

**BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 18, 2023- 7:30 p.m.**  
**236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823**  
[www.bellefonte.net](http://www.bellefonte.net)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The September 18, 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 (Zoom)
- 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

**IV. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

NONE

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

NONE

**VI. COMMUNICATIONS**

PA Howard Fire Company Punkin Chunkin Fall Festival Need for Fire Police Participation.

*Bernier motioned and Dann seconded to approve use of the Bellefonte Fire Police, if available, to assist Howard Fire Company at the Punkin' Chunkin Fall Festival on Saturday, October 21st, 2023. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried.*

Mr. Kent Bernier	yay	Ms. Shawna McKean	yay
Mr. Randy Brachbill	yay	Ms. Rita Purnell	yay
Ms. Deb Cleeton	yay	Ms. Johanna Sedgwick	yay
Ms. Barbara Dann	yay	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	yay
Mr. Doug Johnson	yay		

Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority Municipality Report for September 2023. No council action is requested.

**VII. CONSENT AGENDA (will be acted upon by a single motion unless otherwise noted)**

Consent Agenda includes the following items:

1. <i>General</i>	Council Meeting Minutes September 5, 2023
2. <i>Finance</i>	Budget V. Actual August 2023
3. <i>Finance</i>	Budget V. Actual Summary August 2023
4. <i>Finance</i>	Stover McGlaughlin Invoice August 2023
5. <i>Finance</i>	Treasurer’s Report August 2023
6. <i>Finance</i>	Voucher Summary August 2023

*Cleeton motioned and Dann seconded to approve the Consent Agenda items. No discussion. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried.*

Mr. Kent Bernier	yay	Ms. Shawna McKean	yay
Mr. Randy Brachbill	yay	Ms. Rita Purnell	yay
Ms. Deb Cleeton	yay	Ms. Johanna Sedgwick	yay
Ms. Barbara Dann	yay	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	yay
Mr. Doug Johnson	yay		

**VIII. REPORTS**

**Mayor Johnson**

The mayor and Chief Weaver have a meeting scheduled next week to discuss the Crime Prevention Symposium that Chief Weaver attended.

**Police – Chief Weaver**

September 2023 Police Report and Parking Enforcement and Animal Control September 2023 Report provided.

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

1. Recommended for approval (Specific motions are stated in the OCA memo):

DBI Mural Project for back of building at 123 S. Allegheny Street

*Tosti-Vasey motioned and Bernier seconded to approve the Mural Project as presented. Discussion included several Council members expressing their concern over not seeing the mural design. It was clarified that HARB has seen the design and they do not want to prematurely “reveal” the design, as the artists are hoping to have a grand reveal of the mural after it is painted. It was also discussed that HARB meetings are public meetings and Council members could have attended the meeting to see the proposed design. Several members continued to express concern about approving a project without seeing the design.*

*Tosti-Vasey motioned to amend the motion to table this approval until a picture of the project design can be presented to Council at the next meeting. Sedgwick seconded. Roll Call Vote. Motion to table carried.*

Mr. Kent Bernier	yay	Ms. Shawna McKean	yay
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Mr. Randy Brachbill	yay	Ms. Rita Purnell	yay
Ms. Deb Cleeton	yay	Ms. Johanna Sedgwick	yay
Ms. Barbara Dann	yay	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	yay
Mr. Doug Johnson	yay		

**Liaison Reports** (Reports were submitted)  
**Borough Manager** (Report submitted)

**IX. CURRENT and OLD BUSINESS**

Centre County Boroughs Association Fall Meeting, 6:00 PM, October 18th. Speaker Invitation to State Representative Kerry Benninghoff. LB Water has agreed to sponsor the meeting. Please let Alyssa Doherty know if you plan to attend. No council action is requested.

PA Boroughs Association Fall Leadership Conference October 13-15, 2023 in Bayfront Landing, Erie. Council may register by contacting Alyssa Doherty. Deadline to register is September 19, 2023. No council action is requested.

S. Spring Street Streetscape Project using TASA Grant Memo.

*Dann motioned and McKean seconded to remove parking space adjacent from Smoker's Express. No discussion. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried.*

Mr. Kent Bernier	yay	Ms. Shawna McKean	yay
Mr. Randy Brachbill	yay	Ms. Rita Purnell	yay
Ms. Deb Cleeton	yay	Ms. Johanna Sedgwick	yay
Ms. Barbara Dann	yay	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	yay
Mr. Doug Johnson	yay		

*Brachbill motioned and Cleeton seconded to change the 1st parking space on S. Spring Street from Long Term Parking to a metered space. No discussion. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried.*

Mr. Kent Bernier	yay	Ms. Shawna McKean	yay
Mr. Randy Brachbill	yay	Ms. Rita Purnell	yay
Ms. Deb Cleeton	yay	Ms. Johanna Sedgwick	yay
Ms. Barbara Dann	yay	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	yay
Mr. Doug Johnson	yay		

Stage/Bandshell Discussion Pre-Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 21st at 3:00 pm in Council Chambers. No council action is requested.

The Bellefonte High School Class of 1966 would like to honor fellow classmate, Frank Sciabica, with a plaque for his work within Talleyrand Park. Council may take action and accept or decline the Talleyrand Park Committee recommendation to not allow a plaque be displayed in the park but alternatively be hung at the Train Station or a Brick be added to the pathway.

Mr. Stewart offered updated information that the Class of 1966 decided they would like to name the suspension bridge after Mr. Sciabica. This item will be discussed again at the next meeting once the Talleyrand Park Committee has more information to present.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

Request for Alternative Fuels Tax Memo.

*Purnell motioned and Dann seconded to increase the EV Charging Station cost from \$2.00/hour to \$3.00/hour to cover the cost of the Alternative Fuels Tax and Administrative Fees. Tosti-Vasey asked why the cost increase from \$0.50 in the memo to \$1.00 was necessary. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried.*

Mr. Kent Bernier	yay	Ms. Shawna McKean	yay
Mr. Randy Brachbill	yay	Ms. Rita Purnell	yay
Ms. Deb Cleeton	yay	Ms. Johanna Sedgwick	yay
Ms. Barbara Dann	yay	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	no
Mr. Doug Johnson	yay		

Joseph Masullo Memorial Park installation of a Streetlight for better visibility.

*Dann motioned and Cleeton seconded for staff to contact West Penn Power about installing a Streetlight in Joseph Masullo Memorial Park. Discussion included type of light, need for the light and costs. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried.*

Mr. Kent Bernier	yay	Ms. Shawna McKean	yay
Mr. Randy Brachbill	yay	Ms. Rita Purnell	yay
Ms. Deb Cleeton	yay	Ms. Johanna Sedgwick	yay
Ms. Barbara Dann	yay	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	yay
Mr. Doug Johnson	yay		

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

Members may offer comments regarding various events and issues within the Borough.

Ms. Purnell commended the tire event that was recently held. She also mentioned several upcoming Borough events.

Ms. Cleeton asked about a Jr. Council Person program. She encouraged Council to consider encouraging the future generation to get involved with local government.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey commented on several borough issues.

Mr. Holderman commented on several borough projects that are in progress or being planned.

- Street paving has been delayed
- Parkview Heights – preconstruction meeting next week. Project will likely start in Oct. (Stormwater project)

- Spring Street Streetscape project will also begin in October.
- Armory project is delayed but moving forward.
- Land development plan for Musser Lane

Mr. Stewart commented that Council staff received the Land Development Plan for the new Elementary School. Traffic studies are not complete and the Borough continues to work with the district to move this project forward. Airport Road, Zion Road and Governor's Park Road are all affected. There may need to be a public meeting to discuss the project and concerns.

Ms. Dann commented about the Penn Highlands College project. She would like Council to help if possible. Members discussed several concerns with the project and options for locations, including the former Black Walnut Body Shop location and the former Centre Crest location. A huge concern is parking.

Ms. Sedgwick mentioned that the Homecoming Parade is this coming Thursday. Residents along the parade route should plan accordingly and she encouraged the community to come out and support our district.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

