

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

September 11, 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: Vice-President Tonya McNamara; 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; Bev Jones Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment)

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett had to leave meeting early, because of another appointment. Therefore, Mr. Barrett reviewed agenda items and information with Councilmembers and left the meeting at 6:40 P.M.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 14, 2006 meeting were accepted on motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

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

Bills: Bills to be paid on motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

Guests: None present.

Reports:

(A) **NPHS Students:** No student present. Tonya McNamara e-mailed N.P.H.S. Student Council advisors, Mrs. Paulhamus and Mrs. Steinbacher, asking them if they knew of a student that would be interested in attending the Blossburg Borough Council meetings.

(B) **KCC:** Charles Freeberg did not attend meeting.

Tonya McNamara and Cheryl Bubacz presented a list of thoughts / ideas they had for funding of the Kiwanis Building.

Mr. Freeberg will be contacted on his thoughts and suggestions for the funding of the building.

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

V.I.B.E. meetings are held second Wednesday of the month.

V.I.B.E. Minutes for August 16, 2006 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers.

Newly elected V.I.B.E. President Bev Jones attended the meeting to answer any questions Councilmembers might have on the Main Street Façade Program. Mrs. Jones stated she will try to attend all or most of Blossburg's Council Meetings. Also, after the next V.I.B.E. meeting, she will provide Minutes and Finance Reports of each meeting to the Borough Secretary Mary Signor. Mrs. Jones did make available Financial Reports at tonight's meeting.

Reports:

Councilmembers asked Mrs. Jones which businesses had applied for a grant. Mrs. Jones told Council that the Borough Building would qualify under the Façade Program. After a discussion on what work needs to be done to the Borough Building, it was decided that contractors will be contacted to get quotes on repointing the bricks.

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman discussed a few traffic control problems suggestions. 1) A double centerline painted on Taber Street is needed, from Johnson Creek Bridge to old Route 15, to help traffic flow correctly and for left turns. 2) Add reflectors poles marking Taber Street approach off Old Route 15. 3) Main Street bridge centerlines need correcting. Chief Steffen to contact PennDOT to check if lanes can be changed for left hand turns.

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

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

A discussion was held on tractor-trailers ordinance gross weight changes. The Borough Solicitor review.

Zara Johnson, a senior at N.P.H.S., is working at the Borough under the “school-to-work” program. She is planning to further her education in the criminal justice field. Chief Steffen thought it would be a good idea if Zara could attend Council meetings as part of her governmental studies. At the present time, Zara works nights at the Acorn Market. Chief Steffen to check if Zara is interested and with the Acorn Market to see if they would allow her to attend the meetings.

Councilmember James Bogaczyk complimented the Police Department for their quick response to a complaint he had in his backyard with 4-wheelers. Also, for the traffic control at the “9/11 Remembrance Program” held at the Blossburg Borough Monument tonight. All efforts of the department were noted and appreciated.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

The Tioga County Development Corporation (TCDC) contacted the Borough and requested potential projects under the Proposed Tioga County Project Potential CRP Project through Senator Joseph Scarnati. They wanted something out of the ordinary, not water, sewer or drain lines. The project cost should be from \$10,000.00 - \$25,000.00. Mr. Lloyd submitted a signage project. 1) Replace Borough Street signs. 2) Update the Coalie Pickman sign. 3) Blossburg welcome signs.

Pension Municipal Minimum Obligations (MMO's):

2007: Police - \$14,006.00 / Non-Uniform - \$23,601.00
(Comparison) 2006: Police - \$12,501.00 / Non-Uniform - \$21,301.00
2006 State Aid ± \$40,000.00

Raymond (Keith) Lindie framed Blossburg State Coal Festival document from state. Document to be hung in Blossburg Borough building lobby.

Reports:

Theresa Makosky brought in the draft copy of County's Zoning Ordinance for information purposes.

(H) Planning Commission:

No applications were submitted. No meeting.

Planning Commission member Glenn Bastian recently passed away. The Borough Manager presented a list of names for Mr. Bastian's replacement. Councilmembers reviewed and suggested the following names in order: Pat Marriner, Mary English, Bill Novitske and Shane Nickerson. These people will be contacted, in order as listed, to find out if they would like to serve on the Planning Commission.

Zoning Hearing Board: Meeting of August 24, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. reviewed and approved Daniel Harman's request to build a deck into rear setback off his property and Nextel Plans. Both requests were granted.

(I) Recreation: On Tuesday, September 26, 2006 at 6:30 P.M. at the North Penn High School Library the United Fund will be stuffing envelopes for their 2006 campaign fund drive. Much help is needed.

The Recreation Board made some checks around the Island Park for repairs.

- 1) The KCC Building needs brickwork façade done and some inside work. A new refrigerator is needed.
- 2) The Kuster Pavilion needs major renovations. It needs to be painted, repairs to outside cinderblocks walls, new stove & sink, needs drains to hooked up, needs receptacle locks, and the inside supporting posts are decaying.
- 3) The Kaminski Pavilion is in good shape.

The Laurel Youth Food Services that provide meals for the summer kids received some monies. They are buying six (6) 8-foot tables to put in the Kuster Pavilion for next year.

The Borough Manager is to schedule borough employees to do some of the Kuster Pavilion repair work.

(J) Fire: No report received.

Fire Committee Members did not attend meeting.

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

Channel 28 if off.

(L) Library: Nothing to report.

The library does get monies from outside users. Outside townships are approached for supporting monies.

(M) Street Committee: St. Mary's Street storm drain project has been started.

(N) Budget: A budget meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.

A possible millage for recreation will be discussed.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac:

Borough Solicitor is working on Granger Street Cul-D-Sac Deed of Dedication. Once the Williamson Commercial Park Access Street ordinance is completed, the Borough Manger is to get with the Borough Solicitor to finish this deed of dedication.

2. Additional Railroad Property:

Tax Sale for old railroad property of 6.72 acres, purchased by the Borough. The wrong property was assessed. Borough Solicitor is working on.

A "Last and Final Notice" from the Tioga County Tax Claim Bureau was received.

3. Electric System Assessment:

A meeting is for September 27, 2006 at 11:00 A.M. in the Council Room. Penelec representatives will be attending the meeting.

4. Williamson Commercial Park Access Street:

Ordinance is done and Mr. Barrett thinks it has been passed. He has the deed. If the ordinance is completed he will notify Williamson Land Company, record and schedule the dedication.

5. Cell Tower Ordinance: Mr. Barrett is attempting to get an ordinance that has been passed which deals with windmills, cell towers, signage, or anything tall.

6. Outdoor Burning Ordinance: The Borough Solicitor to is modify ordinance per Committee suggestions.

7. Engine Brakes Ordinance: The Borough Solicitor reviewed sample ordinances. Mr. Barrett presented an ordinance. More researched is needed before ordinance can be finalized. In his research he found that PennDOT needs to approve the ordinance. He questioned the enforcement regulations of the engine brakes on old and new Route 15. Councilmembers would like the ordinance to include both routes.

8. Janford McCauley Replacement (Shade Tree Commission):

The Borough Manager presented a list of names for Mr. McCauley's replacement. Councilmembers reviewed and suggested the following names in order: Jeff Everett, Rob Bowens, Ray Nybeck, and Bob Kelly . These people will be contacted, in order as listed, to find out if they would like to serve on the Shade Tree Commission.

9. Home Grant: Public announcement from State should be made in next couple of weeks about funding.

10. Building Permit Fees: The Borough Solicitor is writing up an ordinance, which would lower the square footage of buildings needing inspections from 1,000 sq. ft. to 600 sq. ft. Labor and Industry has to be notified of the proposed ordinance before adoption.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bid Opening for 303 Galion Grader:

Three (3) bids were received:

Kevin Franke, 641 Reese Hill Road, Wellsboro, PA 16901 in the amount of: \$1,626.00

Stuart Lisowski Excavation & Garage, LLC, 3862 Cherry Flats Road, Covington, PA 16917 in the amount of: \$2,301.00

Barry L. Brooks, 24 Horsethief Run Road, Wellsboro, PA 16901 in the amount of: \$3,158.00

All documents were in order as required. Motion not to accept bids of 303 Galion Grader was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Raymond Kaminski. All in favor.

Motion to re-advertise the 303 Galion Grader was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

2. Resolution Pool Feasibility Study Grant:

A resolution to apply to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for a grant to do a Pool Feasibility Study on the Island Park pool.

Motion to adopt a resolution for a Pool Feasibility Study Grant was made by Raymond Kaminski; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

Councilmember James Bogaczyk read a letter from Covington Township supporting Blossburg in their efforts on the Pool Feasibility Study. Other letters of support from the surrounding communities should be received soon.

3. Liability Coverage Under Borough's Insurance for Organizations:

Liability coverage will be reviewed and discussed more at the Budget Committee meeting on September 21, 2006.

4. 2006 Halloween Trick-or-Treat Date:

The Blossburg Borough will hold Halloween on Tuesday, October 31, 2006. The parade is at 5:00 P.M. - starting by the former Blossburg Ambulance Building located at the corner of Hannibal and Morris Streets. The parade will proceed west on Hannibal Street – then turn right onto Main Street and proceed North to the new Fire & Ambulance Building, 324 Main Street, where the judging of costumes will take place. Halloween hours are Tuesday, October 31, 2006, 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TCCCC, INC. 4th ANNUAL LOBSTER BAKE WILL BE HELD AT THE HILLSIDE ROD & GUN CLUB ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2006. PREFERRED SEATING TIMES ARE 1:00 P.M. AND 3:00 P.M. THE COST IS \$22.00 PER BAKE OR \$32.00 PER TWIN BAKE. CONTACT TOM BOGACZYK AT (570) 638-3688.

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2006 AT THE KNOXVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER (FORMER GERTRUDE CASE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL), EAST MAIN STREET, KNOXVILLE, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M. R.S.P.V. BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2006

KCC AUCTION WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2006 AT THE KCC BUILDING, ISLAND PARK. THE AUCTION STARTS AT 10:00 A.M. CONTACT THOMAS BOGACZYK TO GIVE YOUR DONATIONS OF ITEMS FOR AUCTION.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 8:20 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2006 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary