

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## June 8, 2016

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Jolene Hall 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; Pro Temp Tonya McNamara; Councilmembers Paul Hosszu, Timothy Martin, Jerome Ogden, James Rakoski; Mayor Shane Nickerson; (absent, Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett); Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Unisatvti Hicks-Lee and son, Eion, John Backman and Michael Nickerson representing VFW Post 8730.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the May 11, 2016 meeting were accepted on motion of James Rakoski; second, Paul Hosszu. 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, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

**Guests:** Unisatvti Hicks-Lee and son, Eion were attending for observation.

Eion Hicks-Lee is a 9<sup>th</sup> grade North Penn Mansfield student. Eion is interested in the North Penn Mansfield student representative position for Council. Councilmembers were pleased to accept Eion as the North Penn Mansfield student representative.

Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette announced he will be doing an article for the Wellsboro Gazette on Blossburg: "Saving Small Towns". The Wellsboro Gazette is featuring how some small towns are looking for solutions to ensure their continued viability.

### **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 at 242 Coffee Company at 6:00 P.M.

Tonya McNamara reported on the topics discussed at last V.I.B.E. meeting: (1) Designed and distributed new marketing fliers, "Take a Break in Blossburg", that will be inserted in the Dollar Saver. (2) Future events.

(C) **Mayor:** Mayor Nickerson had nothing to report, but did ask for an Executive Session at end of meeting.

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

The Police Report was accepted on motion of James Rakoski; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

District Magistrate Fines Total: \$944.39.

**Reports:** Discussion on enforcing Building Permit Stop Orders.

After the Police Report, Chief McCurdy left the meeting, because he was not feeling well.

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

(F) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of James Rakoski; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

Borough Manager reported Dreas Lane is not an approved borough street and the cost of oiling road would not be covered under Liquid Fuels. The total cost is approximately \$660.00, \$311.00 for oil and \$350.00 for stone.

Central Penn Gas (UGI) project on Gulick Street is to start later this week.

(G) **Planning Commission:** A meeting was held on May 31, 2016. Two requests were reviewed, approved, and were moved to Zoning Hearing Board. ZHB meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. (1) Harry Paris variance for garage height. (2) Jeremy & Annie Brooks variance for garage height and side yard distance.

**Zoning Hearing Board:** A meeting was held on May 18, 2016. Reviewed Auto Sales & Service at 312 North Williamson Road. ZHB approved Special Exemption for Auto Sales.

Meeting advertised for June 22, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. to hear Harry Paris garage height variance request and Jeremy & Annie Brooks garage height and side yard distance variance requests.

(H) **Recreation:**

Tonya McNamara asked Council to consider parking of recreational vehicles at Island Park, during daytime hours. After a discussion other areas in Blossburg were suggested for the parking of RVs, as well as the Island Park.

**Playground:** Design is being worked on. For Grant to move forward, additional forms are needed to be completed and signed by the Borough Solicitor verifying Blossburg Borough owns Island Park. Forms are due by July 1, 2016. Motion to have Borough Solicitor complete, sign, and approve the forms was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

**Trees:** Planting of trees at park is on hold until new playground design is completed.

**Island Park River Walk:** Josh Lisowski was contacted to cut down marked dead trees on the River Walk.

(I) **Fire:** April Minutes were received. No Financial were received. Jerome Ogden asked Jolene Hall for the YTD 2015 Financial Report that Lisa Guthrie CPA prepared for the Department. Jolene Hall is to acquire the Financial Reports for December 2015, with Year to Date Totals and monthly reports for January - April 2016.

**Reports:**

(J) **Library:** Upcoming events: (1) Super Bingo – June 11, 2016. (2) July 10, 2016 Garden Party is to be held at the Hamilton Club.

(K) **Street Committee:**

Replacing of sidewalks throughout town is in the beginning stages.

Road oiling to be done 1<sup>st</sup> week in July. Tar & chipping should be done the following week.

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

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

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

Worm gear installed at STP clarifier.

Repair water leak at Rod & Gun Club trap building curb box. Service has not been connected to building yet.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Southern Tioga School District (STSD) Plans:**

STSD Board to vote on tearing down North Penn High School on June 9, 2016.

2. **Borough Code of Ordinances – Update Keystate Publishers:** Nothing to report.

3. **Tioga County Association of Boroughs Resolution Proposing a Change to the Assessment of Lands Divided by Boundary Lines:**

Topic was not discussed at the Tioga County Association of Boroughs dinner meeting on March 24, 2016. Mr. Lloyd is to contact Carl Cox for details.

4. **Borough Website:**

George D. Lloyd, Mary Signor, JoAnn Davis, Jill Nickerson, and Tonya McNamara met with Donna Yale, Team-Lead Advanced IT with PENNTAP, to discuss information on setting up a Borough Website. Ms. Yale suggested contacting a web designer Brad Zehr. JoAnn Davis contacted Mr. Zehr and he is working on a domain name. Mr. Zehr stated the website will start out small, then have capability to expand gradually.

5. **Flood Variance for James Wagner (Jim's Service Station):**

A continuance was needed, as plans need modified.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Open Bid St. Mary's Bridge:** Bid advertised to furnish a 6' high by 10' wide precast concrete box culvert for St. Mary's Street bridge. No bids were received. Bid is to be re-advertised.
2. **VFW Post 8730:** VFW Post 8730 made a donation to Island Park in the amount of \$1,000.00.  
Organization request donation letters to be done one (1) project at a time.
3. **Coal Festival:** Tonya McNamara thanked Borough crew for all of their help with the Coal Festival activities.
4. **LED Lighting:** Penelec rate increase for distribution submitted to Pennsylvania Utility Commission (PUC).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2016 AT THE CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 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. BY THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2016.**

**LEWIS & CLARK CIRCUS TO PERFORM AT ISLAND PARK ON JULY 2, 2016.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Jolene Hall closed the meeting at 7:14 P.M.

Motion of James Rakoski; second, Tonya McNamara. All in Favor.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Council Room.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY MAYOR SHANE NICKERSON AT END OF COUNCIL MEETING. NO ACTION TAKEN. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED.**