

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

October 12, 2009

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Jerome Ogden 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 Thomas Bogaczyk; Councilmembers Cheryl Bubacz, Jill Nickerson, (absent, James Bogaczyk), Jeffrey Everett; Mayor John Backman; (absent, Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett (sick)); (absent, Chief Ronald Steffen); (absent, Corporal Joshua McCurdy (excused by Mayor)); Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) Members Tonya McNamara and Josh Jones; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Kenneth Hughes.

Minutes: The minutes of the September 14, 2009 were accepted on motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second Jeffrey Everett. 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, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

Guests: None Present.

Reports:

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

(B) **KCC:** No report.

(C) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) V.I.B.E. meetings are held on third Wednesday of the month in the community room of the Blossburg Memorial Library at 6:00 P.M.

V.I.B.E. Minutes for September 23, 2009 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers.

Councilmember Tonya McNamara reported on V.I.B.E. topics:

V.I.B.E. is finalizing Fall Festival plans, which is scheduled for October 24, 2009 at the Riverside Plaza from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Again, the hayride will be part of the Fall Festival, due to a few citizens that are willing to pay for the insurance coverage. Local businesses are encouraged to hold sidewalk sales. Councilmember Thomas Bogaczyk made a motion for the Borough to contribute \$200.00 towards Fall Festival events; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

New "Blossburg Business Directory" placemats are being worked on.

Skate Park: Borough is putting down base for blacktop.

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman asked to have lighting installed for the Island Park cannon, Woodrow Wilson bust and Coal Festival plaque. Councilmember Jeffrey Everett suggested underground wiring be used. Borough Manager George Lloyd to check out lighting options.

Reports:

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

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

No questions were asked on the Police Report.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

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

Mr. Lloyd announced the Flu Shot Clinic that was scheduled for October 14, 2009 to be held at the Blossburg Fire & Ambulance Building is cancelled, due to no vaccine.

PennDOT Auctions to be held on October 21, 2009 and November 10, 2009. Borough Manager George Lloyd would like permission to bid on a Mack truck and a loader. Councilmember Cheryl Bubacz made a motion to allow on line bidding to purchase a Mack truck and loader. Also, included in motion, under Mr. Lloyd's discretion, permission to sell old equipment at a later date; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

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

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(I) **Recreation:**

Recreation Board members and volunteers to meet on October 19, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. at the North Penn Computer Lab to work on mailing letters requesting donations for the Bloss Area United Fund.

(J) **Fire:** A Financial Report and copy of minutes were received.

Construction on the new Fire & Ambulance Building event sign to start on October 13, 2009 and to be completed on October 15, 2009.

(K) **Library:** No meeting.

(L) **Street Committee:**

On September 24, 2009 Rusty Taylor, George Lloyd, James Bogaczyk and Thomas Bogaczyk met with PennDOT officials at the District 3 Office in Montoursville, PA. Discussions were about the installation of street lights for the Blossburg exit off Route 15 and installing a traffic signal at the intersection by the Kwik-Fill. The cost for the street lights is approximately \$500,000.00. The cost for the traffic signal is \$150,000.00. All expenses would be the Borough's responsibility, as the Borough didn't request lighting to be installed when new Route 15 (future I-99) was being planned.

(M) **Budget:** Another budget meeting was scheduled for October 13, 2009 at 4:30 P.M.

Reports:

(N) Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):

BMA purchased some Morris Run Filter Plant equipment from Hamilton Township Water Authority.

BMA is trying to get permission from the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC) DEP to sell water to Gas / Oil Companies for fracking.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac:** Nothing.

2. **Blossburg Memorial Repairs:**

Repairs are completed.

Remove from agenda. Motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Councilmember James Holleman Died on October 6, 2009:**

A Council vacancy needs to be filled in 30 Days. The late James Holleman had two (2) years remaining in his term.

Council is to seek interested individuals willing to fulfill Mr. Holleman's vacancy. Council President Jerome Ogden did not close tonight's meeting. Meeting will reconvene on October 26, 2009 at 5:00 P.M. to name Mr. Holleman's replacement.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. **TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2009 AT THE RIVER VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB, ROUTE 249, WESTFIELD, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009.**
2. **BLOSSBURG FALL FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2009 AT THE RIVERSIDE PLAZA FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.**
3. **HALLOWEEN IS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2009. 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 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2009, 6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.**

Meeting will not adjourn as there are some items to be completed. The meeting was dismissed at 7:18 P.M. by President Jerome Ogden, to reconvene October 26, 2009 at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary

**Borough Council Meeting continued from October 12, 2009 –
Reconvened October 26, 2009 at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main
Street, Blossburg, PA.**

Attendance: President Jerome Ogden; Vice-President Thomas Bogaczyk; Councilmembers Jill Nickerson, Cheryl Bubacz, James Bogaczyk, Jeffrey Everett; Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette.

Resolution: Borough Councilmember Replacement – James Holleman:

Two (2) interested residents submitted their names to be James Holleman's replacement:

Andrew G. Faidley, 110 White Street
Mark C. Bowne, 111 Post Street

Motion to appoint Mark C. Bowne as a member of Blossburg Borough Council for the remainder of James Holleman's term was made by Cheryl Bubacz; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

Mayor Backman is to administer the Oath of Office to Mr. Bowne.

A letter of thanks is to be sent to Mr. Faidley. Councilmembers will be keeping Mr. Faidley's name on file for future upcoming vacancies.

Resolution: New Pool Project – Line of Credit:

Councilmember Cheryl Bubacz made a motion to adopt a Resolution authorizing the opening of a First Citizens National Bank (FCNB) line of credit, in the amount of \$400,000.00, to be paid back in four (4) years at 4.25% interest; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Walking Path (Old Abandoned Railroad Property Along Ruah Street):

Blossburg Fire & Ambulance are concerned about liability issues in connection with their property. Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett to look into and get back to Borough Manager.

Southern Tioga School District Plans for Closing North Penn High School:

Councilmember James Bogaczyk was approached by concern citizens about the possibility of STSD closing NPHS. After a discussion between Councilmembers, it was decided to send a letter to Joseph Kalata, Superintendent of Southern Tioga School District, School Board members, as well as, surrounding Boroughs and Townships notifying everyone that Borough Council stands unanimously against the closure of North Penn High School. Motion made by James Bogaczyk; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

A STSD School Board Work Session is scheduled on Monday, November 2, 2009 at 6:30 P.M. Mayor Backman and Councilmember Jill Nickerson are to attend.

Next School Board Meeting is November 9, 2009 at 6:30 P.M. (School Board Meetings are the same date and times as Blossburg Council Meetings.) Council President Jerome Ogden stated possibly 1 or 2 Councilmembers could be excused from the Borough Council meeting so they could attend the School Board meeting, just as long as the Borough meeting has enough members for a quorum.

Borough Council Meeting continued from October 12, 2009 – Reconvened October 26, 2009 – Con't

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 5:30 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2009 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary