

PUBLIC HEARING

July 11, 2005

Attendance: Mayor John Backman; Council President Jerome Ogden; Councilmembers Raymond Kaminski, James Holleman, Thomas Bogaczyk; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Greg Patryna, Susquehanna Valley Development Group, Inc.; Richard S. MacIntire, President/C.E.O. of Martha Lloyd Community Services.

As advertised a Public Hearing was held on July 11, 2005 at 6:15 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street, Blossburg, PA. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to entertain proposals to submit an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for **HOME** monies.

Introduction was read by Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett:

The **HOME** Investment Partnership Act is authorized under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (NAHA), Public Law 101-625. **HOME** is a formula-based allocation program intended to support a wide variety of state and local affordable housing programs.

The **HOME** Investment Partnership program encourages state and participating local jurisdictions, in collaboration with private organizations, to undertake activities and adopt policies aimed at expanding the supply of affordable housing and increasing the number of families who can be served with affordable housing. Federal formula funding to state and local governments permits them the flexibility to use the money in ways that best meet locally defined housing needs.

These funds can be used for acquisition, construction, reconstruction, and moderate or substantial rehabilitation activities which promote affordable rental and ownership housing, **HOME** funds can also be used for tenant based rental assistance programs.

The **HOME** funds in the State of Pennsylvania in a Non-Participating Jurisdiction is administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development in Harrisburg, PA. These funds are made available through the State single application process.

Greg Patryna, Susquehanna Valley Development Group, Inc. presented a floor plan of the new home to be contracted on Granger Street. The new single family home will replace the currently leased home which is now located at 330 Main Street. The new home will be a five (5)-bedroom single room occupancy. It will be 2,720 sq. ft., wood frame and built on slab on grate. The exterior of home will look like any other ranch home, but the interior will be designed and constructed for the special needs of the residents. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$462,000.00, which includes the 6% Blossburg Borough would be eligible for if Council agrees to sponsor application.

Mr. Patryna asked that after the Public Hearing is adjourned and Blossburg Borough Council goes into their regular meeting Council votes positively to transmit the **HOME** Grant Program application.

No public comment.

Hearing closed 6:30 P.M.

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

July 11, 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: (absent, Vice-President Tonya McNamara); Councilmembers Raymond Kaminski, James Holleman, (absent, Cheryl Bubacz and Timothy Roupp), Thomas Bogaczyk; Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Ronald Steffen; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Charles Freeberg KCC Committee.

Guests: Greg Patryna, Susquehanna Valley Development Group, Inc.; Richard S. MacIntire, President/C.E.O. of Martha Lloyd Community Services.

Minutes: The minutes of the June 13, 2005 meeting, were accepted on motion of Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Raymond Kaminski. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Report accepted subject to audit on motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, James Holleman. All in favor.

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

Guests: Greg Patryna, Susquehanna Valley Development Group, Inc., Richard S. MacIntire, President/C.E.O. of Martha Lloyd Community Services attended the meeting requesting Blossburg Borough Council to consider passing a resolution for sponsoring an application through funding from Pennsylvania Department of Economic and Community Development (DCED) Home Grant Program.

Resolution No. 6 2005: A motion for Borough Council to approve sponsoring the Home Grant Application was made by Raymond Kaminski; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor. Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett to write-up resolution and fax to Borough Secretary tomorrow morning.

Reports:

(A) **NPHS Students:** No student present.

(B) **KCC:** Charles Freeberg reported the organization's regular checking account balance is \$2,050.00. KCC building was broken into again. The vandals smashed door and casing. The cost for replacement \pm \$580.00.

Bloss Legion donated 42 new chairs to KCC building. Mr. Freeberg suggested that the Borough write letter to Legion thanking them. Old chairs outside at rear of building. George Lloyd to get picked up.

Partners in Progress are done renting the KCC building for the summer. At the present time, Kiwanis uses the building for their meetings. Ward Manufacturing's Union is the only group renting the building.

Reports:

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

No representative present.

V.I.B.E. Minutes for June 15, 2005 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers.

(D) Mayor: Mayor Backman discussed borough residents purchasing pools and erecting them in the borough without a permit. Any pool over 24" must have a fence, for safety purposes. Notices will be sent to pool property owners stating they aren't in compliance with the regulations. Police will watch for any new pools being erected in the borough.

Mayor Backman had a sticker / notice added to a recent mailing to all customers in Blossburg which read as follows:

"IMPORTANT: On June 28, 2004, Blossburg Borough adopted the International Building Code. This means a property owner **must** contact the Borough Manager about permit requirements before making any changes to property within the Borough, including temporary fixtures such as **POOLS, SPAS, FENCES, ETC.**"

Mayor Backman attended the Tioga County Borough Association meeting. Also, Don Carman Borough Association Representative was at the TCAB meeting. Mr. Carman reported all traffic signs must be reflective in 5-7 years. The Borough Manager is to check reflectivity of all Blossburg Borough traffic signs and report back to Budget Committee as to how many signs may need to be replaced.

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

Chief Steffen reported lots of criminal activity this month.

Police Department has done a maximum effort with the speeding motorcycles. Officers have been talking to the operators and operator's parents. The problem seems to be under control.

There is only one (1) property in the borough left that isn't cutting their grass on a regular basis. Borough Manager is to find someone to cut the grass on this property, at the property owners expense,

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

(F) Police Committee: Nothing further to report.

(G) Borough Manager:

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

Dirt roads are oiled.

Oiled Bear "A" Bar & Grill parking lot to help dust control in neighborhood.

Reports:

(H) **Planning Commission:** Meeting of June 28, 2005. Approve variance for new home on Joseph Street to build a deck on rear of home. The deck would be closer than setbacks allow.

Also, reviewed Cell Tower Ordinance. Planning Commission made some changes to model ordinance. Copies of ordinance submitted to Councilmembers for review.

Zoning Hearing Board: Need to setup meeting on variance for Joseph Street home – addition of deck.

(I) **Recreation:** 103 2005-season tickets sold.

(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. Borough Manager to contact Terry Kreger to see if he could help get a copy of the monthly minutes.

(K) **Television:** No meeting this month. Materials are ordered for new channels. The new channel numbers should be #49, #50 & #51.

(L) **Library:** New sidewalk is in.

(M) **Street Committee:** Started working today on Maple Hill Road/Schuylkill Street storm drain project. The frames and lids to be delivered July 14, 2005.

(N) **Budget:** Taber Street Footbridge: Cost study of \$5,700.00. Borough Manager to contact Echo Bridge for bridge estimate. Also, to contact Allison Crane for cost estimate for removal of old bridge and setting new bridge. After Mr. Lloyd receives the above information, he is going to contact Ward Manufacturing to see if they are still interested in contributing to the bridge cost. Funding: Ward Manufacturing, Taber Foundation, Packer Foundation and Borough.

Survey Borough Boundaries: Survey North and South Borough boundaries. Contact Duane Wetmore for price quote. To be added to 2006 Budget.

Footbridge CD: Loan 2.99% rate vs. CD 1.49% rate.

Recent Tax Assessment: Increase in assessment of 711,280 for commercial and 71,990 for residential. Tax increase of \$4,400.00.

Occupation Privilege Tax (OPT) Rate Increase: Increase OPT tax to \$20.00 for 2006.

Borough Hall Flooring: Price quote from ECHO carpet. VCT tile and installation – cove base and installation – matching transition strips systems – carpet tear out by ECHO and dispose of in a borough provided dumpster – VCT tile floor prep. - \$3,150.00. If ECHO moves furniture addition of \$300.00. Price includes all offices, except Council Meeting Room, restrooms and safe. A motion was made to have ECHO carpet install new flooring in the Borough Building was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, James Holleman. All in favor.

Budget meeting was scheduled for July 14, 2005 at 4:00 P.M. in the Council Room.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Evaluation:** Personnel Policy to be discussed before next Council meeting if no Public Hearing scheduled.
2. **Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac:** Borough Solicitor is working on Deed of Dedication.
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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR AT 7:58 P.M. RECONVENED 8:05 P.M. LITIGATION DISCUSSED.

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. Another home business is operating in the borough. Borough Manager to look into.
6. **House Condemnation:** Mr. Scroback has sold the home. New owner seems to be enthusiastic about getting the repairs started as soon as possible.

Remove from agenda. Motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.
7. **Williamson Commercial Park Access Street:** Problem with Cul-D-Sac. Bad section of blacktop has been milled down and repaved. Need "Dead End" signs before Borough will accept street.
8. **Building Permit Fees / Rental Inspections:** New rates to be advertised. Borough Solicitor to do.
9. **Ward Manufacturing Petition Requesting Zoning Change:** Needs to be advertised. Borough Solicitor to do.
10. **Home Grant Application – Martha Lloyd School:** Public Hearing held tonight before Council Meeting.

Remove from agenda. Motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, James Holleman. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Attorney Fee Ordinance:** Borough Solicitor presented two different ordinances. To be reviewed and discussed at a later date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tioga County Development Corporation, 12th Annual Meeting, Monday, July 25, 2005 at the Wellsboro Area High School. Social Reception 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM. Banquet Dinner & Program 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM. \$25.00 per person. Pre-Registration & Payment required by July 18, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 8:16 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2005 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary