

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

January 5, 2015

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Thomas Bogaczyk 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 Jill Nickerson; Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Jolene Hall, Paul Hosszu, (absent, Stephen Wagner), James Rakoski; Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Joshua McCurdy (left at 7:08 P.M. to attend Hamilton Township Meeting); Patrolman David Krape; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Mataya Nickerson.

Motion was made by Jerome Ogden to reorganize Blossburg Borough Council; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

According to the requirements of Borough Codes, the Mayor conducted the election of Council President and Council Vice-President:

Nomination Council President: James Rakoski; motion of Jolene Hall; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor. Motion to close nomination for President was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Nomination Council Vice-President: James Rakoski nominated Jill Nickerson. Thomas Bogaczyk nominated Jerome Ogden.

Votes for Jill Nickerson: Jill Nickerson, James Rakoski, Jolene Hall, and Paul Hosszu.
Votes for Jerome Ogden: Jerome Ogden and Thomas Bogaczyk.

Motion carried Jill Nickerson elected Vice-President.

Motion to close nomination for Vice-President was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

Newly elected President James Rakoski presided over the remaining Council meeting.

Councilmember Thomas Bogaczyk stated he is willing to resign from Council, due to the fact, he hopes to travel in the upcoming months and he doesn't want to cause any problems with his absence from some meetings. Jill Nickerson commented it was an honor having Mr. Bogaczyk on Council. All Councilmembers agreed. Paul Hosszu made a motion to have Thomas Bogaczyk remain on Council; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

With the election changes, new signature cards will be required by First Citizens Community Bank (FCCB).

Minutes: The minutes of the December 10, 2014 meeting were accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

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

Bills: Bills to be paid on motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

Guests: Mataya Nickerson was attending for observation.

Reports:

(A) **NPHS Student:** Nothing to report.

(B) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) meetings are held on fourth Wednesday of the month in the Blossburg Recreation Building at Island Park at 6:00 P.M.

V.I.B.E. Minutes were not available from the Internet.

V.I.B.E. projects: (1) January 26, 2015 a Donor Appreciation Dinner will be held at the Victoria Theater at 6:00 P.M. (2) Branding Project.

(C) **Mayor:** Nothing to report.

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

The Police Report was accepted on motion of Jolene Hall; second, Paul Hosszu.
All in favor.

The 2013 Ford Explorer that was bought from Wellsboro Police Department should be picked up the end of this week.

(E) **Police Committee:** Nothing to report.

(F) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Jolene Hall; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

A meeting will be held on January 7, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. with Steve Sumner from Gannon Associates. Topic will be insurance coverage review. Councilmember Jill Nickerson requested having a meeting with Blue Cross / Blue Shield and First Priority Health to review health insurance coverages.

On August 26, 2014 the Tioga County Commissioners approved \$25,000.00 towards replacement of a section of the Borough's current sewer lines. The repairs will help with ground water infiltration problems. The monies were distributed on December 31, 2014 and received on January 5, 2015.

The next Upper Tioga River Regional Authority (UTRRA) meeting will be held on January 8, 2015.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is requiring three activities each community should undertake during the next few months to ensure both continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and a high quality digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for their community: (1) Should review their preliminary digital FIRM and suggest corrections or comments. (2) Reach out to those citizens affected by the changes on the digital FIRM and inform them of the potential flood insurance implications. (3) Each community must adopt a new or amended floodplain ordinance that meets the NFIP minimum requirements or face possible suspension from the NFIP. Mr. Lloyd is in the process of reviewing the Blossburg Borough Floodplain Ordinance as to what updates need to be changed or added.

Reports:

- (G) **Planning Commission:** Meeting held on December 26, 2014. Reviewed and accepted Zach Adams request to subdivide the property located at 520 Ruah Street (former Laurel Youth Services) with conditions of water and sewer maintenance agreement and parking access agreement.
- Motion was made by Thomas Bogaczyk to approve Zach Adams request to subdivide the property located at 520 Ruah Street, with the same conditions the Planning Commission stipulated; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.
- Borough Manager George D. Lloyd will write a letter to Mr. Adams explaining the conditional approval.
- Property will be taxed.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

- (H) **Recreation:**
- No meeting was held in December.
- Blossburg Area United Fund to stuff envelopes for donation campaign on January 27, 2015 at the Victoria Theater.
- Island Park River Walk:** Jerome Ogden requested yellow slash marks be painted at Island Park entrance where the trail crosses the road. Borough Manger George D. Lloyd will schedule the painting of road this summer.
- Additional River Walk pamphlets to be printed and distributed (i.e. Post Office, Brick Tavern, Welcome Center, and etc.)

- (I) **Fire:** No Financial Report or Minutes were received.
- Department held their annual Christmas party.
- Elections of officers were held.

(J) **Library:** No meeting.

(K) **Street Committee:** Nothing to report.

(L) **Shade Tree Commission:** Nothing to report.

(M) **Budget:** Nothing at this time.

(N) **Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):**

Monitoring well drilled at Taylor Run per DEP's new regulations for pump testing new well by fish nursery. The well is 260' deep, ± 130 GPM, water level 30' below ground, hit water at 120', bedrock at 45'. Same aquifer as well by fish nursery, could be a mechanical backup to primary well if Susquehanna River Basin Commission approves.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Southern Tioga School District (STSD) Plans:** Nothing to report.

2. **Borough Code of Ordinances – Update:**

Keystate Publishers sent completed "Final Draft". Councilmembers reviewing information for changes. Attorney William Stokes is reviewing Final Draft. Mr. Stokes to meet with Council Committee on new coding.

3. **Condemned Properties Update:** 101 Post Street. Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Ordinance No. 440: 2015 Tax Ordinance:**

Motion that the proposed 2015 Tax Ordinance be adopted as advertised: Borough 6.307 mills / Fire 0.568 mills / Library 0.250 mills, totaling 7.125 mills was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU'S ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2015 FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M. AT THE DEANE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 104 MAIN STREET, WELLSBORO, PA.

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2015 AT THE CAST & CREW RESTAURANT, 295 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MANSFIELD, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: President James Rakoski closed the meeting at 7:39 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary