

**BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 21, 2025 - 7:30 p.m.**  
**301 N. Spring Street, Suite 200, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823**  
[www.bellefonte.net](http://www.bellefonte.net)

**I. CALL TO ORDER** (Council President Barbara Dann) The April 21, 2025 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 --EXCUSED  
Mr. Randall Brachbill  
Ms. Deborah Cleeton, *Pro Tempore*  
Ms. Barbara Dann, *President*  
Mr. Douglas Johnson, *Vice President*  
Ms. Shawna McKean  
Ms. Rita Purnell  
Ms. Johanna Sedgwick  
Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey  
Mr. Christian Larson, *Jr. Council Member*  
Ms. Jalyn Meckley, *Jr. Council Member*  
Mayor Buddy Johnson

**STAFF PRESENT**

Mr. Don Holderman, Interim Borough Manager  
Mr. Bill Witmer, Police Chief  
Ms. Julie Brooks, Assistant Superintendent, 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.*

Brachbill: Suggested the additional discussion of a grant application in support of the Bellefonte Water Association as an action item under VI: Communications.

*Brachbill motioned, Sedgwick seconded. No further discussion, roll call vote, and motion carried.*

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

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT (Oral)**

*Borough Council intends to take public comment related to the motion that is on the floor after it has been duly made and seconded. The order of comment will be public comment and then council comment including, proposed amendments by council members. If amendments are proposed to the original motion, the public will then only comment on the amendment(s) before final votes are taken. You must be a Bellefonte resident, non-profit representative, business owner, or an official representative of another governmental agency. Speakers shall identify themselves by name and street, municipality, if outside of the Borough of Bellefonte. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes.*

NONE

**VI. COMMUNICATIONS (written)**

Glenn Thompson- Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations Forms and Deadlines. Call for a motion to approve the Bellefonte Waterfront Property to submit an application, which is similar to the one submitted for 2025.

*Tosti-Vasey motioned, McKean seconded. Further discussion included: Similarities between applications from last year to present, need for a letter of support from Council to assist with approval. Roll call vote, and motion carried.*

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

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) FFY 2025 Proposed Schedule. More discussion to come. Tosti-Vasey: Funding has been obtained for the restoration of the suspension bridge downtown; it would be worthwhile to begin focusing on some of the other projects which have been outlined. No Council action requested.

The Journal of School Safety PA SRO Treats students to Unique Bus Ride. No Council action requested.

Talleyrand Park Clap Song (Earth is Home) video. \*Video was played\*. Video was released for Earth Day, to celebrate the natural beauty of Centre County.

**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. Finance	Budget v. Actual March 2025
2. Finance	Budget v. Actual Summary March 2025

3. General	DRAFT Council Meeting Minutes April 2, 2025
4. General	DRAFT Council Meeting Minutes April 7, 2025
5. Finance	Voucher Summary March 2025
6. Finance	Treasurer's Report March 2025

*Call for a motion to approve the above Consent Agenda. Brachbill Motioned, Cleeton seconded. No further discussion, roll call vote, and motion carried.*

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

## **VIII. REPORTS**

### **Mayor Johnson**

Proclamation regarding Mount Nittany Health Week (May 11-17) will occur at the next meeting.

### **Police (Chief Witmer)**

Report Submitted

### **Parking**

Report Submitted

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

The Planning Commission meeting on April 14, 2025 had to be cancelled last minute due to there not being a quorum. The meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the Large Meeting Room.

The HARB will meet Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 8:30AM in the Oak Room.

### **Interim Borough Manager**

March 2025 Report

## **IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Environmental & Parks Committee

- March & April 2025 Report Submitted - Tosti-Vasey offered a summary.

Ordinance ad hoc Committee

- March & April 2025 Report Submitted - Tosti-Vasey offered a summary.

Finance & Administration Committee

- March & April 2025 Report Submitted

Infrastructure & Public Works Committee

- March & April 2025 Report Submitted - Brachbill offered a summary.

Streets Committee

- March & April 2025 Report Submitted - Johnson offered a summary.

**X. LIAISON REPORTS**

Bellefonte Intervalley Chamber of Commerce: Submitted

Centre County Library Board: Submitted

Workplace Safety Committee: Submitted

**XI. CURRENT and OLD BUSINESS**

Approval of Ordinance No. 04072025-01 Amendment to Chapter 108: Police Department.

Call for a motion to approve Ordinance No. 04072025-01.

*Cleeton motioned, Brachbill seconded. Further discussion included: Tosti-Vasey asking for clarification as to whether or not this Ordinance required public hearing. This one does not. Roll call vote and motion carried.*

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

Approval of Ordinance No. 04072025-02 Amendment to Chapter 482: Solid Waste. Call for a motion to approve Ordinance No. 04072025-02.

*Cleeton motioned, McKean seconded. Further discussion included: Possibility of moving this entire item to the ordinance committee, due to concerns over a need for updated language. Additional concerns over the source of funding for brush pick-up, confusing fees, and absence of service dates. These matters were resolved. Roll call vote and motion carried.*

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

Keystone Municipal Services Engagement Agreement for Recruitment Services for Bellefonte Borough. Call for a motion to approve the Engagement Agreement for Recruitment Services for Bellefonte Borough.

*Tosti-Vasey motioned, Brachbill seconded. No further discussion, roll call vote, and motion carried.*

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

Memo: Selection of Laurel Asphalt for Stamped Crosswalks. No Council action required.

## **XII. NEW BUSINESS**

Information on the Bell proposed for Talleyrand Park. No Council action required.

Recommendation to the Planning Commission to limit the number of adult-oriented businesses in the Commercial Districts. Call for a motion to recommend the Planning Commission to limit the number of adult-oriented businesses in the Commercial Districts.

*Brachbill motioned, Tosti-Vasey seconded. Further discussion included: Concerns that there are simply too many adult businesses downtown, ideas around implementing zoning rules and regulations pertaining to like-businesses. Roll call vote and motion carried.*

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

## **XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ISSUES NOT ON THE AGENDA**

*This Public Comment period is for oral comments regarding items not listed on this meeting agenda. Speakers shall identify themselves by name and street, municipality, if outside of the Borough of Bellefonte. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes maximum.*

NONE

## **XIV. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS/FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER** *Please try to limit all comments/rebuttals to three minutes maximum.*

Brachbill: Asks the public for patience while he continues to respond to the numerous calls he has received, and wants to assure anyone who has contacted him that he will be getting back to them.

Dann: Spring is in bloom in Bellefonte! Encourages residents to take a walk along the waterfront Downtown and to look at the trees :)

Cleeton: Nicer weather is upon us! Encourages those of us travelling by car to be more cautious of those who are walking/riding a bike, and encourages anyone riding a bike to wear a helmet.

Tosti-Vasey: Tomorrow is Earth Day! Encourages residents to take care of the planet.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

*Brachbill motioned to adjourn the meeting. Tosti-Vasey seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.*