

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## April 10, 2006

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Jerome Ogden called 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 Tonya McNamara (attending a retirement dinner)); Councilmembers Raymond Kaminski, James Holleman, Cheryl Bubacz, James Bogaczyk, Thomas Bogaczyk; Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Ronald Steffen; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Charles Freeberg KCC Committee.

**Guests:** Linda Lloyd resident of Blossburg.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the March 13, 2006 meeting were accepted on motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, James Holleman. All in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report accepted subject to audit on motion of Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

**Bills:** Bills to be paid on motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

**Guests:** Linda Lloyd, 115 Seymour Street attended the meeting to ask Council if something could be done with the burning of garbage in the Borough of Blossburg. She has telephoned and written letters to the Borough Office several times with no response to her problem. Mrs. Lloyd has neighbors that burn everything. These neighbors have their burning container close to her property causing the smoke and smell to come into her home.

Mayor Backman visited the Lloyd property to inspect the location of the neighbor's burning container. He stated there really isn't a good location for the neighbors to use the burning container, because their lot is small.

Chief Steffen reported he has given these neighbors two warnings last winter. He would like to give them a citation, but he questioned the ordinance.

James Bogaczyk made a motion to restrict burning within the Borough to paper products only. The motion died for lack of second.

After a lengthy discussion between Councilmembers it was decided a committee would be set up to review the problem of burning in the borough. Raymond Kaminski, James Bogaczyk and James Holleman are to meet on April 11, 2006 at 2:00 P.M. in the Council Room. Also, at this meeting a replacement for resigning Planning Commission member Caroline Thomson will be discussed.

Council President Jerome Ogden told Mrs. Lloyd she will be contacted as to what transpires from the Councilmembers findings and suggestions.

### **Reports:**

(A) **NPHS Students:** No student present.

**Reports:**

(B) **KCC:** Charles Freeberg reported the organization's regular checking account balance is \$998.12.

Partners in Progress to rent building June 12 – August 18, 2006.

Increasing the rental rates were discussed.

The remodeling materials for the KCC kitchen walls are bought. Mr. Freeberg would like to wait on the construction until there are more monies in the checking account.

(C) **Committee Business Development:** Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment)

V.I.B.E. Minutes for March 15, 2006 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers.

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor John Backman asked if the ice skating rink area used this year could be leveled off for next year.

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

The Police Report was accepted on motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

A discussion was held on enforcing the speed limit and stop signs on Island Park. More 10 mph signs to be ordered. New signs to be positioned with dogs signs.

(F) **Police Committee:** Nothing further to report.

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Raymond Kaminski. All in favor.

The Blossburg Municipal Authority purchased a 125 KW generator.

The Emmanuel Church, which was located at 304 Ruah Street, has been torn down. The existing lot is a non-conforming building lot and is in a R-2 district. Any new construction must conform to non-conforming lot specifications.

The garbage truck compactor has cylinder problems. The truck should be back by the end of the month.

The 2005 Annual Drinking Water Quality reports have been distributed.

Harmona Landscaping has completed all the tree trimming that Councilmembers approved to have done.

Lewis Brill approached Borough Manager George Lloyd to ask if the Borough would be interested in selling a lane across from Hutcheson Lane on old Route 15. The lane is no longer used or needed by the Borough, but research would have to be done to determine if the property is owned by Borough or a right of way. The research could be time consuming and expensive. Because extra money is not available, Councilmembers decided to leave lane as is.

**Reports:**

Spring Cleanup is scheduled for May 1 – 5, 2006. Materials will be picked up on the customers regularly scheduled garbage collection day.

Island Park cleanup is scheduled for May 6, 2006, with the rain date set for May 13, 2006.

Tioga County Association of Boroughs sent a copy of the Draft By-Laws for their Association. TCAB would like council to review and vote on them. Cheryl Bubacz questioned if the TCAB is a non-profit organization. If non-profit, they need special language in their articles. Mrs. Bubacz stated that TCAB is not registered in the Commonwealth of Boroughs web site. After reviewing the By-Laws, Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett made some additional suggestions.

Blossburg Municipal Authority is to hire an employee. Between the Municipal Authority and the Borough the workforce is short two (2) guys. An aptitude test is being made up. The Borough Manager would like both the Municipal Authority members and Councilmembers to review test. Motion to advertise for an employee was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

**(H) Planning Commission:**

No applications were submitted. No Meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

**(I) Recreation:** No Meeting.

**(J) Fire:** No report received.

Raymond Kaminski attended the last Blossburg Fire Department meeting. Mr. Kaminski presented a schedule of what the Blossburg Fire Company has planned for the next month. The Fire Account has a balance of \$34,643.00. The Blossburg Fire Department Auxiliary Account has a Balance of \$4,880.00. The BFD sold the snorkel truck for \$5,000.00, which will be going to Philadelphia to a museum. The old snorkel truck will be replaced with new ladder truck, which has a pump on it. Blossburg Fire Department, instead of Canton Fire Department, is now covering Ward Township. BFD is looking into new pagers for the Department, which are needed.

**(K) Television:** Board meetings are second Tuesday of month.

The Executive Secretary on Board resigned. Names need to be submitted. Replacement will be addressed at next meeting.

**(L) Library:** Thomas Bogaczyk was not able to attend meeting, because he was on vacation.

Cheryl Bubacz reported Taber Grant for summer reading is now available.

**(M) Street Committee:** The pipe and basins came in today for the 2006 Storm Drain Project.

**(N) Budget:** A budget meeting was scheduled for April 25, 2006 at 1:00 P.M.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac:** Borough Solicitor is working on Deed of Dedication.
2. **Additional Railroad Property:** Tax Sale of old railroad property of 6.72 acres, purchased by the Borough, was to be sold on September 26, 2005. The wrong property was assessed. Borough Solicitor is working on.
3. **Electric System Assessment:** Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett met with Attorney Hebe. Information to be reviewed with Thomas Bogaczyk.
4. **Home Occupation Ordinance #408:**  
  
Ordinance was reviewed and advertised for tonight's meeting. Motion to adopt an ordinance amending the Borough of Blossburg Ordinance 244A titled Zoning and Codified in the Code of Ordinances in the Borough of Blossburg at XXVIII, Section 104 was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Raymond Kaminski. All in favor.
5. **Williamson Commercial Park Access Street:** Borough Solicitor is working on.
6. **Building Permit Fees / Rental Inspections:** New rates to be advertised. Borough Solicitor to get with George Lloyd for more information.
7. **Ward Manufacturing Petition Requesting Zoning Change:**  
  
Ordinance is done. Public Hearing will be scheduled for May 8, 2006 at 6:00 P.M. Councilmembers to adopt at the regular scheduled meeting of May 8, 2006 at 6:30 P.M.
8. **Cell Tower Ordinance:** Borough Solicitor working on zoning changes.
9. **Attorney Fee Ordinance #409:**  
  
Ordinance was reviewed and advertised for tonight's meeting. Motion to adopt an ordinance authorizing, assessing, imposing, ratifying and adopting a schedule of attorney fees to be assessed in the collection of all delinquent accounts for which a municipal claim may be lawfully imposed or assessed on any property in this Commonwealth by the Borough of Blossburg; providing for notice before assessing fees; authorizing, assessing, ratifying and imposing a penalty of five percent (5%) of the amount of any delinquent account as a penalty for the nonpayment thereof on all municipal claims which may be lawfully imposed or assessed on any property in this Commonwealth by the Borough of Blossburg; authorizing, assessing, ratifying and imposing interest on all municipal claims, which may be lawfully imposed or assessed on property in this Commonwealth by the Borough of Blossburg; providing a savings clause; repealing inconsistent ordinances or parts; and including an effective date was made by Cheryl Bubacz; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.
10. **Personnel Policy:** Councilmembers decided to not make any changes in Personnel Policy.  
  
Remove from agenda.
11. **Outdoor Burning Ordinance:** Discussed earlier.

**NEW BUSINESS:** No new business.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. **TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2006 AT THE LAKEVIEW LODGE, LAWRENCEVILLE, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2006.**
2. **TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TCDC LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST AT THE PENN WELLS HOTEL, 62 MAIN STREET, WELLSBORO, PA ON THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2006 FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 10:00 A.M. (BUFFET OPENS AT 7:30 A.M.). R.S.V.P. BY APRIL 6, 2006.**
3. **TIOGA COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU WILL HOLD A SIGNAGE MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2006 AT PENN COLLEGE NORTH CAMPUS – ROOM #108. A LIGHT LUNCH WILL BE OFFERED AT 11:30 A.M. GUEST SPEAKER IS MR. STEVE MUTCHLER, P.E., ASSISTANT TRAFFIC ENGINEER – SIGNS AND MARKINGS. R.S.V.P. BY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2006. TELEPHONE (570) 724-0635.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 8:36P.M.

Next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2006 at 6:30 P.M.

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Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary