

Wellsboro Borough Special Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2021

Council President F. Craig West called the special meeting to order at 5:00 p.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, Matt DeCamp, Joan Hart, and Louis Prevost. 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, Ethan Chabala from Wellsboro Homepage, Borough Residents Tim Cole, Linda and Lewis Covert, Steve Gastrock, Ron Comstock and Emma Backhus.

Public Comment on Agenda Items - none

Agenda Items:

1. Councilor Hart made a motion to adopt Ordinance #704, amending the Speed Limit Ordinance for Certain Streets. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried.

Adjourn - Meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by


Secretary/Treasurer

Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2021

Council President F. Craig West called the regular meeting to order at 5:01 p.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, Matt DeCamp, Joan Hart, Mike Wood and Louis Prevost. 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, Ethan Chabala from Wellsboro Homepage, Borough Residents Tim Cole, Linda and Lewis Covert, Steve Gastrock, Ron Comstock and Emma Backhus.

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2021 Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hart and carried.

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2021 Special Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and carried.

Public Comments on Agenda Items - None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Council President West announced that an Executive Session was held on August 17th, 2021 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:20 p.m. for legal matters. No decisions were made during the executive session.

HARB:

1. Councilor Sticklin made a motion to accept the request from Deane Center for wall signage at 104 Main Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and 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 July, 2021 Treasurers Report. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried.

Councilor Hart made a motion to lock-in natural gas pricing from UGI at \$5.07 per dth for 36 months, from September 2021 to August 2024. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried.

The Liquid Fuel Account and Municipal Audits are complete for 2020.

Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2021

Councilor Hart made a motion to approve the 2022 MMO (Minimum Municipal Obligation) for police (\$82,808.07) and non-uniform pensions (\$138,069). Councilor DeCamp seconded the motion and it carried.

A Public Hearing will be held at 4pm on September 27th, to consider the Conditional Use application of the Wandering Barista Food Truck

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

Mayor's Report – Mayor was not in attendance.

Police Report – Chief Bodine reported on the following items:

- 1.) STPR is this coming weekend and 38 cars are registered.
- 2.) A program on Identity Theft and Scams featuring a speaker from the Attorney Generals Office, will be held on October 18th from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Wellsboro Area School District Auditorium. This event is open to the public.
- 3.) The PD has recently been busy addressing parking issues at the schools. Primarily on Nichols Street.

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

Community-Wide Yard Sales will be held in October on the 15th and 16th - no permits are needed for this weekend.

Fall Cleanup will be the week of October 18th on your regularly scheduled garbage pick-up day

The Borough has submitted an application to the Tioga County Conservation District's Dirt and Gravel Road Program for a Low Volume Road grant in the amount of \$61,693.00; the submitted project is Phase 1 of the stormwater system on Fischler Street

Councilor Prevost made a motion to accept the 40 Main Street Sidewalk Removal Request with the understanding that if the location is returned to an active business the sidewalk must be replaced. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried.

Parks & Recreation, Trees, Beautification, Senior Center

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to accept the request to hold "Chappy Halloween 5k" race event on Saturday October, 23rd at 10am along the attached route. The motion was seconded by Councilor Prevost and it carried.

Employee Benefits, Negotiations, Insurance, Safety, Training

Councilor DeCamp made a motion to hire Michael E. Pierce as Assistant Superintendent of the Department of Public Works at a salary of \$58,000, and a start date of September 27th, 2021. Councilor Hart seconded the motion and it passed.

Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2021

Councilor DeCamp made a motion to ratify hiring of Patrick Kovchok as a part-time laborer in the Parks and Recreation Department at the wage of \$11.00 per hour. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it passed.

Other Business – none

Public Comments

1. Steve Gastrock – Steve has the following concerns:
 - Safety on Ellis Street – People continue to run the stop sign on Bodine Street making it a hazard to anyone on Ellis Street. The road is narrow making it difficult for two cars to pass. He asked if the wording could be changed on the stop sign since drivers are confused by the sign. Chief Bodine asked to have the residents of Bodine Street keep track of the time of day that people tend to run the stop sign at this location. If he could narrow down a time, he could place an officer to enforce during that time.
 - Man Holes on Bodine Street – The man holes on Bodine Street are set too low.
2. Tim Cole – Tim has the following concerns:
 - Pedestrian Crossing - Tim asked about the placing of a pedestrian crossing sign on Bodine Street. He had approached the Council regarding this issue for safety reasons. The signs have now been delivered to the Borough Garage and will be installed sometime this week along with reflectors.
 - Water in Roadways - Tim asked about the progress of storm drain issues that are leading to water settling in roads and yards. He suggested that the borough clean storm drains more frequently and have a scheduled inspection of all storm drains instead of cleaning them as problems are found.
 - Sidewalks – Tim has concerns over some sidewalk in the borough that are in need of repair. The sidewalks were noted by the Borough Manger and will be addressed.
3. Lewis Covert – Lewis had the following concerns:
 - Safety on Ellis Street – Lewis agrees with Mr. Gastrock and Mr. Cole that people speeding and running the stop sign on Bodine has created a major safety issue.
 - Sluice Pipe on English Street – The sluice pipe at the end of English street points up instead of out. He would like someone to look into fixing it.
4. Emma Backhas – Emma also believes storm drain maintenance is an issue and should be cleaned out on a regular basis.

Adjourn – Next Borough Council Meeting is October 11th, 2021, at 5pm. Adjourned at 5:37pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy Kane Perry
Secretary/Treasurer