

Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes December 9, 2013

Council President Joan 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 President Joan S. Hart, Vice President John E. Wheeler, Mayor James Daugherty, Councilors Michael J. Wood, John Sticklin, Rudy Scharf and Terry Bryant, Borough Manager Daniel K. Strausser, Chief of Police James Bodine, Secretary/Treasurer Susan L. Keck.

VISITORS- Janet Strausser, Jennifer Updyke, Officers' Chad Boyce, Brad Wilson, and Phil Deveney, Sheriff Tom Young, Roberta Daugherty, Kevin Connelly, Laura Lee Soderberg, Nell Rounsaville, Craig Musser, Natalie Kennedy – Wellsboro Gazette.

Minutes of the November 12, 2013 Council Meeting- Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the minutes. This was seconded by Council Member Bryant, and carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Zoning Hearing Board Application: Special Exception for 28/30 Central Avenue submitted by Jesse Robinson and Laura Lee Soderberg.

The intention is to occupy the first level as their home and use the upper two levels for business. The healing arts services include massage therapy, body and facial treatments, maternity services, reflexology, yoga, art, etc. They will continue leasing with renters in 30 until March 2015 at which time they hope to make use of the 30 side of the duplex as their home and all of 28 for their business.

Councilor Wood recommended approval of the request to the Zoning Hearing Board. All were in favor.

Committee Reports:

General Government, Administration, Buildings, Personnel

Craig Musser read a letter of thanks from the Airport Authority for Councils recent contribution toward the airport.

A motion to pay bills fo11/12, 11/22, 11/26 & 12/4 as presented was made by Councilor Scharf, seconded by Councilor Sticklin, and carried.

The roof replacement bid for the Borough Garage is \$38,700 by Black Bear Construction. Councilor Scharf rejected the bid and noted that the Finance Committee advised Council to re-advertise in the spring. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wheeler and carried 6-0.

Councilor Scharf made a motion to approve Resolution # 2013-07 appointing the voting delegate, Susan L. Keck, and alternate, Daniel K. Strausser, for the Tioga Tax Collection Committee. This was seconded by Councilor Sticklin and carried 6-0.

Council recommended Manager Strausser should continue to move forward with the Deane Center Tax Appeal.

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We have received our audited amount for our 2012 Local Service Tax in the amount of \$132,176.53. Councilor Scharf made a motion to divide twenty five percent of this between the Police Department and the Wellsboro Fire Company. In this manner, each would get \$16,522.07. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wood and carried.

Councilors Bryant and Wheeler were thanked for their service and the Finance Committee was thanked for doing a good job.

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

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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Daugherty reported the Dickens crowd was at a manageable level, with 6 officers, 4 deputies, and several fire police handling crowd control. He thanked Morris, Wellsboro, and the Sherriff's office for their assistance.

Police Report

Chief Bodine also expressed thanks to those who assisted in the event. The three vehicles were used and this improved conveyance of officers to needed areas. Chief Bodine thanked the Council for the renovation of the Police Department, stating the P.D. is now a place for Wellsboro to be very proud of. Additional weight room equipment was obtained to expand those facilities.

Mayor Daugherty was awarded a plaque for his 12 years of Mayoral service. His accomplishments are many and he will be missed.

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

King Street Bridge was opened on November 21st. The asphalt wearing course and landscaping will be done in the Spring. Dan will be meeting with the adjacent residents in the spring before everything is done.

We have received a response from PennDot concerning the traffic signals. They are requesting we meet with them before considering having Larson Design do a \$14,400 study. The borough manager will setup a meeting with PennDot after the beginning of the year. Until this meeting is held we will put the study on hold.

Parks & Recreation, Trees, Beautification, Senior Center

Pickup truck is now out for bid on Auction International. This is the Parks and Rec truck. The auction will end in time for the January meeting.

DCNR awarded \$24,400 for the Development of a Master Plan for Woodland Park.

Employee Benefits, Negotiations, Insurance, Safety, Training

No decision on contract arbitration.

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Other Business

John Wheeler read his letter of resignation. The resignation was accepted by motion of Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Wood, and carried.

Councilor Bryant made a motion to fill Councilor Wheeler's seat for the 2 years with Kevin Connelly. This motion was seconded by Councilor Sticklin and carried.

Council President Hart acknowledged Councilor Bryant and Councilor Wheeler with thanks for their service to our borough as Borough Council Members.

January 2014 Reorganizational Meeting and regular meeting will be held on January 6, 2014 at 6 P.M.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:37

Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Keck, Secretary/Treasurer