

**COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 2013**  
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**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President Frank Halderman in the Bellefonte Borough Municipal Building.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council remained standing for a moment of silence. It was requested that cell phones either be placed on vibrate or turned off.

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Dainty, Brown, Provan, DeCusati, Dunne, Halderman, McCullough, Confer

Members Excused: Wilson, Schneider, Beigle

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

Staff Present:

Guests:

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the minutes of the Bellefonte Borough Council meeting of January 7, 2013. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as presented.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**WRITTEN**

- An invitation from Bellefonte Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to their annual banquet, which will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2013, at the Bellefonte Moose. The social hour begins at 5:00 p.m. followed at 6:00 p.m. by the dinner. After the dinner there will be an awards ceremony. Please RSVP by Friday, February 1, 2013.

- A letter from Dan Durachko, President and Andrew Richards, Treasurer of the Bellefonte Historical Railroad Society expressing their thanks for the help received for

the Santa Express Train Rides on December 15 and 16, 2012 from the Bellefonte Fire Police. As a token of their appreciation for their efforts, the BHRS made a donation of \$250.00 to the Bellefonte Fire Police through the Borough.

- A letter from Howard W. Long, III, President/CEO, YMCA of Centre County, requesting the addition of a handicap parking space on West High Street right next to the current handicap parking spot.

The request was turned over to the Streets Committee for review and recommendation.

- A letter from Judge Thomas King Kistler to the Bellefonte Borough Council in regard to the Police Department's assistance during the recent Sandusky hearing.

- A letter from Sarah J. Wetzel, President, Bellefonte American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, requesting the use of the entire area of Talleyrand Park, including the Match Factory area, on Sunday, March 24, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for their 7th Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A certificate from the United States Marine Corps Reserve giving Bellefonte Borough the Commander's Award for outstanding support of the 2012 Marine Toys for Tots Program.

- C-NET Online Programming Report for the 4th Quarter 2012. The report shows how many times the videos were viewed online as well as the average time spent viewing the video.

- Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission minutes from their meeting of Thursday, January 17, 2013.

## **ORAL**

- Mrs. Dunne would like Council and the Community to be aware of the Community Health Needs Survey that is on the Borough website. The survey was created by Mount Nittany Medical Center to identify deficiencies and gaps in health services in the County. This information will be gathered and combined with interviews from Health Care Providers and used for topics of discussion at the Health Care Summit to be held at the end of February. It is requested that there be as much public participation as possible in completing the survey.

Mrs. Brown reported that the Chamber put that in their weekly email to all the members of the Chamber to provide more exposure.

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- None.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Addis was made aware of two dog attacks in the Borough against other dogs. One ended with the death of the dog. Mayor Addis reminded the public that the Borough of Bellefonte requires all dogs be kept under immediate control of the owner, custodian or keeper. Under immediate control means that dogs shall be kept on leash. He requested the community keep their dogs on a leash.

Mr. DeCusati reported several owners have electronic fences and he questioned whether that would be considered being under control. When on their property, that is considered being under control but when the dog is not on its own property, it must be on a leash.

Mayor Addis feels there needs to be an interpretation of the wording "under immediate control" in the ordinance.

Mr. Provan stated allowing a dog outside on your property is not immediate control.

## **OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

### **ZONING/PLANNING**

#### **CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS**

1) 121 West Bishop Street/Add exterior stair at west elevation to serve as emergency egress for third floor apartment.

There was no action requested.

### **COMMITTEES**

Building & Property – There was no report.

Finance and Government Performance – Ms. Dainty made a motion to file for audit the December 2012 Vouchers in the amount of \$1,113,060.75. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the vouchers as submitted.

#### **December 2012 Vouchers**

General	20432 – 20583	\$ 282,677.56
Streetlighting	861 – 869	\$ 10,175.41
Bellefonte Fire Dept.	1436 – 1461	\$ 13,732.67
Fire Equipment	195 – 197	\$ 4,052.37
Parks & Recreation	1756 – 1766	\$ 3,493.98
Water	8930 – 9000	\$ 214,465.78
Sanitation	10083 – 10219, 115	\$ 428,567.76
Refuse	2724 – 2762	\$ 145,991.73

Swimming Pool	536 – 537	\$	256.02
CDBG	–	\$	0.00
Special Projects	208	\$	169.16
Highway Aid	203	\$	1,220.72
Capital Projects	–	\$	0.00
Bulk Water Sales	214 – 22	\$	<u>8,257.60</u>
Total:			<u>\$ 1,113,060.76</u>

Park & Recreation – Mr. Holderman made Council aware that Centre County Conservation approved the permit for the addition of the stone wall on the other side of the suspension bridge. Borough staff will pour the footer and do some work in February and then, with the grant the Talleyrand Park Committee received, the extension project on the other side of the suspension bridge should be completed by the end of March.

Human Resources – Mr. Provan reported the Borough negotiations team has reached a tentative contract agreement with both the Public Works Union and the Police Union bargaining teams. Details of the agreements will not be available publicly until both unions have voted to ratify the contract.

Ms. Dainty made a motion to ratify the tentative contract with the Public Works Union and the tentative contract with the Police Union. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mr. Provan thanked the Public Works Union and the Police Union for all their time and effort and cooperation in working toward a mutually acceptable agreement that will really benefit all parties involved and also the Borough of Bellefonte.

Safety – There was no report.

Water/Sanitation – There was no report.

Streets – Mr. DeCusati reported the Streets Committee met this evening and have provided the following recommendations:

Mr. DeCusati made a motion to approve the request of the Bellefonte School District for three parking spaces along Linn Street. Ms. Dainty seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mr. DeCusati would like to survey residents and inform them that there is a recommendation that Pike Street to Penn Street be made one-way going east from Pike to Penn.

Mr. DeCusati would like to survey the residents on Center Street informing them the plan is to make Center Street one-way to Maple Street, but the direction of the one-way is unknown. The signs will be changed to the proper spelling of Center.

The Parking Meter Enforcement Officer will be asked to talk to the businesses in the downtown regarding the snow that builds up between the street and parking meters. They will be requested to shovel an 18" - 24" walkway through the snow so those parking downtown will be able to get onto the sidewalk.

The Committee recommends requesting more information from the YMCA regarding their request for an additional handicap parking spot. They will be asked to consider making one of the parking spaces on their property handicap.

The Code Enforcement Officer will be requested to review the dumpsters on Bishop Street and enforce the 30-day notice. At a future work session Council will discuss an ordinance to cover the cost of the dumpsters and how long they are permitted to stay on the street.

- Mr. Holderman informed Council that notification was received from DCED that the modification for CDBG Funding for 2010 and 2011 has been approved for the Streetscape Project on Bishop and Allegheny Street. The actual work will begin in Spring of 2014.

Energy & Environmental Conservation – There was no report.

Junior Council Report – There was no report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Ms. Dainty made a motion to reappoint James Baldwin to the Housing Board of Appeals with a term to expire December 31, 2017. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the dates of May 17 and 18 for the community-wide yard sale and May 20 through May 24 for Riff Raff collection. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

### **POLICE EXONERATIONS**

- Ms. Dainty made a motion to approve the Police Exonerations as submitted to Ralph Stewart. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

- With no other business to come before Council, Ms. Dainty made a motion to adjourn the meeting of January 21, 2013 at 8:05 p.m. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.