

COUNCIL MEETING OF MARCH 4, 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 Vice President Vana Dainty in the Bellefonte Borough Municipal Building.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council remained standing for a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Wilson, Dainty, Schneider, Provan, Beigle, DeCusati, Dunne,

Members Excused: Brown, Halderman, McCullough, Confer

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

Staff Present: Chief Weaver;

Guests: Matthew Hill; Tim Schreffler; Eric Grider; Elaine Cutler

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the minutes of the Bellefonte Borough Council meeting of February 18, 2013. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- A letter from Nick Schipanski, Water Resources Coordinator, ClearWater Conservancy, in regard to the Watershed Cleanup Day, which will be on Saturday, April 20, 2013, from 8:00 a.m. - Noon with a picnic to follow at Spring Creek Park.

They are seeking teams of volunteers to help clean up the watershed. They also request that someone be designated as the Borough site coordinator. (In previous years Rodney Mitchell from the Park Department picked up the trash that was picked up.) They would like the Borough to publicize the event by placing Watershed Cleanup Day fliers in the municipal building or other community gathering places and also

request the Borough to identify any sites in the municipality that would benefit from a volunteer group working to clean them up on Watershed Cleanup Day.

Mr. DeCusati made a motion to declare April 20, 2013 as Watershed Clean Up Day. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Joshua Cone, Assistant Sports & Wellness Director, YMCA of Centre County, requesting approval for the 3rd Annual Sprint Triathlon at Governors Park on Saturday, June 8, beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Provan made a motion to approve the request for the YMCA Sprint Triathlon. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. Mr. Schneider requested the Department Chief be notified of this activity in the event that the Fire Police would be requested at a later date. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Robert S. Decker, PE, President, Nittany Engineering & Associates, LLC, along with information regarding a Street, Water, Sewer Master Plan for the downtown area provided upon the request of Bellefonte Borough for Council's review. It will also be provided to the Borough Authority and the Fire Prevention Task Force Committee for their review.

- A letter from William T. Ford, 503 East Bishop Street, requesting permission to place two bluebird nest boxes in Talleyrand Park at no cost to the Borough. They would be placed in the shrubbery area near the perimeter of the extended area of Talleyrand Park.

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

-The League of Women Voters of Centre County will be hosting a free public forum entitled *Earth's Climate is Changing*. The forum will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2013 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in the Patton Township meeting room at 100 Patton Plaza, State College, PA.

ORAL

- Major Eric Grider, 236 West Linn Street, thanked the Borough for complying with the last couple of things he has requested. He asked the Borough to request STOP signs be added to a section he has shown on paper on Linn and Spring Street. He stated this is directly behind the school and where school busses unload in the morning between 7:50 a.m. and 8:10 a.m. He stated the traffic can get very frightening at times. He already requested PennDOT to do a study because it is a state road but they stated the municipality must request the study. His map also included green dots that signify the school zone signs. Four of those are blinking lights and there is another on Allegheny that is not a blinking light. His concern is that on Spring and Lamb Street there are no school zone signs that have an avenue approach to the school.

On February 19 he was walking his sons to school and when they were crossing the street at Spring and Linn Street with a crossing guard they were almost hit by a lady speeding. He has been counting cars and visually checking the 15 mph and he

estimates that eight to nine of ten vehicles are violating speed in the school zone. About three of the ten are double the speed. He questioned where the police officers are during that time because they are not being seen and if they are somewhere, is where they are more important than the schools?

He included pages that show the avenues where in the morning and afternoon it is extremely crowded.

Ms. Cutler stated she sees an officer passing through in the morning, but they do not stop. Mr. Grider has called a police officer and talked to him.

Chief Weaver stated it is impossible and improbable to say there would be an officer at the school zone every day between 7:30 a.m. and 8:10 a.m. For him to set a speed trap stating too fast for conditions he is not able to look at a vehicle and say the speed the vehicle is going. That would not hold up in court. They would need to set somewhere and use a speed measured place. If Mr. Grider can show him a place where he can sit with good visibility, put two lines there and he will send an officer there. He stated it is not as easy as everyone thinks. In Pennsylvania the Police are very limited. If he had a radar gun, he could sit anywhere in a school zone. Chief Weaver will explore it and try to find a solution.

Ms. Cutler stated when Officer Brower parks where the loading and unloading is done, everyone is very well behaved.

The Borough will request a study for the STOP signs. Chief Weaver suggested requesting a speed study. In the meantime he will put someone out with an AccuTrack to see what the speeds are. Speed zone signs will be obtained for the areas that need them. It was suggested borrowing the mobile speed sign from Spring Township. School bus drivers, Centre County Recycle trucks, and the Bellefonte Borough maintenance trucks are all extremely fast in the school zones.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Fire Protection Task Force Draft meeting minutes from February 7, 2013, are in the packet for review.

- Mr. Beigle reported the airport is doing fine. He also reported the Airport Authority gave Penn State University \$326,000.00 to balance out their budget.

- Mrs. Dunne attended the Centre Region Partners for Health Summit representing Bellefonte on Monday, February 25. There were other municipalities represented as well. There was a broad discussion and a number of points were made. The discussions will be issued in a compiled form soon and the same group will meet again in six months. They are searching for specific health care needs in certain problem areas. Their goal is to meet some of those needs through the work of this large group.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- No report.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

- The draft Planning Commission minutes from February 25, 2013, are in the packet for review.

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

1) 108 South Allegheny Street/Install new storm windows at third and fourth floor of Annex building.

2) 101 North Allegheny Street/Relocate existing business sign to new location. Install exterior handrails for accessibility.

3) 148 South Allegheny Street/Remove existing windows along Bishop Street. Install new metal clad wood window. Paint entire Bishop Street facade. Color: brick red, with accent color on segmental arch brick headers.

4) 121 South Potter Street/Renovate exterior of laundry mat and apartment above.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve all four Certificates of Appropriateness. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. Mr. Schneider questioned the 121 South Potter Street property and questioned why color rendering was not shown. It will be requested that Mr. Keal provide the approved colors in his report. A voice vote was unanimous.

COMMITTEES

Building & Property – There was no report.

Finance and Government Performance – Mr. Schneider made a motion to pay the invoice to McQuaide Blasko in the amount of \$4,829.80 for services rendered through January 31, 2013. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Park & Recreation – Mr. Holderman thanked Anne Donovan and Jim Coslo from the Centre County Conservation Office for their help and for supplying money to the Borough for the construction of the wall near the suspension bridge in Talleyrand Park. The Borough will work on getting the park cleaned up as soon as possible.

Mr. Wilson thanked the Talleyrand Committee for all the work they have done over the recent year in making the park more viable and a beautiful place for the community.

Human Resources – There was no report.

Safety – Mr. Schneider made a motion for the following:

Fire Department Ordinance 242 (Chapter 35) for advertisement;
Fire Prevention Bureau Chapter 39 changes for advertisement;

Logan Apparatus RFP for advertisement.

Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. There has been discussion with the local municipalities regarding the apparatus and when the prices come back there will be additional discussion. A voice vote was unanimous. Mr. Schneider abstained from the vote.

Water/Sanitation – Mr. Beigle reported the Authority meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend.

Streets – Mr. DeCusati reported the Streets Committee met.

The extra parking spots requested on Linn Street by the Bellefonte Area school district outside the administrative building were approved and the signs have been placed.

On Centre Street and Maple Street the corrected street signs were installed.

Two surveys were sent out to residents and the committee reviewed them. One involved Potter and Pike Street. There was a request to make them one-way and the residents were given two options. The survey came back as two wanting option A, eight wanted option B, and eleven wanted no change. The Committee is recommending no change to that flow of traffic.

The other survey involved Maple Street and Zion Road. Two options were given. The overall results were across the board with most of the residents wanting no change; 25% of the residents wanted option A and 25% wanted option B. The Committee felt with the work being done on that road that the state be allowed to finish their work before this is addressed again.

There was a request for a street light on Cherry Lane. The Committee discovered there are no lights on Cherry Lane from Badger to Wilson Street. The Committee requests that street lights be added in the same frequency as they are in the first part of Cherry Lane, which is every other telephone pole.

On North Thomas Street there appears to be no street lights from the Uni-Mart to the corner going to Coleville. A light will be added to every other pole to provide visibility around that corner.

Mr. Holderman reported the street light project will need to go through PennDOT and the permitting process and will take a few months to get through the process.

On High and Water Streets lighting will be added to help traffic flow in that area.

Last year when the study was received from Penn State regarding things to improve the visibility within the streets, one of the things was to clean the lights more frequently. The crews do a good job of going through the lights and maintaining them. A lot of them had to have the illumination device changed out. The crews are going to clean those and maintain them on an annual basis.

The sidewalk contractor bids were received at the last Council meeting. The Committee recommends that staff take the lowest bid and use that contractor if needed. While a resident may use any contractor they want to replace their sidewalk, this contractor will be used if the Borough needs to fix a sidewalk and bill the resident.

There is a Dumpster Ordinance and the fee schedule will be set for that.

Energy & Environmental Conservation – The League of Women Voters of Centre County will be hosting a free public forum entitled *Earth's Climate is Changing*. The forum will be held on Sunday, March 17, 2013, from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in the Patton Township meeting room at 100 Patton Plaza, State College, PA. Mrs. Dunne encouraged people to attend and inform themselves.

Junior Council Report – There was no report.

OLD BUSINESS

- Any Council members interested in attend the PSAB in May should inform Mr. Stewart.

- Mr. Schneider made a motion to continue with the Skunk Program for 2013. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Stewart will include a Borough Manager's Report on a monthly basis in the 2nd meeting of the month Council packet. Council appreciates the fact that Mr. Stewart is providing this report.

NEW BUSINESS

- A request for Cherry Lane Street Lighting has been reviewed by the Streets Committee.

- Mr. Wilson made a motion to continue charging the County Government Commercial Inspection Fees. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- The Borough filed a petition in Centre County Court to have a Conservator appointed for the Garman property. This past Friday the Court appointed the Bellefonte Area Industrial Development Authority as the Conservator. Mr. Stewart requested Council ratify the Conservatorship proceedings, including the filing of the petition for the appointment of the Conservator.

Mrs. Dunne made a motion that Council ratify the initiation of the Conservatorship process by filing the petition and the appointment as the IDA as the Conservator for the Garman. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

POLICE EXONERATIONS

- None.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council Mr. Schneider made a motion to

adjourn the meeting of March 4, 2013, at 8:25 p.m. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.