

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2025 - 7:30 p.m.

301 N. Spring Street, 1st Floor, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823

www.bellefonte.net

*VIEW RECORDING OF WORK SESSIONS and BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS:
Recordings can be viewed on CNET, Comcast's Government Education Channel 7, or at*

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 20, 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- EXCUSED
Ms. Rita Purnell
Ms. Johanna Sedgwick
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
Gina Thompson, Planning, Zoning & HARB Administrator

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.

Tosti-Vasey moved to add the Barton & Loguidice Invoice to the Consent Agenda.

Tosti-Vasey moved and Brachbill seconded to move the Barton & Loguidice Invoice to the Consent Agenda. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kent Bernier	yes	Ms. Shawna McKean	EXCUSED
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(A). COMMUNICATIONS (Written)

2025 Upcoming Special Events. No council action requested.

Bellefonte Art Museum funding request. This information has also been provided to the Borough Finance Director for the upcoming budget. No council action is needed.

Speeding complaint on Allegheny and High Streets. Deferred to Police Chief. No action at this time.

VI(B). 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 September 2025
2. Finance	Budget v. Actual Summary September 2025
3. Finance	Campbell Durrant Legal Invoice September 2025
4. General	DRAFT Council Meeting Minutes October 6th, 2025
5. Finance	Stover McGlaughlin Legal Invoice September 2025
6. Finance	Treasurer Report September 2025
7. Finance	Voucher Summary September 2025
8. Finance	Barton & Loguidice Legal Invoice

Brachbill motioned and Cleeton seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Discussion included Tosti-Vasey requesting to remove item number 5 – Stover McGlaughlin Invoice and Item number 8 – Barton & Loguidice Invoice for clarification and discussion. Roll call vote to approve items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7. Motion to approve the listed items carried unanimously.

Mr. Kent Bernier	yes	Ms. Shawna McKean	EXCUSED
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		

Tosti-Vasey clarified that on item 5 – Stover McGlaughlin Legal Invoice, Council will only pay the remaining balance of \$740.00, not the full invoice amount of \$1628.00, as Council has already paid \$888.00.

She further noted that item 8, Barton and Loguidice Invoice for the Suspension Bridge Project, there are 3 invoices. She asked for clarification as to which invoice is being approved for payment. It was clarified that 2 of the 3 invoices were approved by Council and paid and the approval on tonight’s agenda is for payment of the 3rd outstanding invoice. Roll call vote to approve items 5 and 8 on the Consent agenda. Motion carried with 7 yes and 1 no vote. Tosti-Vasey voted no because she did not approve the Barton Loguidice invoice.

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

VII. REPORTS

Police (Chief Witmer)

September 2025 report
 450 calls for service in the past month

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

(Ms. Thompson)

1. Recommended for approval:

Call for a motion/2nd to approve the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness for 126–128 North Spring Street for replacement of five deteriorated exterior first-floor doors (two front, two rear, one alley) with proposed materials as presented.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Brachbill seconded to approve the above listed project. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kent Bernier	yes	Ms. Shawna McKean	EXCUSED
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		

Call for a motion/2nd to approve the demolition of deteriorated garage at 417 East Bishop Street (along Cherry & Badger)

*Cleeton motioned and Bernier seconded to approve the above listed project. No discussion.
 Roll call vote. Motion carried. Motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Kent Bernier	yes	Ms. Shawna McKean	EXCUSED
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		

(Interim) Borough Manager

September 2025 report submitted and included in tonight’s packet.

Mr. Pribulka mentioned an upcoming demolition permit that will be submitted by the Bellefonte Area School District for removal of a structure at the New Elementary construction site. He noted that Council will be asked to approve the permit in the near future. The Borough is working with Centre Region Code to resolve the outstanding issues.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Elected Official Committee Reports)

Environmental & Parks Committee/ Ordinance ad hoc Committee (Submitted)
 September 2025 Report

Finance & Administration Committee (Verbal)
 September 2025 Report

Infrastructure & Public Works Committee (Submitted)
 September 2025 Report

Streets Committee (Verbal and included at the table)
 September 2025 Report

- Mr. Johnson reported that E High Street Data Speed Study
 - The count was from September 16-23
 - 2600+ vehicles recorded, 14 were above 35MPH, average speed was 17.9MPH
 - Conclusion – speed bumps are not needed
- Logan Street curb replacement request – it is unlikely the borough would pay for the replacement
- No parking sign requested for E. High Street and School Street – in process to be installed
- Handicapped parking request for downtown business was resolved. The business owner is going to be charged \$10/day to bag the meter for Handicapped use and \$5/day to bag a metered space permit. The permit must be displayed when the space is occupied.
- E. Linn Street paving project update – repaving will be completed in the spring
- New hand railing installed at Blanchard street and E. Logan Street.
- Discussed the possibility of installing flashing beacon crosswalk signals. Would be installed from the diamond “out” in the diamond district.

- Discussion regarding Tosti-Vasey’s numerous “Complete Streets” requests and suggestions.
- Meeting with business owner at Happy Wraps – issue is being resolved.

Public Transport Task Force Committee (Verbal)

September 2025 Report (Next meeting scheduled for October 28th.)

IX. LIASON REPORTS

Reports were submitted

Update on Centre County Airport Authority – Mr. Johnson reported that Breeze Airways has not made much progress in coming to the area. If this could still happen – it would not be before Spring, 2026.

X. CURRENT and OLD BUSINESS

The Borough’s Fee Schedule was changed/updated.

Brachbill motioned and Tosti-Vasey seconded to approve the updated Fee Schedule as presented. Discussion included Cleeton questioning why the fee schedule is being updated at this point in the year. It was clarified that the changes to the fee schedule were previously missed and are being added now. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kent Bernier	yes	Ms. Shawna McKean	EXCUSED
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 Resolution No. 10202025-01 Adopting the Police Department’s updated Policies.

Cleeton motioned and Brachbill seconded to approve Resolution No. 10202025-01 Adopting the Police Department’s updated Policies. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kent Bernier	yes	Ms. Shawna McKean	EXCUSED
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		

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Bellefonte Borough Trick or Treat is scheduled for Friday, October 31st 6:00 pm- 8:00 pm. No council action is requested.

Borough Offices will be closed Tuesday, November 11th for Veterans Day and Thursday, November 27th for Thanksgiving. No council action is requested.

There will be no Brush/ Grass Pick-up on Wednesday, November 12th. The last day for Brush/ Grass Curbside pick-up will be Wednesday, November 19th. No council action is requested.

XII. 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

XIII. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS/FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

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

Mrs. Purnell reminded the community about the upcoming election day. Today was the last day to register to vote and next Tuesday, 10/28 is the last day to submit any mail in ballots – deadline is 5pm. The new office is 502 E. Howard Street, Suite 104 (the old Centre Crest Building).

Tosti-Vasey mentioned about additional goals – joining the PA Municipal League. Might require additional funds.

Ms. Dann reminded the community that Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 2nd, 2025.

Mr. Johnson Trivia Question: Who was the first female mayor elected in Centre County?
Answer: (Hint: She was from Bellefonte) Mr. Johnson announced that the correct answer is “Candace Dannaker”.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25PM.