

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

June 10, 2015

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President James Rakoski 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: (absent, Vice-President Jill Nickerson); Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Thomas Bogaczyk, Jolene Hall, Paul Hosszu, Stephen Wagner; Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Corporal Robert Scott; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette.

Minutes: The minutes of the May 13, 2015 meeting were accepted on motion of Jolene Hall; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

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

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

Guests: None present.

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.

Nothing to report.

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

AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS REQUESTED BY MAYOR NICKERSON, AT END OF COUNCIL MEETING. NO ACTION IS TO BE TAKEN. PERSONNEL ISSUES ARE TO BE DISCUSSED.

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

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

Addition to the Police Report: District Magistrate Fines Total - \$425.21.

Chief McCurdy is back to work from his leg injury and is on light duty restrictions.

Corporal Scott finished his training in the Motor Carrier Safety Administration Program, North American Standard Inspector (MCSAPNAS). Next step in training is working with Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), which involves 32 supervised motor carrier inspections.

Reports:

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

(F) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Borough crew are preparing roads / streets for tar & chipping.

The Upper Tioga River Regional Authority (UTRRA) voted to start the water study. UTRRA has \$27,500.00 of the \$42,000.00 required for the water study. Tioga County Commissioners and Blossburg Borough each need to pay their \$5,000.00. A balance of \$4,500.00 will still be needed after this money is received.

(G) **Planning Commission:** No meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board: Meeting of May 20, 2015: Reviewed and approved request of Amber Wetzel, 122 Morris Street, to board and train one (1) dog at a time in her home. A Special Exemption was required.

(H) **Recreation:**

Borough Manager George D. Lloyd discussed location and planting of four Red Maple trees at Island Park. Williamson Road Foundation to pay for three (3) of the trees. Mayor Nickerson to ask Blossburg Lodge #350 to fund the fourth tree.

Island Park River Walk: Councilmember Jerome Ogden received letter from an individual stating how wonderful the Walking Trail is.

(I) **Fire:** No Financial Report or Minutes were received.

Department is in the process of purchasing a six-wheeler with trailer for use during forest fires, etc.

(J) **Library:** Parking lot paving to begin in a few weeks.

(K) **Street Committee:** Tar & chipping to be done 1st or 2nd week in July.

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

(M) **Budget:** Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative (PMHIC) – Ordinance needs to be advertised before Blossburg Borough can join the plan. This plan is highly recommended and the Borough has the potential to save money participating in PMHIC. Motion was made by Thomas Bogaczyk to move forward in advertising the PMHIC Ordinance; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

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

BMA voted to raise water rates 3% in January 2016.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

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

Keystate Publishers sent completed "Final Draft". Attorney William Stokes is reviewing Final Draft. Mr. Lloyd to meet with Attorney Stokes on a few changes / additional items: (1) 1 way streets (St. Mary's and Granger). (2) No snow or grass put onto streets. (3) A survey of property must be Included in sale of any real estate in the Borough. (4) Hamilton Township Police Protection.

Nothing to report. Mr. Lloyd has been working on Floodplain Ordinance.

3. **Condemned Properties Update:** 101 Post Street.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT, AT END OF COUNCIL MEETING. NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN. POSSIBLE LITIGATION DISCUSSED.

4. **Ordinance No. 441: Floodplain Ordinance:**

"Requiring all persons, partnerships, businesses and corporations to obtain a permit for any construction or development; providing for the issuance of such permits; setting forth certain minimum requirements for new construction and development within areas of the Borough of Blossburg which are subject to flooding; and establishing penalties for any persons who fail, or refuse to comply within the requirements or provisions of the Ordinance." Motion to adopt this ordinance was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor.

Resolution No. 2 Appointing Floodplain Administrator & Assistant Floodplain Administrator:

The Borough of Blossburg appointed the Borough Manager as Floodplain Administrator and the Building Codes Official as Assistant Floodplain Administrator. Motion to approve Resolution #2 was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

5. **Blossburg Improvement Association (BIA):**

The BIA requested the Borough to be the borrower of \$108,000.00, for Bloss Holiday Market and Post Office façade work on downtown plaza. New Federal guidelines prevent borrowing through Borough. BIA plans to obtain their own loan. Motion was made by Jolene Hall to withdraw BIA loan request; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Purchase a new mower for Island Park:**

Councilmember Thomas Bogaczyk told Council a purchase of a new 60" Kubota zero-turn lawn mower is needed for Island Park. The expense is not budgeted, but Mr. Bogaczyk believes community groups will contribute and the Borough could borrow the balance from the Backhoe Fund. After a discussion, Council decided to check Costars purchasing and to schedule a budget meeting to review purchase.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FALL BROOK AMD TREATMENT PROJECT GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY, MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2015 AT 12:00 P.M. TO 2:00 P.M., HILLSIDE ROD & GUN CLUB.

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015 AT THE CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HALL, 6 FRANKLIN STREET, LAWRENCEVILLE, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M. R.S.V.P. BEFORE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2015.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING, SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2015, AT RIVERSIDE PLAZA.

AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS REQUESTED BY BOTH MAYOR SHANE NICKERSON AND BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT. NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN. PERSONNEL ISSUES AND POSSIBLE LITIGATION TO BE DISCUSSED.

ADJOURNMENT: President James Rakoski closed the meeting at 7:24 P.M.

Motion of Jerome Ogden; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in Favor.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for July 8, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary