

## **BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING**

### **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**October 6, 2025 - 7:30 p.m.**

**301 N. Spring Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823**

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

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Recordings can be viewed on CNET, Comcast's Government Education Channel 7, or at*

[www.cnet1.org](http://www.cnet1.org)

*ATTEND IN PERSON: The meeting room is open with normal occupancy limits.*

**I. CALL TO ORDER** (Council President Barbara Dann) The October 6, 2025 meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. \*Council met for a work session prior to tonight's meeting.

### **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **III. MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Kent Bernier  
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- EXCUSED  
Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey  
Ms. Jalyn Meckley, *Jr. Council Member*  
Mayor Buddy Johnson- EXCUSED

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Bill Witmer, Police Chief  
David Pribulka, Interim Borough Manager  
Alyssa Doherty, Assistant to the Borough Manager

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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.*

Call to remove the following item from New Business on tonight's agenda: Approval of settlement agreement for Geisinger Building reassessment. Call for a motion/2nd to remove the settlement agreement for the Geisinger Building reassessment from tonight's agenda.

*D. Johnson motioned and Brachbill seconded to remove the settlement agreement for the Geisinger Building reassessment from tonight's agenda. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

Bellefonte EMS 3rd quarter Municipal Update. No council action is requested.

Concerns regarding Parking Enforcement in downtown Bellefonte. Council may take action – however, Ms. Dann requested to send this item to the police chief for further review and recommendation.

Heavier Truck Pilot Project in the News. No council action is requested.

Thank you to the Bellefonte Elks Club for the generous donation to the Bellefonte Borough Police Department. No council action is requested.

#### **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	Barton & Loguidice Engineering Services for Talleyrand Park Suspension Bridge ADA Ramps Invoice, October 2024
2. Finance	Barton & Loguidice Engineering Services for Talleyrand Park Suspension Bridge ADA Ramps Invoice, January 2025
3. General	DRAFT Council Meeting Minutes September 2nd, 2025
4. General	DRAFT Council Meeting Minutes September 15th, 2025

*Brachbill motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

## **VIII. REPORTS**

### **Junior Council Member Report (Ms. Meckley)**

Ms. Meckley reported on various school activities for the start of this school year, including homecoming (parade, game and dance). Sadie Stoddart was crowned homecoming queen and the dance sold a large number of tickets as a fundraiser for student council.

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

*(Ms. Thompson)*

NONE

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

Revised Minimum Municipal Obligations for Pensions, 2026 Budget. Council must also re-adopt the Resolution related to the Police Pension program each year.

Resolution No. 10062025-01

Police - \$45,595.00

*Brachbill motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve the Minimum Municipal Obligations as stated. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

Nittany Communications Group LLC's proposal to use the Purdue Mountain Tower site to support the deployment of Project 25 (P25) radio infrastructure.

*Purnell motioned and Brachbill seconded to remove this item from the table. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

*Cleeton motioned and McKean seconded to form a written agreement with Nittany Communication Group LLC. Discussion included the CEO of Nittany Communications*

*answering questions and concerns from council members. One concern that was raised was in regards to structural soundness of the tower, as the tower is aged. The CEO assured Council that the company would assure the tower is structurally sound. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

List of items to be auctioned on Municibid.

*McKean motioned and Brachbill seconded to approve the provided list to be auctioned on Municibid. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

2024 Borough Audit Transmission Memorandum. No council action is requested.

Safety Signage along the stone wall in Talleyrand Park, recommended by the Infrastructure and Public Works Committee.

*Brachbill motioned and Cleeton seconded to direct Public Works Superintendent to research appropriate signage to be placed on the stone wall between the Walking Bridge and Veterans Bridge. Discussion included a question regarding approval by the parks committee. It was suggested that it would be good to have the parks committee review this for their recommendations. No further discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

NJVPC recommendation to appoint Gina Thompson as the Nittany Valley Joint Planning Region's representative to the Technical Committee of the Centre County Metropolitan Planning Agency (CCMPO).

*Johnson motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve the appointment. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.*

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

#### **XI. 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, street, municipality, if outside of the Borough of Bellefonte. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes maximum.*

NONE

#### **XII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS/FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

*Please try to limit all comments/rebuttals to three minutes maximum.*

Mr. Johnson reminded the community that leaf pickup is scheduled to begin October 1. Please rake your leaves to the curb but not on the road. Also, grass pickup will no longer occur after November 19<sup>th</sup>.

McKean reminded the community that October is Domestic Violence Awareness month, as well as Breast Cancer Awareness month. Our community has several resources available for any individual who might need help in a domestic violence situation, including Centre Safe, local police, kennels for help with housing pets if needed, as well as several others.

Mr. Brachbill commented that the PSAB conference went well.

Ms. Cleeton commented that October 5-11 is National Fire Prevention week. She reminds the public to check/replace the batteries in smoke and fire alarms and clear all exits of clutter. She also thanked the public works department for upgrading the lighting in downtown.

Ms. Dann commented that the PSAB conference went well and that Council had several representatives in attendance this year.

#### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

*Meeting was adjourned at 7:53PM.*