

REGULAR MEETING OF WELLSBORO BOROUGH COUNCIL
August 23, 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 five members present at 6:00 p.m., Monday, August 23, 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

First Ward Council Member- Michael Wood
First Ward Council Member- Rudolf Scharf
First Ward Council President- Joan Hart
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
Assistant Secretary- Florence Martino

PRESS:

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

VISITORS:

Shell Oil Company Representative- Jack Showers
John Coleman- Caulkins Lane
Kevin Connelly- West End Market

MINUTES- Council Member Bryant made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 26th meeting, seconded by Council Member Scharf motion carried 5-0.

CHIEF OF POLICE- Chief Bodine informed the Council the mud, which everyone saw on East Avenue today, started up by the Weis Market and continued West on 6. Chief Bodine caught up with the truck at the bar in Ansonia. Penn DOT had been notified and Chief Bodine is unsure how the cost of clean up will be handled. Chief Bodine stated the tailgate of the truck came open and caused the spill.

POLICE RADIOS- Chief Bodine reported a representative from Brico came and made repairs to the radios and they are all up to date at this time. Council Member Scharf asked if there would be an additional charge. Chief Bodine said he thought the repairs would be covered under the contract.

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THANK YOU TO MARK DIEFFENBACH AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT- Chief Bodine thanked the public works department for their assistance in installing speed sensor signs on Nichols Street. Chief Bodine also informed the Council East Resources had purchased another sensor and that will be installed on West Avenue.

TREE NEEDS TO BE TRIMMED- Council President Hart requested the tree on West Avenue in front of the brake retarder sign be trimmed. She said she had asked Pete Herres to have it done by the Shade Tree however it still needs to be trimmed. Superintendent Dieffenbach said he would have the crew trim the tree.

HIRING NEW OFFICER- Council Member Scharf asked where the police department is in hiring a new officer. Chief Bodine said there are 15 applicants to take the field test this Saturday, August 28th, then the written test needs to be administered and then the oral test in front of the Civil Service Commission.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS- STURROCK STREET- Superintendent Dieffenbach turned the floor over to Council Member Wheeler to report on the Sturrock Street project. Council Member Wheeler informed the Council the crew had completed the street and Mary Carson has requested the section between the street and the sidewalk be put back into grass. Council Member Wheeler said the only way it would stay grass is if Council voted to have no parking from Morgan Terrace to Meade Street as it is on the other side of the street. Council Member Wheeler made a motion to put it back into grass and have no parking up to Meade Street, seconded by Council Member Bryant, motion carried 5-0.

HANDICAP PARKING IN FRONT OF HUB'S ON MAIN STREET- Council Member Bryant stated at the last meeting it had been voted on to have one handicap space on the corner of Main and Crafton Street and the space needed to be painted in blue. Superintendent Dieffenbach said he would have it done.

FIRE LANE AT CANYON MOTEL- Superintendent Dieffenbach asked the Council to determine who would own the fire land at the Canyon Motel. Superintendent Dieffenbach said the owner at the Canyon had asked Mark if it was made a fire lane if the Borough would own the pipe and hydrant. Superintendent Dieffenbach said in the past at the Kelsey Point Development, Broad Acres, the Jail and the Eagle plant the owners of the property had owned the hydrants. Council Member Bryant said he didn't think the borough would want to own anything they couldn't get liquid fuels money for. Council President Hart said it is on private property. Council Member Bryant said the precedent had been set in the past properties, so the Canyon Motel would retain ownership.

KING STREET & NORRIS STREET BRIDGES- KING STREET- Superintendent Dieffenbach explained to the Council there are two ways of repairing the bridge on King Street until the Penn DOT replacement in the spring of 2013. Superintendent Dieffenbach explained the beams are degrading and need to be reinforced. Superintendent Dieffenbach said one way would be to take angle and get a magnetic drill and face each of the beams up or the second option is to take aqua mag barrels from

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Dan's plant and fill with sand and guard rail off 2' from the bridge and make the one lane bridge even narrower, it would be 2' narrower for the two year period before the new bridge is constructed. Superintendent Dieffenbach said the sand barrels would be the cheapest way to correct the problem for two years. Council Member Bryant said we don't need a long-term fix. Council Member Scharf said Council should take Mark's recommendation. Council Member Wood asked what the traffic flow was and then asked the Chief of Police for his view on the repair. Chief Bodine said he would need to review the bridge; that this was the first he had heard of the plan. Superintendent Dieffenbach said there would be an engineering plan with the two options and Council just chose the option.

NORRIS STREET- Superintendent Dieffenbach informed the Council this bridge is less than 20' and it needs to be inspected and the cost would be \$2,000.00. We may be able to enter into a retroactive reimbursement program due to this won't fit the 20' bridge span. Council Member Bryant said he would work with Mark to fill out the forms. Superintendent Dieffenbach said the cost for the inspection would be \$2,000.00 and he asked for approval. Council Member Scharf asked if we didn't have a line item for bridge inspections. Secretary Keck said there was \$1,000.00 in the bridge category; Council Member Scharf said there was \$1,300.00 under Larson Design Bridge account. Council Member Scharf made a motion to approve the request for the bridge inspection cost, seconded by Council Member Bryant motion carried 5-0.

PLANT SUPERVISOR- SAND BIDS- Secretary Keck informed the Council the Borough had received two bids for 450 tons of sand, one from National Suncoast Media Inc. of Florida with a 10% bid bond with a total bid of \$44,550.00, the second bid from Ricci Brothers with a bid bond and a total cost of \$44,752.50. Secretary Keck said the price for both companies included delivery. She requested Borough Council approve whichever bid Engineer Scott Bray recommends. Council Member Scharf made a recommendation to take which ever bid Scott Bray the Borough Engineer recommends, seconded by Council Member Wheeler motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent Dieffenbach said the crew had already cleaned sand filter #1 upon recommendation of Scott Bray. The next step is to do sand filter #2; then re-sand filter #1 in late October.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION- Council Member Wheeler explained to the Council when Chief Bodine was appointed by Council to be the police chief, he should have gone before the Civil Service Commission to meet the standards of the Civil Service regulations. Council Member Wheeler said when Chief Bodine, Ralph Salvadge and Mike Knighton of the Civil Service Commission met to review the new regulations this was discovered in the regulations. Council Member Bryant made a motion to have the Civil Service have a meeting to interview and approve Jim Bodine for the position of Police Chief, seconded by Council Member Wood, motion carried 5-0.

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE- SHERMAN STREET- Council Member Wheeler said the highway committee met and sent a letter to Mr. Miskovitz stating the borough would not

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tar and chip the section of road, but would provide winter maintenance. Mr. Miskovitz then sent a letter back to the borough requesting to review the total contractor's bill for applying oil and stone to a section of Sherman Lane, with a breakdown of the cost for borough labor and equipment and a record of other private roads done by the borough in the past years. Secretary Keck prepared the requested documents and reviewed the documents with Mr. Miskovitz in her office.

FINANCE COMMITTEE- Council Member Wood requested the Borough Council write letters to the elected officials stating the Borough of Wellsboro is opposed to legislation that would have the county government absorb the municipalities. Council Member Wood said Borough Council has already written letters opposing House Bill 1429 and now the Senate has a similar bill #1357. Council Member Wheeler made a motion to write a letter stating the borough opposed the legislation, seconded by Council Member Scharf motion passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR 8/13th- Council Member Bryant made a motion to approve the bills as presented, seconded by Council Member Wood motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNED 6:35 p.m.