

BELLEFONTE BOROUGH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 5, 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 October 5, 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. ROLL CALL/MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Deb Cleeton - <i>Vice President</i> <i>South Ward</i>	Ms. Kessler <i>West Ward</i>
Ms. Barbara Dann <i>South Ward</i>	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey - <i>Pro Temp</i> <i>West Ward</i>
Mr. Jon Eaton <i>North Ward</i>	Dr. Tomalei Vess <i>South Ward</i>
Mr. Doug Johnson – <i>President</i> <i>North Ward</i>	Ms. Claudia Wilson <i>North Ward</i>
Mr. Zach Kelly <i>West Ward</i>	VACANT <i>Junior Council Member</i>
Mayor Buddy Johnson <i>At Large</i>	

STAFF PRESENT

David Pribulka, Borough Manager
Lori McGowan, Finance Director
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 comments 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 WOMEN OF THE MOOSE – DONATION**

Provided with the agenda is a letter from the Bellefonte Women of the Moose Chapter 151 transmitting a donation of \$200 to Bellefonte Borough to support the maintenance of Talleyrand Park.

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	Campbell Durrant Legal Invoice September 2026
2. Finance	Pay Application #2 – Stage at Talleyrand (\$22,630.50)
3. General	DRAFT Council Meeting Minutes - September 21, 2026
4. General	Special Event Permit Application – Civil War Weekend
5. General	Appointment of D. Pribulka as ADA Coordinator
6. General	Bellefonte Waterfront Developer's Agreement

Wilson motioned and Dann seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Discussion included Tosti-Vasey requesting to remove items 2 and 4 from the Consent Agenda and Wilson requesting to remove item 5 for discussion. Voice vote to approve items 1, 3, and 6. Voice vote. Motion to approve items 1, 3 and 6 on the Consent Agenda carried unanimously.

Discussion on item 2 – “Pay Application #2 – Stage at Talleyrand” included Tosti-Vasey asking for clarification of this item. She had questions regarding pages 7-15. Her questions were clarified and Ms. Tosti-Vasey moved to approve item 2 of the Consent Agenda. Eaton seconded. Voice vote. Motion to approve item 2 on the Consent Agenda carried unanimously.

Discussion on item 4 – “Special Event Permit Application – Civil War Weekend” included Tosti-Vasey asking for clarification of dates. She wanted to clarify that the date for set up for the event would be Friday, April 30th. Mr. Pribulka clarified that the location of the event will also be Talleyrand, not the waterfront. Ms. Tosti-Vasey moved to conditionally approve item 4 of the Consent Agenda with administrative corrections of the above information. There was no second. Voice vote. Motion to approve item 4 on the Consent Agenda carried unanimously.

Discussion on item 5 – “Appointment of ADA Coordinator” included Ms. Wilson asking for clarification if this is a temporary or permanent appointment. Mr. Pribulka commented that he does not know the answer to that at this time. Wilson moved to approve item 5 of the Consent Agenda. Tosti-Vasey seconded. Voice vote. Motion to approve item 5 on the Consent Agenda carried unanimously.

VIII. REPORTS

Mayor Johnson

- Mayor Johnson would like to present the plans to install a small water feature adjacent to the Police Department to recognize past mayors of Bellefonte Borough.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Cleeton seconded that Borough Council authorize the installation of the water feature. Discussion included Mayor Johnson offering comments and clarifications regarding a “Mayor’s Fountain Project”. He is working on a project to “spruce up” the corner of Lamb and Water Streets. He would like to install a fountain in that area honoring past Borough mayors. He is seeking Council approval for this project so it can move forward. JRS landscaping will be doing the fountain installation. No further discussion. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Junior Council Member Report

- NONE

Police (Chief Witmer)

- No report

Parking

- No report

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

1. Recommended for approval:

- NO REPORT

2. Zoning:

- NONE

3. Items of interest:

- Report Submitted

Borough Manager (Mr. Pribulka)

- No report

IX. CURRENT and OLD BUSINESS

- NONE

X. NEW BUSINESS

- **AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL NEW WINDOWS SERVER FOR ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

Provided with the agenda is a copy of a purchase order from Link Computer Corporation authorizing the procurement and installation of a new Windows Server to replace the existing box that is at the end of its useful life and soon will no longer be supported. The amount is budgeted and totals \$16,665 inclusive of procurement, installation, and licensing.

Eaton motioned and Dann seconded that Borough Council approve the purchase order from Link Computer Corporation in an amount of \$16,665. Discussion included Tosti-Vasey asking for clarification and offering recommendations related to a possible future upgrade of Adobe software for ADA accessibility. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

- **AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE NEW PIERCE ENFORCER 100' AERIAL FOR UNDINE FIRE COMPANY**

Provided with the agenda is a copy of a purchase order from Glick Fire Equipment Company, Inc. approving the acquisition of a new 100-foot aerial ladder truck manufactured by Pierce to service the Undine Fire Company. The Bellefonte Fire

Department provides fire service from the Logan and Undine Companies to Bellefonte Borough and the Townships of Spring, Benner, and Marion. The current apparatus is at the end of its useful life and a new truck is required to be manufactured. The lead time on manufacturing is estimated to be 48 months from execution of purchase order. Staff recommends Council discuss this item and, if necessary, defer action until October 19. The price is locked in until November 5, at which time a 1% increase in the purchase price is anticipated.

Recommended motion: that Borough Council approve the purchase order for the Pierce Enforcer 100' Aerial in an amount of \$2,074,124.

-or-

That Borough Council refer the request to the Administration & Finance Committee for further discussion and a recommendation.

Tosti-Vasey motioned and Eaton seconded that Borough Council refer the request to the Administration & Finance Committee for further discussion and a recommendation. Voice vote. Motion carried unanimously.

- **APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH INVOICECLOUD FOR CREDIT CARD AND ACH PAYMENT PROCESSING**

Provided with the agenda is a memorandum from Utility Billing Coordinator Barbi Watson and agreement for online credit card and ACH payment processing services from InvoiceCloud. The Finance Committee has reviewed the proposed engagement and is recommending approval. Fees for use are required to be passed onto the customer. The new service will expand the Borough's and Borough Authority's ability to offer online bill-pay, recurring payments, and enhanced account features for ease of doing business. The Authority will be asked to approve the agreement on October 6.

Dann motioned and Wilson seconded that Borough Council approve the agreement with InvoiceCloud for credit card and ACH payment processing services. There was extensive discussion regarding the details of this proposed agreement. Voice Vote. Motion to approve carried unanimously.

- **COUNCILMEMBER REQUEST – C-NET COVERAGE OF BELLEFONTE BOROUGH AUTHORITY MEETINGS**

Councilmember Dann requested a discussion item for Borough Council to consider requesting the Bellefonte Borough Authority broadcast its meetings on the C-Net government access channel.

Dann motioned and Tosti-Vasey seconded that the Bellefonte Borough Water Authority broadcast its meetings on the C-Net government access channel. There was extensive discussion regarding this proposal. Discussion included Ms. Dann offering her comments regarding this request. She read a statement that clarified that having C-Net record the meetings will offer better accessibility, transparency and a public record of the Authority meetings to Borough residents. Cleeton asked if the Authority offers a Zoom link to their meetings. It was clarified that yes, Zoom is an option for any resident who wishes to attend the meeting via Zoom. She suggested that the Authority record their Zoom meetings. Ms. Dann countered that while attending and recording the meetings via Zoom is an option, technological difficulties are a huge issue with Zoom recordings. Another Council Member shared that Zoom participation requires “calling in” to the meeting, which can be considered a barrier to access of the meeting. Several members agreed. Mr. Pribulka clarified that the fee that the Borough pays for C-Net service is projected to be \$20,968 in 2027. It was also clarified that there are no past recordings of Authority meetings. A council member asked what the Authority’s reasons are for not wanting C-Net to record. An Authority member expressed concern regarding the costs involved with having C-Net service. Mr. Pribulka commented that he is not sure that Zoom will work regarding storage limits. Within this discussion, there was a side discussion regarding water and sewer rate increases.

Cleeton motioned to table this item pending further input and information from the Authority. Eaton seconded. Roll Call Vote. Motion to table carried with 8 yes votes and 1 no vote.

Ms. Deb Cleeton	Y	Ms. Kessler	Y
Ms. Barbara Dann	N	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	Y
Mr. Jon Eaton	Y	Dr. Tomalei Vess	Y
Mr. Doug Johnson	Y	Ms. Claudia Wilson	Y
Mr. Zach Kelly	Y		

- **AUTHORIZATION OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDNANCE ADOPTING REVISED LOCAL PRETREATMENT LIMITS FOR THE BELLEFONTE BOROUGH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Provided with the agenda is a memorandum from Frank Noll, Wastewater Treatment Plan Superintendent, describing the revised Local Limits accepted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the Bellefonte Borough Authority. Adoption of an ordinance accepting the revised Local Limits is required by the municipal governing body no later than four months from acceptance by the EPA, which occurred on July 27, 2026. Staff is recommending Borough Council authorize the advertisement of a public hearing and consideration of enactment of an ordinance amendment accepting the revised Local Limits for October 19, 2026.

Eaton motioned and Wilson seconded that Borough Council authorizes a public hearing and consideration of enactment of an ordinance accepting the revised Local Limits for the Bellefonte Borough Wastewater Treatment Plant. Ms. Tosti-Vasey commented that the Ordinance has not been provided and it was clarified that the ordinance has not been written yet. Ms. Tosti-Vasey asked about postponing the public hearing.

Tosti-Vasey moved to postpone the ordinance public hearing until after the proposed ordinance is written, before advertising for a public hearing, to check the law about language agreement between municipalities that use the wastewater treatment, and then come back with these items at the next Council meeting. After this information is provided, council can call for the public hearing on November 2nd, 2026. Vess seconded the amended motion. It was clarified these local limits apply to the Industrial Pre-Treatment Customers. It was noted that almost all the Industrial Pre-Treatment Customers are outside of Bellefonte Borough. Roll call Vote. Amended motion carried with 6 yes and 3 no votes.

Ms. Deb Cleeton	Y	Ms. Kessler	Y
Ms. Barbara Dann	N	Ms. Joanne Tosti-Vasey	Y
Mr. Jon Eaton	Y	Dr. Tomalei Vess	Y
Mr. Doug Johnson	N	Ms. Claudia Wilson	N
Mr. Zach Kelly	Y		

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.

- Members made comments regarding Borough issues and projects
 - Eaton commented that three PSU students had been testing the vibrations on the suspension bridge as part of a class project and then asked what the new decking on the suspension bridge will be. Pribulka said that that is currently under review.
 - Wilson commented that it is now fall with expectations of freeze warnings, with a need to bring in or cover your vegetables in your garden.
 - Cleeton reminded the public that now that school has started again, to slow down in school zones and not pass any school bus when their lights are flashing unless you are traveling in the opposite direction on a completely divided highway. Eaton clarified that this means either a grass strip or a concrete barrier that can't be crossed (like the Schuylkill Expressway).
 - Tosti-Vasey commented that the Jr. Council seat is still vacant and asked what the status of the replacement. Pribulka responded that there is no update other than him having made a comment about the vacancy to junior and senior high school students at a local private school. She then commented that President Johnson and she attended a ceremony at the State College Regional Airport welcoming the first flight of United Airlines from Charlotte, NC

to State College. A video she took of this arrival was then shown to the public, and President Johnson and Tosti-Vasey commented on it during the viewing.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Cleeton motioned and Eaton seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:34PM.