

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
March 7, 2016
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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.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Brachbill, Brown, Dunne, Harvey, Johnson, Tosti-Vasey

Members Excused: Beigle, DeCusati, Spicer,

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

Staff Present: Vana Dainty

Guests: Chuck Walls, Carla Mulford Conklin, Buchart Horn; Sue Hannegan, Centre County; Thomas & Janis Betz; Ryan Koehler; Ted Conklin; Scott Pistner; Mike Hawn; Ira L. Lutz; Emma Gosalvez, Lock Haven Express

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 February 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes
- Communications – Letter request regarding the Children’s Fair
- Communications – Letter request regarding the PA Council on the Arts’ Bard in Bellefonte Program (Application and \$20 fee have been received)

- Communications – Letter request regarding the 2016 Logan Fire Company Parade
- Communications – Letter request from W. Ford regarding additional bluebird nest box in Talleyrand Park
- Communications – Letter request regarding the Lions Club Annual Rib Sale

Mr. Brachbill requested the Logan Fire Company parade request be taken from the Consent Agenda. Ms. Tosti-Vasey requested the minutes be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Brachbill made a motion to approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda. Ms. Harvey seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

The corrections to the minutes are: page 1, guests: should be J. T. Newlin; on page 3, the first full paragraph should say within 3,000 feet of the property as standing; on page 4, under oral, JoAnn said she would really like to see a sign on Dunlop Street by Café in the Park saying John Dunlop was the very first “non-native” American person...

Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to approve the amended minutes. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mr. Brachbill reported the date was wrong on the parade request from the Logan Fire Company No. 1. It will be on Saturday, July 2. They need to be notified that Dunlop Street may not be accessible.

Mr. Brachbill made a motion to approve the parade request from the Logan Fire Company No. 1 for Saturday, July 2, at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Ms. Tosti-Vasey added with notice about the Dunlop Street issue. A voice vote was unanimous.

DUNLOP STREET OPTIONS – PRESENTERS: Buchart Horn

Chuck Walls and Carla presented a Power Point showing the various options for Dunlop Street and the Waterfront District. They have been working on the floodwater protection project for a while with the Borough. They are looking at Dunlop Street alternatives for the paving section. There are a lot of bricks in Talleyrand Park and other areas so they thought it would be nice if they would have a similar texture and color in Dunlop Street. Currently the street is a fairly narrow macadam road. The original plan showed making that road 26’ wide to match the ordinances and it would eventually have a sidewalk on the side near the new development. An alternative was to have a concrete shoulder and gutter that would be 3’ wide so the tire would actually ride on the gutter. In the center part of the road you would have the brick texture. They started talking about this for aesthetic purposes and they also felt they should explore it from the standpoint of a green infrastructure or storm water management. There is an opportunity to pick up some of those MS4 (Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer Systems Program) credits that the Borough will eventually need. The hand-drawn picture on the bottom showed some extra depth of stone in that area so they are proposing a surface section that would not be grouted shut but it would allow water to infiltrate through the pavers down into the stones so you would have fewer run-offs into

the creek. That helps to improve the ground water situation. You have more water in the ground and less water running immediately adjacent into the creek. That way all the small particles of oil, etc., cannot flow right into Spring Creek, which is an excellent trout stream. This would be a 24' wide road with an 8' sidewalk on the side. The gray areas would be a curb and the sidewalk and the middle of the road would be the brick.

After some more thought, it was suggested as an alternative (because she was afraid that cars might treat it as an old fashioned alley where you see the cobbles, the brick in the road, and kind of run down the middle of the road rather than staying off to the side) to maybe put a concrete 1' section down the middle of the road and that would identify a little more that there is two lanes on the road. The other thing they need to make sure of is because the road is going to be taking some of the deliveries to the new site, they need to be sure that section is built so it will not start to cave in or get wavy. In the picture below they show some concrete underneath the center and the sides and the concrete gutter on the side so when your trucks are rolling down you have the extra added reinforcement of the concrete underneath the unit pavers.

They started to look at alternatives. They got really fancy, but when you get really fancy, you get very expensive, so they decided not to do that. In any of the alternatives they would actually allow the brick to infiltrate water down into the sub-surface. You do not necessarily want to have storm water running in a gutter and expect the gutter area to be able to take all that water from the entire road, but your best bet is to allow that water to hit the bricks where they will and then go into the surface so you are not concentrating the water because once you are concentrating water in an area that is supposed to infiltrate, it very easily gets to the point where it is saturated and does not work anyway.

The bricks are not pervious but the space in between the bricks is what will allow the water to go through.

They were looking at different colors and direction alternatives. On the top picture you can do a cobblestone concrete paver. You can do it in either direction, but the traditional direction is the top left picture. There is a lot of reddish color brick in Talleyrand so maybe it would be a little more conducive to continue those colors and not create another color in town. They just wanted to show that there are some options.

With the center concrete in the street how does that work with two large trucks coming at each other? On the bottom left it shows you sort of have an upside down "T" of concrete at the center. You have concrete under the bricks that are immediately adjacent to the line. Between that concrete and between the concrete shoulder is an area of approximately 5' wide that would have stone underneath it instead of concrete that would allow the water to go through. The stone is strong enough for normal cars but with heavy tractor trailers coming down the road they wanted to put some extra added support. The center concrete is 6' wide, but you only see a foot of it on the top.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey stated that during an earlier Council meeting they talked about alternatives of turning this all into a pedestrian walkway, and she does not see that here.

Mr. Holderman stated for the Borough to get reimbursed under the RCAP it has to be a pedestrian walkway, which is what the Borough will make it. A portion of it will need to be an access road to get in to service whatever is developed there. What is being said is if this is proceeded with it is seen as more pedestrian because that is how

the Borough is getting reimbursed. Otherwise it would not make sense to do it because the Borough would just be increasing the cost by a couple hundred thousand dollars.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey said alternative one is just straight through without the thing in the center looks like a pedestrian walkway. What the third one says to her is this is a roadway. It's not a pedestrian walkway. Mr. Holderman said when they were talking to G.O. Hawbaker they dismissed the third one because that would be cost prohibitive. The first one is probably the most cost effective way to go, and it also gives the appearance of a pedestrian walkway, which is what they were looking for. There would be two metal sockets installed in four various locations and there would be four bollards that would be installed at the location you want the road to be closed. The sockets would be imbedded in the roadway to keep vehicles from going through. If needed, the bollards could be removed, and it could be used as a whole road, but most of the time it would be pedestrian walkway. The width of the road will be according to the Borough ordinance, which is 26'. Ms. Tosti-Vasey assumes there would be an entranceway into the development according to the picture and possibly the bollards would be placed back there. Mr. Holderman said this would be coming off of Lamb Street bridge for example...this area is still in the flood plain, but perhaps it is a parking lot that connects to the rest of the property. If you have two bollards sitting there, you would still have access by coming in so far and then getting into the property for service. And you could do it at the other end also. You can pop the bollards out and move them as needed and there would be multiple options. Two would be kept in most of the time. Ones that were not being used would be stored at the Borough building.

The street has to be in place before any developers come in. The concern is if it is pedestrian and a hotel is built in the middle of that how will my clientele come in and park? The bollards could be in the center of the strip. You can come in and go to the property. You just cannot go from High Street to Lamb Street.

The question was asked how people know you can drive on part and one part is a pedestrian area. There would be sidewalks on both sides and there would also be signage. Some of that will sort itself out when there is a developer in place and you begin to see the design because they will incorporate all that into the design.

The current width of Dunlop Street is 16' - 17' feet. When you drive down a road, the lane is approximately 12' and your car is approximately 6' wide. If you have a road that also has parking then you have a road that is somewhere between 36' – 40' wide.

Mr. Brachbill questioned whether the fire company would be able to use the road if you cannot drive the whole way through. Mr. Holderman said the bollards could be taken out. Mr. Stewart stated it is designed as a pedestrian walkway but the idea is the bollards can be removed for whatever purpose – emergencies or deliveries. You can go from one end to the other but not at will. There would be a lock on the bollards that the emergency services would be able to remove.

Mrs. Dunne informed Council if they have more to say about this they should attend the IDA meeting on Wednesday evening, March 9.

REGULAR AGENDA

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- There is information in the packet for the PSAB Annual Conference that will be held June 5-8, 2016 at Hershey Lodge. Council members planning to attend should inform Mr. Stewart by April 15, 2016.

- An email from Adrienne Gemberling, Clearwater Conservancy, regarding Watershed Cleanup Day 2016, which will be Saturday, April 23, 2016.

- A letter from Ted H. Conklin, 260 North Thomas Street, regarding the application of Columbia Gas, presented by Chad D. Stafford, P.E., and dated 2-4-16, for approval by Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Rail Safety Division.

- An email from Sue Hannegan, Assistant Director, CCPCD, regarding the Keystone Grant Request.

- An email from Charles Coder, 226 East Logan Street, requesting a stop sign installed at the intersection of East Logan Street and Penn Street.

This will be turned over to the Streets Committee for review and recommendation.

- A letter from Pastor Greg Shipe requesting permission to hold Sunrise service on Easter Sunday, March 27, in Talleyrand Park at 7:00 a.m. The application and fee have been received.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the request for Sunrise service to be held in Talleyrand Park. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed.

ORAL

- Sue Hannegan presented her PowerPoint on the Keystone Historic Preservation Grant request for rehabilitation of some of the statuary and retaining walls of the Courthouse.

The County Commissioners are asking for the Borough's consideration of a letter of support for a Keystone Historic Preservation Construction Grant. The submittal deadline for this grant is March 14.

The project is two-fold. It will address the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial and also the base to Governor Curtin's statuary; and also the walls flanking the Courthouse on the left and right sides of the Courthouse. They serve as retaining walls for the uphill and downhill side of East High Street.

The Soldiers and Sailors Memorial was constructed in approximately 1906 and includes bronze plaques for about 92 different regiments, listing the names of Centre County residents who have served in the military and given of their service and in some

cases their lives for our freedoms that we know today. The picture showed the condition of the granite, which is blistering. Two photographs were taken approximately 18 months ago and there has not been much change in that time. The grant will not be awarded until early fall, which means any construction on these projects will not occur until 2017, which will mean another winter with the memorial in this condition. It is happening on the end locations and on the base to the Governor Curtin statuary. It does appear that some of it occurred and they tried to remedy the situation. In 2007 and 2008 they cleaned the memorial and also cleaned the bronze plaques. At that time Governor Curtin looked pretty bad with a green tint. That was all corrected by a conservator. The County brought in a consultant on that and will do that on this project also.

The second piece of the project is to do some repairs that have not been addressed for many years, which are the retaining walls beside the Courthouse. It is unclear when they coated the walls with concrete, but it may have happened around 1953 when the addition was built on to the back of the Courthouse. It is very unsightly.

The goal is to submit a grant request requesting dollars to assist in the refurbishing of the memorial and the concrete retaining wall flanking the Courthouse. It is a 50/50 match so the County will contribute dollar for dollar. It will all be done with HARB approval. That presentation can be done regardless of whether there are changes or not.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to provide a letter of support. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Ted Conklin congratulated Council on the Waterfront project. He feels it is absolutely fantastic and much, much nicer than he anticipated. For the concern with the interchange of Thomas Street and Coleville Road he is not sure where Council is with it. Council members did receive a copy of the petition at the table.

What he presented was just a small percentage of accidents at that site. Because he is at work, the pictures represent accidents that happen in the evenings or on the weekends. On that turn there are approximately 5-6 accidents a year. Two to three involve property damage to his property. They always have an ongoing case with insurance companies. Some of the accidents are the result of high speed. One of the people not able to speak at this meeting was able to confirm that there have been four fatalities at that corner. One accident had two fatalities; one was a bicycle fatality; and another one that hit their home in the early 70's. There could be more but he is not sure because of the privacy laws. He has lived there 46 years. There was an accident two weeks ago. He feels it is a forgotten area. There are only a handful of houses in Sunnyside that use the interchange and his family. Most of the people using the interchange are Valley View and Coleville people. They all treat it very cautiously. It is the people that are not familiar with the intersection that are prey to it.

For the petition he canvassed the immediate area of Thomas Street and the Sunnyside area. What is interesting about the petition is that he got 100% response. Every person he approached was familiar with the problem and signed it. It has to represent 80-90% of the houses in that area. It was not hard to get because there are only a few houses. On North Thomas Street one out of three houses are vacant. It is really a rough part of town, and he blames a lot of it on that intersection because of the

problems it represents. He has several people that he would like to address Council. Mrs. Dunne will limit each speaker to three minutes.

Ira Lutz from Sunnyside addressed Council. He lived there for over forty years. There are many, many trucks in and out. He is not complaining about the trucks. He is complaining about the intersection. He asked where else in Bellefonte is there a location that has incoming and outgoing traffic in one lane only. It is a blind curve on one side and traffic trying to pull in cannot pull in because there may be somebody trying to come out the other way so therefore they are stopped in the main line of traffic. The biggest issue is safety. You do not have it right there. For whatever reason, something needs to be done. Back in the late '80s and early '90s he talked to Mr. Masullo many times about it when he was on Council. It seemed like whether he talked to him or Spring Township or the state or whoever, it always got swept under the rug and that is how it has been ever since. He has talked to school bus drivers who are absolutely scared to death to bring a school bus up out of there because the way the bus is angled your mirrors are back here and you have kids over here and they cannot see what is coming in the road. It is a scary situation whether you are walking or pushing a little one in a stroller. It is not safe. Even the sidewalk on the opposite—you have a high sidewalk built right there and may times he found if the weather is bad and there is no handrail there and anybody that slips and falls is right out in traffic. There is no safety there whatsoever. Something needs to be done.

Mayor Wilson was in Sunnyside today for a wedding. He came out of there in his little pickup truck and someone was waiting to come in. He thought “this is awful.” Until you pull out of there yourself, you do not realize how precarious that curve is and that blind area is. He stated there are many out-of-state people coming to the canoe area and they drive...you know what they drive like in New York State and New Jersey. With the railroad—anytime they have any issues its big equipment they bring in.

Ryan Koehle, 263 North Thomas Street, addressed some safety concerns. He and his wife sit out on their big porch. Occasionally there is a couple that comes up from Railroad Street with a stroller walking on Ted's side with no sidewalk and that is a scary thought. He has a big F150 and coming down and pulling out onto Thomas Street is not an option for him. Instead he goes down to Lamb Street and comes down in front of the Uni-Mart to go to work in the morning so he does not have to make that turn. Coming home from work, he comes up on the other side of the alley past Ted's house. The concern there is making a left turn into the alley. You have to pull up past the gas line to make sure nothing is coming from the Coleville side. At night the only way he can tell is there are actually reflectors on the guard rails down the street in order for him to make the turn. One thing he noticed that happened to him last week is he finally noticed that the garbage truck actually goes the whole way down the alley in reverse. Another thing he saw was the streetlight and the lighting around the turn could maybe be improved if the turn is fixed. Another item is he knows the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited has done a lot of projects along the streamline to increase fishing along there since that side of Lamb Street and the fishing has been opened causes more traffic.

Scott Pistner, 237 North Thomas Street, and fairly new to the area. He has lived there for four years, and they have noticed the speed at which people come to and from Coleville. Just in the last year, while mowing grass, he has witnessed a car

traveling in the direction to Coleville pass right in front of the dairy, and she barely made it back in before a car was coming around the corner. Last summer he witnessed a car going towards Coleville go around the corner fast enough that he slid off the road and slammed into the retaining wall that protects Ted's house. Also, regarding Graymont, with the truck traffic, the dust is incredible. In the summer you cannot open your windows, and the outdoor furniture and porches need to be cleaned on a daily basis.

Carla Conklin, 260 North Thomas Street, has lived with Ted since 2001. She would like to make three main points. The point made by Mr. Wilson-- it is very difficult for new drivers to navigate that area and with the increase in Bellefonte interest in kayaking and the kayaking course, it has actually brought an increase in pedestrian traffic, and people are trying to walk Railroad Street. Instead of walking the railroad tracks out front, they are trying to walk out back and trying to find the course. That, in addition to young drivers who are full of life and are sure everything is fine and nothing is going to happen to them, they drive too fast. Every spring they are outside and worry about what is going on at the corner. It is a very, very dangerous area. She has lived in Philadelphia, State College, and Scranton and she has never lived in a more dangerous location than 260 North Thomas Street. She was fascinated about the earlier presentations. They were talking about Dunlop Street being 24' – 26' across and they are talking about an intersection that is approximately 12'. She feels the two presentations help put that in perspective. They are saying 26' for what is predominately pedestrian traffic and they are talking 12' of a poorly banked situation that involves tractor trailers that are now approximately 35' long. They brush against the trees. The trucks hit things on their property just to navigate that space. She also wanted to speak to the memory of Michael Burns, who died at age 39 because of this irregular intersection. She does not know if anyone has ever heard the wailing of a mother over the loss of a child. She never had until Michael Burns died. She was incontrollable for a half hour. It was a Sunday morning about 10:00 a.m. They were having coffee and reading the paper when this accident occurred. It was chilling. This is a serious problem. She referred to his obituary. He had a daughter and a wife. She left it as a memory of Mr. Burns life--deat at the age of 39.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey reported Mr. Conklin called her last week and asked her to look at the intersection, which she did. She took some pictures that she will share. One of the suggestions he had would be to straighten out the road and bring the entrance further up the hill, which means there would have to be a hill coming down into Railroad Street. If the road is not changed then the Columbia Gas pipeline will be too far under the road.

Mr. Conklin spoke for Jack Catherman since he could not attend the meeting because of illness. He lived in Sunnyside for 48 years with a family of seven. Anytime they would ask permission to go anywhere, it would come with a condition to stay away from Railroad Street, and they would have to walk the railroad tracks. The issue that was brought up about the dirt problem on North Thomas Street did not get better with the kiln shut down. Prior to shutting down the kiln, they had a street sweeper, a water truck, and a truck wash that they drove through that were all taken away. There is a different truck wash that is not used. A simple solution for Graymont is to tell them to do their business at the far end and turn around and come back or use the truck wash. Somebody needs to enforce that. Right after a nice rain the area where they store their

trucks turns into a mud hole that turns into a dust bowl. On the petition the people said they were in agreement with all the safety issues, and they also thought some action needed to be taken before the construction of the gas line.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey talked to Commissioner Piper, and he said that it is a state road connected with a private road and therefore the Commissioners have no control whatsoever. It is a town issue; it is a gas line issue; and it is a state issue. There used to be a bridge in Sunnyside that rumor says was a County bridge.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Brachbill looked at the situation very carefully. Mr. Johnson thinks the points are very well taken. Mr. Brachbill grew up in Valley View and has driven that stretch many, many times. Ms. Harvey has never seen anything go off in a direction like that.

Mr. Conklin is proposing a new entrance be installed where the gas line is going to be installed.

Mrs. Dunne stated this is not a simple task that the Borough will take up and fix. There are multiple parts to this. One possibility is that the Borough can send this situation to the CCMPO, which is an agency capable of doing something. The needs are ranked. The Borough representative is David Weiss from Benner Township and Paul DeCusati from Bellefonte is the alternate. Bill MacMath from Spring Township is the representative to the technical committee. Mrs. Dunne feels there would be logic to registering it with the CCMPO because there is talk about rebuilding roads and changing. She feels if the information about the fatalities there and the other woes involved with that intersection might lend some credence to it. That costs no money and puts it in some direction where it should go.

Another thought is to have a meeting with a PENNDOT representative and a Columbia Gas representative. She feels there needs to be a multi approach. Mr. Brachbill feels the meeting with PENNDOT and Columbia Gas should happen sooner rather than later. Mr. Stewart feels the quickest, easiest way is to get a meeting with some of the entities involved – property owners, Columbia Gas, Graymont, and PENNDOT. Get these groups together and see what can be done short-term and long-term. If the trucks were made to leave Graymont from the Coleville end of the plant, they would take up the whole lane of the turn on North Thomas Street, which would cause a lot of accidents.

Mr. Johnson asked if there was the possibility of a temporary caution light. Mr. Stewart stated things had to be done cautiously to be sure extra liability is not created. He would need to be sure PENNDOT had an approved plan. Mr. Holderman stated the Borough could not do that on a state highway.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to set up a meeting as soon as possible with Columbia Gas, PENNDOT, the property owners, Graymont, Mr. Stewart, the Chair of the Safety and Streets Committees; secondly to refer this to the CCMPO. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Wade Newman addressed Council regarding an issue that will come before them next month. In his former life he was a police officer. He was told that coming before Council next month may be a cut in the police force. He does not want to sound self-serving because he is in need of the police services at the moment and cutting...the investigator that you have Detective Ruggiero is friends with Wade, and he is working

with Wade right now. Detective Ruggiero's current caseload is far beyond what he ever thought it would be. He is currently actively investigating nine rape cases. That is almost one for every woman in this room. When Wade was working patrol, all of the investigative services were done by a complete division that housed at least ten investigators. Bellefonte has one. One rape case takes months of time, and we have nine. That is just one portion of what Detective Ruggiero does. He has two child abuse cases. He has Wade's case. He has an alleged federal wire tampering case. If you cut and put him out on patrol...justice is supposed to move quickly and Wade can say from personal experience it is not moving quickly. Before Council decides to act on manpower issues from the Police Department he would like them to consider the ramifications of removing the detective services and putting him out on patrol. That will effectively squash any time he has to devote to those that really need it.

- Richard Miller, 305 Robin Road, also addressed Council to gain support for the full-time investigator. He also works with Wade. No matter how small or large any crime can be, the more time they can devote to those cases will help expedite the cases and bring closure and help the victims heal and move on with their lives. He strongly urges Council to consider putting the money back into keeping the full-time investigator on staff.

Mrs. Dunne stated Council is not fond of cutting services. The goal is working out the best solution right now because there has been an acute loss of some officers, and Council is still pondering the way in which they can continue to do the best job and supply the services that are needed.

- Janis Betz, 135 Saint Paul Street, had a petition and very detailed inspection observation with pictures to get the house demolished at 123 Saint Paul Street, which has been vacant for approximately six years. Kendra has been in and out trying to renovate to no avail. It is dilapidating very quickly. She is representing everybody on the petition to get the house torn down. She is willing to sink \$23,000.00 to demolish it and make it a garden, possibly some community co-op gardening. She wants to turn the property into something useful rather than her and the neighbors staring at that house, which is not going to go anywhere unless it is torn down. In the living room where the addition was put on the wood is dilapidating and the dirt from underneath that is coming into the living room.

Mayor Wilson looked at the house. He did not go in it, but he agrees.

Mr. Stewart stated a petition was brought at the last meeting. All the residents want to do is to proceed to get a demolition permit. In the ordinance outside the Historic District it says Council may require a structural engineering study before a structure is taken down. Mr. and Mrs. Betz are asking for a waiver of that requirement. They want to know up front whether they do or do not have to do that. If they do, it will stop their process because it is more money out of their pocket to do it. They do not own the property. They are just trying to improve it and straighten up the neighborhood. It was not acted on at the last meeting because some Council members felt they should hear from the property owner. The property owner was contacted, and they have no problem with the neighbors going in this direction to take down the property of the house. The house is in very poor disrepair. Mr. Brachbill said if you buy it and want to demo it that

is their decision. Mr. Stewart reminded there is an ordinance on the books that states they cannot take it down...they want to know up front if they will be permitted to take it down.

If Mr. Stewart tells the zoning officer that Council has waived any requirements for a structural engineering report by motion, the permit can be issued and they can proceed to find someone to take down the property. They will look to Council for direction.

Mr. Brachbill made a motion to waive the engineering report for demolition. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The permits are good for a year. A voice vote was unanimous.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Brachbill attended the COG Meeting – CATA Funding Formula – they were invited to listen to the presentation by CATA funding with the Miller Formula. It was similar to what was received last year when the Borough was having some issues with the increase. They did get in to the Miller Formula a little bit more. There should be information in the packet outlining what the formula is. They voted to review the formula, but that will take six months. Mr. Stewart stated there was one meeting to review and it is very complicated. There was a proposed 2016 budget by CATA. There is a \$1,500.00 increase for Bellefonte that will take it from \$21,000.00 to \$23,000.00, which is something else that will be coming in May. He encourages that it get done. Mr. Stewart said a CATA representative will be attending the meeting of April 4 to discuss the proposed budget. Last fall they sent a letter to the County asking them to increase the amount they contributed to the Borough. Mr. Stewart checked, and it is still in the budget. Mr. Brachbill said the formula will not change until 2017-2018.

The day of this meeting Ms. Tosti-Vasey received a call from Jolly Harris who lives on Blanchard Street. He is a citizen representative for Bellefonte on the CATA Board. She feels he should be involved in the discussions.

- Draft Safety Committee meeting minutes from February 10, 2016, are in the packet for review. There will be an update on the chlorine situation at the meeting of March 9, 2016.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Wilson had the WBLF show this morning, and Joseph Griffin was on talking about the Old House Fair. He did a good job of explaining what it was. It will be April 29 and 30. It is a two-day event.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

- It is requested that lot 32-103-023-0000, owned by Centre County and used by Centre Care Inc., be changed from R-2 to R-4, the same as Centre Crest, so it can be

made into a parking lot for Centre Crest. For this to happen, Council has to agree to go through the process and then vote to do it. There needs to be a public hearing; it has to be posted; everyone that lives in that surrounding area must receive a letter stating this will happen and when the public hearing will be. It must be thirty days from the time they receive the letter until the public hearing. The letters would need to go to residents on Monroe Street, High Street, Wilson Street and some residents on Wood Street and Howard Street. There would be quite a few properties that would be affected by this. This would involve an amendment for a zoning map change.

Mr. Stewart said it costs the Borough money to advertise a public hearing, send out the letters and do the posting, but that is minimal to preparing a land development plan and then having it go through the process and find out that Council does not want to change the zoning map. For any development there would have to be a storm water engineering study. Mr. Stewart suggested inviting them to a work session so Council can become more familiar with the project to see if that answers questions before going through the whole process.

- Draft Planning Commission meeting minutes from February 22, 2016, are in the packet for review.

HARB

CERTIFICATES OF APPROPRIATENESS

- 1) 224 West High Street, Jabebo Studios – Signage
- 2) 254 North Allegheny Street – The placing of railing on the lower steps near the street and the top set of stairs; (top step will also require the guard rail) place guard rails around the large porch (the railing will only be about 9” above the stone and barely visible from the street; a guard rail on a second story door on the back side of the carriage house. The guard rail will not be mounted in the stone; it will be on the wooden floor of the porch.

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve both Certificates of Appropriateness. Ms. Harvey seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Draft HARB meeting minutes from February 23, 2016 are in the packet for review.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY – Mr. Brachbill reported there is plywood covering the sink hole by First National Bank that is screwed down. The hole is approximately 3’ deep by 2 1/2’ in circumference. There is no drain. The water runs down and percolates down through the stone. There is a drain on the parking lot side and a drain on the drive through side and a drain that goes the whole way across the drive through and dumps it at the drain at the entry of the lane that is closed. Mr. Stewart contacted the storm water engineer. He looked at it today and wants to be cautious about approaching it. He wants to do something simple first. He talked about giving some directions about filling the lower end with clay and adding stone up top and building up

the 6 x 6 treated lumber posts a little higher to try to get the water away from that area and around the flower and stone area. He will follow up with details, and the street crew will implement the details. If that does not work, it is more extensive. The bank owns the property and the Borough leases part of the property. The bank argues that the water is coming from the parking lot. The Borough has control of 95% of the parking lot.

FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE – Mrs. Brown made a motion to remove the January vouchers from the table. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Brown made a motion to approve the January vouchers. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. What was discovered on the Budget vs. Actual is the total was half of February. In the future Ms. Walker will put a date of when it is completed. A voice vote was unanimous.

PARK AND RECREATION – Ms. Tosti-Vasey reported the Parks & Recreation Committee will be meeting Wednesday, March 9, at noon in the Talleyrand Park Extension to determine where the fountain will be placed. The pipe is there but it looks like it needs to be moved a little bit. The concrete will need to be redone as well.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to approve the request for the event of the Kennedy Dance Center but the fee must still be paid. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. The fee is \$200.00 for half of the park. A voice vote was unanimous.

The Freight Building will be in close proximity of the playground at Talleyrand Park. Mr. Holderman said the decision needs to be made as to whether the playground is closed until the building is on a foundation. Mrs. Dunne reported the erosion and soil plan will be put out on Friday and excavation will begin the following Monday.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to close the playground at Talleyrand Park until the Freight House is on its foundation. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. It is difficult to give an exact date for the project. A voice vote was unanimous. Yellow caution tape will be put around the entire area. Information will be put on the Borough website explaining why the playground is closed.

There is a DCNR Grant Application. The Talleyrand Park Committee has \$21,000.00 that they would like to use for some additional stream bank erosion mitigation. There is a grant from the Community Conservation Partnership Program that if three different projects are put together it is possible to get \$100,000.00. Mr. Holderman said it is due April 13. The \$35,000.00 that Council is asked to put up for it would be 2017 if the grant were received. It would include the stream bank erosion; fixing the pergola; and Mayor Wilson's initiative for a trail between Milesburg and Bellefonte to get a study done.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to begin the grant process for the DCNR Grant knowing it will cost the Borough \$35,000.00 in the 2017 budget if the grant is received; in 2017 some Park & Recreation money would be used and then the other money would

come from the Bulk Water Fund. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mr. Holderman reported the playground mulch is being ordered for the playground at Governor's Park and should be put in late this week or early next week. There will be enough to also put it at Talleyrand Park and the Teener League Field.

HUMAN RESOURCES – Ms. Brown reported the Public Works/non-uniform Contract was voted on and approved by the Union and it was signed.

An advertisement was put in Sunday's paper for a part-time receptionist.

SAFETY – A letter was sent to the Bellefonte School District Board to review the SROs provided by the Police Force looking for a more equitable arrangement between them and the Borough. Mr. Brachbill received a letter, and it will be on the next work session agenda, which is tomorrow evening.

WATER/SANITATION – The draft Authority meeting minutes from March 1, 2016, are in the packet for review.

STREETS – Mr. Johnson reported street sweeping will begin the week of March 21. The Borough staff will make their best effort to remove stones that are in the area between the sidewalk and curb. Street sweepers run their normal schedule early in the morning. When they go into the neighborhoods, notices will be put up with a day's notice and barricades for no parking.

The Committee will be meeting to look at some requests from residents in regards to changing some directions of a street or two. They will also be reviewing the petition that Mr. Conklin presented tonight.

The brush containers can be put out the first Wednesday in April.

There is a request to look at the STOP sign issue on the corner of Penn Street and Logan Street. The Streets Committee will make a recommendation to Council.

Mr. Brachbill made a motion to provide a temporary STOP sign until the end of construction. Ms. Tosti-Vasey seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

Mr. Johnson looked at the area of Potter and West High Street, on the corner by Curves and the parking lot area of the Chamber, regarding additional street lighting. The Streets Committee will make a recommendation to Council.

Mr. Brachbill mentioned the light at the Subway shop. There are now complaints from people pulling out of the Match Factory area. Mr. Holderman will talk to them. The Streets Committee will meet before the next Council meeting. The light by the Wok that looks across Allegheny Street needs to be adjusted.

With all the dumpsters Cherry Lane has taken a beating. Somebody needs to be responsible for all the repairs down there.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION – Ms. Harvey reported they are trying to find a time for all three members to have a meeting to discuss ongoing projects and the email from Dr. O'Donnell about Bellefonte becoming a Bee Friendly community.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Stewart contacted the developer at the Cadillac Building and they complied by moving the staging area back to the edge of the parking space. Chief Schneider will be contacted to see if this is more suitable for the fire equipment.

- Mr. Stewart reported there is some activity at the Armory property. They are looking at a proposal. They are also working with the IDA, who is the owner of the property. As things progress, they will be mentioned.

- Mr. Johnson asked what the progress is on paving Allegheny Street by the elementary school. Mr. Stewart clarified that it is a state road. It was to be paved last summer. It is hoped that it will be taken care of in early April.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mrs. Dunne suggested Council members review the Resolution supporting the PA Health Care Plan (HB 1688) and bring comments to the next Council meeting. It asks that the Pennsylvania Association of Boroughs support it and lobby for it at the state legislature. A copy will also be sent to Senator Corman and Representative Benninghoff if the Council passes the resolution.

- There will be a County-Borough Town Hall meeting. This is a chance for the public to hear what is going on in town. What is happening with the County government and the Borough. And to raise concerns and kudos and complaints.

- An invitation was given to a celebration at Big Spring Spirits on Wednesday, March 16, to celebrate their LEED Gold certification from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Please RSVP by March 10 to Brandon@BigSpringSpirits.com.

- Mr. Holderman stated there have been problems with the Borough emails when it comes from certain entities, usually higher government entities that have more secure servers. The IT people said the Borough should get another domain name. It will not affect any current incoming email. The new domain will be bellefontepa.gov.

- The Borough was monitored for the CDBG program for the years 2005-2009 in February. The Borough got one finding on the handwritten policies of how things are structured. That is taken care of. Overall it was a good finding for those four years.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council Ms. Tosti-Vasey made a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting of March 8, 2016, at 9:50 p.m. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.