

# BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting

### MEETING MINUTES

April 1, 2024 - 7:30 p.m.

236 West Lamb Street, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823

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

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The April 1, 2024 meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

#### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### III. MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Kent Bernier, *President*  
Mr. Randall Brachbill  
Ms. Deborah Cleeton  
Ms. Barbara Dann, *Vice President*  
Mr. Douglas Johnson, *Pro Tempore*  
Ms. Shawna McKean  
Ms. Rita Purnell  
Ms. Johanna Sedgwick  
Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey  
Mr. Christian Larson, *Jr. Council Member*  
Mayor Buddy Johnson

#### STAFF PRESENT

Mr. Ralph Stewart, Borough Manager  
Mr. Don Holderman, Assistant Borough Manager  
Ms. Julie Brooks, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works

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#### IV. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

*In accordance with Act 65 of 2021, If a matter is not on the Agenda, Council cannot take official action on it with some exceptions. The Council can act on matters relating to potential or real emergencies. Council may add a matter of agency business to its agenda through a majority vote. The Council should state the reason why the action item is being added to the agenda. Council may vote to add an action item(s) to the agenda.*

NONE

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

Rita Purnell, council member, asked if there is a proposed date for the installation of the traffic light at Parkview Blvd and Zion Road. It was clarified that this project is listed on tonight's agenda. The project is currently in the design phase. There was a recent accident at the intersection.

#### VI. COMMUNICATIONS

Centre

County Recycling and Refuse Authority Municipal Report for February 2024. No council action is needed.

The Centre County Active Transportation Plan Public Engagement period begins March 19 and runs through May 3, 2024. The CCMPO invites you and the public to participate in filling out the survey and utilizing the web mapping application on the project website at: <https://ccatpcentrecog.hub.arcgis.com> No council action is needed.

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

*All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be acted upon by a single motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless members of the Council request specific items to be removed for separate action.*

Consent Agenda includes the following items:

1. <i>General</i>	Council Meeting Minutes February 20th, 2024
2. <i>Finance</i>	Stover McGlaughlin Invoice March 2024

*Johnson motioned and McKean seconded to approve the Council meeting minutes for February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Discussion included Purnell commenting on the minutes, page 2. The minutes were modified in the section regarding the N. Penn Street discussion. The sentence that was removed from the minutes was regarding the discussion about trusting hired professionals who are contracted to complete projects within the Borough. Purnell believes that sentence should remain in the minutes as part of the public record of what was discussed by Council Members. Tosti-Vasey stated she would like the sentence removed from the minutes as she feels the sentence was put in the minutes as a personal attack on her. Purnell mentioned that no names were stated in the meeting or written in the sentence that would indicate a personal attack and that the minutes only state what was discussed during the meeting. Tosti-Vasey stated that these kind of statements targeting individuals whether or not named violate the Borough's Code of Conduct During Public Meetings and therefore should not be included in the minutes.*

*Purnell motioned to amend the minutes to include the original text that was deleted from the minutes. Dann seconded to amend the minutes back to their original state. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried with one no vote.*

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

*Brachbill motioned to approve the original minutes. Dann seconded. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried with one no vote.*

Mr. Kent Bernier	<i>Yea</i>	Ms. Shawna McKean	<i>Yea</i>
Mr. Randy Brachbill	<i>Yea</i>	Ms. Rita Purnell	<i>Yea</i>
Ms. Deb Cleeton	<i>Yea</i>	Ms. Johanna Sedgwick	<i>Yea</i>
Ms. Barbara Dann	<i>Yea</i>	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	<i>no</i>

Mr. Doug Johnson	Yea	
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*Brachbill motioned to approve the Stover McGlaughlin Invoice, in March 2024. Dann seconded. Discussion included Dann asking for clarification of who approves each invoice. Mr. Stewart clarified that he does review each invoice. Mr. Holderman commented that he also may review invoices. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried.*

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

**VIII. REPORTS**

**Mayor Johnson**

Mayor Johnson read a Proclamation regarding Pennsylvania 811 (PA One Call) Safe Digging Month. April is Safe Digging Month. Residents are reminded that they should call PA One Call 3 days before digging on any property. This process can help ensure that all underground utilities are protected and workers/property owners/neighbors are safe.

**Junior Council Member Report**

April 2024 Report

- The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter just started.
- Students created a student store.
- The Underclassmen prom is scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

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

- The Monday, April 8, 2024, Planning Commission meeting has been canceled due to no projects for review.
- The next HARB meeting is Tuesday, April 10 at 8:30 a.m., in the large meeting room of the Armory Building.

The Zoning Hearing Board will hear a variance request on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the large meeting room of the Armory Building **for setback relief from the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 575-71: swimming pools: relief from the minimum rear yard setback for 512 E. Curtin Street.**

**IX. CURRENT and OLD BUSINESS**

On Saturday, April 6th, 2024, Bellefonte Borough staff will demonstrate the operation of our compost bagging equipment the Borough recently purchased with the assistance of a DEP 902 Grant. This demonstration will occur at the Musser Lane composting site near the compost pad. Borough residents may show up anytime between 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM to see the equipment in operation and learn how the Borough is generating its compost from residents like you. Anyone who stops by will receive a free 35-pound bag of compost to take home. No council action is needed. Johnson reminded residents that the Composting site on Musser Lane officially opens this weekend and that this is the first weekend that yard refuse containers will be collected via curbside pickup. Holderman stated that according to our ordinance, curbside pickup for yard

refuse occurs on Wednesdays, starting on April 3. Mr. Stewart also reminds residents that there will be a Spring cleanup day for leaf/grass collection. The Borough will announce the date. Pickup for the Spring yard cleanup day will be on the same day as refuse collection.

Shade Tree planting- Trees will be delivered on Wednesday, April 10th and planted on Friday April 12. No council action is needed.

Update on Traffic Light at Parkview Blvd/Zion Road. Mr. Stewart offered details regarding this issue in the beginning of the meeting during public comment. No council action is needed.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

Addition to fee schedule for compost bags at Musser Lane.

*Brachbill motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve the addition of a fee of \$5.00 per compost bag to the Bellefonte Borough Fee Schedule. No discussion. Roll Call Vote. Motion carried.*

Mr. Kent Bernier	<i>Yea</i>	Ms. Shawna McKean	<i>Yea</i>
Mr. Randy Brachbill	<i>Yea</i>	Ms. Rita Purnell	<i>Yea</i>
Ms. Deb Cleeton	<i>Yea</i>	Ms. Johanna Sedgwick	<i>Yea</i>
Ms. Barbara Dann	<i>Yea</i>	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	<i>Yea</i>
Mr. Doug Johnson	<i>Yea</i>		

Bernier announced that an Executive Session for personnel issues was held prior to this meeting.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Brachbill motioned and Tosti-Vasey seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm.

# Bellefonte Borough Council Meeting

Monday, April 1, 2024

NAME (Please Print)	BOROUGH	EMAIL
David Townsend	Bellefonte	[REDACTED]
Doug BOBBY Barnett	Bellefonte	[REDACTED]
Peggy Larson	Bellefonte	[REDACTED]
Jim Vre	Bellefonte	[REDACTED]

BOURGH