

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

July 19, 2010

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council Vice-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: (absent, President James J. Bogaczyk (vacation)); Second Vice-President Jill Nickerson; Councilmembers (absent, Jerome Ogden), Jeffrey Everett, Mark Bowne, Roger Bunn; Mayor John Backman; (absent, Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett (vacation)); Chief Joshua McCurdy; (absent, Borough Manager George D. Lloyd (vacation)); Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) Member Josh Jones; Cheryl Clarke Sun Gazette; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette.

Minutes: The minutes of the June 21, 2010 meeting were accepted on motion of Jeffrey Everett; second, Mark Bowne. All in favor.

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

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

Guests: Josh Jones asked what could be done with the property located at 213 Granger Street. The grass needs to be mowed. A 14-day notice will be sent to the property owner requesting the grass to be cut.

Reports:

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

(B) **KCC:** Josh Jones reported he did price checking on "Presentation Equipment" for the KCC Building. The total cost would be approximately \$3,000.00.

(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 6:00 P.M.

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

V.I.B.E. topics:

(1) \$400.00 was made from the chicken barbeque fundraiser. (2) Fall Festival is scheduled for October 17, 2010. A database of vendor contact information is being created. (3) Jill Nickerson is searching for available Walking Trail Grants.

Skate Park: Pavilion work will start when Shane Nickerson has some free time.

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman had nothing to report at this time.

Reports:

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

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

United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development Grant/Loan Assistance:
Police Car Grant/Loan: The application was not submitted, due to the fact, Blossburg Borough was notified USDA Grant money was depleted. Vice-President Thomas Bogaczyk requested the purchase of a new police car be tabled. Mr. Bogaczyk would like to try funding through another grant. Motion to table the purchase of a new police car was made by Jeffrey Everett; second, Mark Bowne. All in favor.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

Borough Manager George D. Lloyd is on vacation from July 12 – 23, 2010.

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

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(I) **Recreation:**

Island Park User Agreement of \$13,000.00 was received from STSD on July 16, 2010.

Repairs are being made inside the "big" pavilion.

Pool: Pool construction is in schedule. Opening date should be the last week in July.

Main Line submitted Invoice #5 for work completed at the pool. The invoice amount is \$132,856.35. Change Order of \$42,618.17 is included in this request. Motion to pay Invoice #5 was made by Jill Nickerson; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

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

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

The annual Library Garden party fundraiser will be held on July 25, 2010 at the Hamilton Club in Morris Run.

(L) **Street Committee:**

(1) Proposed Ordinance for No Parking along west side of Ruah Street from Hannibal Street to Lynd Street to be submitted to Borough Solicitor. (2) Hamilton Township Ordinance limiting truck traffic on streets to be submitted to Borough Solicitor.

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett is on vacation. When he returns the two above ordinances will be discussed.

Reports:

(M) **Budget:** 2011 budget preparation to start in September.

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

Payment for Subsurface Gas Lease should be paid to BMA soon.

Councilmembers requested BMA minutes. The minutes were not available for tonight's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Southern Tioga School District Plans for Closing North Penn High School:**

The Community is still being encouraged to support and keep updated in the decisions regarding repairs or new construction on the Blossburg schools.

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

Keystone Publishers were contacted on July 14, 2010 to start the recodification of Blossburg Borough Ordinances.

3. **Gas Leases (Borough's & Residents):** Nothing to report.

4. **Condemned Properties Update:**

Davis Street property was sold. New owner has been in contact with Code Officer Michael Stoudt for Building Permit.

Schuylkill Street property owner was notified by Borough Solicitor to apply for Demolition Permit. Property owner has 10 days to respond.

5. **Sidewalk Repair Letter:** Borough Solicitor is to review letter and give final approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Bid Old Dresser Loader and Bid 1994 Chevy One Ton Truck with Plow:**

Borough Manager submitted a written request asking permission to bid the above two pieces of equipment. Motion to bid out the Dresser Loader and 1994 Chevy One Ton Truck with Plow was made by Jeffrey Everett; second, Mark Bowne. All in favor.

2. **Tioga County Tax Collection Committee (TCC) Joint Resolution:**

As the Tioga County Tax Collection Committee (TCC) continues to move forward with the selection of a county wide Earned Income Tax Collector, as mandated by Act 32 of 2008, they learned that in order for the TCC collector to collect the Local Services Tax (LST) each municipality will have to approve a resolution authorizing the TCC to collect these taxes. Currently PA Municipal Services collects these taxes. Motion to adopt the Tioga County Tax Collection Committee (TCC) Joint Resolution was made by Jill Nickerson; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (TCDC) 17th ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 26, 2010 AT MANSFIELD JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL, 73 WEST WELLSBORO STREET, MANSFIELD, PA. SOCIAL RECEPTION 6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. PROGRAM, AWARDS & ENTERTAINMENT 7:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY JULY 19, 2010.

5K RUN – SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2010. EVENT IS TO BENEFIT THE POOL ASSOCIATION.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT THOMAS BOGACZYK AT 7:20 P.M. RECONVENED 7:40 P.M. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED.

Skate Park – American Ramp Company:

Motion was made by Jeffrey Everett to pay \$5,000.00 towards the outstanding balance due to American Ramp Company; second, Mark Bowne. All in favor. The \$5,000.00 to be reimbursed to Blossburg Borough General Fund after the DCNR Grant funding is received.

Chief Joshua McCurdy:

Chief Joshua McCurdy's probation period officially ends August 1, 2010. Motion was made by Jeffrey Everett to remove Chief McCurdy from a six-month probationary period and be made Borough Chief of Police; second, Mark Bowne. All in favor. Salary was set at \$30,000.00. Insurances will remain the same (coverage on individual, no dependents).

Countywide DUI Task Force:

Chief McCurdy would like the Blossburg Police Department to participate in the countywide DUI Task Force. After a short discussion Vice-President Thomas Bogaczyk suggested Chief McCurdy gather more information on the participation process, rules, etc. and bring information back to Council for discussion at the August 16, 2010 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Vice -President Thomas Bogaczyk closed the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for August 16, 2010 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary