

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

November 10, 2008

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 Jill Nickerson, (absent, James Holleman (III), Cheryl Bubacz (Daughter Playing in All Stars at Towanda)), James Bogaczyk, Jeffrey Everett; Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; (absent, Chief Ronald Steffen); Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Miranda Kline NPHS Student Representative; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 13, 2008 meeting were accepted on motion of Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

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

Bills: Bills to be paid on motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Guests: None present.

Reports:

(A) NPHS Student: Miranda Kline gave a Student Council Activity Report.

Student Council is currently working on a calendar of events for the remainder of the year. November 13 – 26, 2008 a food drive will take place. Also, a monthly after school activity is being planned.

The cheerleading squad recently attended the Waverly Spirit Challenge competition and took first place in the Show Cheer and the Crowd Cheer categories. They placed third in the Cheer Dance category.

Marching band attended Chapter Championships in Williamsport and took first place in the Regional Group II category.

(B) KCC: David Thompson, Sr. did not attend meeting.

The chimney was repaired on the KCC Building.

The main entrance door has a gap under it, maybe a door sweep should be attached. Extra cleanup is needed on the inside of building and the building should be painted outside.

(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 were not available from the Internet.

Reports:

Councilmember Jill Nickerson reported on V.I.B.E. topics:

There are four (4) Façade Grant applications in progress – Borough Building, Blossburg Memorial Library, Bloss Hardware and The Brick Tavern.

USDA Funding – Tioga County Development Corporation (TCDC) is having a meeting to discuss the potential of obtaining USDA Grant funding that can be loaned out to Blossburg area businesses. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 at 5:00 P.M. in the Blossburg Library Community Room, 307 Main Street, Blossburg, PA. Any business owner, potential business owner, citizen or elected officials are invited.

Mrs. Nickerson will be at North Penn High School on December 5, 2008 to promote community participation, encouraging juniors, seniors and staff involvement.

Skate Park: DCNR Grant Application was mailed. A reply should be received in December.

- (D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman reported the rebuilt cannon wheels were repaired are back from Vicksburg Buggy Shop.

Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission (NTRPDC) submitted a single application on behalf of the Blossburg Police Department requesting \$5,000.00 in grant assistance for new equipment to ensure a safe community. The grant is through The Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

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

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

Corporal Joshua McCurdy was attending Taser School at Bucks County Police Training Center in Doylestown, PA. The classes are being held on November 10 and November 11, 2008.

Councilmembers discussed the Police Department doing more walking during their shifts. When the officers are on foot patrol, i.e. checking the business doors and communicating with the residents, it creates good public relations for the Department. Both Thomas Bogaczyk and James Bogaczyk requested the officers to do more foot patrolling.

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

- (G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Morris Run water line is still progressing. The booster station building was delivered and set in place by Mansfield Crane. Work has to be done inside and outside building.

- (H) **Planning Commission:**

Meeting of October 28, 2008: 1) Approved Municipal Authority subdivision of Parkhurst Street property into 9 lots. 2) Approved church using part of commercial building on Main Street. 3) Approved conversion of a single family home in a R-1 District into a duplex. Both No. 2 and No. 3 will be referred to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Reports:

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

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

North Penn Area United Fund campaign letters mailed.

(J) **Fire:** Councilmember Jeffrey Everett reported all is well in the Department.

Lee A. Viard & Associates are doing the Department taxes.

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

(L) **Library:**

Councilmember Jill Nickerson reported on meeting items: 1) \$5,000.00 is needed to balance the budget. There have been no donations from the surrounding communities. Some library prices to be raised and adjust daily hours. 2) Pictures with Santa are scheduled for December 13, 2008. 3) Library to apply to Parker Foundation for cost of new cement steps and new carpeting.

(M) **Street Committee:** Nothing to report.

Crosswalk study is completed. Borough George Lloyd to submit to PennDOT.

(N) **Budget:** 2009 Budget: No tax increase.

A motion to advertise the proposed 2009 Budget was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

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

Blossburg Municipal Authority is looking into getting old Rt. 15 well permitted for non-potable water use.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY JEROME OGDEN AT 7:12 P.M. RECONVENED 7:58 P.M. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED. NO ACTION TAKEN.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

The Borough Solicitor is working on.

2. **Borough Building Repairs / Estimates:**

Concrete work is completed on the Borough Building. The Façade Grant application to be submitted to V.I.B.E. for reimbursement of half the cost.

Remove from agenda. Motion of Jeffrey Everett; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

3. Island Park Oil & Gas Lease:

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett is putting together a proposed lease to submit for bid. All Borough owned lands are to be included in bid.

4. List of Homes to Start Condemnation Proceedings:

Hearings were scheduled / held today. Only one (1) property owner attended. Attorney Barrett to take steps into the next phase.

Remove from agenda. Motion of Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Advertise for Vehicle Fuel Bids:** Motion to advertise for vehicle fuel bids was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

2. Re-Appointments to Committees and Boards (Last Term Year 2008):

Re-Appointment to Planning Commission: Nathan McNamara, 150 North Williamson Road (agreed to re-appointment); Motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

Re-Appointment to Zoning Hearing Board: Kathryn Brooks, 263 South Williamson Road (agreed to re-appointment); Motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

Re-Appointment to Shade Tree Commission: William Notvitske, 230 South Williamson Road (agreed to re-appointment); Motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

Re-Appointment to Blossburg Municipal Authority: Michael Stoudt, 356 Ogdensburg Road, (agreed to re-appointment); Motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

Appointment to Recreation Board: Thomas McNamara, 113 South Williamson Road, (agreed to re-appointment); Motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

Appointment to Recreation Board: Thomas Dickinson, 126 Davis Street, (agreed to re-appointment); Motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

3. Permission to Purchase Turkeys for Borough Employees for Thanksgiving:

A motion to purchase turkeys for Borough employees for Thanksgiving, the cost to be split with the Blossburg Municipal Authority, was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

4. Loan Balloon Repayment F.C.N.B. – Pedestrian Bridge:

Balance is due on Balloon Loan repayment to F.C.N.B. on the Pedestrian Bridge. Total cost is \$45,350.00. Rate from F.C.N.B. is 5.10% for 5 years @ \$860.00.month. Under the counsel of Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett, motion to apply for loan from F.C.N.B. was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

USDA FUNDING – TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (TCDC) MEETING TO DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL OF OBTAINING USDA GRANT FUNDING THAT CAN BE LOANED OUT TO BLOSSBURG AREA BUSINESSES WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008 AT THE BLOSSBURG LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM, 307 MAIN STREET, BLOSSBURG, PA. 5:00 P.M. ANY BUSINESS OWNER, POTENTIAL BUSINESS OWNER, CITIZEN OR ELECTED OFFICIALS ARE INVITED.

COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED:

WARD MANUFACTURING AWARD – STAR DESIGNATION UNDER OSHA'S VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAM, LEADERSHIP IN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH, REDUCING INJURY AND ILLNESS.

ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL – A LETTER OF CONGRATULATIONS IS TO BE SENT.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 8:12 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2008 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary