

Village of Wellsville Regular Council Meeting
**Council minutes of Regular Council Meeting held on November 15, 2016 at
6:00 PM at Wellsville Village Hall**

Mayor Nancy Murray called the meeting to order.

Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Present: Tony Cataldo, Diane Dinch, Rosie Gibson, Randy Allmon, John
Cianni.

Absent: John Morrow

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Motion made by Mr. Cataldo, seconded by Mr. Allmon to excuse Mr. Morrow
from the Council Meeting.

All vote yes, Motion passed

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mrs. Dinch, seconded by Mr. Cataldo to approve the Regular
Council Meeting Minutes for 11/01 /2016.

All vote yes except for Ms. Gibson who abstained, Motion passed.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Bobby Burgess - inquired on the update on the closing of My Bar. Mayor Murray
stated that the village was working on the proper paperwork to pursue this with the
county prosecutor.

PJ Echols – wanted to know the status of the tipping fees.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

POLICE

Nothing at this time

FIRE

Nothing at this time

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VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

-Christmas Snowflakes update – to date the Snowflake Committee has received \$10,000 in donations

-Mayor Murray introduced Jerry Medley and wanted to recommend hiring him as the Village Administrator.

Mr. Cataldo motioned to accept Mayor Murray's recommendation to hire Jerry Medley as Village Administrator, Mr. Allmon seconded.

All Voted Yes. Motion Passed.

Mayor Murray announced that she had received the letter from the State Auditor's Office and it has been deemed that the village of Wellsville be in Fiscal Emergency. She read a release noting that when she took the office in January, 2016 there was a total deficit of \$300,686 (\$202,292-general fund, \$5030-street fund, \$3006-state highway fund, \$20,010-cemetery fund, \$58,486-fire levy fund, \$5655-police fund, \$6207-fire fund). This was, in part, due to the books not being reconciled for several years. There was an additional \$14,000.00 cost to the Auditor of state's Local Governmental Services to complete a total reconstruction of the records including reconciliation of each month for two years. She said that, as Fiscal Officer, Hoi Wah Black worked with the auditor to reconcile each month and it resulted in her posting and correcting over 800 line items to bring the books into order for 2014-2015. She wanted to make sure everyone knew that this cost did not include the costs of the audit that is still in the process of being completed.

She assured the residents that everyone is committed to escaping fiscal emergency and she promised that the people of Wellsville will not be let down.

Some changes made by the fiscal officer, have resulted in

- in past two months, since the village entered into a Delinquency Program with R.I.T.A. an additional \$36,000 has been recovered

- for the first time ever, we have received a \$260 rebate from Workers' Compensation for paying premiums on time

- in 2014 there were over \$40,000 in penalties and late payment fees for such things like credit cards, utilities, OPERS, Fire and Police Pension, IRS. Not once has Mrs. Black as the new fiscal officer had one late payment and Mayor Murray assured everyone that as long as she was Mayor there would not be a late payment.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

Committee Chairperson – Tony Cataldo

Mr. Allmon reminded all that each payment needed reviewed before he would vote for approval.

Mr. Cataldo reviewed aloud each payment and the purpose for it.

Mrs. Dinch made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cataldo to approve invoices totaling \$4,864.53.

All vote yes, Motion passed.

Streets, Lights, Parking

Committee Chairperson – John Cianni

Mr. Cianni reported on some problems with some street lights and he has contacted AEP. He wanted everyone to know that each pole had an ID number and citizens could contact AEP on their website www.aep.com or toll free number 800-277-2177 and give them the pole number and AEP would take care of it.

He also spoke on the issue of the tipping fee. The Mayor and members of council have met with Penny Traina of the Port Authority, members of ODOT and Omega and various affected business member. Different funding opportunities including grants have been discussed and further review on the options is being considered so no decision has been made as of now.

Claims, Rules Ordinances

Committee Chairperson – Rosie Gibson

Nothing at this time

Water, Sewer, Refuse

Committee Chairperson – Diane Dinch

Nothing to report

Property

Committee Chairperson - John Morrow

In Mr. Morrow's absence Mr. Cianni reported that to date 11 of the 13 properties scheduled to be demolished through the Land Bank Program. There are approximately 25 more properties being looked at for repair or demolition.

He stressed the importance of receiving delinquent property taxes and how important the collection is. He gave the example of a property that for some reason or another was behind \$14,000. The property owner was deceased and the

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property was sold for \$5 so therefore so therefore the village lost several thousands of dollars.

He also announced a program through the county – 2016 Columbiana County Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program and is to assist qualified homeowners in maintaining their properties. He left several applications if anyone is interested please stop in Village Hall and pick one up.

Personnel

Committee Chairperson – Randy Allmon
Nothing at this time

LEGISLATION

ORDINANCE NO. 16-20

AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING MAGISTRATE FOR THE VILLAGE OF WELLSVILLE AND ITS OFFICERS.

Mrs. Dinch made motion to suspend rules and adopt Ordinance 16-20 seconded by Mr. Cataldo.

Suspend rules for Ordinance 16-20 All vote yes, Motion passed.

Adopt rules for Ordinance 16-20 All vote yes, Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Dolly Brophy spoke up and reminded everyone that the Christmas Parade is Saturday November 26th and the Light Up Ceremony with all the memorial walls being read would be held right after the parade.

She expressed her thanks to Mayor Murray and Councilman Allmon on their assistance with the decorations and she felt that the decorations would look beautiful this year.

The mayor also mentioned that anyone with some free time on Friday the 18th at 12 noon please stop up and help decorate the gazebo and tree.

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NEXT MEETING

The next regular council meeting is on Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at the Village Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Dinch made motion, seconded by Mr. Cataldo that the meeting be adjourned.

All vote yes. Motion passed

Nancy Murray, Mayor

Hoi Wah Black, Fiscal Officer