

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

March 13, 2006

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, Cheryl Bubacz, James Bogaczyk, (absent, Thomas Bogaczyk (in Florida)); Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Ronald Steffen; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor.

Minutes: The minutes of the February 13, 2006 meeting were accepted on motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Report accepted subject to audit on motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

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

Guests: None present.

Reports:

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

(B) **KCC:** Charles Freeberg did not attend tonight's meeting.

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

V.I.B.E. Minutes for February 15, 2006 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers.

Tonya McNamara reported V.I.B.E. is working on the startup of this year's Farmers Market. Also, V.I.B.E. is checking on signage potentials to attract people into town.

The next meeting for V.I.B.E. will be held on March 15, 2006 at 6:00 P.M. in the downstairs of the Blossburg Memorial Library.

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor John Backman asked if a violent dog ordinance could be looked into. Chief Steffen to check Wellsboro Borough statute.

Mayor Backman requested a donation be made to Endless Mountain Transportation Authority (EMTA). Councilmembers all agreed \$100.00 should be donated to EMTA for 2006.

The Mayor would like to purchase a storm drain cover from the salvage pile on Island Park. Permission was granted from Council for the Mayor to purchase the storm drain cover at the cost of \$1.00.

Reports:

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

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

Chief Steffen reported the Police Audit for CLEAN Quality Assurance Review done by the Pennsylvania State Police Department Headquarters reflected no discrepancies.

On March 7 & 8, 2006 a C-Net Class was held in Harrisburg. Chief Steffen, Officer McCurdy and Officer Buttorff attended and completed the schooling.

Officer Bob Scott completed his 2005 certification. He will be back on the Blossburg Borough payroll as a part-time officer.

Mrs. Linda (Dake) Thomison to have a hearing on her dogs running loose.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

Removing gravel from the Tioga River is done. The Riprap work to be done in the fall after the necessary permits are obtained.

The Borough Manager reported on the new biological nutrient reduction information for the removal of nitrogen and phosphorus at sewer plants. Limits of 8mg/l – nitrogen and 1mg/l – phosphorus are based on 2010 projected flows. Presently, the Blossburg Sewer Treatment Plant is discharging \pm 35 mg/l – nitrogen and \pm 5 mg/l – phosphorus. William S. Bray is looking at a tank, 40' long - 10' wide, with an estimated cost of \$500,000 to \$800,000, to remove nitrogen at the plant. Phosphorus amounts can be lowered by adding chemicals.

The Mack truck, which is being converted into the garbage truck, needs a larger hydraulic pump. The cost will be \$2,000 - \$3,000. There is money in the Garbage Truck Savings to cover the cost.

Selective Insurance held an inspection of borough properties. They sent a letter with a few safety recommendations. One of their recommendations was the removal of the wood stove at the municipal garage and replace it with a unit approved for the exposure. Mr. Lloyd wrote a letter stating the municipal garage uses a ceiling mount gas fired furnace as its primary heating source. The wood/coal stove is used as a supplemental heat supply for the garage area.

A building permit notice was printed on the utility billing envelopes. It reads as flows:

"IMPORTANT: On June 28, 2004, the 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.**"

There are concerns from some citizens on burning plastic/garbage in borough. Ordinances to be check on burning garbage.

Reports:

The Pedestrian Bridge Certificate of Deposit monies are to be applied to the principal of the Pedestrian Bridge Loan. Cheryl Bubacz suggested additional fencing/guardrail be added to the east end of footbridge for additional safety.

Mr. Ostopovich of Harmona Landscaping quotes for trimming the trees are as follows: (A.) Main Street to Hannibal Street to South Williamson Road Bridge - \$350.00. (B.) Main Street – Business District - \$750.00. (C.) Borough Building trees - \$300.00. The plan is to get all trees the same height in each area. Borough crew will pick up limbs. Letters were sent to Main Street residential homes. Business owners to be contacted. Motion to trim business district trees was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

(H) Planning Commission:

No applications were submitted. No Meeting.

Planning Commission member Caroline Thomson will be resigning her position, because her family is moving out of town. Borough Manager George Lloyd to review list of residents of Blossburg and recommend several names for Mrs. Thomson replacement.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(I) Recreation: Meeting of February 27, 2006.

James Bogaczyk reported the Recreation account balance is \$1,279.00.

Island Park lease with the Southern Tioga School District runs out December 31, 2006.

Tennis courts needs to be resurfaced.

Permission was granted to purchase John Deere 48" cut lawn mower from dealer, cost to be split between the Borough and Recreation Board. Borough Manager reported tonight that the mower was already sold.

(J) Fire: No report received.

Councilmembers on Fire Committee: Tonya McNamara, Raymond Kaminski and Cheryl Bubacz.

Raymond Kaminski hopes to attend next meeting.

(K) Television: Board meetings are second Tuesday of month.

(L) Library: Thomas Bogaczyk was absent. No report.

(M) Street Committee: Borough Manager presented a diagram of the planned 2006 Storm Drain Project. Mr. Lloyd would like permission to order pipe: 300' - 24", 100' - 18", 400' - 15", 200' - 12", and extra 12" - 15" to be used on Granger Street by the Randise residence. Motion was made to bid pipe for the 2006 Storm Drain Pipe by Raymond Kaminski; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

Reports:

(N) **Budget:** A budget meeting needs to be scheduled. Meeting to be scheduled at next council meeting, when Thomas Bogaczyk and James Bogaczyk will be able to attend. Items to be discussed: Garbage dumpsters, NTSWA truck, and taxes (occupation tax and per capita tax).

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac:** Borough Solicitor is working on Deed of Dedication.
2. **Additional Railroad Property:** Tax Sale of old railroad property of 6.72 acres, purchased by the Borough, was to be sold on September 26, 2005. The wrong property was assessed. Borough Solicitor is working on.
3. **Electric System Assessment:** Borough Solicitor is working on letter.
4. **Home Occupation:** Proposed Home Occupation Ordinance has been amended. Ready to advertise for next meeting.
5. **Williamson Commercial Park Access Street:** Ordinance is done. Ready to advertise for next meeting.
6. **Building Permit Fees / Rental Inspections:** New rates to be advertised. Borough Solicitor to get with George Lloyd for more information.
7. **Ward Manufacturing Petition Requesting Zoning Change:** Ordinance is done. Needs to be advertised. Public Hearing is needed. Thirty-day (30) notice required. Borough Solicitor to set for May meeting.
8. **Cell Tower Ordinance:** Borough Solicitor reviewing three (3) different ones.
9. **Attorney Fee Ordinance:** Ordinance is done. Needs review by Council then advertised.
10. **Personnel Policy:** When is it alright to pay vacation days? Mr. Lloyd to discuss with Mr. Barrett .

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. **TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006 AT THE BLOSSBURG FIRE & AMBULANCE BUILDING, 324 MAIN STREET, BLOSSBURG, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY TUESDAY. MARCH 14, 2006.**
2. **TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 10th ANNUAL TCDC LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST AT THE PENN WELLS HOTEL, 62 MAIN STREET, WELLSBORO, PA ON THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2006 FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 10:00 A.M. (BUFFET OPENS AT 7:30 A.M.). R.S.V.P. BY APRIL 6, 2006.**

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 8:00P.M.

Next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2006 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary