

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## May 10, 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 Jerome Ogden, Paul Hosszu, James Rakoski, (absent, Timothy Martin); 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; Natalie Kennedy Wellsboro Gazette; Joshua Jones; Unisatvti Hicks-Lee; Roger Tracy.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the April 12, 2017 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, James Rakoski. All in favor.

**Bills:** Bills to be paid on motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

**Guests:** Unisatvti Hicks-Lee was attending for observation.

Joshua Jones thanked the Borough crew for their quick repairs to the current playground equipment at Island Park. Mr. Jones asked if the new playground equipment arrangement is available, because he could add it to the [www.blossburg.org](http://www.blossburg.org) website.

Roger Tracy asked approval from Council for erecting a monument to memorialize the 30 passengers and 4 crew members of Mohawk Airlines Flight 40. All passengers on the flight died. Mr. Tracy proposed three (3) Island Park locations. The monument would be stone, approximately 4' x 4' in size, include the names of all crash victims, and the cost to be covered by donations. The actual crash site is located on the east hill boundaries of Blossburg Borough and Hamilton Township. June 23, 2017 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the crash. Motion to approve Mr. Tracy's request, pending Recreation Board review and approval, was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor. Councilmember Jerome Ogden would like to be included in the placement of the monument.

### **Reports:**

(A) **Junior Council Person:** Junior Council Person Eion Hicks-Lee reported 13-1/2 days left before school is dismissed for the summer.

### (B) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) meetings are held on fourth Wednesday of the month at 238 Main Street at 6:00 P.M.

V.I.B.E.'s Bylaws were discussed at their last meeting.

**Reports:**

- (C) **Mayor:** WalkWork Kick-off event will be held on May 24, 2017 at Island Park. WalkWorks is a grant program that identifies and promotes safe walking routes.

Street Treats, a vendor food truck company from Williamsport, asked to visit the Borough once a week to sell ice cream and snacks. Councilmember Jerome Ogden had concerns on vendor encroaching upon local businesses. Chief McCurdy said police can't stop the vendor, because there is no ordinance that applies to this situation. There was no decision on this request.

The Tioga County Concerned Citizens Committee (TCCCC) was awarded the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence for the Fall Brook acid mine drainage treatment projects.

- (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: \$599.11.

Nothing to report.

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

- (F) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

Recycling change: Mr. Lloyd instructed borough employees to leave bad recycling in bin, leave a note, so resident will phone the office questioning why recyclables were not picked up. He is working with Northern Tier Solid Waste on a recycling brochure for mailing and to be posted on internet.

Blossburg State Coal Festival will be held May 31 – June 3, 2017. PennDOT Parade Permit Paperwork will need to be sent in by the Borough Secretary. Motion to apply for parade permit was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

- (G) **Planning Commission:** Meeting of April 25, 2017.

Reviewed and approved variance, subject to additional information being supplied for the permit application requested by Scot and Jen Jones, for a home addition at 361 North Williamson Road. Home is located in the flood plain. Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett stated the importance of following the proper steps, because Flood Plain Permits are audited and if not done properly, it will affect the Flood Insurance of all Blossburg homes in the flood plain.

**Zoning Hearing Board:** No meeting.

**Reports:**

**(H) Recreation:**

United Funds monies distributed.

Pool will be open May 27 – 29, 2017 from 12:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. Reopen on June 3, 2017 from 12:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. for the remaining summer.

**Playground / Tennis Court:**

Additional paperwork needs to be completed before construction begins on new Playground.

**Tennis Court Bid:** Miller Flooring Company, 827 Lincoln Avenue – Suite 15, West Chester, PA 19380:

TENNIS COURT BID: \$77,251.00 (Grant Estimate: \$42,000.00)

TENNIS COURT POST AND NET SYSTEM:  
\$4,240.00 @ four (4) courts total replacement cost(s) equal to \$16,960.00  
(Grant Estimate: \$11,000.00)

TOTAL BID: \$94,211.00

The Playground Consultant and Borough Solicitor reviewed and approve bid.

Mr. Lloyd checked poles for repairs. The poles are solid and can remain to save money. The Borough can change bolts and hardware on the poles if needed.

Motion was made by Jerome Ogden to accept bid; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

**Trees:** Planting of trees around the big pavilion at park is on hold until new playground is completed.

**Island Park River Walk:** Nothing to report.

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

Fire Department purchased a pickup truck for hauling.

**(J) Library:** Cassie Chase was hired to replace retiree Terry Thompson.

Parking lot was extended by six (6) parking spaces. Borough crew will reline parking lot, when time allows.

**(K) Street Committee:**

A list of 2017 proposed streets for tar & chipping was reviewed. Total miles and cost: 2.13 miles at ± \$49,460.00.

7,422 Gallons – E-Oil:	\$11,875.00
426 Tons – 1B Stone:	\$14,910.00
125 Tons – ID2 Blacktop:	\$ 7,375.00
106 Tons – BCBC Blacktop:	\$ 5,300.00
Contractor Equipment:	\$10,000.00

**Reports:**

Motion to accept 2017 proposed street repairs was made by Tonya McNamara; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

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

(M) **Budget:** A Budget Meeting was scheduled for May 25, 2017 at 5:00 P.M.

(N) **Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):** BMA is working on sewer lines to locate infiltration.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT AT 7:16 P.M.  
RECONVENED 8:08 P.M. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF PROPERTY. NO ACTION TAKEN.**

**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.

Nothing new to report.

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

Nothing to report. Borough Manager is trying to get bids to finish work.

**3. Borough Website:** George D. Lloyd, Jill Nickerson, Tonya McNamara, and Timothy Martin met with Brad Zehr, designer of current website. Meeting was to discuss additional change requests and cost.

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

Updated building plans need to be submitted to Borough. Plans approved by Building Code Official. Mr. Lloyd has reviewed application with Borough Engineer and Tioga County Conservation District Manager. More information is needed from James Wagner, before the permit can be approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Resolution No. 4 2017 Opposing Elimination of the Community Development Block Grant Program:**

The 2017-2018 federal budget proposal calls for the elimination of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. CDBG is a federally funded grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which has provided funds to counties and communities for more than four (4) decades. CDBG funds vital projects in communities across Pennsylvania. Funds can be used for housing rehabilitation, code enforcement, acquisition or demolition of property, public facility improvements, infrastructure development, economic development, and social services in low and moderate income area. Motion to adopt resolution opposing elimination of the CDBG Program was made by Tonya McNamara; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor. Resolution to be sent to local Congressmen, U.S. Senator, and PSAB.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**2. Placing a Goodwill Donation bin in downtown area:**

A request was received from Goodwill to place a donation bin in the downtown area. Councilmembers are concerned the bin would become a trash collection site instead of a donation collection bin. Council suggested Goodwill management approach the VFW Post 8730 for the placing of a donation bin on their property.

**3. Resolution No. 5 2017 Island Park Playground Grant Deed Restriction:**

Resolution stating that Island Park cannot be sold or used in any other way than what the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) funding was used for, without written consent from DCNR. Motion to adopt resolution was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHs DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017 AT THE LANDING STRIP RESTAURANT, 8489 ROUTE 414, LIBERTY, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2017.**

**25<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BLOSSBURG STATE COAL FESTIVAL, ISLAND PARK, MAY 31 – JUNE 3, 2017.**

**OPENING CEREMONY FOR VIETNAM VETERANS MOVING WALL – JUNE 1, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**STATE FOREST LAND TOUR – NESSMUK LAKE, WELLSBORO – JULY 22, 2017 AT 9:00 A.M. R.S.V.P. BY MAY 19, 2017 – 4:00 P.M.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Jolene Hall closed the meeting at 8:24 P.M.

Motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Tonya McNamara. All in Favor.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.**