

COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 2, 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: Brown, Schneider, Provan, DeCusati, Dunne, Halderman, Ramish, Li

Members Excused: Wilson, Beigle,

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

Staff Present:

Guests: Scott Rhoat;

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 November 11, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes.
- Minutes - Approval of November 18, 2013 Meeting Minutes.
- HARB - Certificate of Appropriateness - 100 Match Factory Place; 208 South Spring Street.
- New Business - Approval of Meetings Schedule for 2014.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- None.

ORAL

- Scott Rhoat, Executive Director and Chief of Bellefonte EMS, passed out paperwork to review with Council. Some things accomplished in 2013 at Bellefonte EMS are: exterior renovations to the building, including structural to stabilize the wall in the back and painting; replace a 1998 ambulance with a used vehicle; and received a pediatric recognition from the PA Department of Health, which is a new voluntary recognition program that recognizes EMS agencies statewide for preparedness for pediatric patients. There are approximately 1,000 EMS agencies in PA and only 46 statewide received this recognition. There were three in Centre County that received the award.

As of November 30th there have been a total of 2,028 ambulance dispatches, which averages out to 6.1 per day. They continue to see a 3% - 5% increase in demand for call volume annually. Last year approximately .55 calls per day were covered by neighboring service. This year it is .43 calls per day. They continually look at how to minimize those missed calls. On average the ambulance travels 52,000 miles annually. Currently there is one ambulance staffed with an in-house crew 24/7. The second and third ambulances are covered by personnel that come in from off-duty or administrative workers go on calls. There were approximately 1,300 trips on Para-transit vans. They travel approximately 56,000 miles annually. There are seven vehicles in the fleet. The last three ambulances purchased were used.

The 2013 budget is approximately \$950,000.00. The projected 2014 budget is \$925,000.00. It seems that the 2013 budget will end with a balanced budget. Out of the last seven years there has been a balanced budget at the end of the year.

Mr. Halderman thanked Mr. Rhoat for the service the EMS crews do.

The end of last week the annual subscription drive went out. He encourages everyone to send their subscription back.

In the past one or two years there has been an increase in volunteer numbers, especially junior members. There are three active juniors that are within the school district. It was suggested Scott explore options for the paid on call kind of thing.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- None.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Addis read a proclamation declaring December 13, 14 and 15 as Victorian Christmas in the Borough of Bellefonte. He encouraged all residents, families

and friends to celebrate the season with a spirit of joy, hope and thanksgiving, and asks everyone to continue to reach out and help others by sharing time, talents and treasures, so that everyone will be able to experience a new year filled with health, peace, happiness and prosperity.

- Mayor Addis reported that on Thursday, December 5, on Jerry Fisher's radio talk show at 8:00 a.m., Sally Houser will be the guest and she will be talking about Victorian Christmas.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

- Mr. Provan made a motion to appoint Courtney Dickman to the Planning Commission to replace Randy Brachbill. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

HARB

- The November 26, 2013 HARB meeting minutes were in the packet for review.

- Mrs. Dunne mentioned that a letter came from Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. She wants Borough Council to be aware of this letter and would like all Council members to have a copy of the letter. It does not confirm Pennsylvania Housing Financing Administrations letter saying that Section 106 was reviewed. She feels PHFA may not have the full information but feels that PHMC does. Mr. Halderman stated anything legal should not be discussed in Council because of lawsuits. All Council members will receive a copy of the letter.

COMMITTEES

Building & Property – No report.

Finance and Government Performance – Mr. Schneider made a motion to forward the draft budget and post it for review and with a .7 mill tax increase, which would put the total tax at 13 1/2 mills. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. Mr. Stewart reported a .7 mill increase would be approximately \$26 - \$28 a year for the average household. A voice vote was unanimous.

Park & Recreation – Mrs. Brown reported there is a Statement of Activities report for Kepler Pool in the packet for Council to review.

- Mrs. Brown reported during Victorian Christmas the Farmer's Market will be on the up and down street of High Street but not in front of the Courthouse. The Farmer's Market at the Gamble Mill is closed for the winter.

- Mr. DeCusati thanked all those who worked on the Finance Committee for the work they did. Mr. Schneider thanked staff on behalf of the Finance Committee for the fine job they did.

Human Resources – No report.

Safety – No report.

Water/Sanitation – No report.

Streets – Mr. DeCusati stated an email was received with comments regarding the work that was finished on SR 550. That will be reviewed at a committee meeting and then it will be reported on.

- Mrs. Dunne questioned where the additional \$16,000 for the Streetscape project would come from, which would be CDBG funds.

Energy & Environmental Conservation – No report.

Junior Council Report – Mr. Ramish reported there are thirteen days of school until break. The Fine Arts Department sent approximately 160-170 people to Florida to perform at Disneyworld. Basketball, wrestling and a couple other sports are starting now that football has ended.

Mr. DeCusati asked if the Garman is discussed much at school. Mr. Ramish stated it was a long time since he has heard anything about the Garman, possibly in a third grade art class.

OLD BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- None.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council Mr. Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting of December 2, 2013 at 8:25 p.m. Mr. Provan seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Following adjournment Council went into Executive Session.