

# **BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**

## **June 20, 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 Jerome Ogden, Jeffrey Everett, Cheryl Bubacz, (Roger Bunn – Left 7:15 P.M.), Jolene Hall; (absent, 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; Rebecca Hazen Wellsboro Gazette; Dave Jones; Bev Jones; David Thompson, Sr.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the May 16, 2011 meeting were accepted on motion of Jerome Ogden; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

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

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

**Guests:** None present.

### **Reports:**

(A) **NPHS Student:** School is out for summer break. Corey Snyder NPHS Student Representative graduated this month. A new NPHS Student Representative will need to be recruited after school is back in session.

(B) **KCC:** Partners in Progress will be using the KCC Building from June 20, 2011 to August 19, 2011.

### (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 no meeting was held last month.

**Skate Park:** Landscaping is being worked on.

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman was absent.

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

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

**Reports:** Chief McCurdy stated Officer Scott had purchased a Police Patrol Bike. Chief reported the department has used the bike in their patrols and it worked out well. Chief McCurdy requested Council to approve the purchase of a Police Patrol Bike for the department. A quote from Oswald Cycle Works, Mansfield, PA was discussed. The amount of the purchase is \$1,163.90. Quote includes bike, lights, rear rack pack and helmet. Also, a bike uniform may need to be purchased. Motion to purchase the Police Patrol Bike was made by Cheryl Bubacz; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Countywide DUI Task Force: The Police Committee held a meeting May 18, 2011 to discuss if Blossburg Police Department should take over the Countywide DUI Task Force. The Police Committee determination was not to take over the DUI Task Force.

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

**(F) Police Committee:** A meeting was held on June 15, 2011.

An Executive Session, to discuss personnel issues, will be called the end of tonight's meeting.

**(G) Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, Roger Bunn. All in favor.

PennDOT to pave Main Street in 2012.

Mr. Lloyd requested to advertise for a new employee. David Grinnell left the Borough's employment in April. Councilmembers approved request.

The Shade Tree Commission needs to meet, for the purpose of evaluating the pine / spruce trees behind the Main Street Memorial. One (1) tree blew down, from a bad storm, and one (1) has died. The Shade Tree Commission is to meet, when convenient for all members, and report back to Council at the July Council Meeting.

Councilmember Roger Bunn asked about what steps needs to be taken to have the tree located at South Williamson Road and Spring Street cut down. The tree is in a dangerous condition. Borough Manager George Lloyd is to contact the property owner to discuss options.

**A discussion was held on Council Meeting dates. Councilmembers would like to change regular Council Meetings from the third Monday of the month to the second Monday of the month. Vote was held, unanimous. All in favor. Meeting change to be advertised.**

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

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

**(I) Recreation:**

Meeting of May 23, 2011 at 6:00 P.M. was held at Island Park. Members walked around park to see what areas need to have work done.

Roger Bunn was appointed to the Recreation Board, but due to other commitments he would like to step-down from the position. Councilmember Jolene Hall agreed to take the Recreation Board position.

**Reports:**

On May 26, 2011 a wind shear or tornado hit Island Park and surrounding areas. A "Declaration of Disaster Emergency" was issued. The Blossburg State Coal Festival was cancelled due to the devastation to Island Park. The American Legion Post 572 will host a Steak Dinner on June 26, 2011 at 1:00 P.M. for all of the volunteers that helped with the storm damage clean up on Island Park. To help cover some of the costs for the dinner Councilmember Cheryl Bubacz suggested the Blossburg Borough pay for the steaks. Vote was held, unanimous. All in favor.

Walking Trail: The Walking Trail is being worked on, by borough employees, as time allows. Councilmember Jill Nickerson is applying for \$10,000.00 through the Packard Foundation. Their next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2011.

Pool: Main Line submitted Invoice #9 for the work completed at the pool. The invoice amount is \$30,261.86. Councilmembers agreed not to pay the invoice until all work is completed

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

Councilmembers Jeffrey Everett attended the meeting.

Mr. Everett commended the Fire and Ambulance departments for the excellent job they did after the May 26, 2011 storm hit this area.

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

(L) **Street Committee:**

Working on streets scheduled for tar & chipping. Completion date is mid July.

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

(N) **Budget:** Nothing at this time.

End of Second Quarter is on June 30, 2011. Budget Revenues / Expenditures Worksheets to be printed and copied for Councilmembers review by July 11, 2011 Council Meeting.

(O) **Project Committee:** Committee needs to meet and review newsletter.

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

Review consent order on I & I from DEP with Scott Bray. Sent copy to the Blossburg Municipal Authority Solicitor. Motion was made by Jeffrey Everett to accept the BMA Report; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

A meeting was being held tonight to discuss new building.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**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 the past few months. (2) South Williamson Road property (both buildings) was discussed.

**4. Sidewalk Repair Letter:**

Borough Solicitor and Code Officer are to review letter and give final approval. Property owners requiring sidewalk repairs will be notified in the spring. Also, Borough owned sidewalks will be included on list needing repairs.

**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. PennDOT reply: They will conduct an in-depth speed limit study including a review of the roadway, roadside conditions and an analysis of the crash history. If findings are warranted the Borough will be responsible for the purchase of the signage. Motion to purchase the signs was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

**6. New Flood Plain Ordinance:**

New Flood Plain Ordinance was reviewed and approved by Councilmembers. The "draft" Flood Plain Ordinance was sent to Tioga County Conservation. FEMA was to review by April 1, 2011. Since no updates were received yet, Borough Manager George Lloyd is to contact Dennis Colegrove on progress.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT AT 7:39 P.M.  
RECONVENED 8:29 P.M. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED.**

**Discussion was on increasing Chief Joshua McCurdy wages. Motion was made by Jeffrey Everett to increase Chief McCurdy's salary by \$2,500 / year. Starting July 3, 2011; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Bath Salts and Synthetic Marijuana:**

Councilmember Jill Nickerson questioned Chief McCurdy about the purchase and use of Bath Salts and the effects they have in our local community. Both Bath Salts and Synthetic Marijuana are a problem in the area. Borough Solicitor is to review and write an ordinance pertaining to these issues. Mr. Barrett should have the ordinance ready for review by the July 11, 2011 Council Meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2011 AT THE CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HALL, 6 FRANKLIN STREET, LAWRENCEVILLE, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M.**

**ANNOUNCEMENT: SHELL APPALACHIA VENTURE OPEN HOUSE, TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2011 at 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M., TIOGA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS. INFORMATION WILL BE ON MARCELLUS WORK.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Thomas Bogaczyk closed the meeting at 8:36 P.M.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for July 11, 2011 at 6:30 P.M.**

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Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary