

WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL  
JULY 11, 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 6:00 p.m., Monday, July 11, 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

**PRESS:**

Wellsboro Gazette- Natalie Kennedy

**VISITOR-** Gus Vargas, Jim West, Craig West, Ward Baker, John Coleman, HARB Chairman- Andrew Harding

**CHIEF OF POLICE- TRAINING-** Chief Bodine informed the Council there would be training held at the Wellsboro High School with the Steuben County Sheriff's Department. This will be rapid response training for 40+ officers encompassing PA State Police, Gaines Township and other agencies in the county. The training is for school incidents as well as other emergency situations where the agencies need to response together. The Tioga County Emergency Management Agency is paying the bill for the training.

Chief Bodine said Office Phil Deveney is working to complete one or two more sessions with the State Police with the vehicle weight-training course.

Chief Bodine requested an executive session at the end of the meeting.

**SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS- STREET SIGNS-** Superintendent Dieffenbach said the 25 M.P.H. signs have been installed. Superintendent Dieffenbach informed the Council, Chief Bodine had ordered directional signs for the Osram plant and Osram would be paying the cost for the new signs. The directional signs direct truck traffic going to Osram to use the Cone

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Street intersection. Superintendent Dieffenbach said the No Parking sign had been installed on Sturrock Street in front of Mary Carson's property.

UPPER BODINE STREET- Superintendent Dieffenbach said he would be able to get the tractor from Charleston Township and would have Don do the trimming on the street by next week.

WATER TAPS- Superintendent Dieffenbach informed the Council the water/sewer tap for Dante Cimorelli has been completed and Dante will pay the borough for the expenses. The second tap was a water tap on Cortland Street for the new duplex apartment house.

CHIPPING OF COMPOST- Superintendent Dieffenbach said the chipping did not work out with Shell however Northern Tier Solid Waste Agency will do the chipping when I can schedule it into their work schedule.

PARKING METERS- Superintendent Dieffenbach said the parking meters on Charles Street would be started this week. Superintendent Dieffenbach asked if the spaces were to be the same size as Main Street. Council Member Bryant said to keep the size the same as on Main Street. Council Member Bryant said he has heard the meters are still full, Superintendent Dieffenbach said Hershel Holsomback is collecting the meter money. Council Member Bryant said he was going to schedule a Parking Authority meeting soon. Superintendent Dieffenbach requested Hershel be permitted to attend the meeting. Council Member Bryant said he would notify Hershel of the meeting.

TRAFFIC SIGNALS- Superintendent Dieffenbach said he spoke with Matt at Kuharchik's and Matt said they would be done with the concrete and underground work, at the intersections within two weeks, then they would be gone for a while and return with the poles and the poles would take approximately 1 day per intersection.

DEANE CENTER- Superintendent Dieffenbach asked if any member of Council on the water committee would want to attend a meeting on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m., to discuss the water line at the center. Superintendent Dieffenbach said they had discussed giving up the line in front of the building for a new water and sewer tap coming in from the back of the building off Water Street. Superintendent Dieffenbach said now they are talking they want to keep the line coming in off Main Street. Superintendent Dieffenbach said the line is from the 1960's. Council Member Bryant said the committee should listen to Mark's recommendations and the Borough Council would back Mark up with the recommendations. Superintendent Dieffenbach said the waste water line would be connected in the back of the building and the cost would be the responsibility of the Deane Center.

BROWNLEE AREA- Superintendent Dieffenbach informed the Council the drilling companies are all over running lines in the area. Superintendent Dieffenbach said he took Dan Brought and they flagged out the line in the Brownlee area and will flag the Willow Well area tomorrow.

WATER MAIN AT PIZZA HUT- Council Member Wood asked who was covering the cost for the water main at Pizza Hut. Council Member Wood said the borough had given them the information and they knew where the line was and it was their mistake. Superintendent

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Dieffenbach said the estimate had been \$5,000.00 but it has been reduced to \$1200.00. Superintendent Dieffenbach said he doesn't make the decision on who should pay for the expense. Council Member Scharf said the whole project is 1.2 million dollars and we are fighting over 1200.00. Council Member Wood said when someone makes a mistake they need to pay for the error and they made the mistake and we are paying for it. Council Member Sticklin recommended the borough contact the Solicitor concerning paving over the sidewalk. Superintendent Dieffenbach said they bore through our 8" ductile water main at Grant & Central Avenue. Council Member Wood said it would be a fantastic project when completed however the borough did not do the mistake. Council Member Wood said any state job has a contingency fund. Council Member Sticklin said the architect made the error and his firm is responsible. Secretary Keck said this is a 2 million dollar project and we are not the only utility who had to move lines for this project. Council Member Wood requested a meeting with the borough, engineers and contractors. Secretary Keck said they were bonded through Northern Tier. Council Member Scharf said when the call came to Sue he was in the office and he told Sue not to hold up a 1.2 million dollar project we would pay the cost. Council Member Bryant said there would be a close out session at the end of the project.

**PLANT SUPERVISOR- SWIP WATER TESTING-** Dan Brought said DEP is inspecting the testing and the procedures at the Keck Well. Dan Brought said everything appears to be going well with the testing.

Dan Brought informed the Council the drive unit is installed and operating at the lake. Superintendent Dieffenbach said there is from 800 gallons a minute to 300 gallons a minute.

**SCREW PUMP COST-** Council Member Scharf asked what estimate was for the repair to the screw pump was, he stated it was not budgeted. Dan Brought said around \$24,000.00, it will be \$12,000.00 for the new unit, \$1,000.00 for the crane taking it down and another \$1,000.00 for putting it back up and then approximately \$10,000.00 for Reese's Welding for their supplies and contracted service. Superintendent Dieffenbach said Mark Reese does want to do the work at his shop.

**HARB REPORT- WELLSBORO FOUNDATION-** Andrew Harding informed the Council they had one application from Julie VanNess of the Chamber office for a new mural at 25 Main Street. The mural would be the same picture however it would be increased in size to 9' high and 15' wide. The new mural would be a digital image with three aluminized panels, customized to look painted. There would also be a 1" frame on the building and a satin coat to protect the image and it won't reflect. Andrew Harding said the unit would be able to be removed whenever the building is being repaired. Council Member Bryant said they are trying to get it resemble the original. Council Member Bryant said the Chamber said how much they are paying to keep maintaining the mural this will be more up front would last longer. Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the HARB recommendation, seconded by Council Member Bryant, motion carried 6-0.

**VISITORS- PIZZA HUT SIDEWALK-** Jim West asked if the Borough Council was going to have the sidewalk replaced at the entrance to Pizza Hut. Council Member Bryant said the contractor would need to put it back per the borough ordinance. Jim West said the borough

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enforced the ordinance a few years ago and the borough needs to enforce it upon themselves due to they were part of the project. Council Member Bryant made a motion to go first to the State Representative and Senator's offices and if nothing is done then take it to the Borough Solicitor, seconded by Council Member Wheeler, motion carried 6-0.

**MOWING ORDINANCE-** Craig West asked if the borough still enforces the mowing lawn ordinance, he said the former Don Root's home on the corner of East Avenue and Jackson Street has not been keeping the lawn mowed. Council President Hart said there are other homes that are not mowing between the sidewalk and the highway.

**BODINE STREET-** Craig West said the borough crew has been working on grading the street; however they have left big rocks in the ditches. Craig West said the rocks would block the stream drain if we were to have a hard rain. Superintendent Dieffenbach said the borough works agility with the townships. Superintendent Dieffenbach said they would be spreading pellets of calcium this week. Ward Baker asked why they always stop the milling before the bridge, why can't they go up above the bridge.

**MINUTES-** Council President Hart stated Andrew Harding is the chairman of the HARB Committee and the minutes for June 13<sup>th</sup> has James Tutak. Council Member Bryant made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction, seconded by Council Member Sticklin motion carried 6-0.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT- RATIFY PAYMENTS FOR 6/28<sup>th</sup> & 7/6<sup>th</sup>-** Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Council Member Wheeler motion carried 6-0.

**RECREATION REQUEST-** Secretary Keck explained Peter Herres has requested Council rescind the council action to transfer from the General Fund budget to the PLGIT Recreation Capital Reserve account and keep the funds in the General Fund budget due to the cost of the basketball court is over budget by \$7,500.00. Council Member Sticklin made a motion to rescind council action, seconded by Council Member Scharf motion carried 6-0.

**PAVING BIDS-** Secretary Keck informed the Council the low bid for the paving project this year was \$54,710.89 over what is available this year. The Finance Committee recommends doing the hydrant lateral at Dunkin Donuts for \$5,000.00 and overlay Kimball alley for \$4,800.00 for a total cost of \$9,800.00. The money available this year is \$73,337.00. The Finance Committee recommends creating a new PLGIT account named for the 2011 street list and put \$50,000.00 in unused General Fund street budget, \$5,387.00 in county aid and the remaining amount in Liquid Fuels of \$7,700.00 to add in the next large paving loan and project for the summer of 2012. Council Member Wood said years ago the council started taking out a \$250,000.00 paving loan every three or four years and it's paid with liquid fuels funds so the taxpayers are not paying. This way the borough gets more paving done and it is the way to go forward. Council Member Bryant said so the borough will not do any paving this year. Council Member Bryant asked why we spend the money we have on the high priority streets. Superintendent Dieffenbach said it would take the Street Committee to determine which streets. Secretary Keck said the borough couldn't keep the contractors, we haven't accepted any

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contract. Council Member Bryant recommended meeting tomorrow at 2 p.m. the Highway Committee is Council Member Sticklin, Council Member Bryant and Council Member Wheeler. Council President Hart said this meeting would be recessed until tomorrow, however we will continue with the Secretary's report this evening.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT- AMENDMENT TO PARKING ORDINANCE-** Council Member Bryant made a motion to amend the parking ordinance to include Charles Street, seconded by Council Member Sticklin motion carried 6-0.

**EPA GRANT CLOSEOUT AND TALLY OF PROJECTS-** Secretary Keck informed the Council she had received the final closeout figures for the five years of projects. She said the total project cost was \$473,091.00 and the Federal share was \$260,200.00.

**ALTERNATE SURFACE WATER TREATMENT OPTIONS-** Secretary Keck informed the Council she spoke with Scott Bray and DEP would accept a system, which works with the slow sand filter. DEP does work with PENNVEST if the borough did a loan. She said the next step would be to do a pilot study. This would be bringing in a miniature unit and then they would size one for our system. The pilot study would be \$50 to \$60,000.00 fees to start. At this time there is not a backlog of water projects and this year there is only 1 million available however next year there will be 15million available. The pilot study will take until the spring of 2012. Secretary Keck recommended Borough Council have a meeting with the Municipal Authority. Superintendent Dieffenbach said the unit could have the unit in a tractor-trailer unit on a concrete pad with a canopy over it. Superintendent Dieffenbach recommended Scott Bray come and discuss this with the members of Council. Council President Hart said he would be at the Authority's meeting. Council Member Wood said in the future the unit on a tractor-trailer could move to the other water sources coming into the borough.

**REQUEST FOR OFF SITE SIDEWALK SIGN-** Secretary Keck informed the Council the owner of Hearts Desire has requested two off site signs at the intersections of Main and Crafton and also at Crafton and Pearl Street. Council President Hart recommended they put a sign on the advertising board on the corner of the Stain Glass building.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-** Council Member Bryant made a motion to approve a part-time police officer position for Chad Boyce to work two-days a week, seconded by Council Member Sticklin motion carried 6-0

**RECESSED UNTIL WEDNESDAY 2 P.M.**