

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## February 8, 2017

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 Timothy Martin, Jerome Ogden, Paul Hosszu, (absent, James Rakoski (in Florida)); 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; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Jeff Osborn, Misty Osborn, Adam Osborn, Steve Osborn; Blossburg Ambulance Members Terry Kreger, Myra Kreger, Danielle Irwin, George Johnson, Jason Pequignot, Pam DeRemer, Trevor DeRemer.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the January 11, 2017 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, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

**Bills:** Bills to be paid on motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

**Guests:** Blossburg Ambulance Members presented the Blossburg Police Department with two (2) AED defibrillators (one for each patrol vehicle). The AEDs were purchased through a grant that Danielle Irwin applied for.

Troop 69 Scout Adam Osborn was attending to discuss and request permission for his Eagle Scout Project. Scout Osborn would like to build a, 16 feet long x 6 feet wide x 8 feet high, school bus shelter on the corner of Carpenter Street and Granger Street. The building would be placed inside of sidewalk and be built on skids, so it is movable. The cost of materials ± \$2,000.00. Councilmember Jerome Ogden suggested that Adam write up a request for funding through Williamson Road Foundation. Mayor Nickerson also suggested a request be sent to Blossburg Lodge #350. The bus picks up sixteen students at this location. Motion to grant permission for Scout Adam Osborn to build the school bus shelter on the corner of Carpenter and Granger Streets was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor. If enough funding becomes available Scout Osborn would like to build an additional bus shelter on the corner of Nevins Street and Main Street. Twelve to fifteen students are picked up at this location. Motion to grant permission for Scout Adam Osborn to build a school bus shelter on the corner of Nevins and Main Streets was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

### **Reports:**

(A) **Junior Council Person:** Eion Hicks-Lee had 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.

V.I.B.E. members met on January 25, 2017.

**Reports:**

V.I.B.E.'s new office is located at 238 Main Street.

Organization is working on directional signage at the Blossburg interchange.

Community Yard Sale is April 29, 2017.

**(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 Tonya McNamara; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

District Magistrate Fines Total: \$453.48.

**(E) Police Committee:** Police Committee met on January 17, 2017.

Ronald Warren was introduced to Councilmembers.

Motion to hire Ronald Warren as part-time / fill in officer was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

**(F) Borough Manager:**

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

Mr. Lloyd reported Upper Tioga River Regional Authority (UTRRA) will hold a Public Meeting on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. in the Putman Township Community Building, 2150 North Williamson Road, Covington, PA 16917, to discuss UTRRA Water Line extension from Blossburg to Richmond Township.

**(G) Planning Commission:** No applications were submitted. No meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

**(H) Recreation:**

Blossburg Area United Fund stuffed envelopes for donation campaign on January 30, 2017 at the Victoria Theater.

Bloss Area Pool Association are doing some upgrades to the pool bath house.

Lewis and Clark Circus to perform on Island Park, Friday, May 26, 2017 and Saturday, May 27, 2017.

Blossburg Coal Festival will hold a Car Show on May 27, 2017.

Recreation Board received \$1,500.00 from the Jones Foundation toward a summer basketball program for elementary age children.

Playground / Tennis Court:

Tennis Court Bid Proposal is being advertised. Bid opening is scheduled for March 8, 2017.

**Reports:**

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

Island Park River Walk: Nothing to report.

(I) **Fire:** The minutes from the December 19, 2016 were received.

A Financial Report was received. Councilmember Jerome Ogden requested a 2016 Profit / Loss Report for the Departments.

During an emergency / disaster, the Blossburg Borough office building is designated as the Incidence Command Post. The Emergency Management Coordinator will need a radio to operate at the Borough Building. The cost is approximately \$500.00. Councilmember Jerome Ogden suggested to write up a request for funding through Williamson Road Foundation.

(J) **Library:** Lida Kaiser passed away. A tree was planted, in her honor, behind the Time Capsule that is located on the Blossburg Memorial Library property. A letter of appreciation is to be sent to her family from the Borough.

(K) **Street Committee:** A 11:30 A.M. meeting was scheduled for February 9, 2017, to look at additional stop signs on William B. Street and Wilson Street, because of traffic increase from gas well pad on South Mountain.

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

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

Update on search for used truck: Took existing truck to another garage for a cost estimate to repair.

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

Passed Proclamation designating month of April as "Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month".

Received new NPDES Permit for STP, which continues to allow Authority to discharge treated sewer effluent into the Tioga River.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

Plan to sell the administration building on Main Street and move office to Blossburg school building.

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

Nothing to report. Borough Manager is to contact other sources for quotes to complete what Keystate Publishers didn't finish.

3. **Borough Website:** Nothing to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**4. 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 working on organizing information for Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett's review.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. TCAB Dinner – Blossburg Borough Host Meeting for March:**

Thursday, March 23, 2017 was decided as the date. Location is to be the Blossburg Fire and Ambulance Building. The Blossburg Fire Department Auxiliary to provide the meal. Dan Styborski, Director of Housing Management of Tioga County Housing Authority will do a presentation on Community Development Block Grant / Fair Housing.

**2. Spring Cleanup:**

Spring Cleanup is scheduled for May 1 – May 5, 2017. All spring cleanup items will be picked up by Friday, May 5, 2017.

Island Park cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 6, 2017, with the rain date set for May 13, 2017.

**3. Accept Statewide Tax Recovery Inc. to Collect Delinquent Per Capita & Occupational Taxes:**

Motion was made by Jerome Ogden to approve Statewide Tax Recovery Inc. to collect delinquent Per Capita & Occupational Taxes; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

**4. Tioga County Emergency Services G402 Training:**

Tioga County Emergency Services will hold a G402 Training Course on March 16, 2017 from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. All elected officials are encouraged to attend.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT AT 7:23 P.M.  
RECONVENED 8:00 P.M.**

**5. Resolution No. 1 Health Insurance Benefit to Certain Employees:**

The Borough has paid health insurance premiums for employees of Blossburg, however, three (3) existing employees are covered under other available policies of insurance. Accordingly, those employees receive 50% of the cost for health insurance premiums for said employees. The Borough will continue those benefits to the non-insured employees, however, such payments will be made in accordance with the rate for such premiums charged in calendar year 2017. This rate shall not be increased without further action of the Borough Council. This benefit shall not be offered to any future or current employees of the Borough. The continuation of this benefit is always subject to the discretion of the Borough Council and is a management prerogative thereof. The Borough Council may amend or discontinue this benefit of the insurance at any time. Motion to adopt resolution was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017 AT THE TRINITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 6 BOARD STREET, TIOGA, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY FEBRUARY 10, 2017.**

**BLOSSBURG FIRE AND AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL BANQUET WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M. RSVP BY FEBRUARY 18, 2017.**

Meeting will not adjourn, because there are some items to be discussed / reviewed. The meeting was dismissed at 8:15 P.M. by President Jolene Hall to reconvene February 10, 2017 at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

**Borough Council Meeting continued from February 8, 2017 –  
Reconvened February 10, 2017 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; Pro Temp Tonya McNamara; Councilmembers Timothy Martin, Paul Hosszu, (absent, Jerome Ogden, James Rakoski (in Florida)); Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; (absent, Borough Manager George D. Lloyd (death in family)); Borough Secretary Mary Signor.

**Resolution No. 2 Set the Compensation of the Elected Tax Collector:**

The rate of compensation for the elected tax collector of the Borough of Blossburg shall be \$2.25 per real estate tax bill (parcel) for all tax bills related to the collection of real estate property taxes and \$1.50 per tax bill for all bills related to the collection of the Local Service Tax. The rate of compensation shall become effective January 1, 2018. Motion to adopt resolution was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Jolene Hall closed the meeting at 5:56 P.M.

Motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Jill Nickerson. All in Favor.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at  
6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.**

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Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary