

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

April 13, 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: (absent, Vice-President Thomas Bogaczyk (in Florida)); Councilmembers Jill Nickerson, (absent, James Holleman), Cheryl Bubacz, James Bogaczyk, Jeffrey Everett; Mayor John Backman; (absent, Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett (death in family)): (absent, Chief Ronald Steffen); Corporal Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Emergency Coordinator Richard Williams, Sr., William Faughnan, Raymond Kaminski and Kenneth Hughes.

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

Guests: Resident Kenneth Hughes, 108 William B. Street, requested a yield or stop sign be installed at the intersection of William B. Street and Wilson Street. Councilmembers discussed the flow of traffic in area. James Bogaczyk made a motion to have temporary signs installed at intersection of William B. and Wilson Streets. A stop sign going West on Williams B. and a yield sign going South on Wilson Street; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Emergency Coordinator Richard Williams requested updating the Emergency Management Manual. Mayor Backman recommended waiting until the 2008 manual is received from the County. Mayor Backman and Councilmember Jill Nickerson will help with the updates once the new manual is received.

Blossburg Borough resident, Raymond Kaminski, 242 South Williamson Road, attended the meeting to state his concerns on the proposed South Mountain Biosolid Project. Mr. Kaminski referred to the South Mountain Project meeting of February 25, 2009.

At the meeting on February 25, 2009, three (3) Borough Council Members and representatives from Kyler Environmental met to discuss Kyler's plan to restore a former strip mine area on South Mountain in Hamilton Township with processed biosolids. Kyler also requested permission to use Borough streets to access the area. Borough Council has since approved the use of Borough streets at the March 9, 2009 Council Meeting.

Mr. Kaminski stated this biosolid project was not researched thoroughly and the public was not given an opportunity to acknowledge their comments or concerns with the project. Twenty-four homes are en route to the access area. Truck traffic on the Borough Streets is expected to be three (3) to seven (7) trucks per day.

Mr. Kaminski completed a great deal of research for his presentation to the Council. He questioned the testing requirements, truck hauling, water runoff, and the portable equipment used in mixing the bio-solids, etc. His main concern was the town's water supply risk from potential water runoff. Mr. Kaminski stated he is willing to meet with any person interested in his research material.

Guests: Mr. Kaminski also plans on attending the Hamilton Township meeting with these same concerns.

After a lengthy presentation, Council Members said they would look into some of the questions / concerns Mr. Kaminski mentioned. Council Member Jill Nickerson stated she appreciated Mr. Kaminski's homework effort and said that he had made a number of good points. Mr. Kaminski thanked Council for their time, and then left the meeting.

William Faughnan, owner of home located at 316 Main Street, attended the meeting for the purpose of Council's review of the proposed Southern Tioga School District (STSD) subdivision that connects to his property. This subdivision was discussed and approved by Blossburg Planning Commission on March 31, 2009. The subdivision request will now be sent to the Tioga County Planner.

Reports:

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

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

(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 were not available from the Internet.

Councilmember Jill Nickerson reported on V.I.B.E. topics:

1) The organization is working on a newsletter for school students. 2) The community garden plots are almost all spoken for. 3) V.I.B.E. is discussing the possibly entering a float in the Coal Festival Parade.

Skate Park: Must have designs and agreement to Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) by May 21, 2009.

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman reported the Generic Bar was demolished today. Owners to use area as a parking lot.

(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.

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett has Blossburg Police Department Taser Policy, which needs to be signed.

Councilmember James Bogaczyk announced the "Star Program" is scheduled to be dropped from the school curriculum, due to the cost. Mr. Bogaczyk stated this program is excellent in helping behavior problem students. Councilmembers suggested Blossburg Police Department to team up with Mansfield Police Department and attend a school meeting promoting the "Star Program".

Reports:

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

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

Independent contractors who want to work on homes must register with the State by July 1, 2009 before permits are issued.

A local iron works business contacted Borough Manager George Lloyd requesting permission to construct and install a headstone with 6 to 7 veteran flag holders on Union Cemetery, Gulick Street, at no cost to the Borough. The business promised quality workmanship. Permission was granted on motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second, Jeffrey Everett. All in favor.

(H) **Planning Commission:** Meeting of March 31, 2009.

Southern Tioga School District (STSD) subdivision was approved. Plans to be sent to Tioga County Planner.

A request for a home occupation special exemption to be located on North Williamson Road was tabled. More information is needed.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(I) **Recreation:** Councilmember Jill Nickerson is working on a Walking Trail Grant.

Mushroom soil is to be spread on football field.

Swimming pool to open on June 6 and will remain open until August 16 or when construction starts on the new pool.

(J) **Fire:** No report received. Council would like to receive reports.

New officers were elected and departments are in the process of changing accounts over. First Citizens National Bank would like to get all signatures as soon as possible.

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

Councilmember Jeffrey Everett stated local residents are requesting change, i.e. cable internet, more channels for their dollars.

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

(M) **Street Committee:** East Creek bridge needs repaired.

(N) **Budget:** Nothing at this time.

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

1) Bellman Filter Plant received the Area-Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) Award at PRWA Conference on April 1, 2009, for the second consecutive year. This award is for outstanding efforts toward optimizing water filter plant performance. 2) Getting a price on a new sludge pump for STP.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Minor Sub-Division/Cul-D-Sac:** The Borough Solicitor is working on.
2. **Letter of Support & Donation – New Playground in Hamilton Township:**

Borough Manager George Lloyd sent a support letter to the Hamilton Township Supervisors offering volunteer labor to help with construction.

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

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, April 16, 2009 AT THE ELKLAND FIRE & AMBULANCE BUILDING, 105 PAKHURST STREET, ELKLAND, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2009.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 8:11 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2009 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary