

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2026 - 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 The March 16, 2026 meeting of the Bellefonte Borough Council was called to order by President Doug Johnson at 7:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Randall Brachbill
Ms. Deborah Cleeton, *Vice President*
Ms. Barbara Dann
Mr. Jon Eaton
Mr. Douglas Johnson, *President*
Mr. Zach Kelly—ZOOM
Ms. Shawna McKean
Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey, *Pro Tempore*
Ms. Claudia Wilson
Ms. Jalyn Meckley, *Jr. Council Member*—EXCUSED
Mayor Buddy Johnson

STAFF PRESENT

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

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 (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)

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration released its 2023 Speeding Traffic Safety Facts, highlighting the continued impact of speeding on roadway safety nationwide. The report provides data on speeding-related crashes, fatalities, and contributing factors to help inform safety initiatives and policy discussions. Informational item only; no Council action is requested.

The Bellefonte Community Easter Egg Hunt will be held at Talleyrand Park on Saturday, April 4, 2026, at 1:00 PM. Community members and families are encouraged to attend this annual spring event. Informational item only; no Council action is requested.

The 2026 Bellefonte Borough Spring Newsletter has been mailed to Borough residents. Informational item only; no Council action is requested.

Toys for Tots Commander’s Award – The Bellefonte Borough Office was recognized by the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve with a Commander’s Award for its outstanding support of the 2025 Centre/Mifflin County Toys for Tots campaign. The award acknowledges the Borough’s contributions in helping provide toys and holiday support to children in need throughout the region. Informational item only; no Council action is requested.

The Centre County Metropolitan Planning Organization (CCMPO) will be conducting a Borough Sidewalk Inventory throughout Bellefonte this spring. The inventory will document existing sidewalk conditions and help identify areas for future maintenance and accessibility improvements. Informational item only; no Council action is requested.

The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) will host a webinar on Pedestrian Safety and Crosswalk Studies at 12:00 PM on Wednesday, March 25, 2026. Anyone interested in attending should contact Alyssa Doherty to register for the webinar. Informational item only; 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	Budget v. Actual February 2026
2. Finance	Budget v. Actual Summary February 2026
3. Finance	Campbell Durrant Legal Invoice February 2026

4. <i>General</i>	DRAFT Council Meeting Minutes March 2, 2026
5. <i>Finance</i>	Lamb McErlane PC Legal Invoice February 2026
6. <i>Finance</i>	Stover McGlaughlin Legal Invoice February 2026
7. <i>Finance</i>	Treasurer Report February 2026
8. <i>Finance</i>	Voucher Summary February 2026

Dann motioned and Brachbill seconded to approve the Consent Agenda.

Brachbill requested to pull item 4, Draft Council Meeting Minutes March 2, 2026 for a small revision.

Tosti-Vasey motioned to pull item 5, Lamb McErlane PC Legal Invoice February 2026. It was agreed to fix her requested edit administratively with no council approval needed.

Voice vote to approve items 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8. Motion to approve listed items carried unanimously.

Brachbill requested to amend the Draft Council Meeting Minutes from March 2, 2026 page 5 paragraph 3 to reflect that Mr. Johnson and Ms. Dann offered to help cover the fee should the waiver request not pass. The request did pass, but Mr. Brachbill asked that the minutes be edited to clarify that correct members who offered to help cover the fee. Tosti-Vasey motioned to amend. Brachbill seconded. Voice vote. Motion to amend passed unanimously.

VIII. REPORTS

Mayor Johnson

- Proclamation: Pennsylvania 4-H Week March 15-21, 2026

Police (Chief Witmer)

- February 2026 report

Parking

- February 2026 report

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

(Ms. Thompson)

1. Recommended for approval:

- OCA Memo: No OCA Report for this meeting as Gina Thompson was on vacation.
- Call Motion/Second to conditionally approve the Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan for Stage at Talleyrand, subject to removal of the following county comments: cross easement and PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP), with the additional condition that a restroom solution be provided prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

Tosti-Vasey motioned, and Wilson seconded to conditionally approve the Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan for Stage at Talleyrand, subject to removal of the following county comments: cross easement and PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP), with the additional condition that a restroom solution be provided prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy. Discussion included a lengthy discussion regarding

restroom facilities and the Highway Occupancy Permit. No further discussion. Voice vote. Motion to conditionally approve passed with 8 yes votes and 1 no vote.

2. Administrative Approvals:

- NONE

3. Zoning:

- NONE

4. Items of interest:

- The next scheduled HARB meeting is Tuesday, March 24th at 8:30am.
- The next Planning Commission meeting is Monday, April 13th at 5:00pm.

Interim Borough Manager (Mr. Pribulka)

- February 2026 report
- Mr. Pribulka commented that the underground work for the traffic signal at Parkview and Zion will start this week.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Environmental & Parks Committee/ Ordinance ad hoc Committee (Tosti-Vasey)**
 - February 2026 Report
- **Finance & Administration Committee (Eaton)**
 - Report submitted
- **Ordinance ad hoc Committee (Tosti-Vasey)**
 - January, February, March 2026 Report
- **Streets, Infrastructure & Public Works Committee (Brachbill)**
 - February 2026 Report

X. LIASON REPORTS

- Reports submitted

XI/XII. (agenda listed this item as XII) CURRENT and OLD BUSINESS

- Resolutions 2026 Paving Bid Opening – Bids for the Borough’s 2026 paving project will be opened and publicly acknowledged. Call for a motion/2nd to authorize Borough staff to review the submitted bids in detail for completeness, compliance with bid specifications, and contractor qualifications. Staff will evaluate the proposals and proceed with approving and selecting the lowest responsible and responsive bidder in accordance with the Borough

Code and project requirements. Staff will coordinate contract execution and scheduling following bid review.

Eaton motioned and Dann seconded to authorize Borough staff to review the submitted bids in detail for completeness, compliance with bid specifications, and contractor qualifications. Voice vote. Motion to review the submitted bids passed unanimously.

2 bids were submitted:

- 1. HRI INC - \$174,975.40*
- 2. Big Rock Paving - \$180,631.00*

Solicitation Ordinance Amendment. Motion/2nd to authorize staff to prepare an amendment to the Borough's Solicitation Ordinance based on the comments and direction provided during the Work Session. Staff will draft the proposed revision for Council's review and consideration at a future meeting.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Brachbill seconded to authorize staff to prepare an amendment to the Borough's Solicitation Ordinance based on the comments and direction provided during the Work Session. Staff will draft the proposed revision for Council's review and consideration at a future meeting. Discussion included clarification of the motion. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions to Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB). Motion/2nd to submit Resolution No. 2026-01 and Resolution No. 2026-02 to the PSAB Resolutions Committee.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Dann seconded to submit Resolution No. 2026-01 and Resolution No. 2026-02 to the PSAB Resolutions Committee. Discussion included comments regarding the Resolutions. Roll call vote. Motion carried with 7 yes and 2 no votes.

Mr. Randy Brachbill	yes	Mr. Zach Kelly	yes
Ms. Deb Cleeton	yes	Ms. Shawna McKean	no
Ms. Barbara Dann	yes	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	yes
Mr. Jon Eaton	no	Ms. Claudia Wilson	yes
Mr. Doug Johnson	yes		

XII/XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Centre Spring Creek Watershed Commission update - Kevin Abbey will provide an update on matters related to the Spring Creek Watershed Commission. Council may take action based on the presentation.

- Discussion regarding the letter that will be sent to the governor regarding the Rockview property.

Dann motioned and Wilson seconded to approve the submission of the letter regarding the Rockview property. Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Randy Brachbill	yes	Mr. Zach Kelly	yes
Ms. Deb Cleeton	yes	Ms. Shawna McKean	yes
Ms. Barbara Dann	yes	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	yes
Mr. Jon Eaton	yes	Ms. Claudia Wilson	yes
Mr. Doug Johnson	yes		

Appointment of a voting delegate and alternate to represent the Borough at the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) Annual Conference. The appointed voting delegate will participate in the election of officers and voting on proposed resolutions and policies during the conference. Currently Deborah Cleeton, Barbara Dann, Joanne Tosti-Vasey and Claudia Wilson are registered to attend the conference. Council action is requested.

McKean motioned and Wilson seconded to approve Joanne Tosti-Vasey as voting delegate and Barb Dann as alternate. No discussion. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Resolution No. 2026-03 Adopting the Police Department’s updated Policies. Call for a motion/2nd to approve Resolution No. 2026-03 Adopting the Police Department’s updated Policy for Body worn Cameras.

Eaton motioned and Dann seconded to approve Resolution No. 2026-03 Adopting the Police Department’s updated Policy for Body worn Cameras. No discussion. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance amendment to Chapter 88, Article I, Borough Manager. Call for a motion/2nd to advertisement of a public hearing and to consider enactment of the amended ordinance on April 6, 2026.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Dann seconded to advertisement of a public hearing and to consider enactment of the amended ordinance on April 6, 2026. No discussion. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

XIV/XV. 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.

Jacob Michael, a borough resident and a CDT representative, spoke regarding the Talleyrand stage and the Bellefonte Waterfront Project.

- Mr. Michael reported that Mr. Songer shared with him that he expects funding to be secured and bids to go out within the next 30-45 days, and the first phase of construction to begin by July/August 2026 and completion of the first phase in about 14 months.

XV/XVI. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS/FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

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

Ms. McKean reminds residents to keep their dogs leashed when they are out walking.

Ms. Dann commented regarding the occupancy limit of Council Chambers, which is reported to be 227. She also raised a concern about transparency and Accountability in the Borough Authority. She asked if Authority meetings were ever covered by C-NET. She suggested that the Authority consider CNET service.

Mr. Pribulka reviewed the Draft Community Development Block Grant application preparation schedule for 2026.

- The proposed public hearing posting and publication date is April 22, 2026.
- The first public hearing is tentatively scheduled for May 18, 2026 in Council Chambers.
- The project selection will be on July 6th at the Borough Council meeting.
- The Centre County Project Selection will be on July 21 at the Willowbank Building at 10am.
- The final public hearing publication date for the Borough will be August 12.
- The final public hearing of the county will be August 27.
- The culmination of this years long process will end on September 15th with the approval of the resolution by Borough Council and the application submission on October 30th of 2026.
- The estimated allocation to Bellefonte Borough from 2025 estimate is \$115,442.\

Mr. Kelly announced that there will be a protest at the Centre County Courthouse.

Ms. Tosti-Vasey commented about a CCMPO training. She has a QR code if anyone is interested in the training on March 30.

Mayor Johnson also commented that dogs need to be leashed in the Borough and he reminded residents as the weather gets nicer to keep our borough safe and clean.

Mr. Johnson commented regarding the Authority's deficit. He commented that the Authority experienced hugely increased electricity funds and also with Rockview closing the Authority had a serious reduction in service/income. He reminded Council and residents that Authority meetings are open to the public.

XVI/XVII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at :-:--PM.