

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

May 16, 2022- 7:30 p.m.

236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823

www.bellefonte.net

I. CALL TO ORDER

The May 16, 2022, meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order by Randy Brachbill at 7:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (followed by a moment of silence.)

III. MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Kent Bernier
Mr. Randall Brachbill
Ms. Deborah Cleeton
Ms. Barbara Dann
Mr. Douglas Johnson
Ms. Shawna McKean
Ms. Rita Purnell
Ms. Johanna Sedgwick
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

IV. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

N. Spring Street Parking Spaces. *Tosti-Vasey made a motion to add an action item about the N. Spring St. parking spaces. Dann seconded. The motion passed and the item was added to the main agenda under New Business.*

V. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items)

A property owner in Bellefonte spoke about No-Mow May. She asked that Council consider "No Mow May" as a project for next year, as it can be important for native pollinators and insects.

Public Hearing (*none*)

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

A resident sent information to Council regarding No Mow May. There was discussion about how No Mow May will help pollinators. A concern was raised about ticks, and it was clarified that No Mow May is voluntary. *Tosti-Vasey motioned to rescind the grass height requirement for the rest of this May and consider it again for next year. Seconded by Sedgwick. Motion carried.*

Parking Meters Downtown. A resident was concerned about losing the 15 min parking meters downtown.

Bellefonte Middle School Lacrosse Team Banquet request to have rental fee waived for use of Pavilion #3 at Governor's on 5/21/22. *A motion was made by Cleeton to waive the fee. McKean seconded. There was no discussion. Motion carried.*

The Church of Good Shepherd requests to block Valentine Hill Road from 9 AM-4:30 PM on Saturday July 23, 2022 for Vacation Bible School. *Dann motioned to approve the road closure. Seconded by Tosti-Vasey. Motion carried.*

Bellefonte Plaza Theatre concern. The writer requests that Council consider restoring the building back to a theatre. The borough does not own the building.

2022 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Results - press release. The event was very successful and will be held again next year. No council action requested.

Bellefonte Bandits Senior Legion Baseball Team is requesting to use Governor's Park Baseball Field in June, July, and August 2022. *Bernier motioned to conditionally approve the Bellefonte Bandits' use of the Baseball field at Governor's Park. The conditions are that Bellefonte must be named on the insurance, that additional information of times/dates be provided and that the league contact be aware of pavilion rentals. Johnson seconded. Motion carried.*

Short-Term Rental ban Ordinance Concern. Council met with residents last week and will meet with STR owners this week, and they are about halfway through the process. No action was taken by council at this meeting.

Placement of St. Johns' yield crossing sign. St. Johns is requesting the sign be moved closer to the actual crosswalk. It was discussed that there are PennDOT regulations to consider. It was decided that this issue will be handled administratively.

Parking spot in front of Bellefonte Wok. This item will be added to the goal's list for the next work session.

PA Energy Newsletter. No council action required.

Hometown Hero Banner Pick up Day - Saturday, May 21, 2022, from 9am-4pm.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Cleeton motioned to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Dann. Motion carried.

VIII. REPORTS

Mayor Johnson

EMS Week May 15-21, 2022 Proclamation was read.

Parking Enforcement & Animal Control April 2022 Report. There was discussion about parking citations.

Office of Community Affairs (OCA)

1. Planning: Recommend approval of the following projects, with the understanding that the applicant will work with zoning administrator to incorporate review comments from the County Planning Office.

Confer's Jewelers Building Addition and Renovation – Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan. *Motion to approve by Bernier, seconded by Cleeton. There was no discussion. Motion carried.*

Bellefonte Waterfront Development Project Final Plan – Replots. *Motion to approve by Johnson, seconded by Purnell. There was no discussion. Motion carried.*

Bellefonte Waterfront Development Project – Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan. *Motion to approve by McKean, seconded by Cleeton. There was a brief discussion about timelines, contractors, costs, supply chain issues, and other details. Motion carried.*

Nuisance Codes Nothing presented.

Borough Manager Nothing presented

Historical and Architectural Review Board (HARB) Nothing presented.

Planning Commission Nothing presented.

Zoning Nothing presented.

Liaison Reports Written reports were submitted.

Cindy Hahn, C-NET Executive Director provided a LIVE Report under Liaison Reports

IX. OLD BUSINESS

2023-2026 Centre County MPO Transportation Improvement letter of support for Mill Street and Phoenix Avenue. Letter is due May 30, 2022. A Draft letter is included. *Tosti-Vasey motioned and Doug Johnson seconded to send letter to the CCMPO. There was no discussion. Motion carried.* Downtown Streetlight examples by the YMCA as mentioned at the May 2, 2022 Council Meeting. Discussion included: the bulbs are LEDs, and how the new lighting will improve downtown. *Johnson motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve the purchase of Clear Globes for the streetlights downtown. Motion carried.*

X. NEW BUSINESS

Fall 2022 Penn State Sustainability Projects Council would like to submit. It was requested this item be discussed in a work session. The project chair needs the information by the end of the month. This will be discussed in the first work session in June.

Grant Funding Opportunities for the Police Station Renovations, Governor's Park Baseball Field upgrades and the Big Spring Cover Project. *Cleeton motioned and Dann seconded to support efforts to find and pursue funding opportunities for these projects. No discussion. Motion carried.*

Community Development Block Grant program modification. Discussion included a question about funding. *McKean motioned and Purnell seconded to approve the modification presented to the Community Development Block Grant program. Motion carried.*

Letter to PA DCED for Greenways Trails and Recreation Program funding commitment. This will be used in the Parkview Development at Parkwood Drive. Discussion included clarification that this motion is only approving a commitment letter that will go into an application for 2 different grants. The design has already been approved. *Bernier motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve the Borough's commitment to fund \$33,210.00 allocated from the Borough's Bulk Water Fund. Motion carried.*

Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program Grant Resolution No. 05162022-01. Discussion included comments that this is a good project to pursue. *Bernier motioned and Sedgwick seconded to approve the Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program Grant Resolution No. 05162022-01. Motion carried.*

Letter to PA DCED for Watershed Restoration and Protection Program funding commitment. Discussion included clarification that the Borough will only accept one of the funding options. *Cleeton motioned and Dann seconded to approve the Borough's commitment to fund \$33,210.00 allocated from the Borough's Bulk Water Fund. Motion carried.*

Watershed Restoration and Protection Program Grant Resolution No. 05162022-02. *Purnell motioned and Tosti-Vasey seconded to approve the Watershed Restoration and Protection Program Grant Resolution No. 05162022-02. Motion carried.*

CATA Local Match Share Agreement and Resolution No. 05162022-03. Discussion included the operating number is \$25,370 and the capital number is \$3,439, spread into 4 payments. The dates are in the resolution. They do not guarantee a certain number of runs or service. *Cleeton motioned and Dann seconded to approve the CATA Local Match Share Agreement and Resolution No. 05162022-03. Motion carried.*

Consider items from the Goals/Issues list to be scheduled for the 06/06/2022 Council Work Session. This list will be updated at the next agenda meeting.

N. Spring Street 247-261 Parking Spaces – shorten the parking spaces to add the additional space. This item will be handled administratively.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Agenda Items)

Barry Crocker a Short-Term Rental owner/resident spoke regarding the STR ordinance.

A council member reminded members that the 2022 PA Municipal District Meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2022.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Bernier moved to adjourn. Dann seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.