

WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 19, 2011

Council President Joan Hart called the regular monthly meeting of the Borough Council for the Borough of Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, to order with a quorum of six members present at 6:30 p.m., Monday, December 19, 2011, in the council 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.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

The following elected officials of the Borough of Wellsboro were present:

First Ward Council Member- Michael Wood

First Ward Council Member- Rudolf Scharf

First Ward Council President- Joan Hart-

Second Ward Council Member- John Sticklin

Second Ward Council-Vice President- John E. Wheeler

Second Ward Council Member- Terry Bryant

APPOINTED OFFICIALS:

The following appointed officials of the Borough of Wellsboro were present:

Superintendent of Public Works- Mark Dieffenbach

Superintendent of Water & Sewer Plants- Daniel Brought

Police Chief- Jim Bodine

Secretary/Treasurer- Susan Keck

Assistant Secretary- Florence Martino

PRESS:

Wellsboro Gazette- Natalie Kennedy

Williamsport Sun-Gazette- Cheryl Clark

VISITORS:

Dan & Janet Strausser- Lou Prevost, Mr. & Mrs. Dan Dillman, Angelo Serva

MINUTES- Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the minutes for November 14th, 18th & 29th, seconded by Council Member Wood, motion carried 6-0. Superintendent Dieffenbach said there was a correction on the minutes for 11/14th under street work. Superintendent Dieffenbach said joint sealing to complete the highway occupancy permit work would be done at East Avenue near Park Place, the Penn Wells fire line tap on Main Street, Dante Cimorelli's water and sewer tap Charleston Street and curbing project on Charleston Street.

VISITORS- PLANNING COMMISSION REQUEST- Lou Prevost said he was a member of the Planning Commission and is the chairman of the committee to update the comprehensive plan. Lou Prevost said he had been approached by a member of the Lions Club to give a presentation, as a member of the Planning Commission on the updating of the comprehensive plan. Lou Prevost handed out the packet of information he was planning on presenting to the Lions Club. 1. The first page describes what a

WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 19, 2011

comprehensive plan is and the components of the plan. 2. The second item describes the comprehensive planning process.

3. The third item is the website created and maintained by William Yacovissi. Lou Prevost explained the Planning Commission is working with Charleston, Delmar and Duncan townships and the website keeps the commission in contact with members of the borough and also the three townships.

4. The fourth item is the list of the eleven chapters included in the Wellsboro Comprehensive Plan. Lou Prevost explained the Planning Commission members are working on the chapters most important to the issues concerning Wellsboro. Lou Prevost said Chapter 10, Utilities was the first chapter they worked on to address the importance of the water concern for the Borough of Wellsboro. The second concern was Chapter 4, Housing concerning rental housing. The third concern was Chapter 3, Transportation and the fourth was Chapter 11 Intergovernmental Cooperation. Lou Prevost said the next concern to be discussed would be Chapter 2, Land Use this would concern the greenway project.

5. The Local Borough Objectives- Describes Environmental, Land use, Social, Economic, Transportation, Community Services & Facilities and Statement of Community Development Objectives.

6. The Regional Objectives-The regional objectives are to maintain the lifestyle in the borough as in the three townships and maintain the water supply for the borough, which is in Duncan Township.

7. The next item is the Planning Commission recommendation for a Route 6 By-Pass Study. Lou Prevost said the Planning Commission would like to make a presentation to the Wellsboro Rotary, Lions Club, Chamber of Commerce, T.C.D.C., and the S.S.M. Hospital and then present the findings to the Borough Council. Council Member Wood said he was 100% against ever having a by-pass through Wellsboro. Lou Prevost said they only wanted to get the opinions of the residents of Wellsboro to present to the council. Lou Prevost said the study would inform us of what could or could not be done.

8. The next item is the application for rental housing units.

9. The last item is the Five Point Plan for Safe Water & Environment.

Lou Prevost said he had told Jim Paxson that the Planning Commission would have to have the approval of the Borough Council before they could give a presentation. Council Member Wood said he was against the presentation. Council Member Bryant said the only information should be the items, which Borough Council had approved and there were many item presented which Council, has taken no action on. Lou Prevost said they were only trying to identify what the concerns and interests are in the community and then will report back to Borough Council. Council President Hart said the organizations needs to contact the borough officials and the Borough Council need to do the talking. Council Member Wood said borough commissions and committees needs to talk to and answer to the Borough Council. Lou Prevost said the borough Council answers to the people of Wellsboro. Council Member Wood said he knows Council answers to the citizens. Secretary Keck said there is a large group on information and requested Lou remove the information that has not been approved by the Borough Council. Council Member Bryant made a motion to have the issue tabled at this time until Borough

WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 19, 2011

Council can review the information and make a decision at the next meeting, seconded by Council Member Wood motion carried 6-0.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT GRANT & CENTRAL AVENUE- Dan Dillman a resident at 32 Grant Street requested Borough Council to turn off the beeping noise on the traffic signal. He said the noise is 24/7 and he can hear it in his living room as well as his bedroom. Council Member Bryant said it is a Federal or State regulation. Superintendent Dieffenbach said he would ask what could be done tomorrow when Kurcharik's are working on the intersection of Charleston and Tioga Street. Superintendent Dieffenbach said it is Penn DOT's and the borough is not able to adjust it. Council President Hart said it is a handicap requirement. Dan Dillman said just turning it down would not help the situation. He said now the windows and doors are shut and in the summertime they will want to sit outside. Council President Hart said they would meet with the State in the morning.

CONWAY STREET CREEK CONCERN- Angelo Serva informed the Council they purchased their home in 1993 and at that time we could walk across the stream. He said at this time the creek has a bank with a 12' drop off. Angelo Serva said he walked up Conway to Kelsey and there is new houses being built in the Kelsey Street development and there is also a plan for a development on Greenwood Street these will create more water in the stream. Angelo Serva said he also noticed there was a drain going into the stream and there is debris and stumps that will be in the stream with a heavy downpour. Angelo Serva said he had purchased rip rap a few years ago to stabilize the bank however he is now concerned the water will go behind that and there are six homes which could be in danger if the water continues to erode the stream bank. Superintendent Dieffenbach said the Borough Engineer Scott Bray has a report on this and recommended the Street Committee review the report.

CHIEF OF POLICE- Chief Bodine said Dickens of a Christmas was a beautiful event and there was a good traffic flow with the new traffic outline and the gas companies reducing the amount of truck traffic during the event. Chief Bodine thanked the Tioga County Fire Police for their assistance with the traffic control.

TRUCK INSPECTIONS- Chief Bodine reported Officer Deveney has been doing truck inspections on Tioga Street and will be setting up an area on East Avenue also for the inspections.

DUI'S AND DRUG ARRESTS- Chief Bodine informed the Council the arrest keeps increasing.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS- Superintendent Dieffenbach informed the Council they received \$1,860.00 for scrap metal from clean-up week and the 2011 construction season.

CATCH BASINS- Superintendent Dieffenbach said they have received the catch basins for upper Jackson Street from McCarroll's Precast this was paid for out of the 2011 storm

WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 19, 2011

water budget. A manhole shim has been installed on Ives Street and two inlets have been installed in Dunham's alley, another on Grant Street and Meade Street.

EQUIPMENT- Superintendent Dieffenbach informed the Council the equipment has been prepared for winter weather.

PLANT SUPERVISOR- SWIF TESTING- Dan Brought informed the Council the testing should be done on 12/27th. Dan Brought said the PILOT Study is up and going and will need several weeks to complete data.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT- RATIFY PAYMENTS OF BILLS
November 14th, 16th 22nd 30th 7 December 7th & 14th- Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the bills, seconded by Council Member Scharf motion carried 6-0.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT- Secretary Keck asked for Council to approve the three recommendations from the Finance Committee report:

1. Transferring the balance of 422,298.38, in the First Heritage account 0265-27 to the General Fund account to cover expenses paid in December 2011. Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Council Member Wood motion 6-0.
2. Transfer the balance of \$245,884.47, in the First Heritage General Fund Money Manager account into the 2012 budget. Council Member Sticklin made the motion to approve the transfer, seconded by Council Member Scharf motion carried 6-0.
3. Transfer the following funds to cover the cost of the retrofit:

2011 Sewer Sludge 08.422.4263	\$16,000.00
PLGIT 3647240 Sewer Capital Reserve	7,792.59
2012 Sewer Budget	10,000.00
2011 Sewer Revenue account	11,207.41
Total	\$45,000.00

Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the recommendation, seconded by Council Member Wood motion carried 6-0.

ADOPTION OF 2012 BUDGET WITH A 15% INCREASE IN GARBAGE RATES, AND A 3% INCREASE IN WATER & SEWER RATES- Council Member Bryant made a motion to adopt the 2012 budget with the increase in rates, seconded by Council Member Sticklin motion carried 6-0.

APPOINT TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE VOTING DELEGATE FOR 2012- Secretary Keck said it is a law that the borough needs to go with the county tax committee. Council Member Bryant made a motion for Secretary Keck stay on the committee for one year, seconded by Council Member Wheeler motion carried 6-0.

ADVERTISE NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT TAX COLLECTION ORDINANCE- Secretary Keck explained Chris Lantz is also the Solicitor for the tax collection agency and he has prepared this ordinance for each of the communities. Council Member

WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL

DECEMBER 19, 2011

Sticklin made a motion to approve the notice of intent to adopt the ordinance, seconded by Council Member Wheeler motion carried 5-1 Council Member Scharf voted no. Council Member Scharf said the borough was collecting taxes through Central Tax. PROCEED WITH PAVING PROJECT BANK LOAN- Secretary Keck asked if the Council wanted to do a formal bid with the banks for a \$300,000.00 paving loan. Council Member Bryant said they wanted to maximize the liquid fuel payment. Council Member Wood said he thought council had agreed to \$250,000.00 now it is up to \$300,000.00 if liquid fuels could offset it with no tax increase. Council Member Wood said we borrowed money last time and spent \$70,000.00 this year and now \$300,000.00 this coming year, we won't be doing anymore paving for the next few years. Council President Hart said the loan is for four years. Council Member Bryant made a motion for Secretary Keck to get formal bids for \$250,000.00 and \$300,000.00, seconded by Council Member Sticklin motion carried 6-0.

APPOINT AIRPORT AUTHORITY- Council Member Sticklin made a motion to appoint David Lamphier, seconded by Council Member Bryant motion carried 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS- GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE- Council President Hart stated the borough has a borough manager and he is Dan Strausser and he is here tonight. Council Member Wood requested an executive session at 7:20 p.m. at 7:30 p.m. ended the executive session. Council Member Bryant made a motion to approve Dan Strausser as the borough manager. Council Member Wood called for a roll call vote. Council President Hart asked if there was a second to the motion. Council Member Sticklin seconded the motion. Council President Hart asked Secretary Keck to record a roll call vote:

Council Member Scharf -	YES
Council Member Wood -	NO
Council Member Hart-	YES
Council Member Wheeler -	YES
Council Member Sticklin-	YES
Council Member Bryant-	YES

Council Member Wood said he voted no, not against Dan Strausser or his credentials he voted against the position of borough manager.

ADJOURNED 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:


Secretary / Treasurer