

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

December 8, 2008

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Jerome Ogden 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 (appointment)); Councilmembers Jill Nickerson, (absent, James Holleman (ill)), Cheryl Bubacz, James Bogaczyk, (absent, Jeffrey Everett (Mother ill)); Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; (absent, Chief Ronald Steffen); Corporal Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) Member Tonya McNamara; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette.

Minutes: The minutes of the November 10, 2008: Borough Manager George Lloyd asked for a correction, which was requested by Jeffrey Everett – Page 3: Reports: Fire: Lee A Viard & Associates are doing the Department taxes. The minutes of the November 10, 2008 were accepted, as corrected, on motion of James Bogaczyk; second Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

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

Bills: Bills to be paid on motion of James Bogaczyk; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

Guests: None present.

Reports:

(A) **NPHS Student:** No student present. Miranda Kline NPHS Student Representative was at Sayre, PA playing basketball.

(B) **KCC:** David Thompson, Sr. did not attend meeting.

Borough Manager George Lloyd to contact Mr. Thompson asking him to attend Council meetings.

(C) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) V.I.B.E. meetings are held on third Wednesday of the month in the community room of the Blossburg Memorial Library at 6:00 P.M.

V.I.B.E. Minutes for November 19, 2008 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers.

Tonya McNamara reported on V.I.B.E. topics:

Facade Grants: Blossburg Memorial Library and Bloss Hardware are to be paid for the completion of their building facades. Borough Building facade is completed, invoices to be submitted to V.I.B.E. for reimbursement of half the cost. The Brick Tavern application is in progress.

Fall Festival Recycle Collection took in 268 pounds of textiles, 266 pounds of magazines, 3664 pounds of electronics for a total of 4,198 pounds of recycled material.

The judging of homes for the "Light Up the Holidays" in Blossburg is scheduled for December 21, 2008 between the hours of 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Reports:

TCDC, Blossburg Boro Councilmembers, V.I.B.E. members and several business members met on November 12th to discuss if we want to apply for revolving loan funding to assist commercial businesses within the Blossburg, Arnot and Morris Run areas. It was decided that a survey of business owners needs should be done before looking into the possibility of obtaining funds. TCDC or any of the other group may apply for this funding. TCDC is willing to apply and if they receive funds will distribute and collect payments for a small fee. Councilmember James Bogaczyk motioned to appoint or have a Councilmember attend these meetings. James Bogaczyk will represent the Improvement Association, Jill Nickerson will represent V.I.B.E. and maybe Cheryl Bubacz would represent Blossburg Borough Council, if the meetings were held after 5:00 P.M.

Jill Nickerson was at North Penn High School on December 5, 2008 to promote community participation, encouraging juniors, seniors and staff involvement. Mrs. Nickerson reported the students and staff are interested in getting involved.

Skate Park: DCNR Grant Application was approved in the amount of \$40,000.00. The grant request was in the amount of \$60,000.00. \$12,500.00 is on hand. The difference should be made up with in kind services. Project to start in the spring.

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

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

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

Corporal Joshua McCurdy attended Taser School at Bucks County Police Training Center in Doylestown, PA last month.

Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission (NTRPDC) submitted a single application on behalf of the Blossburg Police Department requesting \$5,000.00 in grant assistance for new equipment to ensure a safe community. The grant is through The Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). A reply should be received in January 2009.

After a discussion, Councilmembers authorized Corporal McCurdy to purchase a Taser and cartridges now. The cost should be approximately \$814.00. Councilmember Cheryl Bubacz made a motion to purchase taser and cartridges, not to exceed \$1,200.00 (2009 Budget amount); second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Councilmember James Bogaczyk asked about wood stove chimney heights. Ordinance is to be reviewed.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

PennDOT is trying to apply for grant money to replace STOP signs on municipal streets that intersect PennDOT roads. The Blossburg Borough has 30 such STOP signs and the information was sent to PennDOT.

Reports:

Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission issued micro loans to two (2) local businesses, Bloss Holiday Market and Bloss Auto Supply (NAPA). Both loans were in the amount of \$25,000.00.

Owner of property on South Mountain would like to meet with Councilmembers regarding a sludge project on the property. Councilmembers agreed to meet with owner, after the first of year. This item to be put on February 2009 agenda for scheduling a meeting date.

(H) Planning Commission:

No applications were submitted. No meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board: A meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2008 for the following:
1) To review a religious group using part of commercial building on Main Street.
2) Review conversion of single family home in a R-1 District into a duplex.

(I) Recreation: Councilmember James Bogaczyk reported in 2009 the pool will open after Memorial Day and will stay open until August 18, when the new pool construction is to begin.

Funding for new a new basketball court has been submitted to the Packer Foundation.

(J) Fire: No report received.

(K) Television: Board meetings are second Tuesday of month.

(L) Library: Councilmember James Bogaczyk copied and presented Friends of the Blossburg Memorial Library minutes from the November 11, 2008 meeting.

(M) Street Committee: Nothing to report.

(N) Budget: 2009 proposed budget was advertised.

Motion to accept the 2009 Budget, as presented, was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

(O) Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):

Blossburg Municipal Authority is still looking into getting old Rt. 15 well permitted for non-potable water use.

Another company is interested in purchasing 1/2 million gallons of water. They would be using 10,000 – 20,000 / day at a cost of \$16.00 / thousand gallons. This water would be supplied through a fire hydrant.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac:** The Borough Solicitor is working on.

2. **Island Park Oil & Gas Lease:**

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett is putting together a proposed lease to submit for bid. All Borough owned lands are to be included in bid.

3. **Resolution – Bank Loan for Pedestrian Bridge:**

Resolution to authorize borrowing for the financial obligation with First Citizens National Bank to refinance the Pedestrian Bridge with terms of note – short term obligation of less than five (5) years.

Resolution adopted on motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **2009 Fuel Bids:** Received as advertised:

<u>Williams Oil & Propane:</u>	Diesel Winter Mix -	\$1.6735 per gallon
	Diesel Summer Mix -	\$1.6735 per gallon
	Unleaded Medium Grade -	\$1.2160 per gallon
<u>Montour Oil:</u>	Diesel Winter Mix -	\$2.0635 per gallon
	Diesel Summer Mix -	\$1.9935 per gallon
	Unleaded Medium Grade -	\$1.5068 per gallon

Motion was made by Cheryl Bubacz to accept Williams Oil & Propane bid; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

2. **2009 Tax Ordinance:**

Motion that the proposed 2009 Tax Ordinance is adopted as advertised: Borough 5.507 mills / Fire 0.568 mills / Library 0.250 mills was made by Cheryl Bubacz; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

3. **DCNR Resolution Blossburg Community Pool Renovations:**

A motion for Borough Council to approve sponsoring the DCNR Grant Application to remodel the Island Park Pool was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

4. **2009 Contribution to Endless Mountain Transportation Authority (EMTA):**

A motion to make a \$100.00 donation to EMTA was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2008 AT THE PENN WELLS HOTEL, MAIN STREET, WELLSBORO, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 7:24 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2009 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary