

# Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes

## February 8, 2021

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Council President F. Craig West called the regular meeting to order at 5:00p.m. in the Council Meeting Room of the Borough Office at 14 Crafton Street. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attending were Councilors F. Craig West, John Sticklin, Mike Wood, Matt DeCamp, Lou Prevost, Joan Hart, Borough Manager Scot F. Boyce, Jr., Chief of Police Jim Bodine, Wellsboro Junior Council Person Hayne Webster, Secretary/Treasurer Susan L. Keck and Recording Secretary Amy Kane Perry.

Also attending were Natalie Kennedy from the Wellsboro Gazette, Ethan Chabala from the Wellsboro Homepage, Borough residents Simon Shaw, Kristine Shaw, and Skip Shaw.

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2021, Council Meeting. Councilor Hart seconded the motion and it carried.

### **Public Comments on Agenda Items-none**

**OLD BUSINESS** – An executive session was held on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from 9am to 930am for legal matters. No decisions were made during the executive session.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**HARB:** HARB did not meet in February.

### **Committee Reports:**

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

Councilor Hart made a motion to ratify and approve accounts payable for all accounts. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilor Hart made a motion to approve the December, 2020 Treasurers Report. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilor Hart made a motion to approve the addition of Amy Kane Perry as signer on Borough's accounts effective February 8, 2021 at the following institutions – Northwest Savings Bank, First Citizens Community Bank, and Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT). Councilor Wood seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilor Hart made a motion to approve Cassidy Land Development at 235 Pearl Street contingent on Borough Engineer's comments being satisfied. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried.

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

Councilor Prevost made a motion to transfer \$8,000 to Police budget for purchase of 2018 Tahoe for Borough Office staff use; the funds will be split between the General, Water and Sewer accounts. Councilor Wood seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilman Prevost gave an update on his continued pursuit for Air Brake Regulation. PSAB has plans for an article in their April issue that will address Air Brakes. Representative Owlett has been made aware of the article and Councilman Prevost continues to keep him updated as he continues his outreach for awareness. Councilman Prevost has been referred to the Penn State Public Relations Department by a State Impact Group and is waiting on a response. He has also been in touch with Spotlight PA, which publishes a high-profile weekly newsletter focusing on Pennsylvania news.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Wheeler absent for meeting.

Police Report – Chief Bodine reported the Borough Police Department has been very busy. They currently have several ongoing investigations that have resulted in arrests. He also addressed complaints regarding the red-light intersection with Queen Street. There have been several complaints of the light not working. In order for the light to function properly vehicles must be pulled completely forward in the lane of traffic. Many vehicles approach and are to the far right in the parking spaces, not in the lane of traffic and this fails to trigger the light. Chief Bodine also reported the new police car will be wrapped with the police department graphics later this week.

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

Councilor Wood made a motion to approve purchase of 2021 Ram 5500 Chassis Cab with a 4x4 Rig Cab at a Co-Stars Price of \$49,760.00 upfitted by Bradco with a stainless-steel box, under tailgate salt spreader, and a 9' plow at Co-Stars pricing of \$49,296.76 for a total purchase price of \$99,061.76. The purchase will be split between \$10,000 from the General Fund, \$20,000 from the Water Fund and \$69,061.76 from the Sewer Fund. These will be paid from the Rainy-Day accounts. Councilor Hart seconded the motion and it carried.

### **Parks & Recreation, Trees, Beautification, Senior Center**

The tree pruning is complete along Pearl Street, Main Street, and East Avenue. The couple of diseased trees that were removed on Pearl St and East Avenue will be replaced as part of the 2021 planting program.

The Parks and Rec Department is refurbishing some of the benches in the borough. Do not be alarmed if you've dedicated a bench and see that it is missing.

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Councilor Sticklin made a motion for approval to close Crafton Street from Pearl Street to the alley behind C&N bank and Waln Street from Pearl Street to Water Street on June 18 and 19, 2021 for Laurel Festival vendors at the request of the Wellsboro Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of spreading out vendors. Councilor Prevost seconded the motion and it carried.

Borough Manager Scot Boyce Jr. announced the Shade Tree Commission is looking for interested landowners for shade tree planting. Applications will be reviewed for eligibility. They have 4-5 spots available.

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

This meeting marks Ms. Susan Keck's final Borough Council meeting. The Borough is grateful for Sue's 25 years of service to the Borough and she will be missed.

### **Other Business**

### **Public Comments**

Borough resident Kristine Shaw addressed the council regarding progress on the subject of chicken ownership within the Borough. She was advised to check back in a couple weeks, the subject cannot be addressed until there has been a decision from the Zoning Hearing Board.

**Adjourn – Adjourned at 5:15 p.m.** Next Borough Council Meeting is March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 5pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by

  
Recording Secretary