

**REGULAR MEETING OF WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 8, 2010**

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, February 8, 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

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 Stephens

Assistant Secretary- Florence Martino

PRESS:

Wellsboro Gazette- Natalie Kennedy

Williamsport Sun-Gazette- Bryan Robinson

VISITORS:

Brian Meadows & Ron Patt

WOOD BURNING ORDINANCE- Mr. Patt had submitted a letter to be included in the Council packet, which requested the Public Safety Committee of Borough Council proceed with indoor stove regulations. He stated indoor stoves could be as environmentally damaging as outdoor wood furnaces or boilers. He said some of the Borough residents had endured poisonous wood smoke for years. Mr. Patt said an important part in such a regulation should be the definition of seasoned wood. Seasoned wood gives off more heat and less poisonous wood smoke. Mr. Patt said if Borough Council were to pass an indoor wood stove ordinance tomorrow, it could not be enforced until two years later because that is how long it takes to season oak, which is a premier fuel for wood stoves. Council President Hart said the Borough Council would take the information under advisement. Mr. Patt asked why the Council could not have a long-range plan so the residents could see there would be relief coming in the future. Council Member Bryant stated he would not vote for any more ordinances until the Council could

**REGULAR MEETING OF WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 8, 2010**

get a handle on enforcement of the present ordinances. Council Member Bryant said the Council would continue to work with Mr. Patt in educating the public on the proper procedure to burn wood.

MINUTES- Council Member Bryant made a motion to approve the minutes for January 10th and 25th, seconded by Council Member Sticklin, motion carried 6-0.

MAYOR'S REPORT- Mayor Daugherty reported the new police car was in service today, February 8th. The paperwork has been completed with Gaines Township for the old vehicle and the township took delivery today.

CHIEF OF POLICE- NEW VEHICLE- Chief Bodine said the Tahoe is in service and the camera has been installed however there is still some software yet to be installed.

NRA TRAINING- Chief Bodine informed Council that he has completed the training and is the new training agent.

SPEED SENSOR DEVICE- Chief Bodine informed Council the department has contacted one foundation concerning funding for obtaining four more sensor devices and will soon contact the other foundations.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS- BACON STREET WATER SERVICE- Superintendent Dieffenbach informed Council there is a shared water service on Bacon Street. The one home currently has a leak in their service line. This has created ice on the street and there really should be another water tap so the two homes are on their own service line.

NEW WATER SOURCE- Superintendent Dieffenbach stated the crew had got the hose down and, due to the upcoming snow, had picked it up directly after. While on site, we watched the pump and the ph is right where we wanted it to be. There is a whole battery of tests that need to be completed. The next date for the project pump test is March 8th. We had concerns about rolling up the hose with water in the hose, one gallon of water weights 8.34 lbs and there are a lot of gallons in 100' of 5" hose. The crew constructed a device on the back of the old bed from the crew cab. They stand on the bed and hold a push button and can roll the hose right up. Superintendent Dieffenbach complimented the crew on their construction of the device.

BRAKE RETARDER SIGNS- Superintendent Dieffenbach informed Council that four of the eight signs have been installed, with the remainder to be installed tomorrow.

NO U TURN SIGNS FROM DUNKIN DONUTS TO THE LIBRARY- The signs have been ordered and will be installed this month.

PLANT SUPERVISOR- Dan Brought reported there had been several water leaks. He stated Osram had a good size leak and West Avenue had a large leak with smaller ones occurring on Jackson Street and on Bacon Street.

**REGULAR MEETING OF WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 8, 2010**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GENERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT- FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT- Council Member Scharf reported to Council the revenue expenses and net for the General Fund, Water Revenue and Sewer Revenue accounts have been added to the bottom of the Finance Summary report.

CODES COMMITTEE- Council Member Bryant informed the Council the committee had spoken with residents and contractors and the committee's recommendation is to have Jay Erb be the primary inspector starting May 15th, taking the correct procedure to notify Shawn Forrest. Council Member Wood stated when a resident comes for a building permit they could receive a list of licensed inspectors which they could choose whom they wanted if they did not want to use Jay Erb. Council Member Scharf asked if Mr. Erd would serve on the HARB Commission. Council Member Bryant said he would serve on the HARB Commission. Secretary Stephens said he would have the same hours as Shawn had here in Wellsboro. Council Member Wood stated that Jay Erb would also give people his cell phone number. Council Member Bryant made the motion to notify both Shawn Forrest and Jake Ur that he would be the primary code official with the Borough residents having the ability to use Shawn Forrest or any other licensed inspector, seconded by Council Member Sticklin, motion carried 6-0.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT- FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT- APPROVAL OF BILLS- Council Member Scharf made a motion to approve the bills for 2/5th, seconded by Council Member Wheeler, motion carried 6-0.

ENERGY AUDIT- Secretary Stephens informed Council; John Rathmell is recommending the borough consider the firm Envinity to do the energy audit. The representative from their company would be in the northern tier next week. Secretary Stephens explained the window to apply for grants is in April and requested Council make a motion to approve the cost of their audit. Council Member Bryant stated there were many possible grants however without an approved audit the Borough would not be qualified to receive grant money. Council Member Bryant stated the Borough owes Mr. Rathmell a lot for all of the time and effort he has given to the Borough. Council President Hart stated Mr. Rathmell had spoken with three other boroughs and that Envinity came highly recommended by all three. Council Member Sticklin made a motion to go ahead with the audit, seconded by Council Member Wheeler, motion carried 6-0. Council Member Wood stated the borough has two quotes from the past. Council Member Wood recommended the Borough set an amount of \$10,000.00, which could be paid from the Municipal Building Fund account 3647406.

RESOLUTION #2010-02 OF DISPOSAL OF RECORDS- Secretary Stephens informed the Council she is working on the best way to dispose of the records. Council Member Bryant made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Council Member Sticklin motion carried 6-0.

**REGULAR MEETING OF WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 8, 2010**

CHAMBER REQUEST- LAUREL FESTIVAL & SUSQUEHANNOCK TRAIL PRO-RALLY STREET CLOSURES- Secretary Stephens informed Council the Chamber will meet with the Police Chief and the Superintendent of Public Works to clarify the times. The request is for the Borough to apply to Penn DOT for the proper street closings. Council Member Bryant stated the Chamber would not be controlling traffic; the Police Chief would be controlling the traffic. Chief Bodine said each year the event gets larger and requires more officers. Council Member Sticklin stated the borough should budget for part-time help during special events. Council Member Wood recommended requesting the Chamber assist in the extra cost of officers for the special events. Chief Bodine stated the Chamber has compensated for the expense. He said the Rally is bringing parts of the event back into Wellsboro. Council Member Wood made a motion to approve the events, seconded by Council Member Sticklin, motion carried 6-0.

APPARATUS ROOM LIGHTING REPLACEMENT- Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the quote from Kevin Borden, seconded by Council Member Wood, motion carried 6-0. Council Member Scharf recommended the Council set a timetable when the job is to be completed once the materials have arrived. Council President Hart said it would need to be on Kevin Borden's schedule. Council Member Wood stated someone would need to move the apparatus around so he would be able to work out there.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION- ERNEST KENNEDY & BARBARA OLSEN PORPERTY ON PEARL ST. - Secretary Stephens informed the Council of the recommendation to approve the Kennedy Subdivision on Pearl Street- Council Member Sticklin made a motion to approve the subdivision, seconded by Council Member Scharf, motion carried 6-0.

GRAVER & COONEY SUBDIVISION ON WEST WATER STREET- Secretary Stephens informed the Council Mr. Cooney went to sell his home and discovered that Mr. Graver's porch was over top of the lot line. This is so each property will have the land which is assesses to each property. The county planner would recommend approval. Council Member Sticklin made the motion to approve the subdivision, seconded by Council Member Wheeler, motion carried 6-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- FENCE ORDINANCE- Council Member Sticklin informed the Council the ordinance is ready to be adopted if it is needed. Council Member Scharf said the Borough has enough ordinances in town and recommended the concerns be address in the zoning ordinance. Secretary Stephens said this would be an amendment to the current zoning ordinance. Council Member Scharf made a motion to amend the zoning ordinance, seconded by Council Member Wood, motion carried 6- 1, Council Member Bryant voted no. Council Member Bryant asked if it is in the zoning ordinance, who would be in charge of enforcing it? Secretary Stephens said she was in charge of all zoning permits and a fence permit would be just one more permit.

MECHANICAL DEVICE TAX- Council Member Scharf reported the Borough has received \$75.00 in response to the letter concerning payment of the tax.

**REGULAR MEETING OF WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
FEBRUARY 8, 2010**

GASLIGHT CONTRACT- Secretary Stephens and Superintendent Dieffenbach will work on it Tuesday.

TAX STRUCTURE- Council Member Scharf informed the Council he had wrote letters to Senator Scarnetti, Representative Baker and PSAB Representatives. The PSAB representative said Sullivan County is very pleased with the commission. Council Member Wheeler said it is ACT 32 and the state set it up and it is in place until 2012 and by 2014 a Borough could opt out of the program.

BIDS FOR 1996 VEHICLE- Will be opened on March 9th.

ADJOURNED- 7:10 P.M.