

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

May 9, 2018

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, Timothy Martin, (absent, James Rakoski), Paul Hosszu; Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Junior Council Person Eion Hicks-Lee; (Chief Joshua McCurdy (left the meeting early to go back to Little League game)); Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Natalie Kennedy Wellsboro Gazette; Unisatvti Hicks-Lee; Robert Metarko.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 11, 2018 meeting were accepted on motion of Tonya McNamara; 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.

Guests: None present.

Reports:

(A) **Junior Council Person:** 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 6:00 P.M. Meeting locations are different each month. Check the V.I.B.E. website for meeting place.

V.I.B.E. proposed upcoming events: October 14, 2018 – Fall Festival
November 24, 2018 – Small Town Christmas

V.I.B.E. projects: (1) Communication Plan. (2) PA Downtown Center Membership of communities along Route 15 corridor (Route 15 Coalition).

(C) **Mayor:** Mayor Nickerson reported on the supervised community service people working around town (i.e. painting curbs yellow, etc.). A good job was done on their work projects.

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

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

District Magistrate Fines Total: \$583.86.

Reports:

Wellsboro Borough hired Officer Michael Bostwick, therefore he will not be coming to work for the Blossburg Police Department. Motion to remove Officer Michael Bostwick from BPD roster was made by Jill Nickerson; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

(E) Police Committee: A meeting was scheduled for May 22, 2018 at 9:00 A.M.

(F) Borough Manager:

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

Received \$3,500.00 from Williamson Road Foundation. Money to be used toward replacing the Christmas light wiring along Main Street.

Received a request from the First Baptist Church, 301 Main Street, for an additional handicap parking space at the Tioga River side of building. More social events are held in the basement of the church. The handicap parking space will help people requiring easier access to the downstairs of the church. Jill Nickerson made a motion to approve the handicap parking space at the Tioga River side of the First Baptist Church; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

Mr. Lloyd requested the sale of the old garbage truck at an auction in Waverly. Motion was made by Paul Hosszu to take the old garbage truck to auction; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

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

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(H) Recreation:

Recreation Board approved Austin Truff's Senior Project to build a park bench for Island Park. A design was submitted. Timothy Martin made a motion to approve Austin Truff's Senior Project; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

Signage on rules for Bocce, Horseshoes, and Cornhole are being designed.

Resolution No. 2 2018 Young Lungs at Play / Tobacco-Free Zone:

Young Lungs at Play / Tobacco-Free Zone was first approved on October 9, 2013. Revised Resolution to include the use of electronic cigarettes and vaping devices at Island Park. Motion to approve Resolution No. 2 2018 Young Lungs at Play / Tobacco-Free Zone Park at Island Park was made by Jill Nickerson; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

Playground: Plantings are being stored in Borough garage. Arborvitaes have been planted by tennis court fence.

Tennis Courts: Nothing to report.

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

Island Park River Walk: Looking into purchasing dog poop bags with holders.

Reports:

- (I) **Fire:** Reports received: The BFD minutes dated March 26, 2018, 2018 and the Transaction Report 03/27/2018 to 05/07/2018.
- (J) **Library:** The Blossburg Memorial Library / "Turning Outward" are continuing to host conversation events.
- (K) **Street / Building Committee:** Nothing to report.
- (L) **Shade Tree Commission:** Nothing to report.
- (M) **Budget:** Budget Committee to meet with Benecon on insurance costs. Contract with Benecon is about to expire. A letter is needed by June 30, 2018 if Borough is considering cancelling contract. Motion to send a letter to Benecon stating the existing coverage with Benecon may not be retained was made by Jill Nickerson; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.
- (N) **Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):**

BMA accepted APPI Energy quote contingent on Borough Council approval.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Borough Code of Ordinances – Update Keystate Publishers:** Nothing to report.
2. **Borough Website:** Timothy Martin is working with website.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **APPI Energy:**

APPI Energy electric rate charges: Quote is \$0.05439 / kwh. Existing charge is \$0.067 / kwh. Dollars saved in costs could be turned back into LED street lights. Motion to accept APPI Energy quote was made by Timothy Martin; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

2. **Tax Status new Borough Building:**

County removed exemption tax status on new Borough building. Now building is listed as taxable property. Response letter to Tioga County Assessment is needed by June 1, 2018, requesting Tioga County Assessment to change back to exemption tax status. Motion to have Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett file an appeal was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

3. **Southern Tioga School District (STSD) Island Park "New" Lease:**

Motion to increase \$3,333.00 / year for next 3 years in new Agreement was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

4. Purchase of Kubota tractor:

Motion to purchase a Kubota tractor and 60" wide mower deck through Costars for cost of \$12,326.71 was made by Timothy Martin; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor. Money for tractor was donated through various organizations.

Borough Manager is to look into cost of a grass catcher attachment for machine.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2018 AT THE LIBERTY BOROUGH BUILDING, 7 WEST HILL STREET, 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 10, 2018.

26th ANNUAL BLOSSBURG STATE COAL FESTIVAL, ISLAND PARK, MAY 23 – MAY 26, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jolene Hall closed the meeting at 7:13 P.M.

Motion of Jerome Ogden; second, Tonya McNamara. All in Favor.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 13, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room, 245 Main Street.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR AT END OF MEETING. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED. NO ACTION TAKEN.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary