

# Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes December 10, 2012

Council President Joan Hart called the meeting to order at 6 pm, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attending were Mayor James Daugherty, President Joan S. Hart, Vice President John E. Wheeler, Councilors, Michael J. Wood, John M. Sticklin, and Terry L. Bryant. Borough Manager Daniel K. Strausser, Borough Secretary/Treasurer Susan L. Keck.

**VISITORS-** Natalie Kennedy, Wellsboro Gazette, Kevin Connelly, James Updyke

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the November 5, 2012 Council Meeting were approved by a motion made by Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Wheeler, and carried unanimously.

**Mr. James Updyke** - Explained that he was now willing to sign the PennDOT Agreement regarding his right-of-way for the King Street Bridge, retaining the right of first refusal, and that no parking be allowed. This was approved by motion of Councilor Wood, seconded by Councilor Sticklin.

**Mr. Kevin Connelly** - Requested Council support a free outdoor summer concert, perhaps on Crafton Street, to help bring more public awareness and recognition to the Community Concert Association. In discussion, it was mentioned that Council would look at such an application. In addition, the non-profit group could utilize the back of the Borough Water bill to spread awareness of the Association.

**Executive Session:** Council did hold an executive session on December 3, 2012 at 4 pm to discuss police personnel issues.

Council went into executive session at 6:10 for personnel matters.  
Executive Session ended at 6:34

**POLICE OFFICER HIRING AUTHORIZED-** Councilor Sticklin made a motion to hire an additional police officer. This was seconded by Councilor Bryant and carried 4-1. A roll call vote followed:

Councilor Sticklin- yes  
Councilor Bryant- yes  
Councilor Wood- no – wanted a cap of a 5 man police force  
Councilor Wheeler- yes  
Councilor Hart- yes

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**HARB** – Fifth Seasons sign and lights – They got approval before for script lettering and now want block lettering and lights place at intervals along the front façade. Councilor Sticklin made a motion to approve. This was seconded by Councilor Wood and carried 5-0.

### **Subdivision Plans:**

- 1. Patterson Lot Addition-** This simple lot addition approved by motion of Councilor Bryant, seconded by Councilor Sticklin, carried 5-0.
- 2. Great Lakes Wellhead Development-** approved by motion of Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Wood, carried 5-0.
- 3. Gods Family Fellowship Subdivision-** - approved by motion of Councilor Bryant, seconded by Councilor Sticklin, carried 5-0.

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

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to pay bills for 11-7, 11-16, 11-21, 11-28 and 12-6 as presented. This was , seconded by Councilor Wood, carried 5-0.

**Real Estate Tax for 2013-** A motion to adopt Ordinance # 671 setting the Real Estate Tax for 2013 was made by Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Wood, and carried unanimously. There is no change in the rate.

**King Street Bridge** – A motion to adopt Ordinance # 672 authorizing the taking of private property to complete the King Street Bridge project was made by Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Wood, and carried 4-1, with Councilor Bryant against.

**J H Williams & Company Hired as Auditor** – A motion to approve a contract with J H Williams & Company to complete our audits for 2012, 2013 and 2014 2013 was made by Councilor Wood, seconded by Councilor Sticklin, and carried unanimously. This will be at a cost of \$14,500, \$14,600 and \$14,700 per year for the borough and \$4,000, \$4,100 and \$4,200 per year for the Municipal Authority. This is a savings over three years of \$17,400.00

**Resolution #2012-12- Funding a Joint Comprehensive Plan.** A motion to approve Resolution #2012-12 to agree with funding up to \$5,000 for a joint Comprehensive Plan was made by Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Wood, and carried unanimously.

**Resolution #2012-11- Tax Collection Committee Delegates.** A motion to approve Resolution #2012-11 approving the delegates for the Tioga County Tax Collection Committee, was made by Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Bryant, and carried unanimously.

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

**Part Time Police Officers Removed** – A motion to remove any part time officers now on the books was made by Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Bryant, and carried unanimously.

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

**Garbage Bids-** were opened at 2 pm with Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority the apparent low bidder at a cost of \$1,274,192 for a 5 year contract. A motion for the Borough Manager to proceed with the Northern Tier Solid Waste Authority Contract and to approve **Resolution #2012-10** was made by Councilor Wood, seconded by Councilor Sticklin, and carried unanimously. Councilor Bryant added that no one will be laid off as a result of this contract.

Truck Auction- 1984 Truck is currently in an auction

**One Ton Truck Purchase Approved-** A motion to approve purchase of a new one ton truck at a cost not to exceed \$70,000.00 was made by Councilor Bryant, seconded by Councilor Sticklin, and carried unanimously.

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The street trees on Pearl Street and King Street have been pruned to allow truck traffic to flow freely. Also, the trees along Queen Street at Packer Park have been pruned.

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

The insurance premium for 2013 is going up approximately \$500.00. The increase in premium was kept down in part due to the appraisal of all properties we completed in 2012.

No date has been set for the arbitration hearing with the police contract.

### **Other Business**

**Dedication:** Jerry Eberhart Bench Dedication.-December 12 at 9 am in front of Wellsboro Pediatrics on Main Street.

**Rededication:** Lt. Jonathan C. Foltz Bridge December 28, at 12 noon at the Central Avenue Bridge. A luncheon will follow at the Penn Wells Hotel.

A motion to Reappoint and appoint the following board members was made by Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Bryant, and carried unanimously.

Wellsboro Municipal Authority- Tom Reindl will serve another 5 year term

Wellsboro Borough Municipal Authority- James Paxson will serve another 5 year term

Wellsboro Parking Authority - Ellen Dunham Bryant – 5 year term

Wellsboro Shade Tree Commission- Howard Rutledge will serve another 5 year term

Wellsboro Civil Service Commission- John Wheeler will serve another 6 year term

Wellsboro Planning Commission- Louis Prevost will serve another 4 year term

William Yacovissi will serve another 4 year term

Zoning Hearing Board- Robert McCarthy will serve another 3 year term

Historical Architectural Review Board- Jay Erb will serve another 4 year term

Joan Hart will serve another 4 year term

### **Adjourn**

*Respectfully submitted by: Howard Keck Secretary/Treasurer*