

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

November 9, 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: (absent, Vice-President Jill Nickerson (took son to hospital)); Pro Temp Tonya McNamara; Councilmembers Paul Hosszu, James Rakoski, Timothy Martin, Jerome Ogden; Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Junior Council Person Eion Hicks-Lee; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Corporal Robert Scott; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Unisatvti Hicks-Lee.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 12, 2016 meeting were accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

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

Bills: Bills to be paid on motion of James Rakoski; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

Guests: None present.

Reports:

(A) **Junior Council Person:** Eion Hicks-Lee implemented a student suggestion box for submitting changes our community might generate toward kids. Some ideas submitted were as follows: new tennis and basketball courts and Wi-Fi on Island Park.

(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. will sponsor Small Town Christmas on November 26, 2016. Hours are 12:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

(C) **Mayor:** Chelsea Martin from Tioga County Partnership for Community Health is working under a Walk Works Grant for promoting healthy walking. Ms. Martin would like to promote Island Park Walking Trail, including signage, under the Grant.

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

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

District Magistrate Fines Total: \$687.32.

Chief McCurdy reported all officers will be attending a two (2) day training and qualifications for pistol, shotgun and tasers on November 16 and 17, 2016.

Reports:

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

(F) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of James Rakoski; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

Tioga County Emergency Services is requesting Blossburg Borough Council to authorize Blossburg Borough Emergency Coordinator Steve Hall as a Swift911 user. Approve Tioga County Emergency Services request was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Blossburg Borough received Talisman Oil & Gas Leases. Rental Period November 7, 2016 to November 7, 2021. Order of payments: (1) Railroad Property: \$6,720.00 (6.72 acres). (2) Miscellaneous Property: *Reese Lane, Blossburg Memorial, Downtown Parking Lot, Borough Hall* - \$4,490.00 (4.49 acres). Total: \$11,210.00 (11.21 acres) at \$1,000.00 per acre. Approve subject to Borough Solicitor Patrick Barret's approval was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor. Councilmember Jerome Ogden specified monies received are to be deposited into a Building Fund.

A gas well pad is to be erected at South Mountain, on Johnson property. Gas Company is to repave from intersection of South Williamson Road to William B. Street and replace storm drain.

(G) **Planning Commission:** A meeting was held on October 25, 2016. Board members reviewed and approved Steven White's special exemption to repair cars at 230 North Williamson Road. Zoning Hearing Board must review request for final approval.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(H) **Recreation:**

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall will be on display at Blossburg Island Park, free of charge, during the 2017 Blossburg State Coal Festival, May 31, 2017 to June 3, 2017. The wall will be lighted and under security 24/7. Motion to allow The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall on display at Blossburg Island Park was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Playground: Borough crew to start work on playground after the St. Mary's Bridge Project is completed.

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

Island Park River Walk: Nothing to report.

(I) **Fire:** No Financial Report or Minutes received. Jolene Hall stated the printers are not working. Jerome Ogden suggested to Mrs. Hall if she wrote up a proposal and forward it to him, perhaps Williamson Road Foundation might fund some monies to help with the purchase of new printers.

(J) **Library:** Sheri Wagaman is a new board member.

Reports:

(K) Street Committee:

Received \$2,000.00 donation from Williamson Road Foundation for sidewalk repair. The pouring of concrete is scheduled. George D. Lloyd will send another letter to Williamson Road Foundation requesting additional funding toward project.

(L) Shade Tree Commission: Nothing to report.

(M) Budget:

Proposed 2017 Budget: \$865,311.00 Revenues/Expenses. No Borough tax increase. Borough: 6.807 Mills – Fire: .568 Mills – Library: .250 Mills. Effective rate: 7.63 mills.

A motion to advertise the proposed 2017 Budget was made by James Rakoski; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

2017 Budget to be accepted at December 2016 Council Meeting.

Borough Occupation / Per Capita Tax to remain the same.

Resolution No. 4: Garbage Disposal Fee:

Garbage rate increase of \$.26/week. New quarterly bill will be \$37.44. Additional bags would be \$1.21 each. The current rate is \$1.10. Increase will be effective for the bill that residents receive in February 2017. Motion to adopt the Garbage Disposal Fee Resolution, as written, was made Jerome Ogden; second Paul Hosszu.

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett corrected line E, which read “The current fees shall remain in effect until January 31, 2017.” Line E should read ““The current fees shall remain in effect until further Resolutions of Council.”

Motion to adopt the Garbage Disposal Fee Resolution, as revised by Borough Solicitor, was made Jerome Ogden; second Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Mr. Lloyd is still looking to replace the Mack tandem dump truck.

(N) Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):

BMA signed consent order with DEP, because of high nitrogen and phosphorus discharges into Tioga River. BMA to plan for new sewer plant in next 5 years.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

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 suppliers besides Teledair Communications and Security, Inc. and Blue Ridge Communications.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Updated building plans were submitted to Borough. Plans approved by Building Code Official. Mr. Lloyd is to check with Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett on next step.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Talisman Oil & Gas Leases: Discussed earlier.

2. Resolution No. 5 – Blossburg Police Pension Plan Act 600:

Annual requirement for record: Resolution for Police Pension Fund stating if necessary for officers to pay into the Pension or not. No payment required for 2017.

RESOLUTION NO. 5 – Motion to adopt Police Pension Fund Resolution was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

3. Advertise for 2017 Vehicle Fuel Bids:

Motion to advertise for vehicle fuel bids was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

4. Re-Appointments to Committees and Boards (Last Term Year 2016):

Re-Appointment to Planning Commission: Nathan McNamara (agreed to re-appointment); 4yrs. – Term ending 2020.

Re-Appointment to Zoning Hearing Board: Amy Augustine (agreed to re-appointment); 5yrs. – Term ending 2021.

Re-Appointment to Blossburg Municipal Authority: John Eckman (agreed to re-appointment); 5yrs. – Term ending 2021.

Re-Appointment to Blossburg Recreation Board: Jill Nickerson (agreed to re-appointment); 5yrs. – Term ending 2021.

Motion was made by Paul Hosszu to approve all re-appointments to Committees and Boards; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

5. North Penn – Mansfield Lady Tigers:

North Penn – Mansfield Lady Tigers request Blossburg Borough to advertise in the 2016 / 2017 Basketball Program. Councilmember Jerome Ogden made a motion advertise in the Program, but motion died for lack of a second.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH'S DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2016 AT THE PENN WELLS HOTEL, WELLSBORO, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 5:30 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jolene Hall closed the meeting at 7:17 P.M.

Motion of Paul Hosszu; second, James Rakoski. All in Favor.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary