

**BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Regular Meeting**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**March 6, 2023- 7:30 p.m.**

**236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823**

[www.bellefonte.net](http://www.bellefonte.net)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The March 6, 2023, 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  
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

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**IV. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

*Mr. Stewart motioned to change the agenda item "Change Order for the Governor's Park Ballfield project - FYI, no council action required" under "Current/Old Business" to a call for action to approve in tonight's meeting. Dann seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.*

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT - Agenda and Non-Agenda/General Items and Comments**

Jeff Korman spoke regarding his concerns about a developing sinkhole at the corner of High Street and S. Monroe.

Mr. D. Johnson publicly thanked Mr. Bernier for chairing the meetings in his absence.

Columbia Gas Company - Overview of East Curtin Street Gas Main Replacement Project

- The project will extend from N Allegheny Street to the end, past N. Monroe Street. This project will be completed in 2/3 phases.
- Start date of Phase 1 will begin this spring – possibly March or April 2023

- All phases are budgeted to be completed this year – in 2023
- Phase 1 – N. Allegheny to Armour St.
- Phase 2 – Armour Street to the end (also N Wilson and E Beaver/E Linn)
- Phase 3 – E Linn Street

Members asked for clarification regarding the right of way, pipe direction, the replacing the main near existing trees, and re-paving.

The representatives clarified that service disruption to affected property owners shouldn't last longer than 2-4 hours.

Council invited the public/audience members to comment/ask questions about the project. The representatives from Columbia Gas clarified that property owners are welcome to contact the company with questions or concerns.

## **VI. COMMUNICATIONS**

Sunnyside Paddling Park Organizers requested permitting assistance. This park is a regional facility. Council may ask for more details associated with the request or consider scheduling some time for discussion in an upcoming work session.

Traffic/Safety issue on North Ridge Street, between High Street and Pike Lane. Consider having staff/public works make/come back with a recommendation.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Local Aid Support Innovation Exchange Webinar related to mini-roundabouts March 16. No council action is required.

PennDOT 2023 Public Outreach Campaign for the 2025 12-Year Program. Comments are accepted through April 30, 2023. Council may consider further discussion in a work session.

## **VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda includes the following items:

<i>1. General</i>	Council Meeting Minutes February 21, 2023
<i>2. Communications</i>	Bellefonte Aglow Event in Talleyrand Park – save the date -August 11 & 12, 2023
<i>3. Communications</i>	Watermarke Church Event in Talleyrand Park - save the date - September 17, 2023
<i>4. Communications</i>	Future Stars Tournament Baseball use of Governors Park Baseball Field – save the date – August 5-6, 2023
<i>5. Communications</i>	Bellefonte Field of Dreams Volleyball Tournament Governors Park – save the date - June 3, 2023
<i>6. Communications</i>	Bellefonte Little League Duck Derby Talleyrand Park – save the date - May 13, 2023

*Cleeton motioned, and Brachbill seconded to approve the amended consent agenda. No discussion. The motion carried unanimously.*

## **VIII. REPORTS**

### **Mayor Johnson**

Proclamation: Student Painters Day (March 6, 2023)

- Mayor Johnson invited Angelina Aviles forward and commended her ambition and entrepreneurial spirit in starting her own house painting business in our area.

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

1. Historic Architectural Review Board (HARB) –

- Recommended for approval: (More details on projects can be found in your agenda packet)
  - **106-108 W. Bishop Street** – Exterior renovations of a downtown building, including window restoration and replacement and paint schedule for wood.
  - **234 Locust Lane (carriage house at 233 N. Allegheny)** – Improve the curb appeal of the carriage house.
  - **233 N. Allegheny Street** – Porch rehabilitation project.

*Tosti-Vasey motioned, and Sedgwick seconded to approve the items listed above. No discussion. The motion carried unanimously.*

2. Administrative Approvals: NONE

3. Items of interest: The Board rescinded an administrative approval that the HARB Administrator had made. A discussion with the business owner (Verizon) was held at this meeting. Verizon and HARB agreed to hold another discussion session and vote on the project at the March 14 HARB meeting.

This issue will be tabled until the next Council meeting when more information will be available.

4. Zoning: NONE

## **IX. CURRENT and OLD BUSINESS**

Change Order for the Governor's Park Ballfield project.

*Brachbill motioned, and McKean seconded to approve the change order. No discussion. The motion carried unanimously.*

Musser Lane Camera installation is complete. Council may consider adjusting the hours that the facility is accessible. Hours will be further discussed in a future work session. No council action is required.

A handicap parking issue in the Red Zone parking area near the Cadillac building on South Spring St., was discussed at the February 21, 2023, council meeting. Borough staff met with the affected residents and exonerated their outstanding tickets. Two new handicap parking spaces were added to this area. No council action is required.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

John Nastase Construction Application and Certificate for Payment for Governor’s Park Baseball Field Project.

*Dann motioned, and Purnell seconded to approve remitting payment to John Nastase Construction for the Governor’s Park Baseball Field Project. No discussion. The motion carried unanimously.*

Bid Opening for Musser Lane Pad Extension.

Hawbaker, INC	\$157,286.00
Nastase Construction	\$188,535.00
Midstate Paving	\$201,659.50

*Brachbill motioned, and Dann seconded to allow staff to review, approve, select, and award the bid for the Musser Lane Pad Extension. No discussion. Motion carried.*

Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification Program Resolution No. 03062023-001.

*Tosti-Vasey motioned, and Cleeton seconded to approve the Sustainable Pennsylvania Community Certification Program Resolution No. 03062023-001. Discussion included clarification of the purpose of the certification program and resolution.*

*Dann motioned to table this motion to the next meeting. Purnell seconded the motion. Motion to table carried.*

Corning Water Tank Rehabilitation Project Resolution No. 03062023-002.

*Tosti-Vasey motioned, and Brachbill seconded to approve the Corning Water Tank Rehabilitation Project Resolution No. 03062023-002. No discussion. Motion carried.*

Penn Highlands Community College Support Resolution No. 03062023-003.  
(Fundraising/securing funds for an educational facility in Centre Co.)

*Tosti-Vasey motioned, and Dann seconded to approve the Penn Highlands Community College Support Resolution No. 03062023-003. The discussion included specifics and details about the project. Motion carried.*

**XI. COUNCIL COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Mayor Johnson commented on the nice weather we had. He said it was nice to see community members out and about.

Brachbill requested a work session discussion regarding submitting resolutions to the PSAB before the PSAB resolution submission deadline.

Tosti-Vasey requested information on scheduling tree stump removal in the right of ways throughout the borough. She also gave an update on the Sustainability Survey.

Cleeton mentioned that the Centre County Commissioners recognized February 28 as Museum Advocacy Day and specifically mentioned several museums in the county, including three museums in Bellefonte: the American Philatelic Society, Bellefonte Art Museum, and the Centre County Historical Museum. She encouraged residents to take advantage of the cultural opportunities in Bellefonte and the surrounding areas.

McKean mentioned that March is Women's History Month.

Dann reminded residents that this weekend starts Daylight Savings Time. Brachbill reminded the public that this would be a good time to change the batteries in our smoke and carbon monoxide detector devices.

Stewart mentioned that Pelican Snow Cones opened in the former Subway building.

Holderman mentioned a CATA-board meeting he attended where the funding formula for municipalities was discussed.

Johnson thanked the Centre County Housing Authority for redesigning the storage structures to hide the oil containers at the corner of South Allegheny and West High Streets. He also would like to consolidate the farmer's markets that are held in town with his preference for the market to be held on the Diamond.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.