

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

August 14, 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; Charles Freeburg KCC Committee.

Guests: Charles Johnson.

Minutes: The minutes of the July 10, 2006 and July 19, 2006 meetings were accepted on motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Cheryl Bubacz. 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 Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

Guests: Charles Johnson, 124 North Williamson Road, attended the meeting to ask Council if the Borough could help with a common driveway problem he is having with his neighbor. Mr. Johnson showed survey maps and photographs of his property. Both of these items were significantly helpful in explaining to Council the problem he and his neighbor are having with the sharing of the joint driveway. A lengthy discussion went on between Mr. Johnson, Councilmembers and Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett. Seeing as this is a boundary dispute between neighbors, Mr. Barrett suggested Mr. Johnson have his attorney send a letter to the neighbor explaining the boundaries of each property.

Mr. Johnson thanked Council before leaving the meeting.

Reports:

(A) **NPHS Students:** No student present. Tonya McNamara to contact N.P.H.S. for a student interested in attending Blossburg Council meetings.

Councilmember Cheryl Bubacz suggested a student may possibly use their attendance at the meetings as hours used towards their senior project or as a community service project.

(B) **KCC:** Charles Freeberg reported the organization's regular checking account balance is \$74.00.

Mr. Freeberg presented a 2006 expense report on the KCC building. President Ogden turned the problem of financial support over to the KCC Committee for review. Tonya McNamara and Cheryl Bubacz are to have funding suggestions for the next Council meeting.

There are utilities bills due now, with only a minimum balance in the KCC checking account. James Bogaczyk made a motion to have a \$500.00 check from the Blossburg Borough General Fund made payable to the KCC Building for the purpose of paying bills; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

Reports:

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

V.I.B.E. Minutes for July 19, 2006 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers. The next V.I.B.E. meeting is scheduled for August 16, 2006 at 6:00 P.M. at the Blossburg Memorial Library.

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

(D) Mayor: Nothing to report.

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

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

A discussion was held on reports / complaints regarding tractor-trailers parking on Borough streets. Chief Steffen to notify the drivers of the trucks that this is not permitted on borough streets. These large trucks are only allowed to use Borough streets when delivering merchandise.

Also, Chief Steffen will contact any property owners with unlicensed vehicles parked on their properties or lawns that needs to be cut.

(F) Police Committee: Nothing further to report.

(G) Borough Manager:

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Raymond Kaminski. All in favor.

The next IS – 700 – The National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction Class sponsored by the Tioga County Emergency Services will be held on August 28, 2006. One class is at 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. The other is at 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. Councilmembers interested in attending the morning scheduled class are: James Bogaczyk, Thomas Bogaczyk, James Holleman and Raymond Kaminski. Tonya McNamara and Cheryl Bubacz will do the on-line class. Mayor John Backman, Council President Jerome Ogden and Borough Manager George Lloyd attended and passed the first class held on July 31, 2006.

Borough Manager George Lloyd reported a used John Deere mower was purchased for mowing Island Park. There are two (2) mowers that are beyond repair, but could be sold for parts. Motion to bid out mowers for parts was made by Raymond Kaminski; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

A Pool Feasibility Study for replacing the pool at Island Park will be held on August 15, 2006 at 1:00 P.M. Borough Engineer Scott Bray and Wellsboro Recreation Director Pete Herres will be attending the study. The actual construction for replacing the pool will not be for another 3 – 5 years.

The Borough Manager asked permission to sell the grader. The grader is only used sometimes now, because most of the dirt roads are tar & chipped. If a grader is needed, one could be rented. Motion to bid out 303 Galion Grader was made by Raymond Kaminski; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

Reports:

A letter from David Cohick, Director of Tioga County Emergency Services County requesting information on what streams need cleaned out in Blossburg Borough. Mr. Lloyd sent a letter back stating what streams need attention. They are: 1) Johnson Creek along South Williamson Road on Blossburg Borough and Hamilton Township line. 2) East Creek upstream from Blossburg Sewer Plant driveway. The cost would be covered under Hazard Mitigation Funding.

Councilmember Cheryl Bubacz asked about the repairing of the Westside section of South Williamson Road that was washed out from the last heavy rains. Mr. Lloyd to check with PennDOT on when they plan to repair.

Borough Manager to check street signs and street markings that need replacing.

Mr. Lloyd reported the two (2) new employees that were recently hired are doing a good job. The proposed two (2) day garbage routes are still being worked on.

Councilmember James Holleman questioned if additional insurance needs to be purchased, by the Coal Festival, for coverage during Octoberfest. H.A. Thomson Insurance Company is scheduled to be here tomorrow at 2:00 P.M. for another coverage / cost meeting. At this meeting, the Budget Committee will check with the H.A. Thomson representative to ask about this.

(H) Planning Commission:

Meeting of July 31, 2006. Reviewed and approved NEXTEL plans.

Planning Commission member Glenn Bastian recently passed away. The Borough Manager to review list and present names for Mr. Bastian's replacement.

A motion was made by James Bogaczyk to make a donation in Mr. Bastian's memory to the Blossburg Memorial Library; second, Raymond Kaminski. All in favor.

Zoning Hearing Board: A meeting is scheduled for August 24, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. The Zoning Board will review Daniel Harman's request to build a deck into rear setback of his property and NEXTEL to build a cell tower in a residential area.

(I) Recreation: No meeting.

(J) Fire: No report received.

Fire Committee Members did not attend meeting.

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

Nothing to report.

(L) Library: The annual Library Garden Party fund raiser was held on July 30, 2006 at the Hamilton Club in Morris Run. The fundraiser was a success. An anonymous donor contributed \$1,000.00. About 80 people attended.

(M) Street Committee: Nothing to report.

(N) Budget: A 2007 budget meeting date to be scheduled at September 11, 2006 Council Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac:** Borough Solicitor is working on 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.
3. **Electric System Assessment:** Meeting to be scheduled.
4. **Williamson Commercial Park Access Street:**

Ordinance is done and is ready to review.

The Borough Manager needs to get street description from Williamson Land Company.
5. **Resolution to Amend Building Permit Fees:**

Motion to adopt the modified Building Permit Fees was made by Raymond Kaminski; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

Fees are effective as of August 15, 2006.

Remove from agenda. Motion of Raymond Kaminski; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.
6. **Cell Tower Ordinance:** Does Borough Solicitor need to work on zoning changes?
7. **Outdoor Burning Ordinance:** The Borough Solicitor to is modify ordinance per Committee suggestions.

Linda Lloyd, 115 Seymour Street sent another letter to Mayor Backman stating she is still having problems with her neighbors burning garbage, which is causing the smoke and smell to come into her home.
8. **Engine Brakes Ordinance:** The Borough Solicitor to review.
9. **Janford McCauley Replacement (Shade Tree Commission:**

The Borough Manager to review list and present names for Mr. McCauley's replacement.
10. **Home Grant:** Public announcement from State should be made in next couple of weeks about funding.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Murphy Subdivision – Davis Street:**

Councilmembers reviewed the survey map prepared by Michael T. Maneval, Job No. T-2-PL05-BL4-3,4. The Tioga County Planning Commission Director James Weaver reviewed and approved the same map. Seven existing lots will be changed into two (2) lots.

Motion to adopt the Mark A. Murphy subdivision map with “conditions as specified in Exhibit A” was made by Raymond Kaminski; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. North Penn High School Homecoming Activities:

A letter was received from Heather Steinbacher, NPHS Student Council Advisor asking Council's approval of the upcoming Homecoming activities. All activities to be held on Friday, September 29, 2006. The Block Party would be held at Island Park during schools hours. The annual Homecoming Parade, down Main Street, will be held at 6:00 P.M.

Motion to approve NPHS Homecoming activities on Friday, September 29, 2006 was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

3. KCC Auction:

On September 30, 2006 at 10:00 A.M. the KCC will hold an auction to benefit Children's Relief. Please contact Thomas Bogaczyk for donation of items to be auctioned.

4. Resolution Cable Franchising:

"Legislation as drafted would significantly reduce franchise fee revenue by narrowing the definition of "gross revenues" subject to the franchise fee; eliminate local enforcement of customer service standards; repeal the current requirements that cable operators must serve the entire community; reduce PEG channel obligations, including local control and PEG support; abolish the granting of complimentary services; and limit local authority over the public rights-of-way." "Such legislation would radically alter the regulatory framework for cable operators that has been in place for decades and would remove local needs and interests from the franchising process."

Communities statewide are working together to fight this new proposed legislation. Blossburg Borough was asked by Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs to join with other communities in opposing the new proposed legislation by passing a resolution.

Motion to adopt the Cable Franchising Resolution was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

5. Public Hearing on County Wide Zoning Ordinance:

The Tioga County Planning Commission received a grant from DCED to develop a County Wide Zoning Ordinance. The first draft of the Articles of the ordinance and maps of each municipality with zoning districts are ready. By law each municipality has the option of either continuing to operate with their own zoning regulations or going with the County's. A public meeting will be held at the Whitneyville Fairgrounds in the Youth Building at 7:00 P.M. on August 23, 2006. All boroughs and townships are asked to attend for their input.

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.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 9:04 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2006 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary