

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## July 11, 2011

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Thomas Bogaczyk 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; Councilmembers Jeffrey Everett, Roger Bunn, Jolene Hall, (absent Jerome Ogden and Cheryl Bubacz (vacation)); Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) Member Josh Jones; Dave Jones; Bev Jones; Kenneth Hughes.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the June 20, 2011 meeting were accepted on motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report accepted subject to audit on motion of Jeffrey Everett; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

**Bills:** Bills to be paid on motion of Roger Bunn; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

**Guests:** Bev Jones questioned when the "No Parking" signs would be installed on Miss Daisy Lane? Borough Manager George D. Lloyd reported they would be put up within the week.

### **Reports:**

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

(B) **KCC:** Kiwanis are to pay for a new KCC Building back door.

### (C) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) meetings are usually held on fourth Wednesday of the month in the KCC Building on Island Park at 7:00 P.M.

V.I.B.E. Minutes were not available from the Internet.

V.I.B.E. member Josh Jones reported on the following topics: (1) Holes that are in the downtown sidewalk will be used for erecting the American Flag on special occasions. (2) Fall Festival is scheduled October 16, 2011 from 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Vendors will be charged a \$10.00 table fee.

**Skate Park:** Landscaping is being worked on. Jill Nickerson is looking into native trees for plantings around Skate Park.

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman reported the Police Department had several new donated helmets, which they gave to Island Park for recreation use.

Councilmembers discussed holding a "thank you" picnic for the Fire and Ambulance Departments, for their help with Island Park cleanup after the May 26, 2011 storm damage. The Project Committee is to setup the arrangements and the Borough is to pay the expenses. Motion was made by Roger Bunn; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

**Reports:**

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

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

Chief McCurdy reported the Police Patrol Bike is working out well. Five juveniles were caught swimming, after hours, in the Island Park pool. Kids didn't hear the officer approaching. The department will continue to use Officer Scott's bike, because the department's bike, which was ordered from Oswald Cycle Works, is on back order 6 – 8 weeks.

Use of Electronic Read Out Speed Signs: Nothing to report.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

Mr. Lloyd reported a meeting was held with a representative of Tideland's Geophysical to answer questions on the Geophysical Permit that borough residents received, requesting permission to conduct a geophysical survey on their properties. These seismic surveys will be conducted with the use of cords to determine gas / mineral deposits. A Social Security Number was asked as part of the permit, but this information is not necessary. Permits received for properties owned by the Blossburg Borough will be signed and submitted.

A grant through Northern Tier Planning is available to update building lighting systems and make them more energy efficient. Grant allows 50% match at \$2,000.00 maximum.

(H) **Planning Commission:** No meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(I) **Recreation:**

No quorum. No meeting.

Walking Trail: Borough crew is working on, as time allows. Councilmember Jill Nickerson has applied for \$10,000.00 through the Packer Foundation. Their next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2011.

Pool: Main Line submitted Invoice #9 for the 5% held back on work completed at the pool. The invoice amount is \$30,261.86. All work is completed. DCED will hold an inspection on July 19, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.

Pool Renovation Dedication will be held on August 6, 2011 from 1:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M.

(J) **Fire:** A Financial Report was received.

Department plans to tar & chip parking lot.

Upcoming fundraisers: 07/30/2011 – Clam Bake  
08/14/2011 – Pancake Breakfast

**Reports:**

(K) **Library:** A meeting was being held tonight.

Flamingo fundraiser is being held from June 13, 2011 to July 18, 2011.

The annual Garden Party will be held July 17, 2011.

(L) **Street Committee:**

Streets are scheduled for tar & chipping this week.

(M) **Shade Tree Commission:** No meeting.

A meeting is scheduled July 14, 2011 at 5:00 P.M. The Shade Tree Commission is to take action in the cutting and removal of diseased trees located in the Borough. Thirty (30) days' notices shall be served upon the owner of such property. Upon failure of any property owner to comply with the notice, the Borough may cause the work to be done by the Borough, and levy and collect the cost thereof from the owner of the property. Falling trees and limbs may contribute to downed power lines and possibly pedestrian injuries.

(N) **Budget:** End of Second Quarter was on June 30, 2011. Budget Revenues / Expenditures worksheets were printed and copied for Councilmembers to review. These 2011 Year to Date budget figures to be reviewed on Wednesday, July 20, 2011 at 4:30 P.M.

(O) **Project Committee:** Committee meeting to make arrangements on a "thank you" picnic for Fire and Ambulance Departments and to review newsletter.

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

Looking into funding from Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture for help on removing Taylor Run dams.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Southern Tioga School District Plans for New North Penn High School:** Nothing to report.

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

Nothing at this time.

Preliminary Editorial Report was reviewed with Keystate Publishers on November 30, 2010. Nothing received yet. Process is taking longer than originally thought.

3. **Condemned Properties Update:**

(1) Schuylkill Street property owner has a Demolition Permit. An extension was granted due to the terrible weather conditions this past spring. (2) South Williamson Road property (both buildings). Borough Solicitor is working on both.

4. **Sidewalk Repair Letter:** Nothing to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**5. Reduce Speed Limit on Old Rt. 15:**

A letter was sent to PennDOT, requesting a lower speed limit on Bloss Mountain Road (old Rt. 15), starting from B & D Transfer and ending at North Williamson Road, just before Main Street green bridge. A study was done and PennDOT declined request based on their findings. A discussion was held on the parking in front of the Kwik-Fill. Poor visibility occurs when tractor-trailers park out front along Bloss Mountain Road. Councilmembers suggested maybe "No Parking" signs could be erected. Kwik-Fill management is to be contacted to help monitor the situation.

**6. New Flood Plain Ordinance:**

The "draft" New Flood Plain Ordinance was reviewed and approved by Councilmembers, then was sent to Tioga County Conservation. FEMA was to review by April 1, 2011. Since no updates have been received, Borough Manager George Lloyd contacted Mary Guimond of Tioga County Emergency. Ms. Guimond response was the proposed flood maps are wrong. Some homes are designated as being in Flood Plain that were not before. The problem is not just in Pennsylvania, but in the whole country and probably will take awhile to straighten out.

**7. Review New Employee Applications:**

David Grinnell quit on April 15, 2011. A replacement is needed. The position was advertised. A few new applications were received. A test for math knowledge will be part of the job requirement. Applicants will be contacted.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Synthetic Cannabis and Other Synthetic Drugs Ordinance:**

Since the last Council Meeting held on June 20, 2011, the State has passed a bill covering the use of Synthetic Cannabis and Other Synthetic Drugs. Tabled until further date.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT AT 7:50 P.M.  
RECONVENED 8:04 P.M. PROPOSED LITIGATION DISCUSSED.**

**ANNOUNCEMENT: TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (TCDC) 18<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 25, 2011 AT THE PENN WELLS HOTEL, 62 MAIN STREET,  
WELLSBORO, PA. SOCIAL RECEPTION 6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY JULY 18, 2011.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Thomas Bogaczyk closed the meeting at 8:05 P.M.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2011 at 6:30 P.M.**