

Wellsboro Borough Council Meeting Minutes September 8, 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, Philip Krajewski, Mark Foust, and Lonnie Campbell

Minutes: Minutes of the August 11, 2014 Council Meeting were approved by motion of Councilor Sticklin, seconded by Councilor Mase Updyke, and carried unanimously.

Visitors

Philip Krajewski, President of the Tiadaghton Audubon Society, presented materials regarding Audubon's rich history. Wellsboro's local chapter was founded in 1906. Council and the Mayor were invited to the next meeting, which the Deane Center will be hosting, on September 19th.

Lonnie Campbell, Fire Chief updated Council on the ladder truck situation. The Department had two ladder trucks, a 41 year old and a 34 year old, which have been slotted for sale. A 12 year old truck has been purchased for \$180,000, a substantial savings over the cost of a new ladder truck, which would be from \$750,000 to \$800,000. This truck will replace both older ladder trucks. The ISO rating will not be affected. Mr. Campbell attributed the ability to purchase the truck outright to the receipt of the LST tax the Borough distributes yearly.

Wellsboro Veteran's Club Land Development Plan was recommended for approval by the Planning Commission, contingent on the Borough Engineer and Borough Manager's review and approval. The Shade Tree commission also approved the Landscaping plan, contingent upon Pete Herres and Dan Strausser's review and approval. Trees along Mr. Ives property line will be provided as a buffer to meet the requirements of the Conditional Use Hearing. Arborvitae and/or spruce will provide the dense barrier to accomplish the shading of headlights traversing Mr. Ives' driveway. If the tree shade is not adequate, the VFW will build a privacy fence. Councilor Connelly made a motion to approve the Land Development Plan, contingent on Scott Bray and Dan Strausser's review and approval of the plan and of the landscaping and tree positioning. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

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

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

Councilor Scharf made a motion to approve the 2015 MMO for Police and non-uniform pension plans. Councilor Wood seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

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MAYOR'S REPORT- Mayor Wheeler commended the Chief of Police and the Police Officers on the recent drug bust. He also thanked Alvin Starkweather for his assistance in this bust.

Police Report-Chief Bodine also gave cudo's to his officers and noted the juvenile offenders apprehended in the drug bust are in the juvenile probation system. His department has completed mandatory training. Officer Hartman, hired on September 2nd, is proving himself. The 2015 Tahoe is getting retrofit with the police package.

Public Works, Solid Waste, Highways, Parking, Water, Sewer

The Wingate and Wetmore bridge replacement is scheduled to start next week.

The Morris Lane bridge should be completed and reopened in the near future.

Bodine Street and Buena Vista Street are being prepared for bids now.

Councilor Wood made a motion to approve the Sanitary Sewer Main Right of Way Easement with Citizens & Northern Bank on Wingate Street. Councilor Sticklin seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

Manager Strausser announced the Parking Authority approved free, 2 hour parking from November 22, through December 31st, throughout the Borough.

Work is continuing on the Woodland Park Master Plan.

The Packer Park Pavilion roof has been replaced at a cost of \$6,800.00

Councilor Sticklin made a motion to approve the Lions Club request to have White Cane Day on Saturday, October 11th. Councilor Wood seconded the motion and it carried 6-0.

No decision on contract arbitration.

Councilor Wood made a motion to ask Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs to get a committee to look into eliminating Real Estate Taxes. Councilor Scharf seconded the motion and a roll call vote was asked for.

Councilor Sticklin	No
Councilor Mase Updyke	No
Councilor Hart	Yes
Councilor Connelly	Yes
Councilor Scharf	Yes
Councilor Wood	Yes

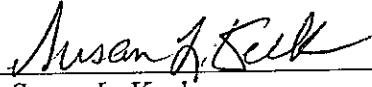
Motion carried 4-2.

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Councilor Wood asked Manager Strausser to check on the status on House Bill 1189 awaiting action in the House of Representatives.

Adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by



Susan L. Keck