

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

May 12, 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; (absent, Borough Secretary Mary Signor); David Thompson, Sr. KCC Committee; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Bev Jones; Kenneth Hughes.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 14 and 24, 2008 meetings were accepted on motion of Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

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

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

Guests: None present.

Reports:

(A) **NPHS Student:** North Penn High School Student Representative did not attend meeting.

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

David Thompson, Sr. attended tonight's meeting in preparation for taking over the duties of Charles Freeberg.

(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 April 2008 were not available to print off the Internet.

Councilmember and V.I.B.E. member Jill Nickerson reported "the community garden is underway".

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman requested the cannon on Island Park be moved and stored behind the Borough Garage, due to the condition. Councilmember James Bogaczyk made a motion to have the cannon moved from its present location, store it over by the Borough Building and have some people come in to see how much they would charge to repair it; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

With the increasing fuel costs, Mayor Backman asked if the plowing of streets could wait until an accumulation of 1". After a brief discussion, Councilmembers felt plowing should be left to the Borough Manager's discretion.

Reports:

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

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

Corporal McCurdy discussed with Councilmembers how much detail they expect on the Police Report.

Councilmember Thomas Bogaczyk remarked that he has noticed the Police Department patrolling early in the mornings, especially on the upper end of town. Mr. Bogaczyk believes this will help with the speeding vehicles coming into town.

(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 reported on the following items:

Spring Cleanup comparison: 2007 was 32 tons (not including metal) costing approximately \$1,700.00. 2008 ± 43 tons costing \$2,279.00.

Seismic Vibrator is coming through town late June. The company asked to be shown the locations of the water and sewer lines, so their trucks did not set over the utilities.

(H) **Planning Commission:**

No applications were submitted. No meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board: A meeting was scheduled for April 30, 2008 to review home occupation / special exemption for home located at 104 Taylor Street. No quorum.
Another meeting to be scheduled.

(I) **Recreation:**

The pool has been painted. The opening of the pool should be on Memorial Day. Pool tickets fees are the same as last year - \$50.00 Single / \$95.00 Family until June 15, after June 15 - \$60.00 Single / \$120.00 Family. Pool hours are Monday through Friday. Adult swimming from 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM / All ages from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Saturday hours are 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM.

Lifeguards are being hired.

Recreation Board approved the North Penn High School class of 2008 graduation ceremony to be held at Island Park, weather permitting. The date of graduation is Saturday, June 7, 2008 at 10:00 A.M.

The balance of the checking is \$3,439.84. There are a few outstanding bills still to be paid.

BEST (Blossburg Elementary School Team) cannot do the cow plop bingo during the Coal Festival, because of insurance.

Reports:

(J) **Fire:** No report received. Councilmember Jeffrey Everett reported, at the last meeting, there were some small discretions, but no big problems.

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

(L) **Library:** The next Quarterly meeting is in July.

Councilmember Jill Nickerson reported on scheduled Library fundraisers:

May 17, 2008 at 11:00 AM the Blossburg Memorial Library will be holding their Basket Bingo fundraiser.

Wine and Cheese Party on June 10, 2008 at 6:30 PM.

The annual Library Garden Party fundraiser will be held on July 27, 2008 at the Hamilton Club in Morris Run.

Librarian Shelby Kinsey to put together a technology plan for upgrading the equipment in the library.

(M) **Street Committee:** A list of 2008 proposed streets for tar & chipping was reviewed and accepted by Council.

(N) **Budget:** Nothing to report.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY PRESIDENT JEROME OGDEN AT 7:10 P.M. RECONVENED 7:40 P.M. PROPOSED LITIGATION DISCUSSED.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

The Borough Manager gave information to the Borough Solicitor.

2. Cell Tower Ordinance: Borough Solicitor is working on.

3. Streetlights for the Blossburg Exit / Interchange:

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett suggested # 3 be removed from the agenda.

Remove from agenda. Motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

4. Tioga County Tax Preferential Program Ordinance:

A Public Hearing was held on April 14, 2008. Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett presented proposed ordinance. A motion to advertise proposed ordinance was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

5. **Borough Building Repairs / Estimates:** Borough Manager George Lloyd is getting estimates.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Blocking off Carpenter Street:**

A letter of request was received from Blossburg First Baptist Church, to block off Carpenter Street from Main Street to the entrance of Borough Hall parking lot on June 29 – July 3, 2008, during Vacation Bible School. They would like the street blocked off for the safety of the children. The church will be responsible for putting up and taking down the barricades. A motion to approve the Blossburg First Baptist Church request was made by Cheryl Bubacz; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

2. **Spraying of Roundup:**

Councilmember Jeffrey Everett asked if it would be possible to spray roundup around areas of Island Park. The Borough Manager will check into.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH'S DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2008 AT THE HARVET FAMILY FELLOWSHIP, SHAFFER HILL, LIBERTY, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY MONDAY, MAY 12, 2008.

16th ANNUAL COAL FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD FROM MAY 21 – 24, 2008 AT ISLAND PARK. VISIT www.blossburgcoalfestival.org OR TELEPHONE (570) 638-3313. EVERYONE IS WELCOME! COUNCILMEMBERS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COAL FESTIVAL PARADE ON SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2008 AT 11:00 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 7:47 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2008 at 6:30 P.M.