

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

December 14, 2009

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: Vice-President Thomas Bogaczyk; Councilmembers Cheryl Bubacz, Jill Nickerson, James Bogaczyk, Jeffrey Everett, Mark Bowne; 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; Cheryl Clarke Sun Gazette; Roger Bunn; John Eckman, David Jones, Bev Jones, Josh Jones and Kenneth Hughes.

Minutes: The minutes of the November 9, 2009 meeting were accepted on motion of Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Cheryl Bubacz. 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, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

Guests: John Eckman attended the meeting to request the Borough to abandon the un-opened alley by his Main Street property. The alley is located by the driveway of the Blossburg Fire/Ambulance Department. The size of the alley is 991 Square Feet. If the Borough would grant Mr. Eckman's request, he would Quiet Title against the Borough. The Borough then could decide whether to fight the Quiet Title or not. Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett stated the Borough can't just give property away. Councilmembers were advised by Borough Solicitor not to do anything tonight. Mr. Barrett will contact Mr. Eckman's attorney James Carlson to discuss.

Reports:

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

(B) **KCC:** Borough is scheduling the rentals of KCC Building.

Councilmember Jeffrey Everett stated the building needs more front side lighting.

Borough Manager George Lloyd is checking on additional security solutions for the building. A tentative date of December 15, 2009 at 1:00 P.M. was scheduled to meet with Larry Locksmith. Mr. Lloyd is to contact committee if the above date is available with Larry Locksmith.

(C) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) 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 18, 2009 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers.

The new placemat/Newsletter was printed and has been distributed throughout the area.

The "Light Up the Holidays" in Blossburg will be held on Sunday, December 20, 2009.

Reports:

Skate Park: Skate Park is being used. In the spring, a weather shed/lean-to for skateboarders will be constructed and landscaping is to be done.

Councilmember Jill Nickerson announced a Save Our School (S.O.S.) meeting will be held on January 3, 2009 at 4:00 P.M. in the KCC Building.

Councilmember James Bogaczyk reported on the "Santa" and "S.O.S" Parade/Rally scheduled for Sunday, December 20, 2009 at 4:30 P.M. A parade permit was applied for and approved through PennDOT. Request to close Morris Street, in front of North Penn High School at 12:00 P.M. and Hannibal Street at 3:30 P.M. Main Street is to be closed at 4:00 P.M. Acorn Market exit onto Hannibal Street to be closed at 12:00 P.M. All Councilmembers are invited to participate and should be at the Fire/Ambulance Building by 3:45 P.M. Motion to allow street closings for parade was made by James Bogaczyk; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman had nothing to report at this time.

(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.

Officer Jeffrey Perry, the new part-time patrolman, is working out well.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

The water line to Hamilton Township is completed. In spring there will be some cleanup work to do.

1998 Mack Tandem and the 1996 JD Loader are working well.

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

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(I) **Recreation:**

Recreation Board budget received. Total expenses for 2009 were \$42,261.32. Starting in 2010, all Island Park revenues and expenditures to be done through the Blossburg Borough General Fund. A few 2010 Island Park upcoming expenses are: (1) New Storm Sewer. (2) KCC Building Repairs. (3) New Pool Design will require additional lifeguard(s). (4) New Pool heater will increase utility bill.

Main Line submitted their second invoice for work completed at the pool. The invoice amount is \$50,850.00, which is due December 17, 2009. Motion to pay second request was made by Jeffery Everett; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

Reports:

(J) **Fire:** A Financial Report and copy of minutes were received.

Fourth Monday of month – November 23, 2009 nominations for new officers will be held.

No report was received.

(K) **Library:** Joann Ogden resigned as President. Deb Scott is now the new President.
Joann Ogden is Vice-President

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

(M) **Budget:** 2010 proposed \$650,138.60 budget was advertised.

Motion to accept the 2010 Budget, as presented, was made by James Bogaczyk;
second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

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

BMA received approval from Susquehanna River Basin Council (SRBC) to sell water to gas companies for gas well fracking.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY PRESIDENT JEROME OGDEN AT 7:10 P.M. RECONVENED 7:40 P.M. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED. NO ACTION TAKEN.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac:**

Dave and Bev Jones are not interested in pursuing.

Remove from agenda. Motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, Jeffery Everett. All in favor.

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

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett asked not to adjourn meeting and reconvene on December 28, 2009 at 5:00 P.M. so that he can review and complete lease before end of year.

3. **Southern Tioga School District Plans for Closing North Penn High School:**

Discussed earlier.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bid Opening for Vehicle Fuel Bids: Received as advertised:

<u>Williams Oil & Propane:</u>	Diesel Winter Mix -	\$2.0780 per gallon
	Diesel Summer Mix -	\$2.1375 per gallon
	Unleaded Medium Grade -	\$2.1375 per gallon

<u>Montour Oil:</u>	Diesel Winter Mix -	\$2.3574 per gallon
	Diesel Summer Mix -	\$2.2974 per gallon
	Unleaded Medium Grade -	\$2.3285 per gallon

Motion was made by Thomas Bogaczyk to accept Williams Oil & Propane bid; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

2. 2010 Tax Ordinance:

Motion that the proposed 2010 Tax Ordinance is adopted as advertised: Borough 5.807 mills / Fire 0.568 mills / Library 0.250 mills, totaling 6.625 mills was made by Jeffrey Everett; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

3. Ordinance: RE: \$400,000 Obligation Note – Swimming Pool & Capital Related:

Cheryl Bubacz made a motion that the proposed Ordinance Authorizing the Incurrence of Nonelectoral Debt in the amount of \$400,000.00 be advertised; second, James Bogaczyk.

Roll Call: Yes – James Bogaczyk, Thomas Bogaczyk, Jeffrey Everett, Jill Nickerson
Cheryl Bubacz, Mark Bowne

Unanimous.

Motion carried.

4. Monument Repairs: Roger Bunn reported the VFW will be contributing \$480.00 towards the stone repair work on the Main Street Veterans Monument.

5. Plaques:

President Jerome Ogden presented Cheryl Bubacz with a plaque “In recognition for the many years of dedication while serving on Blossburg Borough Council January 1998 – December 2009”.

A plaque for deceased Councilmember James Holleman also will be presented to his widow for his years of dedication: July 1996 – October 2009.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1. TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2009 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.**
- 2. SANTA PARADE & CANDLELIGHT RALLY WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 20, 2009 AT 4:30 P.M. THE PARADE WILL BEGIN AT THE BLOSSBURG FIRE HALL, CONTINUE DOWN MAIN STREET, TURN ONTO HANNIBAL STREET AND END IN FRONT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL.**

Meeting will not adjourn as there are some items to be completed. The meeting was dismissed at 8:18 P.M. by President Jerome Ogden, to reconvene December 28, 2009 at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary

**Borough Council Meeting continued from December 14, 2009 –
Reconvened December 28, 2009 at 5:00 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.**

Attendance: (absent, President Jerome Ogden); Vice-President Thomas Bogaczyk; Councilmembers Jill Nickerson, Cheryl Bubacz, James Bogaczyk, Jeffrey Everett, Mark Bowne; Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Roger Bunn.

Fortuna Gas Lease:

No advertising required, because all Councilmembers were in agreement.

5 year subsurface lease. \$2,000 / Acre + 15% Royalties. Money will be received up front and within 90 days. Acres include Island Park, Old Union Cemetery and the old landfill. Maybe \pm 15 additional acres for Island Park. A surveyor will be hired to determine correct acreage and will be recorded at Tioga County Court House.

Motion to accept the Fortuna Gas Lease was made by Jeffrey Everett; second, Cheryl Bubacz. All in favor.

Pool:

Ordinance: \$400,000.00 Obligation Note – Swimming Pool & Capital Related:

\$400,000.00 Line of Credit in process.

A stop work order was issued on the new pool zero access. According to plan specs, the concrete was to be hand floated, trowled and double edged with light broom finish. The contractors work was not suitable. Pool engineer will submit his recommendations for construction repairs to the Borough within a few weeks. All work on hold until the spring.

Borough Manger George Lloyd would like to hire someone to be at pool while construction is taking place. Cost of wages are being calculated by Aquatic Design

2010 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.

Planning Commission Meeting:

A meeting is scheduled for December 29, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. to discuss changing St. Andrews Church & Hall into apartment buildings.

Councilmember James Bogaczyk questioned if this property is being taxed, since the buildings have not been used for church purposes for over a year.

Borough Solicitor is to check on zoning issues for any restrictions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. **Reorganization Council Meeting January 4, 2010 at 6:30 P.M. Oaths of Offices are scheduled for January 4, 2010 at 6:15 P.M.**
2. **Review Borough Insurance Package: January 6, 2010 at 9:30 A.M. (*Information Only*)**
3. **Seminar on impacts of gas well drilling on public water supply: January 20, 2010 at 6:00P.M. Wellsboro Municipal Building.**

ADJOURNMENT: Vice-President Thomas Bogaczyk closed the meeting at 5:30 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2010 at 6:30 P.M.

Oaths of Offices are scheduled for January 4, 2010 at 6:15 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary