

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## September 14, 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; (absent, Pro Temp Tonya McNamara (out of town)); Councilmembers Paul Hosszu, (absent, James Rakoski (out of town)), Timothy Martin, Jerome Ogden; Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Eion Hicks-Lee Junior Council Person; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Corporal Robert Scott; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Unisatvti Hicks-Lee; Mike Nickerson Blossburg V.F.W. Post 8730; Joseph Darrow Teledair Communications and Security, Inc.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the August 10, 2016 meeting were accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Jill Nickerson. 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.

**Oath:** Mayor Shane Nickerson administered the Junior Council Person Pledge to Eion Hicks-Lee.

**Guests:** Borough Manager George D. Lloyd asked Joseph Darrow Security System Specialist at Teledair Communications and Security, Inc. to estimate the cost of upgrading the Borough Building and other Borough and Blossburg Municipal Authority phone / internet lines. The system would allow for connection from Borough Hall to all remote locations. Blue Ridge Communications (BRC) would be connecting internet to all locations. BRC costs are in addition to Teledair Communications and Security, Inc. costs. An important benefit to the upgrade is the water and sewer plants could be controlled remotely and, in the future, live video surveillance could be added. The utility line upgrade cost is still unknown, because of an unpredictable cost for make ready costs. Teledair Communications and Security, Inc. total equipment investment is \$12,870.00 and a reduction of \$2,000.00 if Borough only wants to add phone lines in each building. Upgrades to Island Park would be approximately \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00 and Bellman Water Treatment \$4,500.00. BRC first needs to determine if the three (3) poles at Island Park can handle an addition of fiber-optic line, at the cost of \$200.00 per pole. Council President Jolene Hall asked what the monthly fees will costs, which Mr. Darrow is to inquire about. Council will discuss the project further at budget meetings.

Mike Nickerson Blossburg V.F.W. Post 8730 presented Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette with a Certificate recognizing Mr. Przybycien for his outstanding reporting.

### **Reports:**

**(A) Junior Council Person:** Eion Hicks-Lee will be reporting on events and activities at North Penn-Mansfield High School and North Penn-Liberty High School.

**Reports:**

**(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.

V.I.B.E. is organizing for Fall Festival, October 9, 2016 from 12:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

**(C) Mayor:** Nothing at this time.

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

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

District Magistrate Fines Total: \$925.68.

On September 1, 2016 the Department participated in training on Patrol Rifle introduction and annual training and qualification.

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

**(F) Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

Jessica Webster, a teacher at North Penn-Mansfield, is requesting to hold a Community Carnival / DJ on Thursday, October 13, 2016 from 5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. and a Bon Fire at 7:00 P.M. on Island Park, as part of Homecoming festivities. Motion was made by Paul Hosszu to approve the Homecoming festivities; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor. Mr. Lloyd is to check on insurance coverage. Eion Hicks-Lee is to acquire more information on the Community Carnival activities.

The Homecoming parade is scheduled from 5:00 P.M. to 6:15 P.M. on October 14, 2016. Football game is at 7:00 P.M.

Mr. Lloyd announced, in five (5) years, year 2021, Blossburg will be 150 years old.

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

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

Jolene Hall asked if apartments were allowed in store fronts. The change would need to go through the Code Office for approval.

Jolene Hall asked if the car repair business at 230 North Williamson Road was approved. This area is R-1 district and owner never applied for a variance. A letter is to be sent to the owner stating they must get a variance to operate this business.

**Reports:**

**(H) Recreation:**

The minutes from the July 25, 2016 were received.

The last day for pool operation was September 5, 2016.

Playground: A meeting with the playground designer was originally scheduled for September 16, 2016 at 1:30 P.M. at the Borough Hall. Jolene Hall and Timothy Martin requested the time be changed to a later hour so they could attend. 5:30 P.M. is the best time for Mr. Martin. Mr. Lloyd is to contact Chuck Strodoski at YSM Landscape Architects requesting meeting at a later time.

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

Island Park River Walk: Volunteers are still cutting away unneeded foliage along trail.

**(I) Fire:** The minutes from the July 25, 2016 were received. Jolene is still having problems with Quicken program to provide Council the Financial Reports.

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

**(K) Street Committee:**

Money anticipated from Williamson Road Foundation for sidewalk repair this year. No funding has been received.

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

**(M) Budget:**

2017 Financial Requirements & Minimum Municipal Obligation for Pension Plans (MMO's): Police - \$23,623.00 / Non-Uniform - \$34,568.00. Motion to pay 2017 Pension Plans (MMO's) was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

A 2017 Budget Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 5:30 P.M. George D. Lloyd and Mary Signor will work up a proposed budget for review.

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

10" DIP water line project along Ogdensburg Road was completed at a cost of \$140,000.00.

BMA to reconvene meeting on September 20, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. to vote on Fall Brook AMD and Upper Tioga River Regional Authority (UTRRA) Agreements.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

Two story section of high school torn down and cleanup in progress. Julie Nowak in charge of selling the bricks from building at the Fall Festival. Monies made are to be for B.E.S.T. and possibly a Southern Tioga School District sign.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

3. **Borough Website:**

Waiting on internet supplier decision. Mr. Lloyd is to check on other options besides Teledair Communications and Security, Inc. and Blue Ridge Communications.

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

Waiting for updated building plans.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Tioga County YMCA :**

The Blossburg Borough received a letter from The Tioga County YMCA requesting a donation for their Project Rebuild. Councilmembers decided to hold off on a donation until budget is reviewed.

2. **Swift 911:**

Steve Hall, Blossburg Borough Emergency Services Director, successfully completed the Swiftreach Training. JoAnn Davis is to place a notice on Facebook asking if our local residents would like to be notified during a scheduled event (i.e. water off, due to waterline break) or emergency (i.e. bad weather). The Borough needs a current land line or cell phone number. This information will be forward to Swift911 staff. Residents can contact the office by phoning or write your contact information on your utility payment stub.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2016 AT THE KNOXVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER (FORMER GERTRUDE CASE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL), 301 EAST MAIN STREET, KNOXVILLE, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M.**

**TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEET OUR MEMBER MIXER WILL BE HELD AT TIOGA COUNTY VISTORS BUREAU, 2053 ROUTE 660, WELLSBORO, PA. ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2016 FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. & PAYMENT DUE BY SEPTEMBER 16, 2016.**

**FALL FESTIVAL, OCTOBER 9, 2016 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting will not adjourn as there are some items to be discussed on the Island Park Playground Grant. The meeting was dismissed at 8:05 P.M. by President Jolene Hall, to reconvene September 19, 2016 at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

**Attendance:** President Jolene Hall; Vice-President Jill Nickerson; Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Paul Hosszu, Timothy Martin; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Chuck Strodoski at YSM Landscape Architects Island Park Playground Designer.

Chuck Strodoski at YSM Landscape Architects Island Park Playground Designer discuss proposed playground design and submitted a spreadsheet of the project comparing Grant estimate cost with actual coats. He explained that there should be enough money to cover the entire project. However, if needed, the two (2) treehouse kits could be removed from this project and done at a later date, after this Grant is completed. Removing the treehouses would free up \$37,200.00.

Also discussed rehab of Island Park tennis courts. Miller Flooring Company submitted a proposal of \$58,920.00 to repair cracks and put coating on entire court. All material would be purchased through CoStars, so no bidding required. However, there was no labor included. Another proposal was submitted with \$4,800.00 in prevailing wages included, for a total of \$63,720.00. These prices were contingent on contract being signed in September 2016. So material could be ordered and work done in October 2016.

After much discussion and with solicitor's recommendation, motion was made to reject Miller's proposal and have Mr. Strodoski make up a bid package for tennis court repair by Paul Hosszu; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor. The bid information will be submitted to Council and solicitor to review and hope to bid out in January 2017.

Council also authorized Mr. Strodoski to purchase playground equipment through CoStars. Motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

At this time, Mr. Strodoski left meeting.

Mr. Lloyd presented Council with a proposal to plant 1 – sunset maple and 2 – autumn alis cherry trees by Island Park Skate Park. Mr. Lloyd discovered money left over in the old Skate Park Grant Account, while at F.C.C.B. There is enough money in Skate Park Account to pay for the new trees from Martins Landscaping. Purchase approved by Paul Hosszu; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Jolene Hall closed the meeting at 6:25 P.M.

Motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Timothy Martin. All in Favor.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.**