

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

May 11, 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 Jill Nickerson, (absent, James Holleman), Cheryl Bubacz, James Bogaczyk, Jeffrey Everett; Mayor John Backman; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; (absent, Chief Ronald Steffen); (absent, Corporal Joshua McCurdy (attending STSD Board Meeting)); Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) Member Tonya McNamara; David Thompson, Sr. KCC Committee and Chairman of the Coal Festival; Miranda Kline NPHS Student Representative; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Roger Bunn, Kenneth Hughes and Leighton Hill.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 13, 2009 were accepted on motion of Cheryl Bubacz; second James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

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

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

Guests: Roger Bunn, Kenneth Hughes, and Leighton Hill, all Blossburg residents, were attending the meeting for observation.

Reports:

(A) **NPHS Student:** Miranda Kline reported Student Council members are working on the following activities:

May 4 – May 8: Distributing gifts to teachers for Teachers Appreciation Week.

Students are working on final preparations for Greek Week, which is a weeklong competition between Juniors and Seniors. Winners of this contest get their name engraved on the official Greek Week trophy.

Members are planning for the end-of-year Talent Show.

Student Council Officers are working to ensure that next year will be as successful as this year by designing committees and events. Their continued efforts help ensure that the North Penn Student Council is a productive organization in the years to come.

(B) **KCC:** David Thompson, Sr. reported the organization's regular checking account balance is \$800.00.

All is going working well in working with V.I.B.E. and the organization utilizing the KCC Building.

(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 March 25, 2009 were printed from the Internet and copied for Councilmembers.

Reports:

A DCED Grant Financial Report was presented to Councilmembers.

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

1) Farmers Market will start on May 23. 2) A Community Yard Sale is scheduled for May 16.
3) Several more boxes were donated for the community garden plots. 4) V.I.B.E. is working with Frontier on purchasing internet usage for Island Park. 5) Discussing the possibility constructing a walking trail. 6) Basketball court renovations have started. Hoops are down and new equipment is on order. 7) Brick Tavern looking into installing a new awning. Half of cost to be covered under the Main Street Project.

Skate Park: Must have designs and agreement to Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) by May 21, 2009. Jill Nickerson is working with Larson Design.

(D) **Mayor:** Mayor Backman reported Corporal Joshua McCurdy was attending South Tioga School District Meeting promoting the "Star Program".

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

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

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

(G) **Borough Manager:**

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

East Creek road bridge is being worked on. It is not closed, but now has a lower weight limit of 3 tons. The original weight was 20 tons. A pipe is to be installed at cost of \$5,767.20. The total cost to be approximately \$15,000.00. Work to be completed last week of May 2009. After work is completed, the weight limit will be 10 tons.

Morris Run Water Project to begin again after the East Creek Bridge is completed.

(H) **Planning Commission:** Meeting of April 28, 2009.

Approved a home occupation special exemption to be located on North Williamson Road.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

A meeting was advertised for June 1, 2009 to review a home occupation at North Williamson Road residence.

A motion for Borough Council to approve Southern Tioga School District subdivision, contingent on Tioga County Planner approval, was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, James Bogaczyk. All in favor.

Reports:

(I) **Recreation:** Councilmember Jill Nickerson presented a proposal from Dave Mahonski, requesting Council to name the junior baseball diamond on Island Park after his father, Gary. Mr. Mahonski has been maintaining the field himself. He offered free labor, as long as he is able, if the borough would name the baseball field in his father's memory. Council appointed a committee to review the proposal and bring back the specifics. Committee: Cheryl Bubacz, Jill Nickerson and George Lloyd.

Next meeting is scheduled on May 18, 2009 in the Kaminski pavilion on Island Park.

(J) **Fire:** A Financial Report was received. Councilmembers were very appreciative.

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

(L) **Library:** Meeting of April 20, 2009:

June 16 – July 21, 2009 is the Summer Reading Program.

Basket Bingo: May 16, 2009 at 11:00 A.M.

"Under the Lentil", Thomas Putman from Hamilton Gibson is putting on a one man play, sometime in July.

The annual Library Garden Party fundraiser will be held July 25, 2009.

Next scheduled Library meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2009 at the library.

(M) **Street Committee:** A list of 2009 proposed streets for tar & chipping was reviewed and accepted by Council. Total miles and cost: 1.85 miles at ± \$20,000.00.

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

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

1) Submitted for grant money to help pay for Taylor Run dam removal. 2) Order a new sludge pump for STP.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT AT 7:05 P.M.
RECONVENED 7:50 P.M. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED. NO ACTION TAKEN.**

OLD BUSINESS:

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

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Blue Ridge Request for Television Franchise:

Williamson Road Television Company and Blue Ridge do not have franchises at this time. A committee was set up to evaluate. Committee: Cheryl Bubacz, Jill Nickerson, and Jeffrey Everett. Meeting scheduled for May 18, 2009 at 5:00 P.M.

2. Resolution: Tax Collection Committee (TCC) Representatives:

Act 32 timetables for 2009: A) September 15, 2009: Appoint voting and alternate delegates to the TCC (Tax Collection Committee) by resolution and adopt at regular meeting. B) November 15, 2009: First meeting of all TCDS (Tax Collection Districts) must take place before this date. C) December 31, 2009: DCED (Department of Community & Economic Development) will supply study to TCDS of existing collection methods across Pennsylvania.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2009 AT THE HARVET FAMILY FELLOWSHIP, SHAFFER HILL, LIBERTY, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2009.

17th ANNUAL COAL FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD FROM MAY 20 – 23, 2009 AT ISLAND PARK. VISIT www.blossburgcoalfestival.org OR TELEPHONE (570) 638-3313. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

ADJOURNMENT: President Jerome Ogden closed the meeting at 7:57 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for June 8, 2009 at 6:30 P.M.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary