

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## March 11, 2013

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Councilmember 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, President Thomas Bogaczyk (in Florida)); (absent, Vice-President Jill Nickerson (sick)); Councilmembers Jolene Hall, Paul Hosszu, Stephen Wagner, James Rakoski; Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Kelly Stemcosky Wellsboro Gazette; Lynne Thompson, Kenneth Hughes, Heidi Jones, and Jeffrey McFall & Son.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the February 11, 2013 meeting were accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.

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

**Bills:** Bills to be paid on motion of Stephen Wagner; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

**Guests:** Jeffrey McFall asked Council's consent in supporting his intention to purchase the deed for 127 Schuykill Street. Mr. McFall has bid on the property through the County. His goals are to clean up the property, repair the house and then live at the residence. Borough Manager George D. Lloyd stated the property has infiltration problems, that needs to be corrected before the home can be occupied. Council agreed to support Mr. McFall's plans. McFall will also require support from the Southern Tioga School District and the County of Tioga before the property will be cleared.

Lynne Thompson, Blossburg Area Hometown Heroes Banner Project coordinator, updated Borough Council on the banner project. First group of 70 photos were sent to Dart Photography for high-resolution scanning. After cropping is completed the photos will be sent to banner company in Bethlehem. Mrs. Thompson's goal is to have a second group of 70 photos by April 1, and have 140 banners hung for Memorial Day. A dedication ceremony is being planned for Memorial Day 2013 in conjunction with the regular Memorial Day services at the Blossburg Monument. Mrs. Thompson would like to close Main Street, for the festivities, from the corner of Carpenter Street to the corner of Hannibal Street. Councilmembers agreed to allow the closing of Main Street for this event. Main Street is a state road; a Parade Permit Application will be submitted to PennDOT by Borough Secretary Mary Signor.

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

### **Reports:**

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

(B) **KCC:** March 30, 2013 – Kiwanis BBQ for Blossburg Memorial Library.

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

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman reminds anyone selling goods, wares or merchandise, upon any of the streets in the Blossburg Borough, must obtain a license / permit signed by him or the borough police.

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

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

New Police SUV was delivered and is in use.

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Stephen Wagner; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Mr. Lloyd asked permission to sale several pieces of equipment: 1) 1985 Mack Garbage Truck 2) 1985 Ford Single Axle Dump 3) 1986 International 10 Wheel Dump Truck 4) 1989 GMC Truck Chassis 5) 2003 Ford Victoria Car. Council, by resolution, approved sale of the surplus utility vehicles. Motion to advertise sale of equipment was made by Jolene Hall; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor.

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

Zoning Hearing Board: No Meeting.

(I) **Recreation:** Distributed United Fund money to local organizations.

Advertising for Pool Manager Position for the 2013 season. Deadline for receiving letters of interest is March 15, 2013. Interviews to be held on March 18, 2013.

Island Park User Agreement Between Borough of Blossburg and Southern Tioga School District:

Term of five (5) years from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2018, for the sum of \$75,000.00, to be paid \$15,000.00 annually, on or about July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Council, by resolution, approved Agreement. Motion to accept Island Park User Agreement was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor.

Lewis and Clark Circus are requesting permission to perform on Island Park July 1, 2013. This event is a fundraiser for Little League. Motion was made by James Rakoski to allow Lewis and Clark Circus to use Island Park for the Circus performance; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

**Reports:**

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

Borough Manager was questioned if Walking Trail could be plowed.

Signs are needed stating "Dogs need to be on leashes".

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

(J) **Fire:** No minutes or Financial Report were received.

(K) **Library:** No meeting.

Library upcoming events: (1) May 19, 2013 Bingo to be held at the Blossburg Fire Hall.  
(2) July 28, 2013 Garden Party to be held at the Hamilton Club.

(L) **Street Committee:** Borough Manger will be looking at roads / streets needing tar & chipping this year and will presenting a proposed project list to Council.

(M) **Shade Tree Commission:** Nothing to report.

(N) **Budget:** Act 13 Funding (Impact Fee monies) of \$139,708.00 will be used as follows:

\$30,000.00 – St. Mary's Bridge

\$35,000.00 Blossburg Municipal Authority manhole repairs / infiltration

\$40,000.00 New Police SUV

\$16,191.00 New Recycling Container, part of new Garbage Truck

\$13,517.00 Capital Reserve

\$5,000.00 to the Mansfield Area Water Task Force for its water needs assessment plan

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

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

BMA accepted a bid for \$33,000.00 to reline nine (9) manholes. Repair work should help cut back on I & I.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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

The Southern Tioga School Board Transition Team is working on smooth combining of schools.

**2. Borough Code of Ordinances – Update:**

Keystone Publishers were contacted. Information the Borough had sent was mislaid. Keystone will get done ASAP, because Borough has been waiting too long.

A "Final Draft" letter was received, with Keystone Publishers recommendations and changes. Councilmembers to review and all will be discussed at next month's Council Meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**3. Condemned Properties Update:**

- (1) 219 South Williamson Road – Nothing. Property owner does have a demolition permit.
- (2) 127 Schuylkill Street – Jeffrey McFall is trying to purchase (discussed earlier).
- (3) 101 Post Street – condition of property to be evaluated and mortgage holder to be contacted.

**4. Sidewalk Repair Letter:** Tabled until spring.

Councilmembers decided to have the Street Committee and the Shade Tree Committee meet together to discuss problem tree roots lifting borough sidewalks, consequently making the sidewalks uneven and hazardous. Mr. Lloyd is to schedule the meeting.

**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. Three (3) companies were contacted. Council is in the process of meeting with these companies.

**7. Walking Trail Agreement of Easement with Ward Mfg.:**

Portions of Island Park Walking Trail encroach upon lands owned by Ward Mfg. An Agreement of Easement concerning these portions of land is necessary. Motion was made by Paul Hosszu to permit signing of the Island Park Walking Trail Agreement of Easement with Ward Mfg.; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

**8. Florence McNeal Purchase of Railroad Property:**

On November 12, 2012 at the regular scheduled Council Meeting, Council granted permission for Florence McNeal to purchase a small portion of Borough railroad property that joins her property at 142 Main Street, in the amount of \$750.00.

A Quit Claim Deed between the Borough of Blossburg and Florence McNeal is now ready to be authorized and signed. Motion was made by James Rakoski to allow the signing of the Quit Claim Deed; second, Jolene Hall. All In favor.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Blossburg Municipal Authority Request Act 13 Monies:**

A letter was received from Chairman Frank Wasowicz Blossburg Municipal Authority requesting \$50,000.00, from Borough Act 13 monies, to repair the sewer system. Councilmembers allocated \$35,000.00, which was budgeted in the 2013 Unconventional Gas Well Fund Usage Report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**2. Resolution No. 1 2013:**

Resolution for Municipal Pension appointing title or position (i.e. Manager, Secretary, President of Council) to act as the chief administrating officer, rather than using a name. This suggestion came from PSAB (the company that manages the Pensions). Motion was made to appoint the Borough Manager to act as the chief administrating officer was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jolene. All in favor.

**3. Talisman Request to Use Borough Streets:**

Talisman would like permission to access surrounding areas by using Borough streets. A Road Maintenance Agreement with Talisman would have to be written and signed. Motion to negotiate Agreement was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor.

**4. Hydro Recovery:**

Complaints have been received on noise levels from pipe / truck cleaning at the Hydro Recovery Plant. Borough Manager George D. Lloyd is to contact plant officials on correcting the noise issues.

**AT END OF MEETING, AN EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT. NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2013 AT THE BLOSSBURG FIRE & AMBULANCE BUILDING, 324 MAIN STREET, BLOSSBURG, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M.**

**TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TCDC LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST AT THE PENN WELLS HOTEL, 62 MAIN STREET, WELLSBORO, PA ON THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2013 FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 10:00 A.M. (BUFFET OPENS AT 7:30 A.M.). R.S.V.P. & PAYMENT DUE BY MARCH 22, 2013.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Councilmember Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 7:38 P.M.

Executive Session adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2013 at 6:30 P.M.**