

Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2021

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, and Secretary/Treasurer Amy Kane Perry.

Also attending were Natalie Kennedy from the Wellsboro Gazette, and Andrew Moore from Wellsboro Home Page. Borough residents Skip Shaw, Tim Cole, Steve Gastrock, Tiphonie Stocks, and Colleen and Dan Krise. Representing the Wellsboro Historical Glass Association, Grant Cavanaugh and from the Timeless Destination Jerry Curreri.

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2021, Council Meeting. Councilor Hart seconded the motion and it carried.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - None

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

HARB:

1. Councilor Sticklin made a motion to approve the request from Lou Prevost to construct a one-car garage at 20 West Avenue, in a style as close to the house as possible. Councilor Hart Seconded the motion and it carried.
2. Councilor Wood made a motion to approve the temporary window signage request from Wellsboro Historic Glass Association at 80 Main Street. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried.

Committee Reports:

General Government, Administration, Buildings, Personnel

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

Councilor Hart made a motion to approve the March, 2021 Treasurers Report. Councilor DeCamp seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilor Hart made a motion to advertise Ordinance #702, amending the Burning Ordinance. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried.

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Councilor Hart made a motion to advertise Ordinance #703, amending the Keeping of Animals Ordinance. Councilor Prevost seconded the motion and it carried with a 5 to 1 vote with Councilor Wood casting the descending vote.

Councilor Hart made a motion to approve Local Services Tax (LST) to the Wellsboro Fire Department in the amount of \$10,000.00 and the Wellsboro Police Department in the amount of \$18,705.27. Councilor DeCamp seconded the motion and it carried.

The Borough office will be closed on Monday, May 31st for Memorial Day.

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

Mayor's Report – Mayor John Wheeler was not present

Police Report – The equipment for the West Avenue speed sign has been received and installed. With the Laurel Festival Parade back on schedule, traffic control has been put in place. The department has seen an increase in the number of DUP's and drug overdoses.

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

The Wellsboro Municipal Authority has accepted the bid of \$411,000 for the general services contract from Maverick Construction, LLC for the Headworks and CSO Project at the Waste Water Treatment Facility. The project will be funded by the Authority with gas royalty funds.

Parks & Recreation, Trees, Beautification, Senior Center

Packer Park Pool is scheduled to open on June 9th. The early season rates will remain in effect through the end of May.

Employee Benefits, Negotiations, Insurance, Safety, Training

Borough Treasurer/Secretary Amy Kane Perry is now a certified PA Notary Public

Other Business

Public Comments

1. Jerry Curreri (Timeless Destination) – Jerry presented the Council with a letter composed by his wife and himself, commending the Wellsboro Police Department under the direction of Chief Jim Bodine and asked that the letter be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
2. Colleen and Dan Krise – The Krise's attended the meeting to show their support of allowing chickens within the borough limits.
3. Grant Cavanaugh (Wellsboro Historical Glass Association) – Grant gave a short presentation on the museum they are opening on Main Street. They plan to use the

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temporary museum to raise awareness and fundraise to eventually open a museum large enough to house the ribbon machines, which they purchased with the help of GROW, that are currently in storage. The museum plans to open Memorial Day weekend.

4. Steve Gastrock – Mr. Gastrock attended to make council aware of his following concerns:
 - The storm drains on Bodine Street.
 - His disappointment with the lack of speed enforcement and the police presence on Bodine Street.
 - His strong disagreement with the chicken and duck ordinance and its enforcement.
5. Tim Cole – Mr. Cole attended to make council aware of his following concerns:
 - The storm drains on Bodine Street.
 - The conditions of sidewalks in the Borough.
 - The enforcement of political signs in the Borough.
 - He also strongly disagrees with the chicken and duck ordinance and its enforcement.
6. Skip Shaw - Mr. Shaw attended to make council aware of his following concerns:
 - The final outcome of the chicken violation.
 - The man hole covers on East Avenue.
 - He also has concerns regarding the sidewalks around the Borough.

Adjourn – Adjourned at 5:25pm. Next Borough Council Meeting is June 14th, 2021, at 5pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by


Secretary/Treasurer

My name is Jerry Curreri. My wife Roberta and I, as I am sure you probably know, own Timeless Destination.

I just wanted to take a moment of your time to tell you something that I think needs saying publicly and as often as possible in towns across America.

That is that we need to call out the critics of America's police officers and remind them that when things are bad it is the police officers and first responders that run toward the danger or the problem while most run in the opposite direction.

I tell you this from a perspective of working closely with the Paterson New Jersey Police force when I worked as a paramedic in that city for 10 years prior to moving to Tioga county and as a first responder on 911 to the Twin Towers terrorist attack in New York City.

During our ownership of Timeless I have had the opportunity to interact with the Chief and many, if not all, of the town's officers. I have been treated professionally and correctly in every interaction. Each encounter has resulted in a positive outcome and the issue has been resolved. The Wellsboro Police Department under the direction of Chief Bodine is something the town should be proud of. Thank you for the chance to make this declaration and we would appreciate if this letter could be included in the minutes of this meeting