

# BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

## April 9, 2014

Council Vice-President Jill Nickerson 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)), Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Jolene Hall, Paul Hosszu, (absent, Stephen Wagner (baseball practice)), 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; John E. Backman, Michael & Lynne Thompson, David Thompson, Jr., Jannifer Copley.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the March 12, 2014 meeting were accepted on motion of Jerome Ogden; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.

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

**Bills:** Bills to be paid on motion of Jerome Ogden; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

**Guests:** Michael & Lynne Thompson, David Thompson, Jr. explained the North Penn Area Concerned Citizens (NPACC). NPACC is "a new non-profit organization dedicated to the education, health, welfare, and safety of the children and their families in the North Penn Area communities." NPACC "not only formed to provide information and advocate for equal educational opportunities in the Southern Tioga School District and to keep a school in the Blossburg community, but to provide activities, events, and services to children and their families." NPACC are not boycotting local businesses. The group is trying to be a positive force for change for all the kids in the community. NPACC 501 (c) (3) is pending. The organization has By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation. NAACC meet every Thursday at 6:00 P.M. in the Blossburg Memorial Library Community Room. The public and business owners are welcome to attend NPACC meetings.

### **Reports:**

(A) **NPHS Student:** Dr. Al Lindner, principal of North Penn High School, is working on recruiting a new NPHS representative.

### **(B) Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) V.I.B.E. 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. topics:

- (1) Met with the Anderson Group (TAG) on March 27 at 6:00 P.M. and discussed giving the town a new logo and catch phrase.
- (2) April 5 at 10:00 A.M. – Community Garden work bee
- (3) April 26 from 8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. – Community Yard Sale
- (4) April 29 – Electronic Waste Collection

(C) **Mayor:** Nothing to report.

**Reports:**

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

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

This month, Corporal Scott is to attend school, in Harrisburg, on Weights and Measurements for Commercial Vehicles. Classes are sponsored by Pennsylvania State Police.

On Saturday, April 26, 2014 from 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. the Department will participate in the program “Got Drugs?” Unused or expired medication can be turned into the Department – No Questions Asked!

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

(F) **Borough Manager:**

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

Borough Engineer William S. Bray and Mr. Lloyd are working on Capital Improvement Plan for the Borough. Mr. Lloyd asked how Mr. Bray is to be paid. Motion was made by Paul Hosszu to pay Mr. Bray through the Act 13 monies; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.

On March 30, 2014 the overgrown trees on Main Street were removed by a group of volunteers. Main Street replacement trees are to be delivered April 17, 2014. Trees to be planted on April 22, 2014.

Bureau of Mining is filling old mining cut on South Mountain. Reclaimed area is being covered with processed biosolids and reseeded.

Correspondence received from Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection regarding Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc., Notice of Permit Action, authorization to surface mine on lands in Hamilton Township, South Mountain. Area to be accessed via William B. Street off of South Williamson Road.

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

**Zoning Hearing Board:** No meeting.

(H) **Recreation:**

United Fund raised \$5,000.00. Ward Manufacturing's to match funds raised. Total United Funds to be distributed is \$10,000.00.

Board discussed pool rates and activities.

Island Park Master Plan to begin. First meeting to be held on April 24, 2014 at 6:00 P.M. in the Recreation Building on Island Park. RETTEW modified Island Park Master Plan to a fee of \$13,000.00. Motion was made by Jerome Ogden to accept the cost modified Island Park Master Plan; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

**Reports:**

Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Island Park Walking Trail, Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Students from Mansfield University "Public Relations Workshop" are working on a campaign on behalf of The Tioga County Partnership for Community Health.

Island Park River Walk: The McNett's are staining and varnishing the benches along the walking trail.

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

Department is looking for a pumper-rescue truck.

Fire Department would like the entrance driveway to building paved, at the Borough's expense. Mr. Lloyd checked on cost of paving. 240' x 20' blacktop – for 4" BCBC and 1-1/2" top will cost \$15,000.00 to \$20,000.00. Councilmembers want solid prices before making any decisions.

(J) **Library:** Parking lot needs repaired. Mr. Lloyd is to get a paving quote.

Big tree needs dead limbs removed.

Upcoming fundraisers:            June 8, 2014 – Super Bingo  
   June 15 – 21, 2014 – Flamingo  
   July 27, 2014 – Garden Party

(K) **Street Committee:** Members to schedule a meeting in May to make plan for replacing sections of sidewalks in town.

Borough Manager is looking at roads / streets needing tar & chip this year.

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

(M) **Budget:** Nothing to report.

A meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2014 at 4:15 P.M. to review 2014 YTD Revenues / Expenditures.

(N) **Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):** Working at R & G Well removing old bolts to get ready for new valve installation in May.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **Southern Tioga School District (STSD) Plans:**

Students received letters stating which school they are to attend next year (Liberty or Mansfield).

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

Keystone Publishers sent completed "Final Draft". Councilmembers reviewing information for changes.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**3. Condemned Properties Update:**

- (1) 127 Schuylkill Street – Property was sold to local contractor. Contractor picked up Building Permit and wants to start working on home as soon as weather breaks.  
Remove from agenda.
- (2) 101 Post Street – Nothing to report.
- (3) 134 Taber Street – Property owner plans to raze house in next few months.

**4. New Electrical Service Behind the Downtown Monument:**

Stoudt's Electric completed design. Service will have a main panel with spider box extenders, which will have 24 electrical connections. Cost to be approximately \$5,000.00. Borough crew will install conduit to control box area as weather allows.

**5. Update Comprehensive Plan:**

Final Comprehensive Plan is in review for 45 days. A Public Hearing to be scheduled in May. RETTEW to be contacted if advertising was published.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY MAYOR SHANE NICKERSON AT 8:09 P.M. RECONVENED 9:00 P.M. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED.**

**Discussion on the present Police Department. Motion was made by Jerome Ogden to increase Officer Krape hourly rate to \$12.00 / hour; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.**

**Four (4) candidates were interviewed for the position of Office Assistant. Position was graded using a matrix system, scoring applicant's resume, interview, and references. Councilmembers agreed to hire JoAnn Davis at the pay rate of \$12.00 / hour. Motion to hire JoAnn Davis was made by Paul Hosszu; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.**

**6. Update on Hiring Office Assistant: Discussed earlier. Remove from agenda.**

**7. Resolution No. 1 Road Right-of-Way Agreement / Resolution with PVR:**

PVR Partners requested a Temporary Road Right-of-Way Option Agreement, to use the old landfill access road. The road will be maintained by PVR Partners. Borough Solicitor made changes to Agreement and Resolution.

Agreement was finalized. Remove from agenda.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Appointment of George D. Lloyd and Mayor Shane Nickerson to Upper Tioga Regional Authority:**

Motion was made by James Rakoski to appoint George D. Lloyd and Mayor Shane Nickerson to the Upper Tioga Regional Authority; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

**2. Facebook Page and Twitter Accounts:**

Councilmembers discussed setting up Facebook and Tweeter Accounts.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**3. Social Media Policy:**

Councilmembers discussed adopting a social media policy.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 2014 AT THE ELKLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT SOCIAL QUARTERS, 105 PARKHURST STREET ELKLAND, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY APRIL 17, 2014.**

**TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TCDC LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST AT THE PENN WELLS HOTEL, 62 MAIN STREET, WELLSBORO, PA ON THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2014 FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 10:00 A.M. (BUFFET OPENS AT 7:30 A.M.). R.S.V.P. & PAYMENT DUE BY APRIL 11, 2014.**

**BLOSSBURG BOROUGH SPRING CLEANUP WEEK OF APRIL 28 - MAY 3, 2014.**

**BLOSSBURG BOROUGH ISLAND PARK SPRING CLEANUP TIME MAY 3, 2014.  
RAIN DATE: MAY 10, 2014 – STARTING TIME: 8:00 A.M.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Vice-President Jill Nickerson closed the meeting at 9:20 P.M.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.**

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Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary