

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
MEETING MINUTES
March 7, 2022- 7:30 p.m.
236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823
www.bellefonte.net

The March 7, 2022, meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order by Randy Brachbill at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence for the country of Ukraine.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Randall Brachbill
Mr. Douglas Johnson
Ms. Barbara Dann
Ms. Shawna McKean
Ms. Johanna Sedgwick
Mr. Kent Bernier
Ms. Deborah Cleeton
Ms. Rita Purnell
Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey
Mayor Buddy Johnson

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

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Tosti-Vasey added two items of communications at the end of the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items) Nothing presented.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Johnson moved to approve the Lion's Club request to use the open space and two parking stalls to sell their annual rib dinners on April 23, 2022, from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cleeton seconded. Motion carried.

Tosti-Vasey moved to approve the road closures for The Bellefonte Cruise event, with conditional approval of the banner request on both sides of the Veteran's Bridge pending availability. No approval is recommended for signage on the fencing above the waterfront park and the event staff will police skateboards and bikes during the event. Bernier seconded.

Stewart checked with Mr. McCool of the event, and he stated that the signs would be on the private property owned by Tom Songer at the waterfront parcel. He would get approval from Mr. Songer regarding the signs at that location. The signage he would like to sign there would show all the vendors and contributors to the event.

Motion carried.

Johnson moved to approve the DBI 2022 Garden Party request to include \$25.00 fee. Dann seconded. Motion carried.

Sedgwick moved to approve the request for Bellefonte Soccer Association to use Governor's Park Soccer Field March 21 through June 11, 2022, including payment of all fees. McKean seconded.

Bernier noted his concern about foul balls from baseball being played at the field.

Motion carried.

Cleeton moved to approve the Summer Craft Expo including fees. Dann seconded. Motion carried.

Johnson moved to approve the Bellefonte Women's Club Saturday Night Movies event at Talleyrand Park. McKean seconded. Motion carried.

Tosti-Vasey moved to approve waiver of the fees associated with renting Talleyrand Park for the movie event with the \$25.00 admin fee required and a refundable damage deposit required. Sedgwick seconded. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: *Johnson moved to approve the February 22, 2022, meeting minutes as amended. Cleeton seconded. Motion carried.*

REPORTS: Written reports were received.

Mayor Johnson spotlighted Mia Johnson of the Bellefonte Alzheimer's Support Group. A link will be added to the mayor's page.

Office of Community Affairs: Chicken Ordinance was discussed.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Minutes were received.

HARB: March 8, 2022, meeting canceled.

ZONING: Nothing presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

LERTA Ordinance was reviewed by the solicitor and draft was forwarded to the School District and the County.

Johnson moved to add language to the LERTA Ordinance making LERTA Program retroactive for property owners who had obtained a building permit but had not started construction as of November 1, 2021. Dann seconded. Motion carried.

Cleeton moved to approve the Musser Lane Composting Guidelines. Purnell seconded.

Johnson thought closing the gates at 2 p.m. was too early. Dann discussed the reasoning behind the time of close. Mr. Auman had made this closure recommendation to the committee. With staff not being present, it was a concern if cameras were not in place, they could not catch license numbers. Until the cameras are installed the Wednesday 6 a.m.- 6 p.m. will not go into effect.

Tosti-Vasey moved to approve the 2 p.m. closing every day until the cameras are installed and at that time Council may reconsider the time.

Tosti-Vasey moved to table this issue until cameras are installed. Dann seconded. Motion carried.

Cleeton moved to amend the right of way ordinance to allow for an exception to a 6-inch max height for flowers/ornamentals and not enforce the curb ordinance amendment while the amendment is being completed. Dann seconded. Motion carried.

Johnson moved to nominate as a PSAB board member, Randy Brachbill, and to appoint on the PSAB resolutions and policy committee, Barbara Dann. Bernier seconded. Motion carried.

Purnell moved to pass Resolution 03072022-01 authorizing Bellefonte Borough to apply for the DCED Local Share Grant. Cleeton seconded. Motion carried.

Tosti-Vasey moved to approve the Shop Small Banner Resolution 03072022-02. Cleeton seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Goals items to be added to the schedule for the March 21, 2022, work session. Ms. Purnell suggested little boxes like the little libraries to place information in regarding the Borough and

happenings in the Borough. Nittany Valley Joint Rec Authority would also like to attend the work session, per Holderman. Dann would like to schedule something in January to schedule a date/time to discuss goals of 2023 in advance so everyone was aware and could attend.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Scott Mauger 328 E. Lamb Street appeared before Council to discuss pet waste (helpful to put in the newsletter). The sidewalks to be repaired last year timeline was discussed. Fines were discussed. He noticed that some sidewalks were not repaired. Stewart offered that extensions may have been granted if communication was open, and a good faith effort was given to do the work.

Tosti-Vasey was also approached about the lack of pet waste removal. Another resident who lives in the 247-261 half-block section of North Spring Street asked if it would be possible to shorten the length of the parking spaces from 15 feet down to 9 feet so that the residents would have more parking spaces. He requested the change for himself and his neighbors as there are not enough parking spaces in this half-block of duplex housing to park. Mike Prendergast reported to Tosti-Vasey that there is a broken latch on one of the EV chargers in the West Parking lot near CVS.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Bernier moved to adjourn. Ms. Dann seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Executive Session: Real Estate, Security.