

# Bellefonte Mayor presented with award by council president

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PHOTO PROVIDED Mayor Gene “Buddy” Johnson is presented a Historic Bellefonte Proclamation Award by Council President Randy Brachbill.

BELLEFONTE — Bellefonte Borough Mayor Gene “Buddy” Johnson was surprised with an award at this week’s Bellefonte Borough council meeting.

It was announced at the beginning of the session that there would be a “special presentation” at the end, but both the public and Johnson were kept in the dark about what that presentation was.

“This person doesn’t know it’s coming, when I mention your name please come up here with me. Historic Bellefonte Proclamation for Mayor Gene Buddy Johnson,” said Council President Randy Brachbill.

The presentation of the award included a description of a few of the things Johnson has done for the community of Bellefonte. Johnson began serving as mayor in January 2022, replacing former Mayor Tom Wilson.

“Mayor Johnson conducted tours of borough properties including: the police department, the John Montgomery Ward ballfield in Governor’s Park and was involved in the Big Springs Cover,” said Brachbill.

Johnson also worked with Senator Jake Corman to secure millions of dollars in grant funds for all three projects.

“The Borough of Bellefonte Council hereby recognizes and thanks Mayor Johnson for his efforts on this outstanding first year of service to the borough,” said Brachbill.

Johnson offered his appreciation for the award, repeatedly thanking council members in his acceptance speech.

“Thank you all very much. It’s been a great experience. Since I met Stan Goldman years ago, I wanted to be more involved in the community. My goal was to be mayor of Bellefonte. Onward and upward! Let’s keep working together and make this a great place to visit and live,” said Johnson.