

# Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes

## February 13, 2024

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Council President Matthew DeCamp called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room of the Borough Office at 14 Crafton Street. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attending were Councilors F. Craig West, Matt DeCamp, Mike Wood, Rhonda Pearson, and Louis Prevost, Chief James Bodine, Borough Manager Louis Rachiele and Secretary/Treasurer Amy Kane Perry. Councilor Rachel Smith attended via conference call.

Also attending were Donna LaShantz (Wellsboro Gazette), Andrew Moore and John Vogt (Wellsboro Home Page), Kerry Gyekis, Wayne Gray and Marc Rice.

Councilor Pearson made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 2, 2024 Council Reorganization Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor West and carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS** – none

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Councilor West made a motion to approve the removal of the privately owned dumpsters located in the Pearl Street lot and replacing it with one large dumpster that will be Borough owned. No parking signs will also be placed in the area. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and carried.

Councilor West made a motion to gather information from Borough residents regarding Short-Term Rentals in the form of a survey enclosed with their monthly billing. The survey must first be approved by the Wellsboro Planning Commission and the Borough Council. The motion was seconded by Councilor Pearson and passed with a 5 to 1 vote with Counselor Wood casting the descending vote.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Committee Reports:**

#### **General Government, Administration, Buildings, Personnel**

Councilor Wood made a motion to ratify and approve accounts payable for all accounts. The motion was seconded by Councilor West and carried.

Councilor Wood made a motion to approve the January 2024 Treasurers Report. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and carried.

#### **Borough Committee Appointments for 2024 & 2025**

- General Government
  - Chair: Rachel Smith

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- Members: Rhonda Pearson & Mike Wood
- Public Safety
  - Chair: Mike Wood
  - Members: Rhonda Pearson & Lou Prevost
- Public Works
  - Chair: Lou Prevost
  - Members: Craig West & Mike Wood
- Parks & Recreation
  - Members: Lou Prevost, Rachel Smith & Craig West

\* Because of the new Parks & Recreation structure there is no chair.

- Employee Benefits
  - Chair: Craig West
  - Members: Lou Prevost & Rachel Smith
- Grants
  - Chair: Rhonda Pearson
  - Members: Craig West & Rachel Smith

Tim Gooch was appointed to the Wellsboro Municipal Authority vacancy seat as recommend by the Wellsboro Municipal Authority term expires 12/31/27.

Councilor Pearson made a motion to appoint Elise Largey as Junior Council Member as recommended by the Wellsboro Area High School. The motion was seconded by Councilor West and carried.

Councilor Pearson made a motion to appoint Misty Garnder to Wellsboro Parking Authority as recommended by Wellsboro Parking Authority. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood and carried.

Tioga Garage Door has begun overhead garage door replace at 28 Crafton Street and should be finished in the next week.

### **Safety, Police, Fire, Protective Inspections, Codes, EMA**

Mayor's Report – none

Police Report - Chief Bodine reported the following:

- The Police Department is currently investigating a couple of burglaries that occurred in town.
- Pennsylvania has seen an increase in Driver's License fraud statewide.
- Officers just completed basic tactical training and will be busy with recertifications in the next couple of months.

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### **Public Works, Solid Waste, Highways, Parking, Water, Sewer**

The Wellsboro Municipal Authority was awarded a Pennvest Grant in the amount of \$1,024,000.00 and a loan of \$108,100.00 for the UV Disinfection System Project.

Wellsboro Borough has been rewarded a Dirt & Gravel Road Grant for a stormwater project on upper Meade Street to be completed this year.

Construction for the Banik Well Transmission Line Project has begun. Estimated to take 3-4 months to complete.

### **Parks & Recreation, Trees, Beautification, Senior Center**

Councilor Prevost made a motion to approve the proposal for assessment services and core boring from Aquatic Facility Design, Inc. The motion was seconded by Councilor West and carried.

### **Employee Benefits, Negotiations, Insurance, Safety, Training**

All DPW and Water/Sewer employees received operator training on the new Jetvac. An additional training is scheduled for next month.

### **Other Business**

The Borough Office will be closed for training on Wednesday mornings from 8:30am – 10:30am during the month of February.

The Borough Office will be closed Monday February 19<sup>th</sup> 2024 in observance of Presidents Day.

### **Public Comments - none**

**Adjourn** – Councilor West made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:12pm. Next Borough Council Meeting is March 11, 2024 at 5pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

  
Secretary/Treasurer