

Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes October 13, 2014

Council President Joan S. Hart called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room of the Borough Office at 14 Crafton Street and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attending were Mayor John E. Wheeler, Councilors Joan S. Hart, Michael J. Wood, Rudolf K. Scharf, John M. Sticklin, Jennifer Mase Updyke, and Kevin J. Connelly, Borough Manager Daniel K. Strausser, Chief of Police James Bodine, and Secretary/Treasurer Susan L. Keck.

VISITORS- Janet Strausser, Natalie Kennedy from the Wellsboro Gazette, Cheryl Clarke from the Williamsport Sun, Lisa Dodge, Laura Lee and Jesse Robinson, David Tewes, Andrew hardin, Casey Cox, Kevin Coolidge.

Minutes: Minutes of the September 8, 2014 council meeting were approved by motion of Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Wood, and carried unanimously.

Casey Cox asked questions about Fire Codes and Building Inspection reports for a wall built in 2012 at 25 Main Street. They were directed to ask these questions of Jay Erb, the building inspector and Lonnie Campbell, the Fire Chief.

David Tewes conveyed his Main Street long term and short term parking concerns, which he had previously shared with the Parking Authority. He suggested signage on certain Main Street meters denoting spaces reserved for retail customers. The Street Committee was asked to meet regarding this topic.

ORDINANCE 676 ORDAINING WILLARD TERRACE: Councilor Sticklin made a motion Adopt Ordinance 676 Ordaining Willard Terrace. Councilor Scharf seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

HARB: Councilor Sticklin made a motion to approve Laura Lee and Jesse Robinson's projects at 30 Central Avenue; a fence, fountain, and Pergola, with lattice work made to match the existing house lattice. Councilor Connelly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Councilor Scharf made a motion to ratify and approve accounts payable for all accounts. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

Councilor Scharf made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report for August 2014. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

2015 BUDGET: Councilor Scharf made a motion to advertise the 2015 budget for consideration at the November 10th council meeting as follows:

General Fund Receipts at \$2,962,118.00 and Expenditures at \$2,962,118.00.

Water Fund Receipts at \$960,616.00 and Expenditures at \$960,616.00.

Sewer Fund Receipts at \$785,831.00 and Expenditures at \$785,831.00.

Councilor Connelly seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

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2015 TAX ORDINANCE: Councilor Scharf made a motion to advertise Ordinance #677 for consideration at the November 10th council meeting fixing the 2015 Real Estate Tax at 6.33 mills on each dollar of assessed valuation for property tax. There will be no increase. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

MAYOR'S REPORT- Mayor Wheeler reported the Police Department completed active shooter response drills at Mansfield High School and are in the process of setting up training at our elementary schools. Four officers will attend the Advanced Roadside Impairment class and the Chief will attend the Class "A" wiretap school. A Human Trafficking seminar is later this month. The new vehicle is at Day Fleet waiting for interior components to arrive for installation. The new vehicle may be here by the end of next month.

2013 Ford SUV Interceptor Bid: Councilor Wood made a motion to accept Blossburg Borough's bid of \$15,100.00 for the vehicle when we get the new one in service. Councilor Scharf seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

PUBLIC WORKS, SOLID WASTE, HIGHWAYS, PARKING, WATER, SEWER

SEWER PLANT OXIDATION DITCH BIDS: Councilor Wood made a motion to reject a bid from Milnes for \$180,000 to perform Sewer Plant Oxidation Ditch maintenance. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

The Wingate and Wetmore bridge replacement is taking place now.

The new Morris Lane Bridge is now opened for traffic.

BODINE STREET BIDS: Councilor Connelly made a motion to reject bids for storm sewer installation and widening. Councilor Scharf seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

Councilor Wood made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager and Engineer to prepare the specifications for Norris Street, Brewery Lane and Riberolle Street bridges for possible replacement next year. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

All paperwork has been completed for the \$445,000 grant for Hamilton Lake assessment project. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is funding this. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service will select the firms and prepare all the studies. The proposed milestones for this are:

Select Firm to develop Plan	December 15, 2014
Complete evaluation of dam	October 15, 2015
Identify Preferred Alternative	April 1, 2016
Review Draft Plan	July 1, 2016
Accept Plan	September 15, 2016

This is a high hazard dam inspected every September, but under new federal regulations, it needs to be improved.

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STREET LOAN: Councilor Wood made a motion to take out a \$300,000.00 street loan from Northwest Bank for four years at a rate of 2.25%, to be repaid yearly by state liquid fuels money. Councilor Scharf seconded the motion and it carried 6- 0.

PARKS AND RECREATION, TREES, BEAUTIFICATION, SENIOR CENTER

Work is continuing on the Woodland Park Master Plan.

We have received a grant for 20 bare root trees from the Northeast Pennsylvania Urban & Community Forestry Program, to be planted throughout the borough. Among those species will be Red Maples, Hone Locust, and Black locust.

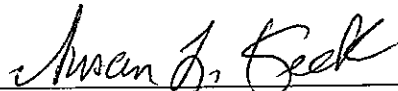
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, NEGOTIATIONS, INSURANCE, SAFETY, TRAINING

No decision on contract arbitration.

RESOLUTION Councilor Sticklin made a motion to pass Resolution #2014-09 Opposing a Severance Tax on Natural Gas which would replace ACT 13 Funding. Councilor Scharf seconded the motion and a roll call vote was asked for. Councilor Wood seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

Adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by



Susan L. Keck