

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## June 14, 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:** (absent, Vice-President Jill Nickerson); Pro Temp Tonya McNamara; Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Paul Hosszu, James Rakoski, Timothy Martin; Mayor Shane Nickerson; (Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett (left for NC at 7:06 P.M.); Junior Council Person Eion Hicks-Lee; (absent, Chief Joshua McCurdy); Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Corporal Robert Scott; Natalie Kennedy Wellsboro Gazette; Diane Barrett – Borough Solicitor's wife; Joshua Jones; Unisatvti Hicks-Lee; Mr. & Mrs. Carl Cox representing the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the May 10, 2017 meeting were accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT AT 6:35 P.M. RECONVENED 7:00 P.M.**

#### **Borough Solicitor's Items:**

#### **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.

#### **Sales Agreement:**

Sales Agreement to purchase the Southern Tioga School District Administration Office Building in the amount of \$265,000.00, purchase includes building, fixtures, and equipment. Deposit in escrow - \$5,000.00, \$160,000.00 at the time of closing. The balance of \$100,000.00 payable in the amount of \$25,000.00 a year for the next four years on anniversary date of the day of closing. Motion to accept the Sales Agreement was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jerome Ogden.

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett requested a roll call:

Roll Call: Yes – Paul Hosszu, Jerome Ogden, James Rakoski, Tonya McNamara,

No – Jolene Hall, Timothy Martin

Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report accepted subject to audit on motion of Tonya McNamara; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.

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

**Guests:** Carl Cox representing the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs presented PSAB President's Award to Councilmember Jerome Ogden. The PSAB President's Award is given in recognition of exceptionally long and faithful service by borough officials who have completed 40 or more years of public service.

Unisatvti Hicks-Lee reported on a feral cat program. A grant through the ASPCA targets areas within a mile of a trailer park for the trap, neuter, release (TNR) program to control the feral cat population. It costs \$100.00 to get a cat neutered, tested for feline leukemia, vaccinated and re-released. The grant stops the end of June. Unisatvti Hicks-Lee and his group plans to continue the TNR program after the grant runs out.

**Reports:**

(A) **Junior Council Person:** Junior Council Person Eion Hicks-Lee has 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 238 Main Street at 6:00 P.M.

V.I.B.E. is working on their Bylaws and looking for next project.

(C) **Mayor:** Nothing to report.

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

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

District Magistrate Fines Total: \$822.35.

Corporal Scott reported the A/C needed repaired in Car 1. The cost was over \$1,500.00.

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

(F) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of James Rakoski; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

Mr. Lloyd to send out letters requesting additional funding for the purchase of a combination tractor, mower, snow blower. He has studied other options and feels the tractor package is more useful, rather than a 60" zero turn mower. Currently \$8,500.00 donations are set aside for the purchase.

Thank you to House Lumber and Stuart Lisowski Excavating for their help during the Coal Festival. House Lumber donated wood chips for covering dirt at old playground area and in front of Vietnam Moving Wall Memorial. Stuart Lisowski for use of Bobcat loader to unload chips from trailer.

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

**Zoning Hearing Board:** No meeting.

**Reports:**

**(H) Recreation:**

Pool is open.

Playground / Tennis Court:

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

Tennis Courts: Nothing to report.

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.

Three (3) teams participated in the Water Battle Contest during the Coal Festival. Liberty Borough won.

**(J) Library:** Nothing to report.

**(K) Street Committee:** A letter was received from a resident regarding the Main Street trees in front of their home. They feel the trees are a nuisance and a hazard from the berries they drop. The branches have grown into the wires overhead. The property owner is asking for the trees to be removed and not replaced. A motion was made by Tonya McNamara to remove trees, if the property owner is willing to pay half of the cost; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

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

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

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

BMA requested \$50,000.00 from the Borough's Act 13 Funding to help pay for the relining of wastewater lines to stop infiltration. Budget Committee to consider BMA request in fall, after the Borough's Tioga County Impact Fee disbursement is announced.

**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.

Discussed earlier.

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

Nothing to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

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. **New Act 537 Plan:**

Borough Engineer William S. Bray has Act 537 Plan ready to publish. Need Council approval to advertise. If approved, advertising will be submitted before Friday, June 16, 2017, so ad will be in paper by June 20, 2017. Plan to reconvene July Council meeting on July 24, 2017, at 6:00 P.M. to adopt Act 537 Resolution. Mr. Bray will be attending the meeting. Motion to advertise the Act 537 Plan was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017 AT THE LAWRENCEVILLE FIRE HALL, 9 – 11 MECHANIC 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, 2017.**

**REPSOL WILL HOLD A BBQ ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2017 AT THE ISLAND PARK KIWANIS BUILDING, 10 WATER STREET, BLOSSBURG, PA. TIME IS FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M. PURPOSE OF GATHERING IS FOR AN INFORMATION SESSION FOR LANDOWNERS INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT NATURAL GAS EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION. RSVP TO WENDY YOUMANS WITH YOUR TOTAL NUMBER ATTENDING BY JUNE 19, 2017. 607-562-4085 OR 1-866-566-4747.**

**1967 PLANE CRASH MEMORIAL SERVICE AT ISLAND PARK, JUNE 23, 2017 FROM 1:30 P.M. TO 3:30 P.M.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Jolene Hall closed the meeting at 8:01 P.M.

Motion of Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in Favor.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.**