

WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
January 23, 2012

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Wellsboro Borough Council was called to order with a quorum of six members present at 6:00 p.m., Monday, January 23, 2012, in the council meeting room of the John E. Dugan Fire Station Municipal Building, 28 Crafton Street, Wellsboro, Pennsylvania.

Pledge to Flag- The pledge of allegiance to the American Flag was given by all present.

Attendance: In attendance were Borough Manager Daniel K. Strausser, Chief of Police James R. Bodine, Secretary/Treasurer Susan L. Keck, Janet Strausser, and Natalie Kennedy, of the Wellsboro Gazette.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Hart announced the receipt of the approved amendment for the change in Project Scope of Work for the Safe Water appropriation grant. This state grant was originally for the purchase of sand, rent equipment and to re-sand the filter bed. The amendment allows for purchase of sand, a membrane filtration unit, rent equipment, re-sand filter and install the membrane filter unit.

We will be starting a quarterly newsletter. Tioga Publishing Company has agreed to do this for us. The first issue will be tentatively the 1st week in May. Tentative cut-off date for articles is April 13th. Articles of any nonprofit organization can be included in the newsletter. The newsletter will be mailed to all residents and businesses within the borough. This will be at no cost to the borough.

Committee Reports:

General Government, Administration, Buildings, Personnel

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to pay GROW \$500.00 dues for 2012. This was seconded by Councilor Bryant and carried unanimously.

Councilor Wood made a motion to approve payment of bills as presented. This was seconded by Councilor Bryant and carried unanimously.

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to authorize the borough manager and solicitor to advertising an ordinance to establish a schedule of fees and attorney fees for unpaid municipal claims. . This was seconded by Councilor Sticklin and carried unanimously.

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

Council Sticklin made a motion to appoint Daniel K. Strausser as Zoning Officer and Susan L. Keck as Assistant Zoning Officer. This was seconded by Councilor Bowers and carried unanimously.

Police Report

Chief Bodine explained the new engine is in the Tahoe and the unit is back up and running.

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

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to approve Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority's 2012 Certified Professional Municipal Waste Collector/Hauler Agreement. This was seconded by Councilor Wheeler and carried unanimously. It was explained the fixed rate only applies if the Tioga Street Transfer Station is closed for some reason.

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to authorize the borough manager to write a letter to EPA concerning the allocation of funds to Pennsylvania Rural Water Association. This was seconded by Councilor Bowers and carried unanimously. This letter will assist the PRWA in their efforts to continue receiving necessary EPA funding.

Street sign replacement will start soon.

The Borough Council discussed the DEP requirement to remove storm water from the sanitary sewers. The financial impact on homeowners is of concern. Council can assist by creating places for the homeowner to get rid of the storm water and by looking for grants to aid in their costs. By authorizing the ordinance, property owners are obligated to allow Borough to inspect connections into the storm and sanitary lines. Councilor Sticklin made a motion to authorize the solicitor and the borough manager to advertise the proposed ordinance for inspection of sewers inside buildings and approve the inspection form. This was seconded by Councilor Bryant and carried unanimously.

Parks & Recreation, Trees, Beautification, Senior Center

Councilor Bryant made a motion to demolish the old restroom building at Woodland Park at the recommendation of the Recreation Committee. This was seconded by Councilor Bryant and carried unanimously.

Councilor Wheeler made a motion to approve the 2012 Laurel Festival and the no parking and closing of streets in June and to authorize the Borough Secretary to apply to PennDOT for permits to close the state highways. This was seconded by Councilor Wood and carried unanimously. Chief Bodine advised that more fire police will be needed to assist this year.

Councilor Sticklin reported on the Winter Festival held by the Parks and Recreation Department. The event had many attractions and was well attended.

Employee Benefits, Negotiations, Insurance, Safety, Training

Councilor Wood reported on contract negotiations. The State Mediator has been called to mediate both Public Works and the Police Department contracts.

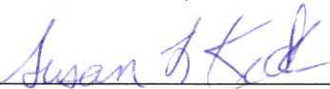
Other Business

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise the 1984 Ford Truck for sale. This was seconded by Councilor Wood and carried unanimously.

Councilor Wheeler described a parking solution at the Court House that would reduce the public risk and enhance police safety. The posting of 'Police Vehicle Only' on two parking spaces closest to the prisoner entrance was authorized by motion of Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Council Member Wheeler, and carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Adjourned at 6:19 p.m.



Respectfully submitted by Susan Keck, Secretary/Treasurer.