

REGULAR MEETING OF WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
October 25, 2010

Council President Joan Hart called the regular monthly meeting of the Wellsboro Borough Council to order with a quorum of five members present at 6:00 p.m., Monday, October 25, 2010 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

Mayor James Daugherty
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

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
Assistant Secretary- Florence Martino

PRESS:

Wellsboro Gazette- Natalie Kennedy
Williamsport Sun-Gazette- Bryan Robinson

VISITORS:

Pete Herres- Director of Parks
Trevor Case – 222 Old Mill, Mainesburg
Shawn Bryant – 17 Sherwood Street, Wellsboro
John Donahue – P.O. Box 212, Wellsboro
Robert Williams – HARB Committee
David Davies – HARB Committee
Chris Kozuhowski – Wellsboro House Restaurant
Kevin & Jenny Connelly – 152 Main Street, Wellsboro

MOWING BIDS- Pete Herres informed Council there were six contractors who had submitted bids for the mowing contracts. Pete Herres stated the low bids were highlighted in yellow on the spreadsheet. Pete Herres stated the contractor listed as Cutting Edge had formerly been Randy Charles. Pete Herres said the mowing bids had come down since the 2008 bids with the Parks Department alone being \$4,000.00 less. Pete Herres recommended the low bid for Council's approval:

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<u>Jason's Mowing:</u>	<u>Pioneer</u>
Packer Park	Woodland Park
Boulevards with bagger	Nessmuk Lake
Woodland Reservoir	Hamilton Lake Picnic/Boat Launch
Cemetery - Pearl St.	Sewer Plant
West Ave. Bridge @ Lincoln	
Municipal Shop	
Nessmuk Lake (face)	
Hamilton Lake (face)	
Packer Park Leaves Bagged & Removed	

<u>VanVliet</u>	<u>Cutting Edge</u>
Police Dept. Firing Range	Hamilton Lake (back side)
	Brush Hogging \$35.per hour 6'

Pete Herres explained to Council that Dan Brought had requested Pioneer continue to do the Sewer plant mowing even though Pioneer's bid was \$5.00 more per cutting, the lower bid for the sewer plant had been Jason's Mowing. Council Member Wood asked why Dan was not taking the low bid? Council Member Wood said the Council would need to have the reason in writing. Pete Herres said the Borough has the option to accept or reject any bid, its stated in the bid advertisement. Council Member Sticklin made a motion to accept the bids as presented, seconded by Council Member Wheeler, motion carried 5-0.

MAYOR'S REPORT- Mayor Daugherty informed Council that, due to the hospital not having their open house for trick or treating, First Citizens Bank on East Avenue has said they would have their bank open from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m for Trick or Treating. He had some concerns about the children crossing East Avenue to go from the bank to the Haunted House at the Fire Department Annex. Mayor Daugherty said the Halloween parade would be at 5:30 p.m. with Trick or Treating from 6 to 8 p.m.

CHIEF OF POLICE- Chief Bodine informed the Council the Mayor and Chief Bodine took care of the Buckle Up Agreement and the department would be participating in the Buckle Up Program through the holiday season. This is a program to target adults as well as children to be properly seat belted while in a vehicle.

OFFICER BELL- Chief Bodine stated Officer Bell is fully certified and is on board in the department and working with the officers.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS- WATER CONCERNS- Superintendent Dieffenbach addressed the issues presented by owners and operators of restaurants, B&B and taverns in Wellsboro.

1. What is the present status of the boil water advisory? Superintendent Dieffenbach said that sand filter #1 has been rehabbed and only needs to obtain 1' more of depth before the ripening process can begin; this will begin at 6:00 a.m. tomorrow.

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2. What is present status of the sand filtration systems, and when can we expect the advisory to be lifted? Superintendent Dieffenbach said he was unsure when the boil advisory to be lifted; it depends on the weather. The warm temperatures help in the ripening process. Chris Kozuhowski asked if there were any time frame? Superintendent Dieffenbach said the last time it took 60 days, however there is no way to predict how long it would take. The ripening process will begin in sand filter #1 tomorrow at 6 a.m. Superintendent Dieffenbach said sand filter # 2 would be scraped tomorrow and on Wednesday would have 1300 to 1500 tons of sand delivered from New Jersey. The sand depth is part of the reason for the boil, however not the only reason. The water source is also part of the boil.
3. Superintendent Dieffenbach said the members of both the Borough Council and Wellsboro Municipal Authority are addressing the problem with the water supply in Wellsboro.
4. Chris Kozuhowski asked, "Given the best-case scenario and if temperatures stay in the 60's when would the boil order be lifted?" Superintendent Dieffenbach said, "In the best-case scenario it would be the middle of November, hopefully by Thanksgiving."

PUBLIC WORKS CREW- Superintendent Dieffenbach thanked the crew for the excellent job they are doing working together and the perfection that is required for this job. Superintendent Dieffenbach also thanked the members of Borough Council and the Wellsboro Municipal Authority members for their help and support in resolving the water issue.

HARB COMMITTEE- Dave Davies gave the HARB report for Bob Williams. Mr. Davies said there had been three applications.

GTS Company on a sign application; No one came to the meeting to give the committee the needed documents.

The second one was from Charles Messina who is cleaning the brick on his building on Main Street and painting the trim the same color.

The third application is the Bed & Breakfast on Charles Street, owned by Mr. Fitzgerald. The plan is to install new sage green vinyl siding on the home with white trim and replacing the railing on the porch. Mr. Davies said the owners wanted to change the white and purple trim to sage green with white trim. The HARB Board agreed with the new plan. Council Member Sticklin said he had an issue with vinyl siding on homes, he said it is in the middle of town and it should be painted. Council Member Sticklin said there is no texture to the homes with vinyl siding. Mr. Davies said if done correctly it could look very nice. Council Member Wood made a motion to accept the recommendations of the HARB Committee, seconded by Council Member Scharf motion carried 4-1; Council Member Sticklin voted no.

COMMITTEE REPORTS- STREET COMMITTEE- Council Member Wheeler reported the committee had received a complaint from a lady who in out running early in the mornings and said that Stickley and Highland Street are dark. Highland Street is lit but Stickley Street has one light that needs the bulb replaced. The recommendation of the committee is to see if Electric Company would install one more light on Stickley

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Street. Secretary Keck said she would contact the Electric Company and report back to the Council at the next meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT- Council Member Scharf thanked the department supervisors for watching their budgets and keeping expenses within the budget amounts.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT- APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR 10/12th & 19th, Council Member Scharf made a motion to approve the bills as presented seconded by Council Member Wheeler motion carried 5-0.

ADOPTION OF PARKING ORDINANCE- Secretary Keck asked if Borough Council was prepared to adopt the parking ordinance. Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the ordinance. This was seconded by Council Member Scharf and carried 4-1. Council Member Wood voted no.

UPDATE OF CODIFICATION OF BOROUGH ORDINANCES- Regarding the two proposals to codify the borough ordinances, which date back to the 1800's, Secretary Keck said one proposal was for \$10,000.00, and the second was for \$4,000.00. She explained the second firm had done a draft codification a few years ago. PSAB sent information on how to best compare the two firms. She'd like to review this with the Finance Committee and then bring a recommendation to the Borough Council.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT- Secretary Keck informed Council the Finance Committee members had an online training for a debit/credit payment plan. This would allow borough customers to be able to pay their water/sewer bills, fees or fines with a debit or credit card. Council Member Sticklin said he was not comfortable with this system; there would be some charge for the service. Council Member Sticklin said he would like to know more about the service. Council President Hart said the customers would pay a fee for using the service. Secretary Keck said there are currently 90 boroughs participating in the system, where only a few weeks ago there were only 60 boroughs in the program. Council Member Scharf asked how it would help the office? Secretary Keck said this may help with having less late bills to be sent out, people would charge their payment on their credit/debit card. Council Member Wood said it would provide another way for people to pay their bills. Council President Hart requested Secretary Keck explain the program to Council Member Sticklin and the Council would vote on the program at the next meeting.

ENERGY MEETING- The next energy meeting will be on November 12th at 9 a.m. Council Member Scharf requested all members of Council attend this meeting.

ADOPT AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE POLICE PENSION PLAN ACT 51- Secretary Keck said this ordinance, referred to as the Emergency and Law Enforcement Personnel Death Benefit Act, provides a death benefit. This amendment needs to be advertised and notice to adopt for the next meeting. Secretary Keck said she could have Phil Harmon come up and explain the plan if Council desired more information. Council Member Wood said if the Police Committee would meet with Sue and give Council an

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update at the next meeting, however she could advertise the intent to adopt at this time. Council Member Sticklin made a motion to advertise the notice to adopt for the next meeting, seconded by Council Member Wood motion carried 5-0.

SPEED STUDY OF SR 660 WEST AVE & MAIN STREET- Secretary Keck informed Council she had written a letter requesting Penn DOT conduct a speed study to reduce the speed limit to 25 from 35 m.p.h. She then received a letter back stating Penn Dot would do the study, however they require the borough commit to be responsible to purchase, erect, and maintain the signs necessary to post the lower restriction. The study would be done within the next 30 to 45 days. Council Member Sticklin made a motion to purchase, erect and maintain the new signs, seconded by Council Member Scharf motion carried 5-0.

T.C.EMERGENCY SERVICES REQUEST: T. C. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN PARTICIPATION- Secretary Keck explained the county was requesting participation in the program from all townships and boroughs. Council President Hart requested Council Member Wood attend the meetings.

UPPER PINE CREEK DUES FOR 2011 OF \$150.00 – Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the dues for 2011, seconded by Council Member Wheeler motion carried 5-0. Council Member Scharf said the expense would come out of 01.400.4300.

PRE-ENGINEERING STUDY FOR KING STREET BRIDGE PROJECT- Secretary Keck explained that Penn DOT engineers would be doing small digs around the bridge area looking for any artifacts. There would be no heavy equipment and all of the property owners would be notified by Penn DOT.

PENNVEST MEETING October 26, 2010- Secretary Keck said there would be a meeting tomorrow at 1 p.m. to discuss the water problem and the monetary needs of the Borough. Representative Baker has responded to a request by Council President Hart and is working to get a grant. Senator Scarnati is also working on funds.

GARBAGE CONCERN- Council Member Scharf stated that Council Member Sticklin had addressed this concern at other times, however it is still occurring. Council Member Scharf stated the residents are putting out the trash days before the schedule pickup and also are leaving the empty trash containers at the curb and not returning them to the home. Council Member Scharf requested a notice be put on the back of the water and sewer bills or put information in the newspaper stating residents should not set out garbage until the day before the pickup. Council President Hart said any member of Council should bring the address to Secretary Keck and she could write a letter to the residents.

ADJOURNED- 7:00 p.m.