

Wellsboro Borough Council Minutes October 12, 2015

Council President Joan S. Hart called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room of the Borough Office at 14 Crafton Street and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attending were Mayor John E. Wheeler, Councilors Joan S. Hart, Michael J. Wood, Rudolf K. Scharf, John M. Sticklin, Kevin J. Connelly, and Jennifer Mase Updyke, Borough Manager Daniel K. Strausser, Chief James Bodine and Secretary/Treasurer Susan L. Keck.

VISITORS- Melissa Bravo from the Williamsport Sun, Natalie Kennedy from the Wellsboro Gazette, Terry Bryant.

Minutes: September 14, 2015 Council Meeting minutes-were approved by motion of Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Connelly, and carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Hart congratulated Natalie Mee on being chosen as the 2015 Flaming Foliage Queen.

Manager Strausser recommended council hire Trevor Young as laborer at the water and sewer plant at a rate of \$16.06 per hour. Councilor Sticklin made a motion to hire Trevor Young as recommended and at the rate recommended. Councilor Connelly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Manager made the following comments: We are saddened by the knowledge that Osram will be leaving the Borough and extend our gratitude for the many years we have all prospered by its existence here in our community.

Our staff has been evaluating the impacts that the loss will have on our water and sewer utilities, and will make adjustments as necessary in the months to come.

For now, we will strive to remain positive, and ask that we all offer what assistance we can to ease the burden on those employed by Osram. And we ask you to remember that we are equal to the challenges this change will bring.

Committee Reports:

General Government, Administration, Buildings, Personnel

Councilor Scharf made a motion to ratify and approve accounts payable for all accounts. Councilor Mase Updyke seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilor Scharf made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report for August, 2015. Councilor Mase Updyke seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilor Scharf made a motion to adopt Ordinance #680 fixing the Real Estate tax rate for 2016 at 6.33 mills. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried.

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Councilor Scharf made a motion to approve the 2016 budget for adoption as follows:

	Revenue	Expenditures
General:	\$2,971,914.00	\$2,971,914.00
Water	\$924,558.00	\$924,558.00
Sewer	\$767,167.00	\$767,167.00

All rates will remain the same as 2015. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Councilor Scharf made a motion to increase Rob Cleveland's pay by \$5,000.00 per year effective immediately. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

Mayor's Report –Mayor Wheeler reminded everyone the 31st of October is the Halloween Parade at 5:30 p.m. beginning at Packer Park. Trick or Treat will run after the parade until 8:00 p.m.

Police Report- Chief Bodine thanked Council for their support in attending the Attorney General's conference here in Wellsboro. The task force is still actively working with the department.

The newly hired Ron Warren graduated last Friday and will take his certification exam on the 28th to be certified by the month end. Chief hopes to have him on board by the end of the month

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

Councilor Wood made a motion to approve the bid of Tri-State Trucking contingent on the engineer and managers review at a cost of \$57,300.32. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Borough wide yard sale is October 16 & 17

Fall Cleanup is the week of October 19th on your regular garbage collection day.

Parks & Recreation, Trees, Beautification, Senior Center

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to approve the Relay for Life request for July 2016. Councilor Mase Updyke seconded the motion and it carried.

The 31st of October is the Halloween Parade at 5:30 p.m. beginning at Packer Park. Trick or Treat will run after the parade until 8:00 p.m.

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Employee Benefits, Negotiations, Insurance, Safety, Training

We are negotiating for a new contract with the DPW and Police.

Councilor Mase Updyke made a motion to adopt Ordinance #681 providing for the establishment of a retirement plan for eligible employees. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Other Business

Flushing of the Borough water system will begin next Sunday night, the 18th of October. The Main lines will be flushed at night and the side streets during the day.

Executive Session: Council will hold an executive session on legal matters immediately after this meeting.

Adjourn at 6:13 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by *Ausent Beck*