

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

September 10, 2014

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Thomas Bogaczyk 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.

With deepest sympathy, Council President Thomas Bogaczyk made known the passing of retired Borough Secretary Sally A. Ward on September 1, 2014.

Council President Thomas Bogaczyk asked for a moment of silence in honor of Sally A. Ward.

In memory of Ms. Ward, a motion was made by James Rakoski to donate \$500.00 to the Blossburg Ambulance Association; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Attendance: Vice-President Jill Nickerson; Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Jolene Hall, Paul Hosszu, Stephen Wagner, James Rakoski; Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Jeff Benson (arrived at 6:45 P.M.).

Minutes: The minutes of the September 10, 2014 meeting were accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor.

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

Bills: Bills to be paid on motion of Jolene Hall; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor.

Guests: Jeff Benson was attending the meeting to observe.

Reports:

(A) **NPHS Student:** Nothing to report.

(B) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) meetings are held on fourth Wednesday of the month in the Blossburg Recreation Building at Island Park at 6:00 P.M.

V.I.B.E. Minutes were not available from the Internet.

V.I.B.E. projects: (1) Working with Anderson Group on Branding Project. (2) October 12, 2014 Fall Festival. The hours will be from 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

(C) **Mayor:** Discussed placement of the William B. Wilson sign, which originally was installed on old Route 15 or Bloss Mountain Road, but now is located at the American Legion Post 572. Councilmembers agreed the sign would be placed at the entrance of the Arbon Cemetery. The Arbon Cemetery is where the late William B. Wilson is buried.

Reports:

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

The Police Report was accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Stephen Wagner. All in favor.

Addition to Police Report: District Magistrate Fines Total - \$1,077.77.

The Neighborhood Watch Program, that has existed since 1986, was revitalized on September 4, 2014. Residents are encouraged to be alert of their surroundings, reporting unusual activity, and sharing information with the Police Department.

(E) Police Committee: Nothing to report.

(F) Borough Manager:

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Jolene Hall; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Online Asset Auctions – PennDOT Equipment, scheduled earlier this month, did not have good single axle trucks up for bid. Mr. Lloyd plans to wait and check the spring PennDOT auction.

Drone flights are being paid for by the Tioga County Visitors Bureau to fly over Wellsboro, Mansfield, and Blossburg taking aerial views of their Main Streets. The drone equipment is a rental business based by Hills Creek. Mr. Lloyd sees many opportunities for the use of this equipment (i.e. Island Park for replanting of trees and using for flood study).

Department of Agriculture did a pool inspection. It was noted from the inspection a Category 24 License is a requirement to spray bee killer at the Park.

(G) Planning Commission: No applications were submitted. No meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(H) Recreation:

Recreation Board to discuss pool dates for closing next year.

Discuss fishing along Johnson Creek for kids 15 years old and younger. Fish Commission needs to be contacted for details.

Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program (GTRP) Grant application is being reviewed. Grant approval to be known by November. Jerome Ogden asked Jill Nickerson about V.I.B.E. agreeing to pay half of RETTEW's charges for doing the grant paperwork. Mrs. Nickerson agreed V.I.B.E. would be paying half and will reimburse the Borough when they receive notification of the charges.

Island Park River Walk: Mr. Lloyd was approached about creating, then distributing, River Walk pamphlets to surrounding businesses. Councilmembers agreed it would be a good idea.

Reports:

(I) **Fire:** No Financial Report or Minutes were received.

The 2014 Halloween Parade will be sponsored by the Blossburg Fire and Ambulance Departments.

2014 Halloween Trick-or-Treat Date:

Due to the North Penn vs. Wellsboro football game being scheduled on October 31, 2014, the Blossburg Borough will hold Halloween on Saturday, November 1, 2014. The parade is at 5:00 P.M. – starting by the former Blossburg Ambulance Building, located at the corner of Hannibal and Morris Streets. The parade will proceed West on Hannibal Street – then turn right onto Main Street and proceed North to the new Fire & Ambulance Building, 324 Main Street, where the judging of costumes will take place. Halloween hours are Saturday, November 1, 2014, 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

(J) **Library:** Upcoming events: (1) Third Friday of the month is “Game Night”. 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.
(2) October 19 – 25, 2014 will be the Annual Book Sale.

(K) **Street Committee:** Members to schedule a meeting to make a plan for replacing sections of sidewalks in town. Councilmember Jill Nickerson is working on details. Project not to start until spring of 2015.

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

(M) **Budget:** First 2015 Budget Meeting was held on Wednesday, August 27, 2014. Next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2014 at 4:45 P.M. at 4:30 P.M. with the following day as an alternative meeting date.

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

The Tioga County Board of Commissioners approved Council’s request for a \$25,000.00 contribution toward the cost of replacing sewer lines along the Tioga River.

Setting water leak monitors on valves in Blossburg and Morris Run. L/B Water will take the information from the monitors on September 30 and display it on a computer screen to show BMA where possible leaks are.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Southern Tioga School District (STSD) Plans:** Nothing to report.

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

Keystone Publishers sent completed "Final Draft". Councilmembers reviewing information for changes. Attorney William Stokes is reviewing Final Draft, also.

3. **Condemned Properties Update:** 101 Post Street – Property to be appraised.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT, AT END OF COUNCIL MEETING. NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN. POSSIBLE LITIGATION DISCUSSED.

OLD BUSINESS:

4. New Electrical Service Behind the Downtown Monument:

Plywood and roof was installed on 6' x 6' posts. Electric work to start next. All work should be completed so electric is available for the Fall Festival. After all work is completed V.I.B.E. will be invoiced by Borough for all costs associated with the project.

Electric panel, which is made out of treated lumber, is to be stained next year after wood dries out.
Gazebo
to be stained at the same time.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 7TH ANNUAL MEET OUR MEMBER MIXER WILL BE HELD AT THE LAND SERVICES GROUP – CUMMINGHAM SURVEYORS, 10139 ROUTE 6, WELLSBORO, PA ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. AND PAYMENT DUE BY SEPTEMBER 12, 2014.

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHS DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2014 AT THE KNOXVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER (FORMER GERTRUDE CASE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL), 301 EAST MAIN STREET, KNOXVILLE, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M.

FALL FESTIVAL, OCTOBER 12, 2014 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: President Thomas Bogaczyk closed the meeting at 7:40 P.M.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary