

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes

July 20, 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 July 20, 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
Ms. Shawna McKean
Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey, *Pro Tempore*
Ms. Claudia Wilson
Mayor Buddy Johnson—EXCUSED

STAFF PRESENT

David Pribulka, 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.

Announcement: With Mayor Johnson absent, Mr. Johnson, Council President, will act as mayor and will not be a voting member of council for this evening's meeting.

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 Emergency Medical Services Annual Joint Meeting

Bellefonte EMS 8th Annual Joint Meeting invitation for 7:00 pm on Wednesday, July 29th, 2026. The meeting will be held at Bellefonte EMS, 369 Phoenix Avenue, Bellefonte, PA. Please RSVP to Scott Rhoat at ssrhoat@bems.net by Monday, July 27th, 2026. No council action is needed.

Council Vacancy – South Ward

Council is accepting letters of interest and resumes from individuals interested in filling the vacant South Ward Council seat. Letters of interest and resumes June be submitted to Alyssa Doherty at Adoherty@bellefontepa.gov or delivered to the Bellefonte Borough Administrative Office, 301 N. Spring Street, Suite 200, Bellefonte, PA 16823. Submissions will be accepted from June 29, 2026, through July 30, 2026, at 4:30 pm. Informational item only; no Council action is requested.

VII. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Recognition of Randy Brachbill – Presentation by Representative Kerry Benninghoff, Pennsylvania House of Representatives, citation and a Pennsylvania flag flown over the State Capitol in recognition of Randy Brachbill's dedicated service to Bellefonte Borough.

Council Appreciation Presentation – Presentation by Doug Johnson, President of Bellefonte Borough Council, of a Council Appreciation Plaque recognizing Randy Brachbill for his dedicated service to Bellefonte Borough.

VIII. 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. General	DRAFT Council Meeting Minutes July 7, 2026
2. Finance	Stover McGlaughlin Legal Invoice June 2026

Eaton motioned and Brachbill seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Voice vote. Motion to approve consent agenda items 1-2 as listed carried unanimously.

IX. REPORTS

Police (Chief Witmer)

June 2026 Report

Announcement: 2nd Annual Bellefonte Borough National Night Out will be held Tuesday, August 4th, 2026! Hopefully there will be hotdogs!

Parking

May and June 2026 Report

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

3. Items of interest:

- OCA Memo:
 - Please see attached memo
 - There will be a HARB meeting on Tuesday, July 28, 8:30am.

Borough Manager (Mr. Pribulka)

June 2026 Report

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Environmental & Parks Committee - Ms. Tosti-Vasey

- Parks Committee June 2026 Report Tosti-Vasey asked Johnson and Eaton if the water-play features near the Big Spring are still under consideration. The answer is no. The Committee also recommended that the Water Authority consider whether the former entrance to the Big Spring should be redesigned, since it is no longer used.

Finance & Administration Committee - Mr. Eaton

- May 2026 Report

Ordinance ad hoc Committee - Ms. Tosti-Vasey

- July 2026 Report

Streets, Infrastructure & Public Works Committee - Mr. Brachbill

- The Committee did not meet in June 2026

XI. LIASON REPORTS

Reports were submitted

Ms. Dann asked a question regarding the financial report on the Authority minutes from the June meeting, and she asked for an update on the Big Spring Enhancement project. Mr. Johnson highlighted several details regarding the project including landscaping and details regarding finances. The cover is a floating cover. It will rise and fall with water levels and it has a 20-year warranty.

There was another question raised regarding the traffic light at Parkview Blvd/Zion Road being funded by Bulk Water Funds, and water leaks throughout Borough facilities.

XII. CURRENT and OLD BUSINESS

2025 Bellefonte Borough Audit Report. Call for a motion/2nd to accept the 2025 Bellefonte Borough Audit Report, as presented by the Borough's independent auditors, and authorize its receipt into the official record.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Dann seconded to accept the 2025 Bellefonte Borough Audit Report, as presented by the Borough's independent auditors, and authorize its receipt into the official record. Discussion included Mr. Shyrock from the auditing firm offering some additional details regarding the Audit. Voice vote. Motion to approve the Audit Report carried.

2026 Second Quarter Financial Report. Call for a motion/2nd to accept and place on file the 2026 Second Quarter Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2026, as presented by David Pribulka, Borough Manager.

Eaton motioned and Brachbill seconded to accept and place on file the 2026 Second Quarter Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2026, as presented by David Pribulka, Borough Manager. No discussion. Voice vote. Motion to approve carried.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Opposition Letters for House Bill 2186 and Senate Bill 1346 – Accessory Dwelling Units. Suggested Motion: Call for a Motion/2nd to authorize the Borough Council President to execute and transmit the proposed letters to Representative Kerry Benninghoff and Senator Chris Dush expressing Bellefonte Borough Council's opposition to House Bill 2186 and Senate Bill 1346 regarding accessory dwelling units, in substantially the form presented.

Wilson motioned and Dann seconded to authorize the Borough Council President to execute and transmit the proposed letters to Representative Kerry Benninghoff and Senator Chris Dush expressing Bellefonte Borough Council's opposition to House Bill 2186 and Senate Bill 1346 regarding accessory dwelling units, in substantially the form presented. Discussion included Ms. Tosti-Vasey offering details and clarifications of the bills and the reasons behind the opposition. Roll call vote. Motion to approve the opposition letters carried with 7 yes and 1 no vote.

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	YES	Ms. Claudia Wilson	YES
Mr. Doug Johnson	<i>abstain</i>		

Shawna McKean Borough Council Resignation. Call for a motion/2nd to accept Shawna McKean's resignation from Borough Council effective August 31, 2026.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Dann seconded to accept Shawna McKean's resignation from Borough Council effective August 31, 2026. Discussion included members expressing their appreciation to Ms. McKean for her service to Council. This will be Ms. McKean's last meeting. Voice vote. Motion to approve carried. Applications for this position will be accepted between August 1 and 4:30 pm on September 3, 2026.

XIV. 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

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

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

Members and staff offered comments regarding events in the Borough.

Several members made comments regarding streets repairs and other issues with all the repaving that has been completed in the borough.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Brachbill motioned and McKean seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:06PM.