

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

October 13, 2008

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Jerome Ogden called the 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 Thomas Bogaczyk; Councilmembers Jill Nickerson, James Holleman, Cheryl Bubacz, James Bogaczyk, Jeffrey Everett; Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; (absent, Chief Ronald Steffen); Corporal Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Miranda Kline NPHS Student Representative; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette.

Minutes: The minutes of the September 8, 2008 meeting were accepted on motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

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

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

Guests: None present.

Reports:

(A) **NPHS Student:** Miranda Kline gave a Student Council Activity Report.

North Penn High School Homecoming was a success. The Block Party and the Parade were held even though the rain threatened to cancel some of activities.

Two (2) other areas Student Council are working on: 1) A school store. 2) Red Ribbon Week, which will take place the last week of October.

(B) **KCC:** David Thompson, Sr. did not attend meeting.

(C) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) V.I.B.E. meetings are held on third Wednesday of the month in the community room of the Blossburg Memorial Library at 6:00 P.M.

V.I.B.E. Minutes for October 30, 2008 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers.

Councilmember Jill Nickerson reported on V.I.B.E. topics:

The new newsletter / place mats have been distributed.

Rob Kathcart, a Social Studies teacher at North Penn High School, is interested in working with V.I.B.E., to promote students/staff and the community in working together more. Mrs. Nickerson will be contacting the high school to discuss information with students.

The movie theater is up for sale. The organization is interested in taking over the business and is checking on possible funding available for purchasing the business property.

Skate Park: DCNR Grant Application was mailed. A reply should be received in December.

Reports:

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman reported the qualified military workforce to de-mill, sand blast and paint all four (4) Model 4.7 Cannons will be here, to inspect, on October 19, 2008. The cannons to be repaired in Blossburg are: Blossburg Borough Island Park, American Legion Post 572, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8730. American Legion Post 167, Morris Run, PA is the fourth cannon on the repair list.

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

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

Corporal McCurdy reported on October 4, 2008 the Island Park softball fields were tore up by vehicle tires. As of October 11, 2008 the Island Park gate will be locked at 10:00 P.M. and unlocked between the hours of 6:00 A.M. or 7:00 A.M., until freezing weather is here.

Officer Kent Warner is working on the crosswalk study/survey for the "Yield to Pedestrian Channelizing Devices Pedestrian Safety Program".

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

The Borough Manager announced Donald Carman of Elkland , PA passed away, the result of a car accident. Mr. Carman was an active member in Tioga County. He served on Elkland Borough Council and also served as Council President. He was the current Borough Manager. Mr. Carman was a member of Tioga County Development Corporation and was the current president of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs. All Councilmembers agreed to send a card to Mr. Carman's family and to make a donation to the Blossburg Memorial Library in his memory.

(H) **Planning Commission:** No applications were submitted. No meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board: A meeting was held on September 11, 2008. Lewis Brill, owner of a single family dwelling, 302 North Williamson Road applied for a variance. The proposed addition would be too close to an existing right of way. The ZHB members passed the request.

(I) **Recreation:**

Councilmember Jill Nickerson presented her findings on the Borough's help with in-kind services to the Recreation Board in regards to pool testing. Mrs. Nickerson's showed a loss on the Recreation Board income/expense report. Borough Manager George Lloyd reported the Recreation Board pays the mowing of Island Park. He feels since the Park is Borough property the Borough should pay for this service. The mowing wages totaled \$4,700.00 on the expense report. Pool Testing, Misc. totaled \$2,791.79. Councilmember Thomas Bogaczyk made a motion to have the Island Park mowing wages paid from the Borough General Fund and Recreation Board continue paying the Pool Testing, Misc; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

Recreation Board members and volunteers are meeting tonight at 7:00 P.M. in the North Penn High School Library to stuff envelops for the 2008 North Penn Area United Fund campaign fund drive.

Reports:

(J) **Fire:** Councilmember Jeffrey Everett reported all is well in the Department.

(K) **Television:** Board meetings are second Tuesday of month.
Discussed terrible reception on some of the channels.

(L) **Library:** No meeting.
The Friends of the Library will hold their annual book sale October 20 – 25, 2008, in the community room of the library.

(M) **Street Committee:** Harmona Landscaping trimmed the trees along Main Street.

(N) **Budget:** Proposed 2009 Budget: \$644,536.00 Revenues/Expenses. Borough: 5.507 Mills – Fire: .568 Mills – Library: .250 Mills. 3.56% Average Wage Increase. No tax increase.

A motion to advertise the proposed 2009 Budget was made by Cheryl Bubacz; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

(O) **Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):** Nothing to report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY JEROME OGDEN AT 7:10 P.M. RECONVENED 7:50 P.M. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED. NO ACTION TAKEN.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac:**

The Borough Solicitor is working on.

2. **Borough Building Repairs / Estimates:**

The Façade Grant Program contract for the Borough Building is due and needs to be submitted to V.I.B.E.

3. **Island Park Oil & Gas Lease:**

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett is putting together a proposed lease to submit for bid. All Borough owned lands are to be included in bid.

4. **List of Homes to Start Condemnation Proceedings:** Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Island Park “User Agreement”:

Southern Tioga School District "User Agreement" for Island Park for a period of three (3) years, from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010, at \$13,000.00 per year was “clarified” by Attorney Christopher Lantz. “The intent of this clarified User Agreement is not to change the terms of the User Agreement; rather, it is to clarify what areas are subject to school regulation during school sponsored events.” New signatures are required on the updated “User Agreement”. Motion to approve STSD “User Agreement” as presented was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2008 AT THE RIVER VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB, ROUTE 249, WESTFIELD, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2008.

USDA FUNDING – TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (TCDC) MEETING TO DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL OF OBTAINING USDA GRANT FUNDING THAT CAN BE LOANED OUT TO BLOSSBURG AREA BUSINESSES WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008 AT THE BLOSSBURG LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM, 307 MAIN STREET, BLOSSBURG, PA. 5:00 P.M. ANY BUSINESS OWNER, POTENTIAL BUSINESS OWNER, CITIZEN OR ELECTED OFFICIALS ARE INVITED.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 7:52 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2008 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary