

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
November 17, 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, Spicer, Walker,

Members Excused: Tom Wilson, Mayor; Li

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

Staff Present:

Guests: Mark Filetti

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 3, 2014 Meeting Minutes
- Communications - Letter request re Bellefonte Chamber's Annual Croquet Tournament 2015
- Finance - October 2014 Treasurer's Report
- Finance - October 2014 Voucher Summary: \$1,522,506.57
- Finance - McQuaide Blasko Invoice

Mr. Spicer made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

- A letter from Erin St. Amant and Kayla Nussmeier, Event Co-Chairs, St. Johns School, thanking the Borough for the use of Governor's Park on October 17 for their Race for Education.

- An email from Andrew Richards, Treasurer, Bellefonte Historical Railroad Society, requesting the assistance of the Bellefonte Fire Police for crowd control and crossing safety at the High Street railroad crossing by the train station for the Santa Express trains December 19, 20 and 21. Specifically, they would like assistance on Saturday, December 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, December 21, from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Spicer made a motion to approve this request and turn it over to Chief Weaver for action. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- An email with pictures from Mark Filetti, 109 South Thomas Street, regarding parking spots on South Thomas Street and one parking spot on High Street.

- A letter from the Bellefonte Victorian Christmas Committee thanking the Borough for their support of Victorian Christmas and their continued support for the 2014 Victorian Christmas event that will be held December 12, 13 and 14. The request includes bagging all the meters surrounding the Diamond, Care for People side from Friday, December 12 through Sunday, December 14, to provide parking for committee members; an electrical source for two vendors placed outside of the YMCA along the alleyway; fire police to direct traffic for the Carriage Rides that weekend, Friday 5 p.m. - 9 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Mr. Beigle feels there should be a charge for the electricity. Mr. Stewart stated the Borough typically gets reimbursement for electricity and meters.

Mr. DeCusati made a motion to approve all requests as presented pending the approval of the Chief regarding the fire police and staff on terms of the issues regarding vendors and electrical hookups and see if there could be some type of reimbursement for the electrical. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

ORAL

- Mark Filetti, 109 South Thomas Street, has been a resident of Bellefonte since 1993. Several years ago South Thomas Street was repaved and when the parking spots were repainted five spots were eliminated. This made a difficult parking situation worse. With the addition of more rental units the parking situation has become increasingly worse. Two weeks ago his wife received a citation for parking across the yellow painted curb. One of the photos he included shows one of the spots is very clearly painted over the yellow on the curb. He took measurements and most of the spots are 24' long. One of them is 18' long. The spots on High Street are 20' - 21' long. It is his contention that there is plenty of space for additional parking spots on South

Thomas Street and he would like to have the Borough have that investigated and have the lines repainted.

This was turned over to the Streets Committee for review and recommendation. Mr. DeCusati stated if they are repainted it will not be until spring.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Mr. Brachbill reported there will be a Nittany Valley Joint Planning Commission meeting Thursday, November 20, in the Council Chambers. It is being hosted by Bellefonte. Mr. Brachbill cannot attend that meeting so someone will need to take care of the refreshments and open the door for the meeting.

- Mrs. Dunne reported that Wednesday, November 19, is the Spring Creek Watershed Commission monthly meeting. Each meeting is televised. The speaker will be Monica Allison Billock, from the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland. She is in the Lancaster office. She will be discussing Stormwater Authorities and how such an authority can occur. Mrs. Dunne will send the viewing schedule of this meeting on C-NET to Council members.

- Mr. Halderman attended a Safety Committee meeting at the COG office on Wednesday, November 12. They used it as a special meeting with all the people who do services for disaster preparation, such as West Penn, Columbia Gas, PennDOT, Police Services, Fire Services, Water and Sewer. They discuss what they have coming up for the year as far as projects so the Borough and the Region knows what is going on. Mr. Halderman feels it is a law and the Borough should be doing that also. He asked Mr. Stewart to research that.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- The police report is at the table for review. Mrs. Brown stated Council has been requesting a more detailed report and have not received it. That will be shared with the mayor.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ZONING/PLANNING

HARB

1) 302 East Curtin Street - Replacement of front door with a new door; as presented.

Mrs. Dunne made a motion to award a Certificate of Appropriateness for 302 East Curtin Street as recommended by HARB. Ms. Harvey seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- HARB Draft meeting minutes from the November 10, 2014 meeting are in the packet for review.

BUILDING AND PROPERTY - Mr. Walker stated the Committee is continuing to review the preliminary land development and use potential for the Armory property, including a discussion that was just updated with the neighboring Weis property in regard to shifting some of the property lines around to the advantage of both properties.

FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE - The October 2014 Budget vs. Actual and Current vs. Prior are in the packet for review.

PARK AND RECREATION - Mrs. Brown announced that the Board of Governors from the Centre County Historical Society awarded a plaque to the Bellefonte Borough and the Talleyrand Park Committee for Excellence in Historic Preservation for the History of Heritage. She said they are very honored to receive the award.

- Mrs. Brown reported Bellefonte Victorian Christmas and Bellefonte Borough will have a Light Up the Town Ceremony on the Diamond in Bellefonte on Tuesday, November 25, at 6:00 p.m. in remembrance of Bob Dorman, who passed away in November of this year. Bob was the Bellefonte Borough electrician for 26 years. He loved decorating the town for Christmas. Please join us for this special event.

HUMAN RESOURCES - Mr. Spicer would like to schedule a Committee meeting to discuss the part-time police officer.

SAFETY - Mr. Brachbill reported the Bellefonte Safety Committee meeting was rescheduled from Wednesday, November 12 to Wednesday, November 19, at 1:00 p.m. due to the funeral of Mr. Dorman. He expressed his condolences to the family.

WATER AND SANITATION - Mr. Beigle reported there was an Authority meeting on Tuesday, November 4. They discussed budgeting and the costs being faced within the water department.

Thursday, November 20, Mr. Beigle, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Halderman, Mr. Cook and Mr. Noll will go down near Philadelphia to look at a new process for a sewer plant. If this process is successful, they like it and the project is taken on at the sewer plant, it would be expensive, but save money in the long run. A couple engineers from Penn State are also going because they are looking at the same system.

STREETS - Mr. DeCusati reported at the last Council meeting there was a visit by property owners of Potter Street and a renter that would like to start a cider business and they were requesting improvements on lighting in that area. Mr. DeCusati looked at that area in the evening and made three recommendations. One is when you drive by CVS there are lights on the wall that were out. Mr. Stewart sent them a letter asking them to fix their lights. He is going to ask West Penn Power to install a light on the pole that is closest to the business. An unrelated area had to do with North Thomas Street as you come around the bend. There is a large pine tree that blocks the light from one

of the street lights. Staff will check into the tree. The pole is there but a light will be added to the Borough's lighting system. Mr. Holderman reported two lights were requested. The business is open in the evenings on the weekends.

- There was a partial punch list done for the Streetscape Job but not the final one. An invoice has not yet been received. Mr. Beigle felt they did a great job. He felt if the state would pave the area from Bishop Street on down it would really make that area look sharp.

Mrs. Brown stated there is one huge tree on Allegheny Street and it looks so out of scale. It is located in front of the Temple Court Building. It is in the wires. Penn State took an inventory of the downtown trees and the Borough has not received that yet.

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION - No report.

JUNIOR COUNCIL - No report.

OLD BUSINESS

- 2014 CDBG Project - The 2014 application is due January 5 to DCED. There are two options. Option #1 would be to use the 2014 funds to upgrade Talleyrand Park and design a brick walkway from the Governors Memorial to the Gazebo with extensions to each side of the raceway and the stone walkway; extend the black iron fence in the old part of the park along the railroad tracks from the black railroad bridge to the restrooms for safety; to remove the grass, regrade the surface and add additional soil for the slope and appropriate drain system and re-sod. This project would give a clear break and Mr. Holderman would be able to close out all the CDBG contracts from 2010 - 2014. Option #2 would be to set aside multiple year funding for fire suppression systems, but Mr. Holderman would prefer to hold that off until 2015. Next year's funding would be approximately \$99,000.00. Mr. Beigle asked if a pedestrian walkway by the railroad bridge would be an option. Mr. Holderman could include that in and write a contract for alternates.

Mrs. Brown made a motion to go with Option #1, including the request to look at installing a pedestrian walkway by the railroad bridge. Mr. Spicer seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

- The draft 2015 Meeting Schedule was in the packet for review. It was requested to move the January 6th Authority meeting to January 7th.

- The 2015 Holiday Schedule is in the packet for review.

- Refuse services for Thursday, November 27th, (Thanksgiving) will be moved to Wednesday, November 26th. There is no change to the Friday refuse pickup.

- Mr. DeCusati made a motion to provide courtesy parking from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.

- Mr. Holderman reported there is a contract for professional services for the Lamb Street project. Stahl Shaffer has been chosen. Mr. Holderman reviewed the contract and recommended that it be sent back and request that the indemnity have a mutual clause rather than one way.

Mrs. Brown made a motion to have the contract sent back to Stahl Shaffer to negotiate the terms. Mr. Beigle seconded the motion. If it is agreeable, Mr. Halderman will sign it. A voice vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no other business to come before Council, Mrs. Dunne made a motion to adjourn the meeting of November 17, 2014 at 8:15 p.m. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. A voice vote was unanimous.