

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

June 21, 2022- 7:30 p.m.

236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823

www.bellefonte.net

I. CALL TO ORDER

The June 21, 2022, meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order by Randy Brachbill at 7:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. MEMBERS PRESENT

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

- Request from Philipsburg Heritage Days for police assistance/traffic control for their event/parade on July 16, 2022.

A motion to add this request to the agenda was made by Purnell and seconded by Cleeton. Discussion included a question regarding making the approval conditional based on the Fire Police approving/accepting participation in the event. It was noted this motion was only to add the item to the agenda. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tosti-Vasey to conditionally approve the fire police pending their final approval at the Philipsburg event on July 16, 2022, and seconded by Doug Johnson. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items)

- Ms. Bobbi Barnett, a resident living near Parkview Blvd, spoke regarding the intersection on S. Parkview Blvd. and Zion Road. This comment is a follow-up to the comments made at the council meeting in April. The resident mentioned the intersection needs a traffic light because several new businesses are moving into the area now. A petition for a traffic light was signed by 205 area residents and was presented to the Council.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

- Bellefonte Arts and Crafts Fair sent a letter regarding their downtown event on August 5-6, 2022. They will need some street closures. There are two motions, one to approve the event and one to approve the street closures.
 - *Cleeton motioned to approve the Bellefonte Arts n Crafts Fair on August 5-6, 2022, 10 am - 8 pm Friday, and 9 am – 6 pm Saturday. Dann seconded. Discussion included a question regarding insurance, PennDot approval, etc. The motion to approve the dates and times of this event was amended to be conditional pending Council receiving further information regarding PennDot approval and insurance. The amendment motion was made by Tosti-Vasey and seconded by McKean. There was no further discussion. The motion carried.*
 - *A motion was made by Tosti-Vasey to conditionally approve the Bellefonte Arts n Crafts Fair street closures, pending the conditions in the previous motion are met: N and S Allegheny, Bishop Street to Linn Street, W High Street, and Allegheny Street to Spring Street intersection for Thursday, August 4th, 6 pm – Saturday, August 6th, 8 pm. Seconded by Johnson. Discussion included specifying that the fair is being moved from Talleyrand Park to Downtown Bellefonte this year. Councilmember D. Johnson expressed concern that the event should be held in the park, as Talleyrand is a much more appealing environment for this event. The motion carried with one nay – Johnson.*

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

1. General Council Meeting Minutes June 6, 2022
2. Finance Stover McGlaughlin Invoice May 2022
3. Finance Budget v. Actual May 2022
4. Finance Budget v. Actual Summary May 2022
5. Finance Treasurer's Report May 2022
6. Finance Voucher Summary May 2022

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Cleeton and seconded by McKean. Items 1 and 4 from the Consent Agenda were removed. Motion carried.

Several corrections and clarifications to the June 6, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes were submitted by Tosti-Vasey for review.

A question regarding percentages in the Budget v. Actual Summary, May 2022 was raised. The question will be sent to Borough Staff for clarification.

A motion to approve the June 6, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes and conditional approval (pending clarification) of the Finance Budget v. Actual Summary May 2022 was made by Dann and seconded by Cleeton. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.

VIII. REPORTS

Mayor Johnson

- Mayor Johnson reports that he attended the Children's Fair and the Bellefonte Cruise in the last few weeks and is very proud of our community.

Police – Chief Weaver (presented by Mayor Johnson)

- Chief Weaver reported that several officers discovered unlocked buildings while on foot patrol in the evenings. He would like to remind community members and business owners that they should make sure their buildings and properties are locked and secured each evening. He wants to remind building owners that they should have updated contact information on file with the police department.
- Mr. Holderman mentioned that our parking enforcement officer has accepted a position in the Wastewater Treatment Plant, so there is a vacancy for a part-time parking enforcement officer. The vacancy was posted today. It was noted that the other part-time parking enforcement officer will cover duties as needed until the position is filled.

Office of Community Affairs (OCA)/Historical and Architectural Review Board (HARB)

- Call for motion/2nd to approve/issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for the following projects:
 1. 407 W. High Street – demolition of the existing structure and construction of a new gateway structure to match Bonfatto's.
 2. 106-114 N. Allegheny Street – demolition and renovation project.
 3. 128 W. Howard Street (Trinity Church) – Retroactive approval for the replacement of three deteriorated brownstone sills on the Howard Street side.
 4. 214 N. Allegheny (Bellefonte B&B) – Approve porch and walkway project. (TABLED)

Motion to table item 4, 214 N. Allegheny Street, until the July 5 meeting, made by Tosti-Vasey, seconded by Dann. There was no further discussion. Motion carried with one abstention – Brachbill.

Motion to approve item 1, 407 W. High Street, made by Johnson, seconded by Cleeton. Motion carried.

Motion to retroactively approve item 3, 128 W. Howard Street, by Johnson, seconded by Dann. There was a brief discussion. Motion carried. Council President R. Brachbill abstained from the vote.

Motion to approve item 2, 106-114 N. Allegheny Street, made by Johnson, seconded by Dann. There was a brief discussion. Motion carried.

Liaison Reports

- Written reports were submitted.

Nuisance codes (NONE)

Borough Manager Nothing presented

Planning Commission Nothing presented.

Zoning Nothing presented.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- Nothing presented

X. NEW BUSINESS

- Muncibid Auction items List.

Purnell motioned to approve adding the listed items to Muncibid for Auction after removing the delineators from the list. Cleeton seconded it. There was a brief discussion. Motion approved.

- Solar exploration for the Borough. There was a brief discussion regarding potential sites and advisory resources. No council action is requested.
- Commercial Insurance RFP is due on Tuesday, July 5, 2022, at 12 pm (Noon). No Council action is needed at this time.
- CDBG Project Selection.
Ms. Tosti-Vasey motioned to approve supporting the suspension bridge project, using the same decking material used on the current railroad pedestrian bridge. This motion includes ramping to make the suspension bridge ADA accessible. Ms. Dann seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion carried.

- Workplace Safety Committee recommendations to Council. Consider adopting vehicle take home, seat belt use, and non-business-related transport policies.
Cleeton motioned to have staff draft these policies for Council consideration. Tosti-Vasey seconded. There was no discussion. The motion carried.
- Consider Items from the Goals/Issues list to be scheduled for the July 5, 2022, Council Work Session.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Agenda Items)

- Councilmember D. Johnson mentioned that the committee has been working hard on the STR Ordinance and urged borough residents to voice their opinions regarding this issue.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Johnson moved to adjourn. Dann seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Executive Session followed tonight's meeting.