

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## June 13, 2005

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Jerome Ogden called Blossburg Borough Council regular meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

**Attendance:** Vice-President Tonya McNamara; Councilmembers Raymond Kaminski, James Holleman, (absent, Cheryl Bubacz), Timothy Roupp, Thomas Bogaczyk; Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; (absent due to police incident, Chief Ronald Steffen); Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; and Robin Kaffine, Wellsboro Gazette.

**Guests:** Greg Patryna, Susquehanna Valley Development Group, Inc.; Richard S. MacIntire, President/C.E.O. of Martha Lloyd Community Services; Marcie Reese, Tioga County Human Services; Barbara Beatty.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the May 9, 2005 meeting, were accepted on motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Raymond Kaminski. All in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report accepted subject to audit on motion of Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Timothy Roupp. All in favor.

**Bills:** Bills to be paid on motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

**Guests:** Greg Patryna, Susquehanna Valley Development Group, Inc., Richard S. MacIntire, President/C.E.O. of Martha Lloyd Community Services, Marcie Reese, Tioga County Human Services attended the meeting in regards to the Martha Lloyd School.

Mr. Patryna is a developer for Martha Lloyd Community Services. They want to construct a new home on Granger Street in Blossburg through funding from Pennsylvania Department of Economic and Community Development (DCED) Home Grant Program. They would apply for grant funding if Blossburg Borough would agree to sponsor application. Blossburg Borough would be eligible for 6% of total project costs. The new home cost would total approximately \$300,000.00. The size of the building would be around 1,800 square feet. Four (4) persons with development disabilities would be housed in new unit. Presently, these people are housed in a rented unit located at 330 Main Street, which is a two (2) story home. The present tenants are getting older, making it harder for them to use this older home. Their living arrangements would be easier in a one (1)-story building. After an extended discussion, a motion for Borough Council to approve sponsoring the Home Grant Application, contingent on agreeing with new home location, was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Raymond Kaminski. All in favor.

Council has old railroad property they would like Martha Lloyd Community Services to consider building on. Council President Jerome Ogden directed Borough Manager George Lloyd to show attending guests the property. Mr. Lloyd left the meeting with these guests and took them to view old railroad property on Main Street, South of Borough Hall.

Barbara Beatty attended meeting to discuss her concerns with her property located at 111 Schuylkill Street. She is having problems with the driveway, shrubs / trees on property line, driveway drainage and problems with neighbors.

Mr. Lloyd returned to meeting after Mrs. Beatty left. He reported to Council that Martha Lloyd Community Services didn't like the old railroad property located on Main Street, because of the traffic and the power lines on the property. The new home will be located on Granger Street.

**Reports:**

(A) **NPHS Students:** N.P.H.S. Student Representatives did not attend meeting tonight. School is out for summer break.

(B) **KCC:** No report.

(C) **Committee Business Development:** Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment)

V.I.B.E. meeting is Wednesday, June 15, 2005 at 6:00 P.M. at the Blossburg Memorial Library. The organization will be celebrating their 1<sup>st</sup> Year Anniversary. State Representative Matthew Baker will be presenting a \$5,000.00 check to V.I.B.E. at this meeting. All are welcome to come and celebrate.

(D) **Mayor:** Nothing to report.

(E) **Police:** Everyone has received a copy of the Police Report.

Chief Steffen had a situation in the police office during Council meeting. The Mayor answered the questions concerning Police Report. Chief Steffen came to meeting later, for a short period, to answer remaining questions.

The Police Report was accepted on motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

A Police Committee meeting was set up right after Council adjourns tonight. Members will discuss speeding of motorcycles.

(F) **Police Committee:** Nothing further to report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR AT 7:50 P.M. RECONVENED 8:02 P.M. LITIGATION DISCUSSED.**

Borough Solicitor left meeting after Executive Session.

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Raymond Kaminski. All in favor.

Spring Cleanup collected 29 tons of junk and 17 tons of metal. 2004 Spring Cleanup collected 45 tons of junk. Metal was hauled to Borough stockyard, so not have a total weight. This year N.T.S.W.A. was accepting metal at no charge, so everything was hauled to the landfill.

The flushing of hydrants will begin this Saturday.

(H) **Planning Commission:** Meeting of May 31, 2005. Recommend approval for re-zoning of Ward Manufacturing property on Gulick Street from Residential to Industrial.

Planning Commission also recommended approval of Cat Ordinance. Borough Council has tabled ordinance at this time.

Zoning Hearing Board: Meeting of June 9, 2005. Approved special exemption to convert the Sherman property located at 135 Maple Hill Road from a single-family residence to a two (2) family home.

(I) Recreation: Thomas Bogaczyk reported about possible grant funding for resurfacing the tennis courts at Island Park. Arnie Kriner is willing to attend a Recreation Board meeting and apply for funding.

(J) Fire: No report received.

A letter was sent to Blossburg Fire & Ambulance Association requesting a copy of their minutes. No response was received from their departments.

(K) Television: Meeting tomorrow night. Bad reception on a few channels discussed. Materials are ordered for the three (3) new channels, which are Speed, Hallmark and a cartoon station.

(L) Library: Resolution No. 3 2005: Motion was made by Raymond Kaminski to approve contract with Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Education, Office of Commonwealth Libraries for a grant in the amount of \$7,500.00 for replacement of HVAC system in Community Library; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

(M) Street Committee: Borough is still waiting for catch basins to use on Maple Hill Road/Schuylkill Street storm drain project.

Tar & chipping of the selected borough streets to be done by Liberty Township after July 4<sup>th</sup>.

(N) Budget: Budget meeting was scheduled for June 21, 2005 at 9:00 A.M. in the Council Room.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Evaluation: More of personnel policy reviewed before Council meeting. Another meeting will be scheduled before next Council meeting if a public meeting isn't scheduled for Home Grant Application.
2. Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac: Borough Solicitor is working on Deed of Dedication. When completed, Borough Manager will get signatures from property owners.
3. Additional Railroad Property: Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett is working with Han-Rowe Associates & Company owners of Bear "A" Bar & Grill about property exchange by old borough hall.
4. Electric System Assessment: Borough Solicitor is working on.
5. Home Occupation: Borough Manager to check with Borough Solicitor to see if ready to advertise.
6. House Condemnation: There was a mix up on last scheduled meeting with Mr. Scroback. Letters were not sent to both of his residences. Borough Manager George Lloyd talked with Mr. Scroback. Mr. Scroback is putting home on the market. Mr. Lloyd knows that he contacted a Real Estate seller, but doesn't know cost they set on property. Council wants to set up a time frame for having the home fixed up or torn down.

7. **Hamilton Township Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code Agreement:**

Remove from agenda. Motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

8. **House Numbering:** Remove from agenda. Motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

9. **Williamson Commercial Park Access Street:** Cul-D-Sac on road has been damaged by tractor-trailers turning around. Council will not accept road until damage is repaired. Raymond Kaminski suggested that Kwik Fill install signs by their parking lot warning tractor-trailers drivers not to drive down road.

10. **Building Permit Fees / Rental Inspections:** Borough Manager to check with Borough Solicitor on advertising.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Resolution Blossburg Borough Code Enforcement Program:** Borough Manager George Lloyd, Building Codes Officer Michael Stoudt and Borough Secretary Mary Signor worked on a budget for Permit Office so an Intermunicipal Grant Application can be applied for. Half (1/2) of Permit Office budget is allowed under grant funding.

Resolution No. 4 2005: Motion to pass Code Enforcement Program Resolution was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Timothy Roupp. All in favor.

Information to be sent to Northern Tier Planning so they can complete grant application.

2. **Ordinance 2005-01 "Tioga County Preferential Tax Assessment Plan":** This ordinance was adopted by the Commissioners on May 10, 2005. "Authorizing tax exemptions from property tax for certain deteriorated industrial, commercial or other business property; defining eligible deteriorated areas; setting a maximum exemption amount and exemption schedule; and providing a procedure for securing an exemption." Motion was made by Raymond Kaminski to accept ordinance; second, Timothy Roupp. All in favor.

3. **Resolution Tioga County Emergency Services – Adoption of the All Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Mayor John Backman and Borough Manger George Lloyd discussed areas in town identified under Mitigation Plan.

Resolution No. 5 2005: Motion to approve Tioga County All Hazard Mitigation Plan was made by Raymond Kaminski; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

4. **Ward Manufacturing Petition Zoning Change:** Motion to accept Ward Manufacturing Petition request for rezoning their property on Gulick Street from R-1 to Industrial was made by Raymond Kaminski; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

Borough Solicitor to advertise and setup a public hearing.

5. **Home Grant Application – Martha Lloyd School:** Discussed earlier.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

6. **Letter from Edgar and Margaret Carlson:** Mr. & Mrs. Carlson submitted a letter stating their concerns of "loud music, disorderly conduct, lewd acts, etc. from the taverns near their home." Also, Mr. & Mrs. Carlson complained of the dirt and dust that comes from the Bear "A" Bar & Grill parking lot. Borough Manager said that the Borough has oiled old railroad property behind Bear "A" Bar & Grill which is owned by the Borough. Chief Ronald Steffen offered to talk to owners of bar to rectify the other problems.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Tioga County Association of Boroughs Dinner Meeting will be held Thursday, June 23, 2005 at 7:00 P.M. at Bill's Place Restaurant, Cowanesque Street (Rt. 49), Lawrenceville, PA.

Kwik Fill Grand Opening will be held Thursday, June 16, 2005 at 2:00 P.M. Please RSVP by telephoning 570-638-2099 or 814-688-1372.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 8:53 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2005 at 6:30 P.M.

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Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary