

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

February 11, 2013

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council Vice-President Jill Nickerson 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 Thomas Bogaczyk (in Florida)); Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Jolene Hall, Paul Hosszu, Stephen Wagner, James Rakoski; Mayor John Backman; (absent, 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; Lynne Thompson; Bev Jones, and Kenneth Hughes.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 7, 2013 meeting were accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Report accepted subject to audit on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.

Bills: Bills to be paid on motion of Jolene Hall; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor.

Guests: Lynne Thompson, Blossburg Area Hometown Heroes Banner Project coordinator, updated Borough Council on the banner project. Mrs. Thompson talked about the following:
(1) The Tioga County Visitor's Bureau denied the Banner Project grant request.
(2) Forty-two (42) applications have been received. April 1, 2013 is the deadline for receiving applications.

For more information contact Lynne Thompson at (570) 367-3929 or e-mail lmct55@ptd.net.

Reports:

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

(B) **KCC:** Nothing to report.

(C) Committee Business Development:

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) meetings are held on fourth Wednesday of the month at the Brick Tavern at 6:30 P.M.

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

V.I.B.E. Officers are: President – Heidi Jones, Vice President – Jill Nickerson, Secretary – Josh Jones and Treasurer – Kelly Rossell.

V.I.B.E. upcoming events: (1) April 27, 2013 Blossburg Community Yard Sale. (2) August 10, 2013 Sleazy BBQ for V.I.B.E. (3) October 20, 2013 Fall Festival. (4) November 30, 2013 Small Town Christmas.

(D) **Mayor:** Nothing to report.

Reports:

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

The Police Report was accepted on motion of Jolene Hall; second, Paul Hosszu.
All in favor.

New Police SUV to be delivered in next few days.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Jolene Hall; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor.

Spring Cleanup is scheduled for April 29 – May 3, 2013. Items for pickup should be put out on Saturday or Sunday night, April 27 – 28, 2013. **All items must be out by Tuesday Night.**
All spring cleanup items will be picked up by Friday, May 3, 2013. **Local trash only!**

Island Park cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 11, 2013, with the rain date set for May 18, 2013.

New 2012 Backhoe 420F was delivered.

Talisman Energy requests permission to conduct seismic geophysical testing of all minerals across “Old Landfill” property. Agreement will expire on December 31, 2013. Comments made on agreement: Walk only, cable only, no shot holes. Motion was made by James Rakoski to grant permission to Talisman Energy to conduct seismic geophysical testing across “Old Landfill”; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

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

Zoning Hearing Board: No Meeting.

(I) **Recreation:** Recreation Board discussed United Fund disbursements. The organization is waiting to receive Ward Manufacturing’s matching donation before distributing monies.

Advertising for Pool Manager Position for the 2013 season. Deadline for receiving letters of interest for position is March 15, 2013.

Walking Trail: Work is on hold until the weather becomes warmer.

Blossburg Borough’s letter of request for County Act 13 monies, to be used for the construction of the Island Park Walking Trail, was denied.

Pool (Splash Pad): Plumbing and electrical work to be completed when weather warms up.

(J) **Fire:** Jolene Hall presented the January 28, 2013 minutes.

Organization received monies from Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for “Jaws of Life”. With grants and donations received the fund drive for the “Jaws of Life” is completed. Additional attachments for the equipment are to be purchased.

Blossburg Fire and Ambulance Department Annual Banquet will be held on Saturday, February 23, 2013.

Reports:

(K) **Library:** Geek the Library: The Blossburg Memorial Library campaign to raise awareness about the importance of library funding support. The campaign highlights what people are passionate about and how libraries can support them, in an effort to increase awareness about the funding issues that public libraries face.

Library upcoming events: (1) March 30, 2013 – Kiwanis BBQ for Blossburg Memorial Library.
(2) May 19, 2013 Bingo to be held at the Blossburg Fire Hall. (3) July 28, 2013 Garden Party to be held at the Hamilton Club.

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

(M) **Shade Tree Commission:** The dead tree on Main Street in front of David Bogaczyk's office was cut down.

(N) **Budget:** Act 13 Funding (Impact Fee monies) budget meeting will be held on February 13, 2013 at 8:30 A.M.

(O) **Project Committee:** Nothing to report.

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

BMA have identified nine (9) manholes for relining work. Repair work should help cut back on I & I.

New Taylor Run well preliminary report indicates water only needs to be chlorinated.

Code Red Services: Tioga County 911 has resources BMA may use in case of an emergency. David Cohick, Tioga County Emergency Services, was contacted by Borough Manager George D. Lloyd for an appointment to review what information is required for the setup process. Mr. Lloyd is waiting on an appointment confirmation.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Southern Tioga School District (STSD) Plans for New North Penn High School:

The Southern Tioga School Board is still reviewing options.

2. Borough Code of Ordinances – Update:

Recently adopted ordinances were sent to Keystate Publishers, so they can incorporate with the New Borough Code from Pennsylvania. Borough is expecting new updated book soon.

Borough Solicitor is to contact Keystate Publishers on status.

3. Condemned Properties Update:

- (1) 219 South Williamson Road – Nothing. Property owner does have a demolition permit.
- (2) 127 Schuylkill Street – Mr. Lloyd and Borough Solicitor to work on.
- (3) 101 Post Street – condition of property to be evaluated and mortgage holder to be contacted.

4. Sidewalk Repair Letter: Tabled until spring.

OLD BUSINESS:

5. New Electrical Service Behind the Downtown Monument:

Nothing to report. Borough Manager, Stoudt's Electric, and Josh Jones are to meet and review; i.e. location of panel, what is needed, etc.

6. Update Comprehensive Plan:

Council decided to amend existing Comprehensive Plan. Kevin Abrams of Northern Tier Regional Planning was contacted and no grants are available for Comprehensive Plans. Act 13 Funding (Impact Fee monies) are allowed to be used for Comprehensive Plans. Mr. Lloyd is to contact Tioga County Planner Jim Weaver for feedback on updating Blossburg's Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmembers Jill Nickerson, Jolene Hall, Paul Hosszu, and Stephen Wagner are to have a meeting to start reviewing the old Comprehensive Plan, as to what changes or additions they would like to amend in the existing Comprehensive Plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. TCAB Dinner – Blossburg Borough Host Meeting for March:

Thursday, March 21, 2013 was decided as the date. Location is to be the Blossburg Fire and Ambulance Building. The Blossburg Fire Department Auxiliary to provide the meal. Mayor Backman is to contact Tioga County Detective Scott Henry to do a PowerPoint presentation addressing School Vulnerability Assessment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY VICE-PRESIDENT JILL NICKERSON AT 7:44 P.M.
RECONVENED 7:53 P.M. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED.**

2. Hire Thomas Johnston:

Motion was made by Paul Hosszu to hire part-time employee, Thomas Johnston, full time, to work on I & I and sewer work; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2013 AT THE TRINITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 6 BROAD STREET, TIOGA, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:30 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M.

BLOSSBURG FIRE AND AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL BANQUET WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2013 AT 6:00 P.M. RSVP BY FEBRUARY 10, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT: Vice-President Jill Nickerson closed the meeting at 7:54 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2013 at 6:30 P.M.