

Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2023

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, Joan Hart, Kevin Clark and Louis Prevost, Mayor John Wheeler, Chief James Bodine, Borough Manager Louis Rachiele, and Secretary/Treasurer Amy Kane Perry.

Also attending were Natalie Kennedy (Wellsboro Gazette), Cindy Copp, Carrie Heath (Gmeiner Cultural Arts Center) and Sandra Olson.

Councilor West made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 13, 2023 Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS – Carrie Heath thanked Council for their donation to the WWII Memorial Fund. They have now raised of \$7,000.

OLD BUSINESS

The ad for the Short-Term Rental Task Force Members has been advertised as directed by Council. Applications will be accepted through March 31, 2023.

Councilor Clark gave an update of the Trailways Bus discontinuation to our area. He has mailed letters to local Chambers of Commerce, Boroughs and Local Officials regarding the need for transportation in our area. The PUC will re-bid the route that covers our area in April.

NEW BUSINESS

HARB

Councilor Prevost made a motion to approve the fence replacement at 158 Main Street per HARB's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilor West and carried.

Councilor Clark made a motion to approve the new signage at 134 Main Street per HARB's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost 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 West and carried.

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Councilor Hart made a motion to approve the February, 2023 Treasurers Report. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and carried.

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

Mayor's Report – Nothing to report at this time

Police Report

Chief Bodine reported the following:

- PD has been focusing on the red lights at Main & East Avenue and Main & Central. They believe they are making some headway with previously reported issues.
- March 30th the Police Department is hosting Coffee with Cops at the Native Bagel from 9:00am – 10:30am
- The new police vehicle is in use and anyone wishing to see it may stop by the PD.

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

Councilor West made a motion to approve the road closure May 6th, 2023 for the Mammoth Endurance Race (Central Ave from Main to Water Street). The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood and carried.

Councilor West made a motion to approve the road closure April 1st 2023 for the FFA Alumni Chicken Barbeque (Central Ave from Main to Water Street). The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark and carried.

Councilor West made a motion to enact Ordinance 709 authorizing the issuance of a general obligation note in the maximum amount of \$650,000 for street paving projects. The motion requires a roll call vote and votes were as follows:

Kevin Clark - Aye
Craig West – Aye
Matt DeCamp – Aye
Joan Hart – Aye
Louis Prevost – Aye
Mike Wood – Nay

The motion carried.

Councilor West made a motion to send a formal request for a speed study on Central Avenue and Pearl Street to the PA Department of Transportation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and carried.

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The storm water inlets and piping for Sears Street have been ordered. Construction on the project will begin in April.

Parks & Recreation, Trees, Beautification, Senior Center

Employee Benefits, Negotiations, Insurance, Safety, Training

All DPW and Sewer/Water employees attended a 4 hour Confined Space Training presented by Lancaster Safety on Thursday March 9th.

Other Business –

The Borough has reached out to the Tioga County Cat Project regarding feral cat populations within the Borough. We are working on partnering with them to participate in a spay/neuter program.

Public Comments

Sandra Olson – Mrs. Olson is running for District Attorney and presented Council with the changes she would like to see in our local Judicial System.

Cindy Copp – Cindy had the following concerns:

- Ms. Copp would like to know the best way to contact the local fire department. Suggestions were given
- Ms. Copp had concerns regarding the new Rail Trail project that will affect part of the Pinnacle Towers property. She was referred to the County Planning Office.
- Ms. Copp had concerns regarding the vehicles parked on the property adjacent to the Pinnacle Towers. According to the ordinance all vehicles must be registered. If they are registered we cannot ask for them to be removed.

Adjourn – Councilor West made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hart and carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:31pm. Next Borough Council Meeting is April 17, 2023 at 5pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by


Secretary/Treasurer