunne asked if that was contingent on whether or not they have an action regarding the agreement and ordinance. If DEP approves the special study the Borough will be required to follow through within recommendations. At some point funding has to come along. Ms. Tosti-Vasey asked with the two-year interest only and the clock starts ticking how long does the 537 fit into this whole package of financing? Bob said they would hope over the next two to three months approval would be received from the state. Currently the financing window to construct and spend the money lasts for two years. Bidding would take a few months to bid the project and there is enough time, but that two years is pretty well consumed between finalizing the design drawings. The study is just the general concept. You have to get the permit for the design drawings and then bid the project and construct it. Ms. Tosti-Vasey asked how passing the ordinance affects what they need to do. Bob said as they see it the RBC systems are failed. They went to the state and got a scope approved through them. If this is tabled for thirty days it's not a big deal, but if it's tabled for sixty days it will begin to affect things. DEP has up to 180 days to review the special study. They know the condition of the RBC's. They can proceed with their work to some degree. They have been exploring this for three to four years and are comfortable with the decisions.

Mrs. Dunne appreciates the presentation and how they were led through the process with this presentation.

- Warren Miller, Executive Director SBWJA for seventeen years addressed Council. On behalf of their Authority board and the customers he expressed thanks for the opportunity to appear before the Council regarding this important decision. They provided comments regarding this project during the public comment period from the planning commission and have not yet heard a response. SBWJA is under a contract to

participate in the projects regardless of the type of scoping. Their financial obligation to each project is set by the 1976 agreement, which states and establishes that their Authority pays 42% of these capital costs and upgrade projects. They pay a flow portioned share of the O&M maintenance costs for the plant and currently are at approximately 70% and that varies depending on the quarter. Regardless of the decision of Council for this project the successes and failures are theirs to share. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection does not require in your Authority or the SBWJA to expand the wastewater treatment plant. It clearly illustrates by the Chapter 94 report letter that was just dated March 30, 2016, which states there is currently no hydraulic or organic overloading at the treatment plant. The Bellefonte Borough Authority and the engineers did not project that in the next five years there would be any hydraulic or organic overload. He presented a page taken from the Chapter 94 report which indicates the capacity levels set by DEP and the last 17 years of organic loading in the treatment plant. He stated they are less than half the capacity allotted by the department for the treatment plant. There is also a letter in response to the Chapter 94 report that was recently submitted by the Borough Authority. The letter by Rob Effort states your sewage facility shows neither an existing organic or hydraulic overload, nor are they projected to be overloaded in the near future. The discharge monitoring reports show an increase in sewage flows during and after significant precipitation events, which is indicative of inflow and infiltration issues with the system. The department strongly encourages them to continue evaluating their facility for inflow and infiltration issues and to correct any issues that are found. While their percentage of this project will go up if they decide to do the RBC's because the O&M costs they would share a larger portion, they can see that some or all of the rotating RBC's are old and in need of repair and replacement, which according to the Bellefonte Borough Authority minutes have operated efficiently and effectively for many, many years with very little maintenance. Of the options that were studied in the ACT 537 Plan, two options, the replacement of these RBC's in-kind or the issue of the integrated fixed film activated sludge he would replace the nitrification treatment performed by the RBC's. Either alternative will do so at a far less cost to your customers and ours than the recommended alternative for Biomag. In conclusion the recommended upgrades and expansion of the Bellefonte Borough Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant with Biomag comes with a very high price tag and also an ultimate rate increase for all our customers. It is clear to see that this project is unnecessary by the report and should be abandoned for the repair or replacement of the RBC units or the conversion to another biological process such as the IFAST, which will perform the nitrification needed, which Biomags has not really yet been proven that it can accomplish. The Bellefonte Borough Authority's study states the timing in this project is critical due to the failing RAS piping, which has now been replaced. It hastily recommends spending \$6.5 million on this process that although your engineer feels it has been proven is very new to the industry. As confirmed by DEP the current load at your treatment plant is not at a critical point and we would ask that the Bellefonte Borough Authority has ample time to sit back and fully evaluate other less expensive alternatives for your treatment plant.

Mr. DeCusati asked if Warren understands when equipment is at the end of its life span it is not unusual to request replacement. Mr. DeCusati also noticed that this program has generated a trend line and there has been a substantial increase, an

increase of 50%, based on the data that is showing. You ask what changed substantially and increased our flow. One thing he knows changed substantially is the new prison. They doubled the capacity of people and all those people generate water that needs to be treated. What changed substantially that increased our load? The new prison increased the load. They generate water that needs to be treated.

Brian Book, Engineer for SBWJA. He doesn't mean to be obtuse with this, but it went from 4,000 to 6,000. The paper did that trend line in 20 seconds. What is the current permitted value? He feels the permitted value is 12,000. There is a 3.2 average daily capacity. There is also a 6.0 peak day. That is hydraulic, not organic treatment. That 11,000 number came from 2009. What the plant was experiencing was peak spikes from the airport deicing flow. What happened was the treatment plant was re-permitted and that value correlates to a peak day value for treatment. Mr. DeCusati said the increased flows come more from areas outside Bellefonte Borough than inside the Borough. He is not saying there isn't an infiltration issue in the system but for a 50% increase you have to look at the two areas that have grown the most. The organic flow to this plant was permitted for 3,900 pounds back in 1990. It was re-permitted to 5,600 pounds designed for a max month. The number that is going to be clarified is the max month pounds this can handle day in and day out is closer to that 6,000 number. What has been confusing is there is a peak day value. What that means is we can't have the organic load on a statistical basis go over that. That is the ceiling. There's another number, essentially a max month that is much lower than that, about 6,000 pounds, which essentially says we can take that load day in and day out. It will process that. The reason there is peak day is because there are equalization tanks at the plant. There is some picking data and some misinformation that everybody needs to be on board with. The permit states 5,640 is the actual max month. The Chapter 94 is one value for the facility. There are a couple of values. He feels what they are going to do as part of the study is look at where the system is right now and look at the capacity in a max month and a peak day. Is that being misinterpreted as far as the Chapter 94? Chuck feels it needs clarified. He feels that the peak day and max month needs clarified, which is what the study will do.

- Mr. Halderman is here as a member of the Authority but is not speaking for the Authority. To him engineers are like statisticians or actuators because you can get two people in the same room, you got wastewater coming in and clean water coming out and everybody has a different opinion. The Bellefonte Borough Authority members have done their due diligence of making decisions and doing what is best for the Borough and what is best for their customers. The rates have gone up a little bit because they have to. Their rates are lower because they have a lot more people. That's why their rates are lower than the Borough's.

- Renee Swancer, Benner Township, has one question as she understands doing the Biosolids research is that Bellefonte Borough is receiving a lot of treatment material from other facilities. She doesn't know what that load is or how much material is coming in from other treatment plants that do not have the ability to treat. Mr. DeCusati doesn't know that it is coming from other treatment plants. He is hearing it is coming from the airport, the two prisons and the jail. They also truck in Biosolids. Other

facilities don't have the means to process their sludge so they bring it to Bellefonte and Bellefonte provides that service. They are compensated for taking sludge from some of these other facilities. The question Renee has for Bellefonte is how much of this is providing for the expansion to include the treatment of other facilities that come in to Bellefonte to generate a revenue source and it's not really a need. How much of this is over and beyond what is actually necessary for the area?

- Jim Ballict, GD&F Engineers, representing SBWJA. He specializes in wastewater treatment process design and has done it for 26 years. They don't enjoy criticizing other engineering studies but they represent the Authority that is on the hook for 42% of the capital costs and more than 70% of the O&M costs. He feels they deserve more involvement in the process. Chuck said that it's clear to them that Biomag is a clear option. He doesn't feel that way for various reasons. They have concerns about the ability of that process to replace the RBC's and achieve what they want to achieve. There are other process options that could be considered. They looked at two options, the Biomag process and the third activated sludge tank. He feels there are other ways to provide additional sludge volume on that site. He agrees with the engineer's recommendation that you should be proactive, but the current condition of the plant is not such that you need to be hasty. He feels there is ample time to evaluate all the options. He would like the opportunity to sit down with the Authority's engineer and get his questions answered and give his suggestions. He feels there is a significant risk associated with the Biomag process. He feels the SBWJA, because they are on the hook for a large portion of the capital costs and a greater portion of the O&M costs he feels they deserve to be more involved in the process.

Mr. DeCusati appreciates that. He said they all are on the hook for the capital costs, not just SBWJA. He understands that seven of the RBC's are down at the town. He said there is a permit to maintain and he asked if that is not a critical need to get this dealt with right away, because he thinks it is. He works for a chemical plant and he knows if you are in violation it's not good. You will get fined. He feels it is an immediate issue that needs fixed right now. He would like to see all the municipalities cooperate more together rather than getting in a spat every time there needs to be an upgrade.

- Mr. Beigle said the Borough has been accused and a lot of information has been provided to the SBWJA. He talked to Tim Miller a few months ago and approached him about increasing the capital cost, which he seemed interested in that approach. The agreement calls for the ability to open it up every two years. Recently he informed Mr. Beigle that they reneged on that offer. He will approach the Solicitor and ask for an agreement to open this back up so they can share more cost. Mr. Beigle said the plant is always open. Bob has offered to anybody on the SBWJA to stop in there anytime, look at the records, go over everything and see the operation. Mr. Beigle said the biggest concern is if something happened down there the Authority would be in trouble and get fined and nobody wants to pay that fine.

Mr. Halderman reminded everyone that the people on the Authority are volunteers and they have done their due diligence on this. The bottom line is Bellefonte Borough Authority is responsible for that plant, not SBWJA. The Borough tries to keep the rates low for the Borough residents. Mr. Halderman feels sorry for Mr. Spicer

because he was trying to help out the Authority to spread that sludge. He was threatened with a lawsuit or blackmail, whatever you want to call it, and withdrew because of the opposition. He is sorry to see that happen. He said if they are really concerned about the potential contamination of the Big Spring they will have to shut down the airport because that is the biggest potential.

- Mr. Brachbill made a motion to remove Ordinance 04182016-01 from the table. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Beigle-yes; Brachbill-yes; Brown-yes; DeCusati-yes; Dunne-yes; Johnson-yes; Tosti-Vasey-no. The motion passed to remove Ordinance 04182016-1 from the table.

- Council is now voting on approval of the Guarantee Ordinance 04182016-01, which approves the form of the Guarantee Agreement. Mr. DeCusati said his vote will more be a reflection of the fact that he would see a larger solution, long-term in the way the wastewater issues are handled in our community. There seems to be significant influence outside Bellefonte Borough and maybe it's time to not just handle everything within the Borough and come up with a better arrangement of how things are going to be handled. Mrs. Dunne said one thing that could be done with that is have a separate motion. Ms. Tosti-Vasey said she thinks what was seen this evening was a concern from both people in Bellefonte from the Water Authority, from the SBWJA, and individuals and there is a problem that they are going through and have issues they can't deal with in an amicable way with good communication. Her vote will reflect that. Mr. Brachbill disagrees that approving this will be detrimental to talking to one another and working things out.

A roll call vote was taken: Beigle-yes; Brachbill-yes; Brown-yes; DeCusati-no; Dunne-yes; Johnson-yes; Tosti-Vasey-no. The motion passed 5-2.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- The draft Fire Department Executive Committee meeting minutes from March 24, 2016 are in the packet for review.

- The IDA took action at their meeting on April 13, 2016 and approved a change order. A cost estimate was received for the change in the amount of \$71,000.00, which will include a 5' brick pathway from High Street to Lamb Street. There will be asphalt pavement in as far as the Rich Fornicola building. It will be graded over and seeded down to approximately the Gamble Mill. At some point Council will need to eliminate Dunlop Street as a street in the Borough.

- Ad Hoc Committee/PennDOT Meeting Update – North Thomas and Railroad Street Intersection – There was a meeting of the various state and local entities conducting activities in and around that intersection on April 7<sup>th</sup>. During that meeting they were able to discuss measures to improve safety for pedestrians, bicycle traffic and vehicular traffic both short and long-term. Mrs. Dunne felt it was a reasonably good meeting. There is a little urgency to this because Columbia Gas wants to replace their

gas line going through that intersection. It may be possible for them to delay that work since it is not urgent. There will be another meeting. They are going to work with PennDOT on improving cautionary signage around that intersection and doing a traffic study to see if the speed limit can be furthered lowered. Those are short-term measures. Represented at the meeting was Columbia Gas, Graymont, PennDOT, Neighborhood Residents, Ralph Stewart, Doug Johnson, Gay Dunne and Randy Brachbill. PennTerra Engineering was also present as well as Joanne Tosti-Vasey.

Mr. Stewart reiterated that PennDOT is looking at some short-term solutions and at some point there will be another meeting.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey ran in to Ted Conklin and her personal perspective is they had a very good meeting. It is a good start. It was a long time coming. She is looking forward to continuing conversation so the problem could be resolved.

Mr. Holderman said any real changes need to go through the Graymont property and they didn't know what ramifications would impact the Mine Safety Act of vehicles going through their property.

- Mr. DeCusati inquired of PennDOT through the CCMPO and they are going to finish the paving of Allegheny Street.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Wilson pointed out that the Police Chief is at the meeting to answer any questions on the Police Report that was submitted or any exonerations.

Mr. DeCusati made a motion to follow the recommendation of the Police Chief to have ten full-time officers. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

## **OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

### **ZONING/PLANNING**

- None.

## **HARB**

### **CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS**

- 1) 216 West High Street - Signage
- 2) 140 West High Street – Repainting

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve both Certificates of Appropriateness. Ms. Tosti-Vasey seconded the motion. The colors on the donut sign are appropriate. The sign will be in her window. A voice vote was unanimous.

- The draft HARB meeting minutes from April 12, 2016 are in the packet for review.

**BUILDING AND PROPERTY** – Mr. DeCusati reported the Committee met and asked the engineer to explore some options for a small sink hole by the parking lot on West Howard Street.

Mr. DeCusati made a motion to install the drainage improvements that are recommended in the packet flowing from Allegheny Street to First National Bank. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. The bank will be invited to share in the cost.

Mr. DeCusati made an amendment to the motion that the sewer drainage improvements be made along the bank from Allegheny Street as proposed and Mr. Stewart can make any changes necessary. Mr. Beigle seconded the amendment. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the amendment.

A voice vote was unanimous to approve the motion as amended.

**FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE** – Mrs. Brown made a motion to table the Centre Area Cable Consortium until further information is available. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. Ms. Tosti-Vasey asked how breaking this relationship would affect the relationship with C-NET, which it will not affect. The agreement is not up for three years, but negotiation begins soon for the next agreement.

Mr. Beigle will consider being the Borough representative on the Centre Able Cable Consortium.

- Mr. Stewart stated at this time of year Council considers putting out an RFP for Insurance Coverage. It is done every three years. The insurance package renews August 1<sup>st</sup> so this would be the time to start the process. This is liability coverage, worker's comp coverage, auto coverage.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to put out an RFP for Insurance Coverage. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

**PARK AND RECREATION** – Ms. Tosti-Vasey reported the Watermarke Church requested the use of the Gazebo side of the park for September 18, 2016. They also requested permission to attach two banners on the bridge across Spring Creek the week before that and taking them down the evening of their event. Their event will be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to approve the event as requested. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- The new fountain has been installed in Talleyrand Park and the dedication for the fountain in honor of Gino Fornicola will be held Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 1:00 p.m.

- The playground construction at Governor's Park is complete and looks good. It is open to the public.

- The Talleyrand Park Committee will meet Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. The Committee consists of the Park & Recreation Committee and members of the Community who work at Talleyrand Park.

- The Freight House was moved today. It went relatively smoothly except for one glitch at the end. The rails at the bottom got stuck when the truck went down into the area. It took an hour rather than 15 minutes. There were lots of people there. There will be articles in the CDT and the Lock Haven Express. The foundation will be started the beginning of next week. When the foundation is completed the playground will be reopened. Mrs. Brown said someone may need to put the fence back up because it looks like the fence is falling in the playground area.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey said the sliding board at the playground is pointed directly at the Freight Building and may need to be moved to another direction in the future.

**HUMAN RESOURCES** – A part-time receptionist is now working in the office.

- Seasonal help hiring is progressing.

**SAFETY** – Mr. Brachbill reported the Bellefonte Workplace Safety Committee meeting minutes from the Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, are in the packet for review.

- Mr. Brachbill attended the COG Public Safety Meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup>. There were two recommendations for appointments for two additional fire marshals. One is Sergeant Timothy Townsend with the Penn State Police Department. The other one is Tim Knisely of Centre Region Code Agency. Their names are being put forward to the main body for approval.

An Annual Report was received from the Emergency Medical Services.

**WATER/SANITATION** – Mr. Beigle reported there was a meeting a few weeks ago in regard to the Children's Dental Health Task Force. Mr. Stewart reported since that meeting, which was to get details worked out, it was decided at that point in time to contact a facilitator to help with the process. They went through Penn State Cooperative Extension to do that. Last week they received information from the interested facilitator. Mr. Stewart will forward that to the Authority to review at their next meeting. They are considering a small task force to work with. He feels it has been successful to get people to work on the task force.

Mrs. Dunne said her alternate on the task force has resigned and she would like a replacement.

- Mr. Beigle asked residents to only take brush and grass to the landfill. They are not supposed to be taking railroad ties down there. The landfill is open on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. During the week there are people dumping old railroad ties and the landfill is not permitted for that. If you have ties or construction material, take it to the transfer station.

**STREETS** – Mr. Johnson reported the Hawbaker Company will begin milling on Allegheny Street later this week.

- West Penn will be contacted regarding adding a street light at the corner of Potter Street and Railroad Street and High Street. There is concern during events that the crosswalk there is dark.

- Photographs will be taken of the ornamental street lights downtown because Council needs to pick a design for the poles that will support the new street lights at Water/High; Spring/High; and Lamb/Water.

- The Borough paving schedule was examined. There will be some paving, but the bigger project will be the storm drain system along School Street. The storm piping underneath the sidewalk needs replaced. Hopefully the project will be completed during the summer while school is off. Any curb that faces a local street is the Borough's responsibility with the PennDOT project. The estimated cost for this is \$150,000.00.

- The County is going to take care of an ADA ramp in front of the Temple Court Building as part of the PennDOT project. There was some street damage to Cherry Lane. Mr. Stewart and Mr. Holderman met with the contractors and representatives from Bellefonte Mews and came to a cost sharing arrangement where Bellefonte Muse will take it from the edge of their property east towards Jim's restaurant almost to the intersection. There is a little bit the Borough should do. The County and their contractor will pay the portion towards the edge of the Bellefonte Muse property down Allegheny Street. Someone will do the work and then everybody will pay their share of the project.

**ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION** – Mr. Holderman said before Ms. Harvey resigned they were working on the Solar Panel Ordinance. That has been sent out to the committee to review and make comments.

- Mr. Stewart will be talking with vendors regarding the buying and selling of electricity and the natural gas usage.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Centre Crest Zoning Map Change Request – Mr. Beigle is not for change. He feels there are a lot of questions about what they are planning to do. Ms. Dainty said that Berry said some things tonight that she has heard for the first time. Ms. Dainty would like Berry Pearce to talk to the Planning Commission about issues they are not aware of regarding the Centre Crest situation. If there is a map change a public hearing is required. If there is a variance it goes to the Hearing Board. She said you can also choose not to do anything. Mr. Brachbill suggested having a joint meeting with the Planning Commission and inviting the residents in also. Mrs. Brown suggested Council members that would like to hear the residents should attend the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is an advertised meeting. Ms. Dainty suggested changing the time from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

- Ms. Tosti-Vasey announced there will be a joint Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at the Courthouse Annex with the County Commissioners, Borough Council and the public.

Several meetings ago Ms. Tosti-Vasey requested the businesses be given flyers announcing the Town Hall Meeting. She suggested something could be put on the bulletin board at the Post Office.

- The Old House Fair is April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in registering for it go to [www.centrehistory.org/ohf](http://www.centrehistory.org/ohf). Saturday's event is \$10.00 for all the workshops. The events for Friday are between \$20-\$50 depending on what you want to come and hear. The workshops are very useful. There was publicity for that in Sunday's CDT.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Mr. Beigle made a motion to accept the resignations of Barry Spicer and Karen Harvey. Ms. Tosti-Vasey seconded the motion with regret. Mr. Brachbill expressed thanks to them for their time and service. Mayor Wilson sent correspondence with that same message. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mr. Brachbill asked when the seats will be filled. Mr. Stewart stated the deadline has been set for April 27<sup>th</sup> to receive applications or letters of interest. Interviews will be done at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting.

- Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to move the June 6<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting to June 9<sup>th</sup> for practical reasons. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Mayor Wilson said there is a new business coming into town called Courthouse Crepes. It will be run by Gary Miller and Justin Milanson. It will be opened at the old Dairy Queen location. Mr. Milanson is an artist/architect/builder. They will open the end of May. They will be doing crepes, coffee, plain grilled burgers and Meyer's Dairy ice cream.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

- With no other business to come before Council Mr. Brachbill made a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting of April 18, 2016 at 10:20 p.m. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.