

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2022- 7:30 p.m.
236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823
www.bellefonte.net

I. CALL TO ORDER

The December 5, 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
Mr. Randall Brachbill

Ms. Deborah Cleeton
Ms. Barbara Dann
Mr. Douglas Johnson
Ms. Shawna McKean (EXCUSED)
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 OR
(EXCUSED)
Gina Thompson, HARB Administrator
Shawn Weaver, Police Chief

IV. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Dann requested to add an item under “New Business” regarding EV Level 3 Chargers, possible funding and grants.

Dann made the motion to add this item to New Business. Tosti-Vasey seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT - Agenda and Non-Agenda/General Items and Comments
None

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

Council received a request from Girl Scouts regarding Christmas Caroling on Saturday, December 16th, 6-8pm. Conditional approval to use a trailer and they are requesting police walk along. Council cannot approve the use of a trailer outside of a parade event, as it is a safety issue. The girl scouts can walk in the neighborhoods to carol, and the chief or officers will walk with them.

D Johnson motioned and Bernier seconded to approve the Girl Scout Service Unit 414 to walk and sing carols in the borough on December 16, 6-8pm. Motion carried.

Trinity United Methodist Church is requesting the use of Talleyrand park on Sunday, May 28th, 2023, 8am-1pm for an outdoor service. They are asking to waive the use fee and only pay the registration fee. They would also like to hang a banner 2 weeks before the event on the Veteran’s Bridge.

D. Johnson motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve Trinity Church to reserve Talleyrand Park, Gazebo side on Sunday, May 28, 2023, 8am-1pm. Tosti-Vasey amended the motion to include the fee waiver. Motion carried.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and D. Johnson seconded to conditionally approve hanging a banner 2 weeks prior to the event on Veteran’s Bridge, assuming there is no other banner scheduled to be hung on the bridge during that same 2 weeks. No discussion. Motion carried.

Bellefonte Victorian Christmas is requesting free parking for street meters and in the metered municipal lots starting Friday December 9th at 6pm until Saturday December 10th at noon.

D. Johnson motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve free parking for street meters and in the metered municipal lots starting Friday December 9th at 6pm until Saturday December 10th at noon. Tosti-Vasey asked for clarification that this does not include the red meter spaces that are permitted parking. Motion carried.

Invitation to the public from Giant Foods for their grand opening on Friday, December 16th, 2022. No action is requested.

Council received a communication from the Bellefonte Historic Preservation Foundation regarding for the Waterfront Wall Repair on South Water Street. This item will be discussed under “New Business”.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda includes the following items:

<i>General</i>	Council Meeting Minutes November 21, 2022
<i>Finance</i>	Budget v. Actual October 2022
<i>Finance</i>	Budget v. Actual Summary October 2022

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Sedgwick seconded to remove item 1 from the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve items 2 and 3. No discussion. Motion carried.

Council discussed the amendments to the Nov 21st Council minutes. Motion to approve the amended November 21st minutes was made by Tosti-Vasey and seconded by Dann. No further discussion. Motion carried.

IX. REPORTS

Mayor Johnson

Mayor Johnson made an announcement regarding Bellefonte Victorian Christmas. He thanked the committee for their hard work to plan and prepare for the event.

Police – Chief Weaver

NONE

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

Items of interest:

HARB will meet on Tuesday for their final meeting. There are 2 upcoming vacancies for HARB. There is a Licensed Real Estate Broker and an “Alternate” position up for re-appointment.

Planning Commission – final Planning Commission meeting will be Monday, December 12, 2022 at 5pm. There are 2 vacancies on the PC board. Mark Edwards has submitted an application for re-appointment and Dallas Gallo does not intend to seek re-appointment. The Commission is seeking volunteers for the open position.

Ms. Thompson also proposed that Council consider using the Centre Region Code Housing Appeals Board rather than the borough appeals board because it’s been a struggle over the years to find people to serve on that board. The board also does not meet very often. This item will be put on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

Liaison Reports (Reports were submitted)

X. CURRENT and OLD BUSINESS

Consider approval of tentative 2023 Budget and to advertise/make available for public inspection. The Tax Ordinance/Resolution adoption and budget approval will be considered at the December 19th Council Meeting.

Dann motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve the tentative 2023 Budget. Motion carried.

Wall Collapse memo. It was clarified that this was not historic stone that collapsed. The wall that collapsed was installed in the 1980’s. There are only 2 options available for the repair – a

concrete wall tinted to match the existing concrete walls, or fake stone that is poured into a mold.

Motioned by Mr. D. Johnson and 2nd by Ms. Dann to approve a concrete wall to match the existing concrete walls with tinting to match for permanent repair. Discussion included Tosti-Vasey requesting to amend the motion. The motion to amend failed. The original motion carried with one Nay by Ms. Tosti-Vasey

Smith & Front Request for Mobile Food Vendors and use of Dunlap St. This item was removed from the agenda pending gathering further details about the events.

PennDOT Traffic Light Study for S.R. 550 Zion Road & Parkview Blvd. The traffic light is warranted. Staff can ask for engineering proposals to start the required process and look for supplemental funding. Council already took action to financially commit to the project. There is a 2-year time frame to complete installation of the traffic light. Council would like to coordinate with the developers of the Armory property if possible. No council action is required at this time.

Follow up by Borough Management of Compost Bagging Machine Bid. The machine has been ordered and Management anticipates a spring delivery. No council action required.

CCMPO Public Participation Plan 2022 - Public Comment Period ends December 6th, 2022 at 5pm.

Follow up on One Way signage on Ridge Street between E. Curtin Street and E. Beaver Street. An email from Mark Hood, PennDOT's technical assistance program for municipalities is included in tonight's packet. Staff recommends to leave the signage as-is, one-way. No action by council is needed

Short Term Rental Ordinance Draft – Public Comments. Oral comment hearing held November 30th. Council will accept written (emails, letters) comments through December 19th, 2022. Council will consider any next steps after the 1st of the year. FYI. No Council action is requested.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Letter of Appreciation and Thank You to Penn DoT Officials for mobilizing and fast-tracking temporary repairs to SR 150, South Water Street.

Bernier motioned and D. Johnson seconded to approve the letter as stated. Motion carried.

2023 Meeting Schedule and 2023 Holiday Schedule. Council decided to move approval of the schedule to next meeting.

Meet and Greet for Senator Dush. Borough officials were invited by Centre Region COG to a Meet & Greet for Senator Dush, 6pm Tuesday, December 6th at the COG building. Each invited municipality will be given 2-4 minutes to make comments. The Borough Manager will prepare comments on behalf of the Borough. No council action is requested.

Consider Items from the Goals/Issues list to be scheduled for the December 19, 2022 Council Work Session.

Level 3 EV Chargers. There are possible grants through PennDOT for the chargers. Call for a Motion and 2nd to approve looking at possibilities for Bellefonte.

Dann motioned and Tosti-Vasey seconded that Council approve looking at possibilities for Level 3 charging stations in the borough. No discussion. Motion carried.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:35p.m.

The list of members of the public that attended this meeting is missing. It needs to be added.