

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
December 20, 2021- 7:30 p.m.
236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823
www.bellefonte.net

The December 20, 2021, meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order by at 7:30 p.m. Executive Session was held regarding personnel issues.

Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence for all who assisted with Borough activities and duties, including volunteers, staff, and non-profits.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Randall Brachbill
Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey
Mr. Douglas Johnson
Mr. Jon Eaton
Mayor Tom Wilson
Ms. Melissa Hombosky
Ms. Debbie Cleeton
Mr. Frank Halderman
Ms. Mary Abbott
Mr. Michael Prendergast

STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Ralph Stewart, Borough Manager
Mr. Don Holderman, Assistant Borough Manager
Harry Brooks, Code Enforcement Officer
Gina Thompson, HARB Administrator
Sean Weaver, Chief of Police

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Halderman wished to remove the ABC information from New Business. He read aloud appointments protocol. The President agreed and removed this item from the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public Comment was heard from residents regarding the parking at the Diamond.

Johnson moved to reinstate the four parking spaces on the north side of High Street that are now closed. Halderman seconded.

Johnson would like to see two reassigned for compact vehicles only, with no trucks or SUVs. He would also like to see back in parking only.

Johnson moved to reinstate two parking stalls for compact only vehicles with back in parking only. Prendergast seconded. Motion carried.

Public comment was given by James Dunne on volunteerism in the Borough.

Salley Houser also spoke before Council regarding volunteerism and the Victorian Christmas, and all the support given her over the years. She also announced that she will be stepping down as the organizer for Victoria Christmas starting next year. The Council thanked her for her years of service with this program.

Public Hearing on 2022 Budget – Scott Rhoat spoke regarding his email and the budget and EMS funding.

Consent Agenda: Brachbill moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Prendergast seconded. Motion carried.

Brachbill moved to approve the December 6, 2021, minutes. Prendergast seconded. Motion carried.

Written Communications: No Council action was taken. Correspondence received included a letter from BHCA on the Winter Market, a thank you letter from a visitor (Jim Baker) regarding the EV charging stations, letters of support to reappoint Joe Beigle to the Water Authority, and a copy of the Happy Valley Bureau annual report.

Office of Community Affairs:

PLANNING COMMISSION:

ZONING: Report on short term rental ordinance was received by Council.

HARB: No Council action taken.

Mayor: Wilson reported on the police report and the parking/animal control reports. Being his last meeting as Mayor, he gave thanks for the years he was given the opportunity to serve as Mayor and Council member.

Council President: Tosti-Vasey reported on the White House briefing on intergovernmental affairs regarding the American Rescue Plan, the pandemic, and Healthcare Open Enrollment.

Building and Property: Nothing presented.

Finance and Government Performance:

Cleeton moved to approve the 2022 budget. Prendergast seconded. Motion carried,

Cleeton moved to approve Tax Ordinance 12202021-1. Prendergast seconded. Motion carried.

Cleeton moved to approve the revised fee schedule. Prendergast seconded. Motion carried.

Parks and Recreation: No Council action taken.

Human Resources: No Council action taken.

Safety: No Council action taken.

Water/Refuse/Compost Facility: No Council action taken.

Streets: No Council action taken.

Energy and Environmental Conservation: No Council action taken.

Special Committee Reports:

Brachbill moved to adopt the rotating Council leadership roles protocol. Halderman seconded. Motion failed. Roll Call, Eaton, nay, Hombosky, nay, Johnson, yes, Prendergast Nay, Halderman, yes, Tosti-Vasey, nay, Cleeton, yes, Brachbill, yes, Abbott, nay.

Eaton moved that when appointments are made in January 2022, per what Halderman discussed this evening, those appointments that have people that are on Council, those Council members should rotate just as Council leadership will rotate. Cleeton seconded.

Motion was tabled.

Brachbill moved to table the resolution to establish protocol for conduct during Council meetings. Cleeton second. Motion carried.

Borough Manager: November 2021 report received.

OLD BUSINESS:

Brachbill moved to approve the parking lot permits for the Mason Lodge. Prendergast seconded. Motion carried.

Prendergast moved to advertise 2022 meeting schedule. Cleeton seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: No Council action taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Stewart thanked all Council members for everything they have done during their tenure as Council members. He thanked staff for their team efforts helping him do his job. Halderman, Eaton, Tosti-Vasey, and Brachbill also said some final words.

ADJOURNMENT:

Brachbill moved to adjourn. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.