

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

May 6, 2013

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: (absent, Vice-President Jill Nickerson (attending Southern Tioga School Board Meeting)); Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Jolene Hall, Paul Hosszu, (absent, Stephen Wagner), James Rakoski; Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; (absent, Chief Joshua McCurdy); Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Kelly Stemcosky Wellsboro Gazette; Lynne Thompson; Rita Larson; Shirley Ogden.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 8, 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 Jolene Hall; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.

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

Guests: Rita Larson, 154 Davis Street, attended meeting asking Council to have something done with properties that are not being maintained in Blossburg. Mrs. Larson stated a property owner that does not maintain their property, lowers adjoining property values. Mrs. Larson said "Blossburg has gone down the tubes" and she would do "whatever it takes" to clean up the town. Also, Rita Larson questioned Council on how many vehicles are allowed to be parked on one property. Council President Thomas Bogaczyk replied that as long as the vehicles are licensed there is nothing the Borough can do. Mrs. Larson said vehicles block the stop sign at the corner of property located on Lynn and Davis Streets. Mayor Backman is to instruct Chief McCurdy to look at the situation.

Shirley Ogden, 225 Gulick Street, asked if any decisions have been made on Blossburg supplying water to Richmond Township. Mr. Lloyd stated Ed Trask, Mansfield, PA, is searching for well sources and Mansfield University is a second water source. Blossburg's water supply is the third option. Councilmember Jerome Ogden assured Mrs. Ogden that Blossburg residents come first and Blossburg would not allow water to Richmond Township if it would cause a shortage to Blossburg Borough water customers.

Lynne Thompson told Council all plans for the banner dedication, scheduled for May 27, 2013, is on track. All 163 banners should be hung by Memorial Day. Banner applications are still being accepted.

Reports:

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

(B) **KCC:** Bill Nickerson, Jr. repaired the façade on the KCC Building, at no charge.

(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.

Reports

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) August 10, 2013 Slezzy BBQ for V.I.B.E. (2) October 20, 2013 Fall Festival. (3) November 30, 2013 Small Town Christmas.

V.I.B.E. presented a letter requesting the use of the KCC Building kitchen for providing a way for local citizens to prepare cooked and baked food for special events. This type of activity requires a "Food Establishment Registration" license. The KCC kitchen would need to be upgraded to licensing standard. Council discussed V.I.B.E.'s request and decided more information is needed before any decision is made.

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

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

Corrections to Police Report: Traffic Citations – 12. Non-Traffic Citations – 2.
Estimated Fines – \$2,324.00.

The Police Report was accepted on motion of James Rakoski second, Paul Hosszu.
All in favor.

Council requested total monies from fines received are included on Police Report.

Officer Lisa Delange has finished her first shift training and is now working with Officer Robert Scott during the second shift.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Spring Cleanup: 40 tons at a cost of \$2,200.00.

(H) **Planning Commission:** Meeting of April 30, 2013.

Planning Commission Board reviewed Hyrdo Recovery LLC request to put a temporary evaporator unit within setbacks of Boone Run Road. If the temporary evaporator works out a permanent evaporator will be purchased. Request was approved on the temporary evaporator – for one (1) year only.

Zoning Hearing Board: No Meeting.

(I) **Recreation:**

Advertised for Lifeguards and positions were filled. Not as many lifeguards were hired for 2013 season. The lifeguards that were hired are to work more hours, eliminating the few hours several lifeguard were working in the 2012 season. Pool Manager Nathan McNamara will have Derek Hall and Holly Berguson helping him with the operation of the pool.

Reports:

Concession Stand will have three (3) workers. The idea is to keep Concession Stand opened longer and to serve more nutritional foods.

Williamson Road Foundation Grants were received. Walking Trail - \$5,000.00 and Handicap Accessible Water Fountain - \$1,000.00.

Nickerson Construction started the new roof on large pavilion today. The roof should be completed by Coal Festival week. The cost is approximately \$10,000.00.

Young Lungs at Play: “Young Lungs at Play / This is a tobacco-free zone”. Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett is writing an ordinance to enforce Island Park as a tobacco-free area.

Walking Trail: Ward Manufacturing is installing drain pipe under two (2) areas of trail.

Crosswalk at entrance to Island Park needs to be made more visible.

Signs need to be made “No Motorized Vehicles Allowed”. Police Department to patrol for offenders.

A motion was made by Paul Hosszu to name the Walking Trail the “Island Park River Walk”; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor. Councilmember Jerome Ogden is to work on dedication plans. The Coal Festival Committee is to be contacted to see if the dedication of River Walk could be worked into Coal Festival activities. A meeting was scheduled for May 10, 2013 – 9:00 A.M. at the Borough Hall to discuss more detailed plans for the dedication.

Pool (Splash Pad): Most features are installed. Plans are to have Splash Pad in operation when the pool opens.

(J) Fire: Councilmember Jolene Hall presented the March 25, 2013 minutes.

(K) Library: The Friends of the Blossburg Memorial Library are organizing a Super Bingo Fund Raiser to be held at The Blossburg Fire Hall on Sunday, June 9, 2013. Doors open at 10:30 AM and the first game starts at 1:00 PM.

July 28, 2013 Garden Party to be held at the Hamilton Club.

New landscaping is being planned for the Library. Library Board is asking for Borough help. More information is needed before any decisions are made.

(L) Street Committee: A list of 2013 proposed streets for tar & chipping was reviewed. Total miles and cost: 1.98 miles at ± \$29,500.00. (7,000 Gallons – E-Oil: \$17,500.00 400 Tons – 1B Stone: \$12,000.00). Motion to accept 2013 proposed streets for tar & chipping was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

(M) Shade Tree Commission: A meeting is to be scheduled with Ettingers on May 10, 2013 at 1:15 P.M. to discuss Main Street trees.

(N) Budget: Nothing at this time.

(O) Project Committee: Nothing to report.

Reports:

(P) Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):

Twenty-Six (26) leaking sewer laterals were televised. DVD's to be reviewed to see how to repair some leaks. Three (3) cracked main lines were located.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Southern Tioga School District (STSD) Plans:

A work session is being held tonight. A probable vote on school closing will be held.

2. Borough Code of Ordinances – Update:

A "Final Draft" letter was received, with Keystate Publishers recommendations and changes. Councilmembers to review items. Attorney Barrett and Mr. Lloyd to have a meeting to discuss proposed changes.

3. Condemned Properties Update:

- (1) 219 South Williamson Road – Trailer was razed, but there still is some cleanup to be done.
- (2) 127 Schuylkill Street – Jeffrey McFall is cleaning up property.
- (3) 101 Post Street – Condition of property to be evaluated and mortgage holder to be contacted.

4. Sidewalk Repair Letter: Council decided to remove trees on Main Street before concentrating on sidewalk repairs.

Tabled. Remove from agenda. Motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Jolene Hall.
All in favor.

5. New Electrical Service Behind the Downtown Monument:

Nothing to report. Stoudt's Electric is working on design for Josh Jones.

6. Update Comprehensive Plan:

Council decided to amend existing Comprehensive Plan. Four (4) companies made presentations. Mr. Lloyd to give proposal costs to Council. How detailed updated Comprehensive Plan is will affect the cost.

7. Talisman Agreement to Use Borough Streets:

Talisman would like permission to access surrounding areas by using Borough streets. A Road Maintenance Agreement with Talisman is being negotiated.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. STSD Request to Convert Two Way Morris Street into a One Way Street:

The purpose of this conversion would be to put additional angled parking on both sides of Morris Street for increased parking needs due to the consolidation of high schools.

Attorney Barrett to contact Attorney Chris Lantz on timing purpose.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2013 AT THE LANDING STRIP FAMILY RESTAURANT, ROUTE 414, LIBERTY, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY MONDAY, MAY 13, 2013.

21st ANNUAL BLOSSBURG STATE COAL FESTIVAL, ISLAND PARK, MAY 22 – MAY 25, 2013.

Veteran's Service & Hometown Heroes Banner Dedication & Reception, Memorial Day – Monday, May 27, 2013 at 11:00 A.M., Blossburg Veteran's Monument, Main Street, Blossburg, PA. R.S.V.P. by May 20, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT: President Thomas Bogaczyk closed the meeting at 8:41 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2013 at 6:30 P.M.

AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT, AT END OF MEETING. NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN. EXECUTIVE SESSION 8:42 P.M. TO 9:02 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary