

WELLSBORO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

MINUTES

MARCH 20, 2012

The meeting of the Wellsboro Municipal Authority met in the council room of the John E Dugan Fire Station/Municipal Building on March 20, 2012 at 4pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

ATTENDANCE: Wellsboro Municipal Authority Members: Robert Decamp, Dennison Young, Grant Cavanaugh and Tom Reindl. Borough Manager: Daniel Strausser. Borough Council Members: Joan Hart and Terry Bryant. Solicitor: Chris Lantz. GeoServices: Joe McNally. Media: Natalie Kennedy – Wellsboro Gazette. Water & Sewer Clerk: Teresa Marshall.

VISITORS: Steve Hoover, Tim Zeigler, Chris Gastrock, Erica Tomlinson and Rodney Mee.

MINUTES: The minutes from both February 21, 2012 and the special meeting on March 5, 2012 were approved as written. Dennison Young made the motion to accept and Tom Reindl 2nd. Passed.

DCNR PRESENTATION: Steve Hoover, PA DCNR Service Forester, made a presentation on the Forest Stewardship Monitoring Inspection. He asked three questions: Do we have a healthy forest: is our forest sustainable? Do we have a forest management committee and how well are they informed? Do we have a mechanism to support sustainable forest management practices into the future? The program was initiated in 1991 to help private landowners with their resource management goals by using science based management practices. A Forest Stewardship Plan was written by Kerry Gyekis in 1998 and needs to be looked at and updated. A plan usually is good for about ten years. He did go over Kerry's plan on the 22 stands and what his recommendations were at that time. The Authority owns 1051 acres held in two tracts; the Brownlee Property Unit and the Northern Property unit. He explained goals for these areas and he would like to walk the stands with members of the Authority or Borough if possible and Kerry Gyekis and give his recommendations on improvements for future forest development. We are still considered a tree farm area.

TIM ZEIGLER: Tim is the field operator for the Center for Dirt and Gravel Road Management Program out of State College. This program focuses on the municipal roadways that are unpaved and specifically targeting known roadways that contributed to sediment runoff. The program goes through the local Conservation District. It's an environmental program that address pollution concerns. They can receive monies from the Conservation District to help with the improvement of the dirt roadways on the

property. Erica Tomlinson is new district manager for the Tioga County Conservation District. The road only has to be open one day to the public to be eligible. He can go out and inspect and tell you what needs to be done. There is an application that is only one page and is suggested that it be done in pencil.

RODNEY MEE: He presented a talk on the programs available through the Game Commission. The forest game program can have signs printed up with your name that is available through the game commission. One requirement is that there are at least 50 acres. You are covered under the recreation water use for liability. Their biologist could go with Kerry and come up with a plan for border cutting that can be done by a third party and be paid for by the program. There are seedlings available each year. You can go into native grass lands and use their drill to help keep areas open. The program will also provide law enforcement by the game commission. It would be up to Council to decide on any restrictions and any activities that could take place there. If you don't want public access on certain areas, restricted signs could be put up. There are several different signs that could be used. A five year lease would be signed and with 60 days notice it could be terminated. You can have their biologist come out and help model acreage for the type of habitat that you would want. If you should decide to join the program, the sites would be listed as a dot on their maps, there would be no further advertisement.

LARSON DESIGN: Larson Design has been hired as the Borough engineer with Al Zeigler being the main contact. Scott Bray will still be involved in the Pilot Program and some of the water related issues. Al Zeigler and Borough Manager Daniel Strausser will meet with Osram on Friday to resolve some issues.

INDUSTRIAL APPRAISAL: The Borough Council has approved the appraisal of all borough and authority properties to give us a fair market value for insurance purposes. Bob DeCamp suggested that at the same time we could give permission to conduct the DCNR Stewardship Inventory also as it goes hand in hand. Tom Reindl made the motion for both and Grant Cavanaugh 2nd the motion. Passed.

Daniel Strausser would like to look into the gravel roads and look into making the lands open to the public. He will meet with both people and bring back a report for the next meeting.

JOE MCNALLY: He came up to do the data boxes this afternoon and has no formal report to give. Daniel Strausser would like to have them look elsewhere for water and have Joe McNally do up a proposal for the next meeting. If they agree with the proposal we could get Larson Design to get involved. A motion was made to authorize Joe McNally to look into other sites by Tom Reindl and 2nd by Denny Young. Passed.

DW LaSota's request for Greenwood Garden's sewage from their development was approved pending engineering review. This also gives Daniel Strausser permission to sign. The motion was made by Grant Cavanaugh and 2nd by Tom Reindl. Passed.

BILLS: Cox Stokes & Lantz – Water revenue \$2,164.42 and \$3,363.67. A motion to pay the bills was made by Tom Reindl and 2nd by Denny Young.

The Authority went into an executive session to discuss legal issues for approximately 10 minutes. After coming out of the executive session, the meeting was adjourned.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by *Teresa Marshall*
Teresa Marshall