

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

September 20, 2010

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President James J. 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 Thomas Bogaczyk (Mrs. Bogaczyk in hospital)); Second Vice-President Jill Nickerson; Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Jeffrey Everett, Mark Bowne, Roger Bunn; 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; Cheryl Clarke Sun Gazette; Rebecca Hazen Wellsboro Gazette; Shelby Kinsey Blossburg Memorial Library Director.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 16, 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 Roger Bunn; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

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

Guests: Shelby Kinsey Blossburg Memorial Library Director attended the meeting requesting support from Borough Council on a Public Library Facilities Mini-Grant Application, Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund – 2010. Project Summary: Carpet Replacement. Project Cost: Grant Requested: \$6,250.00. Matching Fund: \$6,250.00. Total Project Cost: \$12,500.00. Motion was made by Jerome Ogden to approve Mini-Grant Application; second, Roger Bunn. All in favor.

Reports:

A) NPHS Student: Councilmembers suggested having a letter sent to Principal David asking if any student(s) would be interested in attending the Council meetings. Councilmembers feel this would be a way to have the student(s) get involved in community activities, experience our local government and report on school happenings. The student(s) recruited may possibly use their time towards the school civic duty requirement.

(B) KCC: Nothing to report.

(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 for July 28, 2010 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers.

V.I.B.E. topics:

(1) Directional signage, which was purchased with extra grant money, has been installed. (2) Fall Festival is scheduled for October 17, 2010 from 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Many events are scheduled, including a hayride. Insurance coverage for hayride to be sponsored this year by American Legion William B. Wilson Post 572.

Reports:

Skate Park: Jill Nickerson is in contact with Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Grant resources to close out grant.

Councilmember Roger Bunn stated there is an excellent article in the September 2010 Pennsylvania State Association Borough (PSAB) magazine on Skate Parks.

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

(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.

At the August 16, 2010 Council Meeting, Councilmember Thomas Bogaczyk questioned the number of nonpayment drive off complaints from the Kwik-Fill. It was noted, the Kwik-Fill only calls the Police Department when they have a license number.

Use of Electronic Read Out Speed Signs: Discussed using a radar-operated speed limit sign that shows an electronic speed readout to oncoming traffic in the effort of alerting drivers of their speed. PennDOT rules are to be reviewed, as well as, purchase cost.

Also, discussed ways to slow down speeders on Carpenter and Hannibal Streets, especially during school hours. The uses of Pedestrian Crossing Signs were suggested. Borough Manager George Lloyd stated, if signs are purchased, they cost more than \$200.00 each.

Countywide DUI Task Force: The program is operated through Nelson Township Police Department. It is funded by the state. Reimbursement is yearly, at time and a half earnings, to active departments. Liability insurance is covered under the municipality participating. Motion to have Blossburg Police Department join Countywide DUI Task Force was made Jill Nickerson; second Roger Bunn. Jerome Ogden opposed the motion.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

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

The storm drain work on Island Park is completed. Documentation of materials and equipment used to be sent to Tioga County Conservation District for reimbursement.

Councilmember Roger Bunn requested the storm drains on North Williamson Road and Main Street be cleaned.

(H) **Planning Commission:** Meeting of August 31, 2010.

Reviewed and approved Grabowski application to install eight (8) more lots East of their existing Gulick Street Trailer Park.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

Reports:

(I) Recreation:

Head Start donated a "Spring" rider for Island Park playground.

Pool: Closed September 6, 2010.

Contractor still needs to work on Punch List.

Cost to install gas line to pool heater was \$2,535.00. A letter of "Thank You" is to be sent to Central Penn Gas for lowering the cost. Mrs. Gale Greer Hall was very helpful in getting the cost lowered.

Main Line submitted Invoice #7 for work completed at the pool. The invoice amount is \$9,900.00, which is the balance of project. Invoice #8 in the amount of \$30,705.91, which is ½ of retainage, was also submitted. Motion to pay Main Line Invoice #7 and Invoice #8 was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

(J) Fire: A Financial Report was received.

A \$9,500.00 Grant was received for payment on a truck.

Benefit: Family portraits will be taken at the Blossburg Fire Department on October 23, 24, November 6, 7, 13, 14. The \$10.00 fee buys a 5" x 7" photograph and a CD so you can print more photos.

(K) Library: Shelby Kinsey Blossburg Memorial Library Director is applying for a 2010 Public Library Facilities Mini-Grant through Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund. Funding is to pay for new carpeting.

A book sale will be held in October.

(L) Street Committee:

(1) Proposed Ordinance for No Parking along west side of Ruah Street from Hannibal Street to Lynd Street to be adopted tonight (under New Business). (2) Hamilton Township Ordinance limiting truck traffic on streets is to be reviewed by Borough Solicitor.

(M) Budget: Budget Committee met on September 13, 2010 to work on 2011 budget. Another meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2010. The 2011 Budget should be completed and ready for the October 18, 2010 meeting.

(N) Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):

Review old water lines for replacement in 2011.

Trying to get 1mg water tank inspected. Last inspection was done in 1989. Also, drained one (1) STP clarigester this month for inspection.

Carpenter Street Water Line Project cost was \$62.00/ft.

Reports:

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Project is still in the planning stages.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT JAMES J. BOGACZYK AT 7:38 P.M.
RECONVENED 8:16 P.M. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED.**

2. Borough Code of Ordinances – Update: Nothing to report.

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

4. Condemned Properties Update:

Davis Street property was sold. New owner was sent a letter. Borough is waiting for owner's response.

Schuylkill Street property owner was notified by Borough Solicitor to apply for Demolition Permit. Property owner had 10 days to respond. No response was received. Borough Solicitor to file papers.

5. Sidewalk Repair Letter:

Borough Solicitor is to review letter and give final approval. Borough Codes will be included with letter.

6. Engine Brake Ordinance (Jake Brake Ordinance):

Borough Solicitor sent a proposed Engine Brake Ordinance (Jake Brake Ordinance) to PennDOT Engineering District 3-0 for their review/approval and is waiting for their response.

7. New Flood Plain Ordinance:

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has outlined three activities that each community must undertake during the upcoming months that will ensure both continued participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and a high quality Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) for each community.

- Borough must review our preliminary FIRM and suggest corrections or comments.
- Borough is responsible to reach out to those residents affected by the changes on the FIRM and inform them of the potential flood insurance implications.
- Borough must adopt a new or amended floodplain ordinance that meets the NFIP minimum requirements or face possible suspension from the NFIP.

New Flood Plain Ordinance needs to be adopted by end of 2010.

Motion made by Jill Nickerson to proceed with process of updating the Borough Flood Plain Ordinances; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bids for 1987 Dresser Front End Loader:

Received as advertised.

One (1) bid was received:

Allenwood Equipment Co. Inc., Route 15, Allenwood, PA in the amount of \$5,132.00.

Motion was made by Jeffrey Everett to accept Allenwood Equipment bid; second, Roger Bunn. All in favor.

2. Bids for 1994 Chevy One Ton Truck w/Plow:

Received two (2) bids:

Adelbert A. Fousnought, Sabinsville, PA in the amount of \$ 651.51.

Lloyd Huyett, Jr., Mohnton, PA in the amount of \$2,287.00.

Motion was made by Jill Nickerson to accept Lloyd Huyett bid; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

3. Ordinance Prohibiting Parking in Certain Locations:

An ordinance amending Ordinance #219, September 13, 1972 as amended (Borough Code Chapter XV Part 3, §33) Prohibiting Parking in Certain Locations.

1. Ruah Street on the West side between the intersections of Hannibal Street and Lynd Street for a total distance of 400 feet, no parking at any time.

2. Carpenter Street on the South side between the intersection of Main Street to a point 110 feet East of Main Street; maximum of two hour parking only.

Motion that this proposed ordinance is adopted as advertised was made by Jeffrey Everett; second, Mark Bowne. All in favor.

4. Library Mini-Grant Application – Keystone Recreation, Park & Conservation Fund: Discussed earlier.

5. Landlord / Tenant Registration Ordinance:

Some corrections are needed. Councilmembers suggested attaching an Emergency Form for residents to complete incase occupant is handicapped. Ordinance will be discussed at next Council Meeting.

6. Request to Hold Block Party on Morris Street:

Loretta Frost, 140 Main Street submitted a request to have the road from the intersection of Nevins Street to Bleker Street blocked off for the purpose of holding a Block Party on September 25, 2010 from 1:00 P.M. to whenever. Councilmembers asked Ms. Frost to be notified that party is to end at 10:00 P.M. Motion to allow Ms. Frost's request was made by Roger Bunn; second, Jill Nickerson; All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

7. Request STSD Homecoming Activities – Block Party & Parade on October 1, 2010:

A letter was received from Sarah Brion, NPHS Student Council Advisor/English Teacher asking Council's approval on the upcoming Homecoming activities. The parade is scheduled to start at 6:00 P.M. on Friday, October 1, 2010. Traffic control and a parade permit from PennDOT are requested. A Block Party is to take place on Morris Street, which will require a portion of Morris Street (Carpenter Street to Hannibal Street) to be closed from 7:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. on Friday, October 1, 2010. Parents and community members are welcome to attend in the afternoon.

Motion to approve NPHS Homecoming activities on Friday, October 1, 2010 was made by Jill Nickerson; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

8. 2010 Halloween Trick-or-Treat Date:

The Blossburg Borough will hold Halloween on **Saturday, October 30, 2010**. The parade is at 5:00 P.M. – starting by the former Blossburg Ambulance Building located at the corner of Hannibal and Morris Streets. The parade will proceed West on Hannibal Street – then turn right onto Main Street and proceed North to the new Fire & Ambulance Building, 324 Main Street, where the judging of costumes will take place. Halloween hours are **Saturday, October 30, 2010, 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.**

Motion to hold Halloween Trick-or-Treat on Saturday, October 30, 2010 was made by Jeffrey Everett; second, Roger Bunn. All in favor.

9. House Bill 2431 (Article in PSAB Magazine):

Informational article in the September 2010 Pennsylvania State Association Borough (PSAB) magazine on Legislation that would force municipalities to merge or consolidate.

10. Payoff Existing Loans:

Jerome Ogden made a motion to payoff Garbage Mack Truck and Pedestrian Bridge loans using Certificate of Deposits in bank; second, Mark Bowne. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

UPPER PINE CREEK COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS WILL HOLD A MEETING ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2010 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE GAINES TOWNSHIP BUILDING, RT. 6.

RE: EAST RESOURCE / SHELL GAS WELL PRESENTATION

POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE: HYDRAULIC STIMULATION FLUID (HSF™) MANUFACTURING FACILITY GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2010 AT 11:00 A.M. OLD ROUTE 15 & BONE RUN ROAD, BLOSSBURG, PA 16912.

ADJOURNMENT: President James J. Bogaczyk closed the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2010 at 6:30 P.M.