

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

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

III. MEMBERS PRESENT Mr. Kent Bernier

(All Members Present) 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
Shawn Weaver, Police Chief

IV. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions, but there was a change to the PMF summit information was added to reports.

V. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

NONE

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT - Agenda and Non-Agenda/General Items and Comments

Ms. Bobbi Barnet spoke regarding the proposed traffic light at Parkview Drive and Zion Road. The traffic counters have been placed at the intersection.

Reminders: B. Dann

Election day: Polls are open from 7am – 8pm.

Friday 11/11/2022 is Veteran's Day and there will be a service at the Courthouse at 11am.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

Council received request from Bellefonte Victorian Christmas to close W. Cherry Lane from S. Allegheny St to Perry Lane to allow the horse trailer to park during carriage rides.

Bernier motioned and D. Johnson seconded to close W. Cherry Lane from S. Allegheny St to Perry Lane Friday, December 9th 3pm-8pm, Saturday December 10th 9am-4pm and Sunday, December 11th 9am-4pm. No discussion. Motion carried.

Bellefonte Victorian Christmas is requesting Food Vendors on both sides of E. High St. Friday, December 9th, 4pm-8pm and Saturday, December 10th 10am-5pm. These food vendors would be within the 150ft of a Brick-and-Mortar restaurant.

Cleeton motioned and Sedgwick seconded to approve food vendors on E. High St Friday, December 9th 4pm-8pm and Saturday, December 10th 10am-5pm. Discussion included waiving the 150ft setback for larger events, security for the event and other vendor needs. Motion carried.

Centre County MPO Public Participation Plan- Public Comment period ends December 6, 2022. Council may consider submitting comments. This item is scheduled for the next work session.

League of Women Voters Banner Complaint. If the Borough allows banners, we cannot regulate content. No council action required.

Office of the State Fire Commissioner Volunteer Tax Credit Program. No council action required.

Joanne Tosti-Vasey's notes from the 2022 PML Summit. No council action required.

Request for Handicapped parking space in front of Sheila's Clipper Cuts. Consider scheduling this topic for a work session administratively. It was discussed that a handicapped bag could be an option. No Council action is required.

St. John's Catholic School Christmas Caroling on December 21, 2022.

Tosti-Vasey motioned, and B. Dann seconded to allow St. John's Catholic School students to sign Christmas carols to local businesses and shoppers in the borough on December 21, 2022 beginning at 12:15pm. No discussion. The motion carried.

DBI Light Up Bellefonte – request for letter of support from Council.

D Johnson motioned and Cleeton seconded to write a letter of support for DBI to pursue the downtown lighting initiative. Discussion included a video presentation mockup of the proposed lighting, presented by DBI (via Zoom). The focus for the lighting project is the Diamond. DBI has a few limited funds and they are also applying for grant monies to help fund the project.

Local businesses will also help with funding. Nothing in the initiative would have to be approved by or come before HARB. Some questions regarding light pollution and bird migrations were raised. The motion carried with one nay (McKean).

Public Thank You's: (No council action required.)

Officer Neideigh

Thank you to the Officer who responded to an accident call

Thank you to the officer(s) for responding to the October 24 event at Penn State.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda includes the following items:

<i>General</i>	Council Meeting Minutes October 17, 2022
----------------	--

There were several corrections/edits to the minutes.

D Johnson motioned and R. Purnell seconded to approve the amended minutes. No discussion. Motion carried.

IX. REPORTS

Mayor Johnson

Monday October 31st was Trick or Treat night in the Borough. Borough officials had fun handing out candy to community members. George Washington even managed to make an appearance. Thank you to Giant for donating candy for the event. Bellefonte is looking forward to having Giant Food Stores as a new neighbor!

Police – Chief Weaver

No Report

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

1. Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) – No projects to approve
2. Administrative Approvals: NONE
3. Item of interest – HARB was awarded a CLG (Certified Local Government) Historic Preservation Grant for \$12,500.00, which will be used to update the Design Guidelines.
4. Zoning: NONE

Liaison Reports (NONE)

Nuisance codes (NONE)

Borough Manager (NONE)

Planning Commission (NONE)

X. CURRENT and OLD BUSINESS

Spring Creek Watershed Commission appointments.

D Johnson motioned and Dann seconded to approve the Water Authority to nominate one council member and one Borough At-Large Representative to the SCWC with Borough Council approval. The motion carried with no discussion.

Bellefonte Resident is requesting the One-Way signage on Ridge Street between East Curtin Street and East Beaver Street be removed.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and D Johnson seconded to have the Streets Department evaluate the need for this signage and report back to Council to approve recommended action from the Streets Department. No discussion. Motion carried.

Short Term Rental Ordinance Public Hearing is Scheduled for Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 5:30pm at Lambert Hall. No council action required.

Increase to Rental Housing Administrative Fee.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Cleeton seconded to increase the Rental Housing Administrative Fee from \$2.00 to \$4.00. Discussion included a question regarding if this increase was per unit or per property. It was clarified that the fee is per unit. The motion carried.

Updates: (No council action required.)

PennDOT Traffic Study at Parkview & Zion Road

Waterfront Development Project

Parkview Heights Stormwater run-off project.

Lighting Improvements at key Intersections in the downtown/Central Business District – This project has been completed. FYI, no council action required.

Borough Office Closed November 11th and 24th. No action is requested.

Season Grass/Brush Pick Up ends November 16th. No action is requested.

Musser Lane Compost Facility – Season closing/last Day open – November 19th. No action requested.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Consider Items from the Goals/Issues list to be scheduled for the 11/21/2022 Council Work Session.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:23p.m.

Executive session followed.