

## Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes December 8, 2014

Council President Joan S. Hart called the regular 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, Jennifer Mase Updyke, and Kevin J. Connelly, Borough Manager Daniel K. Strausser, Chief of Police James Bodine, and Secretary/Treasurer Susan L. Keck.

**VISITORS-** Janet Strausser, Jeff Himes, Natalie Kennedy, Cheryl Clarke

**Minutes:** Minutes of the November 10 and November 24, 2014 meetings were approved by motion of Councilor Connelly, seconded by Councilor Sticklin, and carried unanimously.

Councilor Hart made a motion to approve Daniel K. Strausser and Joan S. Hart as Voting Delegate and Alternative voting delegate in 2015 for PSAB. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to advertise 2015 meeting dates. Councilor Wood seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

Councilor Connelly made a motion to reappoint Ed Owlett to the Wellsboro Municipal Authority, Jeff Wilson to the Wellsboro Borough Municipal Authority, James Paxson to the Wellsboro Parking Authority, Pete Herres to the Wellsboro Shade Tree Commission, W. Michael Knighton to the Wellsboro Civil Service Commission, Timothy A. Sick to the Zoning Hearing Board and Joan S. Hart to the Historical Architectural Review Board. Councilor Wood seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

Councilor Scharf made a motion to ratify and approve accounts payable for all accounts. Councilor Mase Updyke seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

Councilor Scharf made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report for October 2014. Councilor Mase Updyke seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

**TAX ORDINANCE ADOPTED:** Councilor Scharf made a motion to adopt Ordinance 675 fixing the 2015 Real Estate Tax at 6.33 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation for property tax, with no tax increase. Councilor Wood seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

**MAYOR:** Still waiting on more parts for the new Tahoe. Dickens went extremely well this year.

**POLICE CHIEF:** The 2015 Tahoe has a new body style; thereby the wait for equipment to be fitted. Chief Bodine has been appointed to a Multidisciplinary advisory Board for responding to children of abuse, and there may be a grant available for forensic interviewer for one of our officers. The Police Department will have the new uniforms by the beginning of the year.

**PUBLIC WORKS, SOLID WASTE, HIGHWAYS, PARKING, WATER, SEWER**

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**Bodine Street:** The 2014 phase of the improvements was completed today.

**Wingate and Wetmore Street Bridges:** Wingate project is complete except for the sidewalk section. Wetmore Street will be opening within the week and guiderails will be installed in the spring.

**Hamilton Lake:** The \$445,000.00 Grant has been received and transferred to the USDA, who will do the work.

## **PARKS AND RECREATION, TREES, BEAUTIFICATION, SENIOR CENTER**

Thank you to all who worked on the Dickens of a Christmas festival.

## **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, NEGOTIATIONS, INSURANCE, SAFETY, TRAINING**

We have received the Public Works Arbitration Award.

Councilor Mase Updyke made a motion to accept and authorize our Borough Manager to initiate all aspects of the Award. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

**Executive Session:** An Executive Session for Employee matters commenced at 6:15 and ended at 6:43. Councilor Connelly made a motion to give Dan Brought, Mark Dieffenbach, and Sue Keck each a bonus of \$3,500.00. This motion was seconded by Councilor Sticklin and carried 6-0.

**Adjourned at 6:45 p.m.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan L. Keck