

# Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes

## February 14, 2022

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Council President Matthew DeCamp called the regular meeting to order at 5:00p.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, K. Declan Clark, Matt DeCamp, Joan Hart, Mike Wood and Louis Prevost. Borough Manager Scot F. Boyce, Jr, Mayor John Wheeler, Chief of Police Jim Bodine and Secretary/Treasurer Amy Kane Perry.

Also attending were Natalie Kennedy from the Wellsboro Gazette, Borough Residents Bethany & Jeremy Hawn, Jennifer & Chuck Compton, and Lissa Hoprich. Local Business Owners Jessica Webster, Christina VanDergrift, Wendy Wetzel (Staff Member), and Brad Goodwin.

Councilor Wood made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2022 Reorganizational Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark and carried.

### **Public Comments on Agenda Items – None**

### **OLD BUSINESS - None**

### **NEW BUSINESS - None**

### **HARB**

1. Councilor Hart made a motion to accept C&N Bank's request for window signage at 64-68 Main Street with the following conditions HARB recommends– the lettering is a max. height of 8" and the white background of the proposed sign is reduced to comply to the 20% rule for window signage. The green color of the lettering and the logo design are fine. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood and carried.

### **Committee Reports:**

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

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

Councilor Hart made a motion to approve the December, 2021 Treasurers Report. The motion was seconded by Councilor West and carried.

Councilor Hart made a motion to appoint Ms. Christina VanDergrift to the Historical Architectural Review Board. The motion was seconded by Councilor West and carried.

Councilor West made a motion to refuse the offer on cell tower lease purchase. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hart and carried.

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

Mayor's Report – Nothing to report at this time.

Police Report – The Police Department has been attending trainings for mandatory municipal police updates. There has been an increase in the number of responses for mental health issues.

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

Councilor West made a motion to accept Blossburg request for Wellsboro staff and jet-vac to flush sewer line at \$200/hour rate. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and carried.

Councilor West made a motion to authorize Borough Manager and Solicitor to negotiate continuation of garbage hauling contract with NTSWA. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hart and carried.

Councilor West made a motion to advertise bids for 2022 Road Program - Water Street (entire length) and Bodine Street (complete tar and chip). The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and carried.

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

Councilman Prevost gave updates on National Guard Training Flights proposed over portions of North Central Pennsylvania. Representative Glenn "GT" Thompson is calling for more transparency and a statement on the environmental impact these flights will cause.

Councilor Prevost made a motion to authorize Borough Manager to open membership and charge account at Sam's Club with a limit of \$8,000.00 for the Parks and Rec Department, with purchasers being Scot F Boyce Jr and Brian Kennedy. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hart and carried.

Councilor Prevost announced memorial benches that were not refurbished last year have been removed for refurbishing by the Parks and Recreation Department.

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

Councilor West made a motion to approve transitioning Assistant Secretary position to a part-time position. The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark and carried.

Councilor West made a motion to authorize advertisement for part-time Assistant Secretary position. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and carried.

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Councilor West made a motion to remove Mathew DeCoursey from probationary status, with increase in pay to \$21.09 per hour, effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hart and carried.

Councilor West made a motion to accept resignation of Police Officer Mitchell Christman, effective February 2, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilor DeCamp and carried. Councilor Clark commended Officer Christman for being a good officer and thanked him for his service.

Councilor West made a motion to authorize Police Chief Bodine to convene Civil Service Commission to populate hiring list. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood and carried.

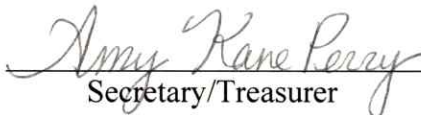
### **Other Business**

### **Public Comments**

Community members Christina VanDergrift, Bethany & Jeremy Hawn, Jessica Webster, Brad Goodwin, Wendy Wetzel and Lissa Hoprich presented Council with the pros of having short term rentals in our community. A statement was read by Christina VanDergrift and discussions were held regarding the economic impact on the community residents and businesses. It was determined that it would be beneficial to form a committee of council members and community members to further discuss short term rentals. The committee would then present their suggestions to council.

**Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 5:36pm. The next Borough Council Meeting is March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 5pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

  
Secretary/Treasurer