

COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 7, 2012
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CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order at 8:05 p.m. by Council Vice-Chair 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, McCullough,

Members Excused: Brown, Halderman, Confer

Officials Present: Ralph Stewart, Borough Manager
Don Holderman, Assistant Borough Manager
Mayor Goldman
Robert Keal, Historic Preservation Consultant

Staff Present:

Guests: L. Eric Bernier, CATA; Rita Snyder; Kerrie Bodle, Bellefonte EMS;

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the minutes of the Bellefonte Borough Council meeting of April 16, 2012. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A change on page four needs to be made from "Queen Homes Tour" to "Green Homes Tour". A voice vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as corrected.

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- A letter from Captain Bob Gossman, PhD, in regard to the Haunted Bellefonte Tours. He rescinded his previous letter and request for approval.

- A letter from Dick Knupp in regard to downtown parking. This will be turned over to the Streets Committee for review and recommendation.

- A letter from Robert Cunningham, Aquatics and Youth Director, Bellefonte Family YMCA, thanking Council for their support and accommodation by allowing the use of the practice fields at Governors Park for the tee ball and soccer programs.

Ms. Dunne made a motion to approve the use of the practice fields at Governor's Park for the preschool tee ball program each Saturday from May 5 through June 16 from approximately 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Kerry A. Benninghoff, State Representative, 171st Legislative District, in regard to the Prevailing Wage Act.

- A letter from Senator Jake Corman, 34th District, in regard to the Prevailing Wage Act.

- A letter from Brigette R. Cousins, 259 South Potter Street, regarding road and front property damage. This letter will be turned over to the Streets Committee for review and recommendation.

- A letter from Tim Nilson, Executive Director, Seven Mountains EMS Council, reminding Council that the week of May 20-26, 2012 will be National Emergency Medical Services Week.

- A letter from Ed Adams, Field Improvement Committee Chairman, Bellefonte Teener League, inviting all Council members and Bellefonte Borough employees to attend the rededication of the new and improved Bellefonte Teener League Field on Saturday, May 12, at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Robert Taylor will receive a copy of this letter of invitation since he was a big part of this project when he served on Council.

- A letter from Patrick A. McCool, Chairperson, Bellefonte Cruise requesting the standard approvals related to the 24th Annual Bellefonte Cruise and Car Show to be held June 15, 16 and 17.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the request. Mr. DeCusati seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Holly Fritchman, Bellefonte Museum, thanking Council for the two parking permits for the volunteers use at the Bellefonte Art Museum. The letter also invites Council members to visit the museum.

- A memo from Ralph Stewart informing Council he will be on vacation Friday, May 11 through Friday, May 25.

- A letter from Diane Klimek, PNC T-Ball Team Mom, Bellefonte Little League, requesting the use of Pavilion #5 at Governor's Park on June 9 for an awards ceremony

and luncheon for the T-Ball team and also asking that the fee be waived to reserve the pavilion.

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

- A letter from Andrew Hillegass, Adjutant, Post 1600, requesting the help of Bellefonte Borough with the Memorial Day celebration to be held in front of the Court House on May 28, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. The request includes the closing of High Street from Spring Street to Penn Street and Allegheny Street from Howard Street to Bishop Street; the placement for the barriers and traffic control will be the responsibility of the Bellefonte Fire Police. The barriers will be placed at these locations at 10:30 a.m. and will be removed as soon as the ceremony is over.

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

ORAL

- Rita Snyder informed Council that the Annual Letter Carrier Food Drive will be held on Saturday, May 12. The food will be picked up and taken to the Faith Centre Food Bank. She requested that the two "head-in" spaces on the side of the Dairy Queen, which are closest to the Faith Centre, be provided so the food can be delivered to the Faith Centre.

Mr. DeCusati made a motion to make the three spaces by the Faith Centre and Dairy Queen "no parking" for the day of Saturday, May 12, from 7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. for the Letter Carriers Food Drive. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. The three spaces will be bagged somehow for the day. A voice vote was unanimous.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Ms. Dunne reported there was a meeting of the Spring Creek Watershed Commission on Wednesday, April 18. Tony Buda, USDA and Penn State Agriculture Economics, was the guest speaker. He did his research on nutrient management processes in environmentally sensitive areas identifying areas that were prone to agricultural run-off in a different watershed in Pennsylvania. He is going to expand his research to map the Spring Creek Watershed.

- Mr. Stewart reported several attended the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Convention/Conference in Seven Springs, Somerset County, last weekend into this past week. Most sessions focused on Council issues related to personnel. There are updates from legislation that have been pending. The sessions are very relevant to issues dealt with on a weekly or daily basis. There is always fresh, new information in areas such as Human Resources, Police Protection, etc.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Goldman presented a proclamation designating the week of May 20–26, 2012 as Emergency Medical Services Week with the theme “*EMS: More Than a Job. A Calling*”. He encourages the community to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

Kerri Bodle, Deputy Director of Bellefonte EMS, thanked Mayor Goldman for the proclamation.

Mayor Goldman presented a proclamation warmly commending all postal workers and participants of the 20th Annual National Food Drive on Saturday, May 12, 2012. He declared Saturday, May 12, 2012, as “*Stamp Out Hunger Day*.” Bellefonte has participated for the past 18 years.

Rita Snyder, a city letter carrier in Bellefonte for the past 24 years, thanked the Mayor for this proclamation on behalf of all the employees of the Bellefonte Post Office.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

- 1) 218 West High Street/Sign Application. Install new sign over office entrance. This project was submitted for the Borough Council Meeting April 16, and was tabled for additional information.
- 2) 307 East Linn Street/Install new handrails at front porch stair.

Mr. Keal explained the sign application for 218 West High Street. Three signs are permitted. Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for the signage at 218 West High Street. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Provan voting no.

Mrs. Dunne made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for 307 East Linn Street. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Dunne will email Council with a recommendation on how to avoid problems such as the application request for 218 West High Street.

The April 24, 2012 HARB meeting minutes are in the packet for review.

COMMITTEES

Building & Property – There was no report.

Finance and Government Performance – Mr. DeCusati made a motion to approve the McQuaide Blasko invoice in the amount of \$615.03 for services rendered through March 31, 2012. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Park & Recreation – Mr. Holderman will throw out the first ball at the opening ceremonies at the Teener League field on Saturday, May 12.

Human Resources – Mr. Provan made a motion to approve allowing Lori Walker, Finance Director to attend Leadership Centre County Training Program at a cost of \$1,800. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mr. Provan reported Mr. Fred Bruno does not want to be reappointed to the position of Chief of the Bellefonte Fire Department after serving in the position for 5½ years when his term ends at the end of June 2012. Mr. Provan thanked Mr. Bruno for his service.

This letter will be turned over to the Safety Committee to search for a replacement for Mr. Bruno.

At the appropriate time, Borough staff will send a thank-you letter to Mr. Bruno and his family for all their service.

Safety – Mr. Wilson reported that in response to citizens' concerns and Council discussion from a previous meeting the Safety Committee met Wednesday, May 2, to discuss options regarding traffic enforcement (speeding in the Borough). They met with Sergeant Holt, Corporal Igo, Officer Berri, and Chief Weaver. The discussions included traffic cameras and the ins and outs and legalities of that; speed display signs and the issues involved with those; enforcing the speeding laws more vigorously. They decided to explore some options and develop the most effective and most efficient way to enforce the speeding laws within the Borough.

Water/Sanitation – Mr. Beigle reported the daily water withdraw chart was in the packets.

The Authority will meet on Tuesday, May 8. The bulk water facility will be demonstrated in conjunction with this meeting.

Streets – Mr. DeCusati stated a Street Committee meeting will be held on Monday, May 21, at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. DeCusati reminded residents to put their trash containers away after the trash is collected. The containers should not be left in the front of the property.

Mr. Provan told the community there is a one-time charge for a can for grass clippings. There is also a one-time brush container charge for brush, pine cones, etc. He feels this is a good deal to be able to take care of yard waste.

Mr. Beigle reported riff-raff will be collected the week of May 21.

Energy & Environmental Conservation – The committee will review the SEDA-COG Model Solar Ordinance as well as some information guidelines regarding how to apply the ordinance in the Historic District. Mr. Stewart reminded the committee that the Planning Committee is willing to help with the process.

Junior Council Report – Ms. McCullough reported the year is winding down. The Fine Arts Department sent Fine Arts Students to an education trip in Virginia Beach.

They went to the Norfolk State University and were judged in performances in choirs, bands, jazz bands and orchestras. All the groups earned either Excellent or Superior awards. It was a job well done.

OLD BUSINESS

People from Palmer's Museum at Penn State University feel the American Philatelic Society at the Match Factory Complex would be an appropriate site for some sculptures they will give Bellefonte Borough. The statues may be in place within the next six weeks.

Mr. Holderman received one comment from a Council member regarding the Ordinance Codification review of Zoning. The comment was in regard to signs and LED signs. That was taken care of by Council via a memo, and the idea was to incorporate that. This would complete this part of the portfolio that needs to be sent to General Code. Mr. Holderman would like to do one final review before it is sent. The goal is to get it sent out by early June. Any Council members interested in participating in the final review should contact Mr. Holderman.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the banner application submitted by the Children's Fair Organization to hang a banner advertising the 63rd Annual Children's Fair June 2, 2012 from May 21, 2012 through June 4, 2012. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve Resolution # 05-07-12B to hang the Children's Fair banner across the street. Mrs. Dunne seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- The Borough has a Shade Tree Commission so if a resident plans to take a tree down that is in the Borough right-of-way they should contact Mr. Holderman, who will contact the Shade Tree Commission members so that they can perform their jobs.

In addition, there is a Fall Tree Planting Campaign in the Borough. Anyone wishing to plant a tree would pick a tree from Greene's Nursery in Milesburg or a nursery of their choice. The Borough would dig the hole and plant the tree. The resident is responsible to pay the cost of the tree.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council, Mr. Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting of May 7, 2012, at 8:45 PM. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.