

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 7, 2014
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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: Beigle, Brachbill, Brown, DeCusati, Dunne, Halderman, Harvey, Schneider, Spicer

Members Excused: Li, Ramish

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

Staff Present:

Guests: Denny Nau, Bill Frantz, Vickie Leiter, Wendy Whitesell

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 March 17, 2014 meeting minutes.
- Communications - Letter Request re Arts & Crafts Artist Reception
- Communications - Letter Request re Bluebird Nest Boxes in Parkview Heights Park
- Communications - Letter Request re JazzPA
- HARB Certificates of Appropriateness: 198 Match Factory Place; 111 South Spring Street; 110 West Bishop Street; South Allegheny Street Streetscape Project
- Finance - McQuaide Blasko Invoice
- Old Business - Banner Resolution for Bellefonte Arts & Crafts Fair

- Old Business - Benner Resolution for Bellefonte Cruise

Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the entire Consent Agenda with the Arts & Crafts Artist Reception removed. Ms. Harvey seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the Arts & Crafts Reception request with the caveat that they obtain insurance and indicate that the Borough is insured under the insurance. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- An email invitation from Tracy Carey, Director of Public Services, Centre County Library and Historical Museum, to a FILM Forward: Advancing Cultural Dialogue program. This will be taking place at the Rowland Theater in Philipsburg on Friday, April 11th, at 5:30 p.m. The event is free. There will be four screenings in April. Two will be held at the Rowland Theater and two at the Bellefonte library.

- A letter from Larry Fennessey, Chair, Water Resources Monitoring Committee, ClearWater Conservancy thanking Bellefonte Borough Council for the donation of \$2,859.00.

- A letter from Albert Lavan, Centre County WNV Program Coordinator, Centre County Planning & Community Development Office giving notice that it is the WNV season. Residents are encouraged to eliminate sources of standing water such as unused swimming pools, stagnant ornamental ponds, poorly functioning roof gutters, and especially used tires. Where it is feasible, poorly functioning storm water systems should be cleaned out to eliminate standing water. Please contact the County Planning & Community Development Office if you are aware of wet areas that are breeding large amounts of mosquitoes so samples can be trapped for identification and testing.

- A letter from JoAnn L. Knupp, Chairperson requesting the use of Talleyrand Park for Concerts in the Park from June 15th through August 17th.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve this request. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. An alternate stage will be used on August 17th due to a previous reservation for a wedding. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Jodie Dawson, Event Coordinator, Watermarke Church, requesting the use of the Gazebo at Talleyrand Park on Sunday, September 14th, for a special fall concert/outreach event that will be free and open to the public. They would arrive around 3:00 p.m. for set-up and the actual event would start at 5:00 p.m. and run for three hours.

Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve this request as presented. Mr. Brachbill seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A letter from Charles A. Salvanish, Vice-President, Logan Fire Co. #1 requesting permission to hold its annual parade on Saturday, July 5th. The proposed parade route would begin at the Bellefonte Armory and progress to Talleyrand Park. Parade lineup would begin at 3:00 p.m. and the parade would proceed at 5:00 p.m. The request includes the closure of the following streets beginning at 4:45 p.m. until the end of the parade:

- Zion Road & East Bishop Street - starting at South Parkview Blvd. and ending at South Spring Street
- South Allegheny Street - From East Bishop Street to High Street
- West High Street - From Allegheny Street to Potter Street
- Dunlap Street - Entire length
- North Potter Street - Entire length

The closure of West High Street from Water Street to Potter Street and the entire length of Dunlap and North Potter Streets be closed for an extended period of time for parking of apparatus and gathering until the awards are presented.

The use of the main part of Talleyrand Park and the parking lot adjacent to the train station from 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve this request. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. Mr. Schneider abstained from voting.

ORAL

- None.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Beigle, Mr. Stewart and Mayor Wilson attended a Master Plan for the University Park Airport.

- Mr. Brachbill attended the Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission meeting on March 20. There was not a quorum for the January meeting so unfinished business was taken care of. There was election of officers. Ken Roan, Chairperson; Jeff Krafts, Vice-Chair; Bellefonte Borough, Treasurer; Secretary, Lindsey Stoches.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Wilson attended the airport's Master Plan Workshop last week and he attended Mayor's Day at the Youth Service Bureau Youth Center last week.

- Mayor Wilson read a proclamation for Week of the Young Child.

Mr. Nau represented Fight Crime - Invest In Kids in Pennsylvania, which is a non-profit organization comprised of approximately 230 PA District Attorneys, Police Chiefs and Sheriffs. They are accolades to get support for funding for early childhood education. The law enforcement community got involved because they realize the importance of early childhood education. They know that children that do not participate in Pre-K are more likely to drop out of high school. Kids that drop out of school are

3 1/2 times greater risk to be involved in crime and 8 times greater risk to be incarcerated. Sixty-eight percent of incarcerated inmates in state prisons are high school drop-outs. He thanked Council for supporting this educational endeavor.

Wendy Whitesell has been involved in early childhood for 34 years, living in Bellefonte for 35 years. She teaches at PSU and has run the childcare program for the last 20 years. She also worked for Head Start in Bellefonte for 10 years. She has been through a lot of early childhood programs. This Pre-K Counts for PA is not looking for money or a bill to be passed but they are looking for support and for sharing information with the communities so they understand the value of early childhood. If you understand the value then anytime anybody wants to ask for money or support of a program you would have the knowledge to say you understand that because you see the value of it for the community. Ms. Whitesell had slides for Council to view regarding child development. She encourages Council to support Pre-K for PA.

Bill Frantz, co-chair for Pre-K in PA for the Centre Region, addressed Council. He presented the vision for Pre-K children. At a meeting in Harrisburg for Early Learning he learned that illiteracy of third graders is what determines prison. Their goal is to provide adults with education regarding the importance of Pre-K for children.

There is information online to find out what centers are registered in the Keystone Stars program and how many stars they have.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

- Mr. Schneider made a motion to approve the Centre County Government Lot Addition Plan. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the Centre County Government Waiver Request - Land Development Plan. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. Mr. Schneider does not understand the hardship on this. Mr. Stewart stated one of them is a typical addition to a free-standing building the planning commission would have the ability to review everything. In this instance they are building over this area and there is no additional space associated with it. The waiver was denied.

- Mr. Beigle made a motion to approve the Theodore & Leah Ranio Lot Line/Lot Addition at 707 Halfmoon Street. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

HARB

- HARB Draft meeting minutes from the March 25, 2014 meeting are in the packet for review.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY - Mr. Schneider made a motion to sell: 1999 Ford Expedition - Automatic; 1995 International Garbage Truck - Manual; fax machine; Misc.

office supplies (toner and ink cartridges). Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE - No report.

PARK AND RECREATION - No report.

HUMAN RESOURCES - Mr. Spicer made a motion to appoint Debra Burger as the Treasurer and Connie Peters as the Assistant. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous. Mr. Holderman thanked Paul Badger for being the assistant treasurer for over thirty years. He will receive a letter for his dedicated work to the Borough.

- Proposals were opened for the Code Inspection Services. Because of the perceived conflict of interest with his employer Mr. Schneider abstained and moved to the gallery for this. Proposals were received from:

Building Inspection Underwriters of Pennsylvania, Erie, PA
Centre Region Council of Governments, State College, PA
Penns Valley Code Enforcement Agency, Millheim, PA
William Sieg, Mingoëville, PA
Keystone Inspection Agency, State College, PA
Wayne's Inspection Service, Philipsburg, PA
Bureau Veritas North America Incorporated, Dubois, PA

The proposals were turned over to the Human Resources Committee for review and recommendation.

- Mr. Spicer attended the PELRAS (Public Employee Labor Relations Advisory Service) Conference with Mr. Holderman and Mr. DeCusati. It was very beneficial and informative with a lot of discussion on policies.

SAFETY - Mr. Brachbill reported there was a Bellefonte Borough Safety Committee meeting held March 12. Grants were not received from the County for the Undine Fire Company Safety light. Additional grant funds are being solicited. There was no safety concern forms filled out. There was discussion on streets and poor visibility during snow plowing. They did a 1st Quarter inspection at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and there were a few items that needed addressed. The Big Spring first aid kit was updated. The 4th Quarter inspection will be the Borough building. Phoenix will be coming in on April 9 to do a presentation on lifting.

- Mr. Brachbill attended the Fire Executive Committee meeting on March 27. The Logan Engine should be delivered in October 2014. The Undines new Quint truck has been in service since February 2014 and is performing well.

A test was done on the proposed turn at North Allegheny and West Bishop Street. At North Allegheny Street and West Bishop Street there will be no bulb out because of turning lanes.

There was discussion regarding the placement and visibility of building addresses. Residents and building owners are encouraged to be sure their home address is placed where it is easily visible to emergency personnel.

Mr. Schneider reported the Federal SAFER Grant was not approved.

Mr. Halderman would like a copy of the Fire Executive Committee meeting minutes.

WATER AND SANITATION - Mr. Beigle reported the daily water withdrawal is average withdrawal.

Mr. Beigle reported that Bellefonte won the award for the best tasting water in Pennsylvania at the PA Rural Water Association Conference.

STREETS - Mr. DeCusati reported the Streets Committee met and reviewed seven issues.

The property owner will be requested to trim the hedge at the intersection of Badger Lane and Bishop Street and the yellow curb line will be extended to expand visibility. There will be no left turns coming out onto Bishop Street. The plowing crews will be requested to plow from Bishop Street down Badger Lane and not the other way.

The concern of the Committee regarding Blanchard Street and Logan Street extensions is that a lot of that stone and the washout from the street come onto Blanchard Street. The Committee recommends that Bill adds stone to take care of the short-term project and as paving funds are available the lane will be paved and made an official road with curbing and the properties will be assessed accordingly for that.

The Committee recommends one-side parking on the left side of Logan Street from Allegheny Street to Blanchard Street. Mr. Halderman feels you need to go door-to-door to inform the residents and let them know when it would begin. Mr. Stewart feels an ordinance would be required to do this.

The Committee recommends that West Fifth Avenue be added to the paving list. Part of this is in Spring Township and they will be requested to take care of that part.

The Streetscape Project is waiting for the Highway Occupancy Permit from PennDOT. That is expected to be issued soon with work beginning in April.

The Committee is exploring options for the Lamb Street work. The state did not provide the funds needed for this project.

Winter was tough on the roads and there are a lot of potholes. The residents are asked to take caution when driving. When weather improves, the holes will be patched.

- Several residents approached Mr. Spicer and commented on the condition of Allegheny Street in front of the elementary school. He feels the residents understand that Allegheny Street and Bishop Street are state roads. He recommends that this information be placed on the Borough website with the 800 number so they can call direct and report the potholes.

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION - Ms. Harvey reported she and Gay Dunne attended a Storm Water Management workshop March 19 in State College sponsored by the Spring Creek Watershed Commission and the Clearwater

Conservancy. They had several presentations. The two important ones were: a presentation by the director of Public Works from Lancaster. They were facing the task of minimizing the amount of water going into their sewer system. They developed green infrastructure that cost less than gray infrastructure; the second one was a presentation by someone from the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland. They developed a local government storm water financing manual, which there will be a copy available for Council. It outlines some sources of funding for storm water programs and how capital costs and operating and maintenance costs might be met.

Mrs. Dunne reported on a woman from New York City that worked on a section of Staten Island and did ponds. They had those all in place and then the storm Sandy came along and those ponds did very well during the storm. The workshop can be accessed on C-NET by entering Innovative Solutions for Storm Water Management.

- ClearWater Conservancy is having their 18th Annual Watershed Clean-up Day on Saturday, April 26, from 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon. There will be a picnic afterward at Spring Creek Park.

JUNIOR COUNCIL REPORT - None.

OLD BUSINESS

- Chamber Presentation (during regular meeting/covered by C-NET) May 19

- 329 East Lamb Street - Abandoned Property - There is a memo in the packet regarding this property. Mayor Wilson thanked Mr. Stewart and Council for moving forward with this.

- Mr. Holderman reported that Solicitor Tom Schrack is working on the closing for the Armory property. It is anticipated closing will occur near the end of April.

- DEP reported they are working on processing the Industrial Site Re-use Grant. When that is received, work can begin on the Waterfront Project. A PennDOT Transportation Assistance Grant was applied for to help move the red freight building that sits on Dunlop Street.

- Mr. Holderman attended the Community Development and Home Program from the DCED Conference. CDBG for 2014 anticipates a 1.3% increase.

- Mr. Schneider made a motion to set the skunk removal fee at 50% of the cost being paid by the resident and 50% of the cost being paid by the Borough. Mr. Spicer seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mrs. Dunne made a motion to approve the Solicitation Ordinance in the most recent draft including amendments that were suggested during the work session for advertisement. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- A copy of the Code of Conduct is on the table. Council members may voluntarily sign it.

NEW BUSINESS

- The Boroughs Association Conference is in session at the Penn Stater. Council members are welcome to attend it. There have been good sessions.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council Mr. Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting of April 7, 2014, at 8:47 p.m. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.