

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

June 9, 2008

Councilmembers gathered at 6:00 P.M. for the presentation of appreciation "Certificates", for years of service on Council, to Raymond Kaminski and Tonya McNamara.

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; (absent, Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett); (absent, Chief Ronald Steffen); Corporal Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Charles Freeberg and David Thompson, Sr. KCC Committee members; Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) President Tonya McNamara; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Kenneth Hughes.

Minutes: The minutes of the May 12, 2008 meeting were accepted on motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

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

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

Guests: None present.

David Thompson, Sr., Chairman of the Coal Festival, thanked Council for paying the liability insurance package to cover the Coal Festival activities, Blossburg residents for their support, Borough Manager George Lloyd, Borough Employees and the Blossburg Police Department for all of their help. "What a great town!"

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.

Charles Freeberg reported the organization's regular checking account balance is \$708.13, after paying outstanding bills the balance will be approximately \$276.00.

Partners in Progress started renting the building today for nine (9) weeks. They will pay their rent the end of August.

Reports:

(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 were printed off the Internet.

V.I.B.E. President Tonya McNamara reported the community garden has 19 garden boxes growing. A composting class is scheduled for June 11, 2008.

The Wood / Anthony Building owners are soon to be paid \$12,000.00 for the completion of their building façades.

The Endless Mountain Music Festival is scheduled for August 1, 2008. All are welcome.

Next project for V.I.B.E. is an activity for the Octoberfest.

Skate Park: DCNR Grant Application was completed and mailed. No reply yet.

(D) Mayor: The World War I cannon on Island Park, which was donated to the Borough of Blossburg from the United States Department of War on October 2, 1933, will cost ± \$3,000.00 to repair. Councilmember Jeffrey Everett made a motion to have the cannon repaired / restored, at the Borough's leisure; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

(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.

Councilmembers commented how the Police are more visible with their patrols.

(F) Police Committee: Nothing further to report.

(G) Borough Manager:

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

The Borough Manager reported on the following items:

An Arborist is scheduled to do a class in Tioga on June 26, 2008.

Lewis and Clark Circus will be performing on Island Park Monday, June 30, 2008. There will be two (2) shows – 5:00 P.M. and 7:30 P.M.

A company in Pittsburgh bought the Galion Grader for \$2,283.62. Money was deposited into the Equipment Fund.

A meeting with committee is needed to review Borough Building façade repairs. Council agreed to reconvene on June 16, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. to discuss.

Reports: The Upper Pine Creek Council of Government's (COG) will hold a presentation in Gaines on June 17, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. Meeting topic is posting and bonding roads in municipalities in anticipation of oil and gas drilling leases.

The 1985 single axle truck needs lots of repairs. Asset Auctions is holding an auction on June 18, 2008. Mr. Lloyd asked permission to look at the single axle trucks PennDOT has up for bid. The trucks up for bid will be discussed at the June 16, 2008 reconvene meeting.

(H) Planning Commission:

No applications were submitted. No meeting.

Planning Commission member Coral Stocum recently passed away. A person is need for her replacement. Borough Manager George Lloyd is to make a list of name replacements for Councilmembers to review.

Zoning Hearing Board: A meeting was held on June 5, 2008 to review home occupation / special exemption for home located at 104 Taylor Street. ZHB members passed the request.

Zoning Board member Jeffrey Manikowski asked to be replaced as a board member, due to the fact, he has many scheduled family and school activities. A name replacement to be reviewed / suggested from the list of names the Borough Manager will be suggesting to Councilmembers for the Planning Commission replacement.

(I) Recreation: No meeting held, because not enough members showed up for meeting.

A letter was received from East Resources about gas exploration on Island Park.

(J) Fire: No meeting.

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

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

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

(M) Street Committee: Borough crew is in the process of patching roads before tar and chipping is done.

(N) Budget: Nothing to report.

(O) Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA): BMA agree to have Havens grout East Creek well and the well across from Arnot road.

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.

Reports:

3. **Tioga County Tax Preferential Program Ordinance:**

Tioga County Tax Preferential Program Ordinance:

Ordinance was reviewed and advertised for tonight's meeting. Motion to adopt ordinance which authorizes local taxing authorities to exempt new construction in deteriorated areas was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Jeffery Everett. All in favor.

4. **Borough Building Repairs / Estimates:** Discussed earlier.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: No announcements.

Meeting will not adjourn as there are some items to be completed. The meeting was dismissed at 7:27 P.M. by President Jerome Ogden, to reconvene June 16, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary

**Borough Council Meeting continued from June 9, 2008 –
Reconvened June 16, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street,
Blossburg, PA.**

Attendance: President Jerome Ogden; Vice-President Thomas Bogaczyk; Councilmembers Jill Nickerson, (absent, James Holleman), Cheryl Bubacz, James Bogaczyk, (absent, Jeffrey Everett); Mayor John Backman; (absent, Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett); Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; V.I.B.E. member Heidi Jones.

Borough Building Repairs: Inspection of building to be done after meeting is adjourned.

Single Axle Dump Truck:

Online Asset Auctions – PennDOT Equipment – Scheduled to close Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 10:00 A.M. Bruce Toothaker and Scott Fessler went to Summerdale, PA to inspect the single axle trucks up for bid. The best one is a 1997 International. The bid is currently at \$5,500.00. After a brief discussion, Councilmember Cheryl Bubacz suggested leaving the bid maximum up to the Borough Manager's discretion. All in favor.

Planning Commission Member Replacement for Coral Stocum:

Borough Manager presented a list of replacement names. Motion was made by James Bogaczyk to contact Nathan McNamara or Mary English; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Zoning Board Member Replacement Jeffrey Manikowski:

Borough Manager presented a list of replacement names. Motion was made by James Bogaczyk to contact Annie Metarko or Kenneth Hughes; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

East Resources Oil & Gas Lease:

Councilmember James Bogaczyk met with Andrea Auwarter today to discuss proposed lease for Island Park. Borough Secretary made copies of lease for Councilmembers to review. Proposed lease to be forwarded to Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett for his review.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 5:43 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2008 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary