

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## October 8, 2012

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, Stephen Wagner, (absent, James Rakoski (sick)); Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) Member Josh Jones (late, in at 7:00 P.M.); Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Frank (Sandy) Higgins; Kevin and Lisa Lindquist; Bev Jones.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the September 10, 2012 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 Stephen Wagner; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

**Bills:** Bills to be paid on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor.

**Guests:** Frank (Sandy) Higgins, 115 Carpenter Street, presented a letter asking the Borough Police to enforce the "No Parking" zone in front of his residence. Vehicles are parking illegally in the "No Parking" zone on the North and South sides of Carpenter Street, between Morris and Ruah Streets, which creates traffic hazards by impairing the view for cars turning onto Carpenter Street from Ruah Street. When school busses are waiting to pick up students it creates a danger for other students who dart out from behind the busses to cross the street. Councilmember Stephen Wagner stated the school has changed traffic patterns by not allowing traffic on Hannibal Street. Chief McCurdy said he had discussed the parking situation with the football coach and is having his officers writing parking tickets. Chief McCurdy will observe the school area traffic patterns and will approach the school district for their suggestions and cooperation. Tonight's discussion warranted another "No Parking" sign to be erected.

Kevin and Lisa Lindquist attended tonight's meeting to express their concerns and ask questions about the letter received from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) about a Large Industrial Mineral Permit, in Hamilton Township, that was filed in their office. The application was filed by Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. The proposed mining location will be located West of Taylor Run watershed and East of Bellman Run reservoir. William B. Street will be the access road. Council informed Mr. and Mrs. Lindquist the Borough is still gathering information on the permit application and an environmental comment letter was submitted to the Bureau of District Mining Operations. Council President Thomas Bogaczyk suggested concerned citizens on William B. Street and South Williamson Road should get together and present their concerns to DEP. After a discussion about the truck traffic, safety, and water supply concerns, Council decided to hold a "Special Meeting" to discuss the quarry on Wednesday, October 24, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. at the Blossburg Fire Department. Meeting to be advertised in the Wellsboro Gazette and local residents will be notified.

### **Reports:**

(A) **NPHS Student:** No student was present.

(B) **KCC:** Nothing to report.

**Reports:**

**(C) Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) meetings are held on fourth Wednesday of the month at the Brick Tavern at 6:30 P.M.

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

Elections were held in July. V.I.B.E. Officers are: President – Heidi Jones, Vice President – Jill Nickerson, Secretary – Josh Jones and Treasurer – Kelly Rossell.

Fall Festival is scheduled for Sunday, October 21, 2010 from 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Small Town Christmas is scheduled for Sunday, November 25, 2012 from 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. V.I.B.E. would like to close Main Street, for the festivities, from the corner of Carpenter Street to the corner of Hannibal Street. Motion was made by Jerome Ogden to allow the closing of Main Street for this event; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor. Main Street is a state road; a Parade Permit Application will be submitted to PennDOT by Borough Secretary Mary Signor.

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

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

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

Officers Robert Scott and Brian Isaccson are now qualified to use Taser equipment.

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

Meeting scheduled for October 18, 2012 at 4:30 P.M.

**(G) Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

Nothing to report.

**(H) Planning Commission:** RE: Shawn Carey Request - Reconvene Meeting of October 1, 2012.

Zoning Solicitor William Stokes was consulted about the junkyard definition. Shawn Carey's request for a repair garage at 219 South Williamson Road, R – 1 District, was denied because of zoning issues (spot zoning) and no towed vehicles at the premise.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

**(I) Recreation:** Twelve new picnic tables and one new bench have been placed on Island Park.

**Reports:**

**Walking Trail:** Borough crew is working on, as time allows. Mayor Backman suggested installing mini 1/10 mile markers along trail. Mr. Ed McNett, 115 McIntyre Street built benches and has put them along the trail. Mrs. McNett and Laura Patterson have planted flowers. Councilmembers expressed sincere appreciation for these residents' efforts.

**Pool (Splash Pad):** Concrete is to be poured next weekend.

**(J) Fire:** Fundraisers and donations for "Jaws of Life" are at \$18,000.00. Total amount needed is \$40,000.00. Organization is still asking and receiving donations for this equipment.

Fundraiser: Holiday Pictures will be taken November 3 & 4, 2012.

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

Annual Book Sale starts Sunday, October 21, 2012 from 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. and will continue until October 27, 2012, during regular Library hours.

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

**(M) Shade Tree Commission:**

Discussed and agreed that Borough employees should trim tree branches up to eight feet above Borough sidewalks, along North Williamson Road and Main Street.

Japanese lilac trees need to be purchased and planted in front of the Borough Building.

**(N) Budget:** Budget Committee met on Wednesday, September 5, 2012. Next meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2012 at 9:00 A.M.

**(O) Project Committee:** Nothing to report.

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

BMA is checking to see if Blossburg could supply water to Covington, Putnam and Richmond Townships.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Southern Tioga School District (STSD) Plans for New North Penn High School:**

Upcoming Meetings: November 5<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 P.M. at NPHS  
November 13<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 P.M. at NPHS  
December 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6:30 P.M. at NPHS (School Closure Vote)

The community is encouraged to attend all the above meetings for public support.

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

Recent adopted ordinances were sent to Keystate, so they can incorporate into the New Borough Code from Pennsylvania. Borough is expecting new updated book soon.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**3. Condemned Properties Update:**

(1) Schuylkill Street property – Property was sold. New owner hired a contractor to demolish structure next week. (2) 219 South Williamson Road – Discussed earlier. (3) 127 Schuylkill Street – A contractor wants to purchase and fix up property, but Federal Liens are a problem. County has put up for Judicial Sale, but no responses.

**4. Sidewalk Repair Letter:** Tabled until spring.

**5. New Electrical Service Behind the Downtown Monument:**

Borough Manager contacted Penelec. There would be no charge as long as the service that is installed is less than 75'. Stoudt's Electric to be contacted on equipment (conduit and wire) quote.

**NEW BUSINESS:** No new business.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**HALLOWEEN IS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2012. THE PARADE IS AT 4:30 P.M. – STARTING BY THE FORMER BLOSSBURG AMBULANCE BUILDING LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF HANNIBAL AND MORRIS STREETS. THE PARADE WILL PROCEED WEST ON HANNIBAL STREET – THEN TURN RIGHT ONTO MAIN STREET AND PROCEED NORTH TO THE NEW FIRE & AMBULANCE BUILDING, 324 MAIN STREET, WHERE THE JUDGING OF COSTUMES WILL TAKE PLACE. HALLOWEEN HOURS ARE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2012, 6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT AT 8:06 P.M. RECONVENED 8:15 P.M. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED. NO ACTION TAKEN.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Thomas Bogaczyk closed the meeting at 8:20 P.M.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2012 at 6:30 P.M.**

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Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary

# **BLOSSBURG BOROUGH "SPECIAL" COUNCIL MEETING**

## **October 24, 2012**

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Thomas Bogaczyk called the Blossburg Borough "Special" Council meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Blossburg Fire Department Building, 324 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

**Attendance:** Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Jolene Hall; Mayor John Backman; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Cheryl Clarke Sun Gazette; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette.

**Guests:** Kevin & Lisa Lindquist; Ed & Pam Berguson; Jack Shaw; Kenneth Hughes; Bruce Toothaker; Michael Hall; Stephen Hall; Roger Bunn; Anthony Bogaczyk; Quintin Williams; Jamie Dake; Kirk & JoAnn Davis; Timothy & Carleigh Wilson; Parke Boone; Janice House; Dean Hall; John & Norma Martin; Joann Ogden.

The scheduled informal "Special Meeting" was for local residents to discuss their comments or objections concerning an application for a Large Industrial Mineral Permit, within the boundaries of Hamilton Township that was submitted to the Bureau of District Mining Operations. The proposed mining area is 39 acres of the ± 200 acres owned by Signor Brothers and is located on South Mountain, West of Taylor Run watershed and East of Bellman reservoir. Access roads to be affected will be William B. Street and South Williamson Road. The permit applicant is Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.

The Blossburg Borough sent an environmental comment letter to the Bureau of District Mining Operations. During tonight's meeting Council encouraged attending residents to send their concerns or issues, along with supporting information associated with their comments, to the Bureau of District Mining Operations. DEP will accept statements by mail postmarked no later than October 26, 2012. Council suggested a few issues to mention would be access roads to mining location, safety and the possibility of the mining affecting Blossburg's local water supplies.

Mr. John Mital, P.G., Bureau of District Mining Operations or a Hawbaker representative could not attend tonight's meeting. Both entities agreed to meet with residents on November 13, 2012 from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. 5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. will be for questions and answers. 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. will take sworn testimony from citizens.

President Thomas Bogaczyk recommends any resident attending the meeting on November 13, 2012 to write down their questions.

No decisions will be made until the summer of 2013.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Thomas Bogaczyk closed the meeting at 7:35 P.M.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2012 at 6:30 P.M.**