

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

September 9, 2015

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President James Rakoski 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 Jill Nickerson; (absent, Councilmembers Jerome Ogden and Stephen Wagner attending son's football game), Thomas Bogaczyk, Jolene Hall, Paul Hosszu; Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Corporal Robert Scott; Stephen Guillaume President Southern Tioga School Board, Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Mataya Nickerson.

Minutes: The minutes of the August 12, 2015 meeting were accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

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

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

Guests: Jason Przybycien is moving to Middlebury Center, PA. After Mr. Przybycien moves, a volunteer will be needed to manage Game Night at the Blossburg Memorial Library.

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.

Elections of officers for organization were held. V.I.B.E. Officers are: Co-Presidents – Tonya McNamara and Jill Nickerson, Vice President – Heidi Jones, Secretary – Josh Jones and Treasurer – Kelly Rossell.

V.I.B.E. upcoming events: October 11, 2015 Fall Festival. The hours will be from 12:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

(C) **Mayor:** Mayor Nickerson had nothing to report.

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

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

Addition to Police Report: District Magistrate Fines Total - \$556.77.

Chief McCurdy reported the water pump needed replaced in the 2013 SUV police car. The repair cost was \$1,393.09.

Reports:

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

(F) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Thomas Bogaczyk. All in favor.

Mr. Lloyd asked permission to bid the 1997 Single Axle Dump Truck. Motion to bid vehicle was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

(G) **Planning Commission:** A meeting was held on August 25, 2015. Board Members recommended approval of side yard and height variance for Terry Osborne's proposed garage on McIntyre Street. Meeting to be scheduled with Zoning Hearing Board next.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(H) **Recreation:**

The pool closed on September 7, 2015.

Mr. Lloyd reported on the pool revenues vs. expenditures. The pool has never made money. Expenditures for 2015 are an excess of \$20,000.00.

Trees: Bare root trees are ordered at the cost of \$629.00. The delivery date is November.

Type of trees ordered are: 3 – Armstrong Maple = \$231.00 (\$79.00 each)
3 – Katsura = \$297.00 (\$99.00 each)
1 – Green Mountain Sugar Maple = \$101.00

Island Park River Walk: Nothing to report.

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

(J) **Library:** No meeting was held. Nothing to report.

(K) **Street Committee:** Mayor Shane Nickerson reported on Mansfield Borough Sidewalk Grant Program that started ± 25 years ago. Mansfield's yearly Sidewalk Project costs usually \$10,000.00 - \$22,000.00. Matching funds come from local banks, BOOM, and Borough. Eligible sidewalks must run parallel with streets. Applications are simple, which Blossburg could use. Property owner and Borough pay contractor individually.

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

(M) **Budget:**

Total donations received for new lawn mower for Island Park: \$6,533.28. Cost of new zero-turn mower would be approximately \$8,500.00.

Councilmembers discussed purchase of new mower for Island Park. Motion to purchase a zero-turn mower for Island Park was made by Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Paul Hosszu. President James Rakoski opposed.

Reports:

2016 Financial Requirements & Minimum Municipal Obligation for Pension Plans (MMO's):
Police - \$26,405.00 / Non-Uniform - \$35,719.00.

A 2016 Budget Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at 9:00 A.M.

(N) Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):

Completed 600' of 12" sewer main replacement along Tioga River from manhole in Methodist Church parking lot going north.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Southern Tioga School District (STSD) Plans:

Stephen Guillaume President Southern Tioga School Board reported on presentation of previous committee meetings and options of closing schools. At the present time, the Board is just brainstorming visions on options. Mr. Guillaume stated the Board wants to keep everything in the open, with no close door sessions / decisions.

2. Borough Code of Ordinances – Update: Nothing to report.

3. Condemned Properties Update: 101 Post Street listed for Judicial Sale. Sale didn't go through, because property owner could not be found. Judicial sales are only held once a year. Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett to schedule a meeting with Tioga County Commissioners and Tioga County Tax Claim Bureau asking for another Judicial Sale.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2015 Halloween Trick-or-Treat Date:

The Blossburg Borough will hold Halloween on Saturday, October 31, 2015. 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, October 31, 2015, 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

2. High School Homecoming Bon Fire:

Homecoming activities are scheduled on October 15 – 16, 2015. Marcia Bartlett, a teacher at North Penn-Mansfield, is requesting to hold a Bon Fire on Island Park, as part of Homecoming festivities, Thursday, October 15, 2015 from 6:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. Chaperones will be present. Motion was made by Paul Hosszu to approve the bon fire, in accordance with the Ordinance; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

The parade is scheduled from 5:00 P.M. to 6:15 P.M. on October 16, 2015.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 8TH ANNUAL MEET OUR MEMBER MIXER WILL BE HELD AT FIRST CITIZENS COMMUNITY BANK – WELLSBORO BRANCH, 1 PEARL STREET, WELLSBORO, PA ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 FROM 5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. R.S.V.P. & PAYMENT DUE BY SEPTEMBER 11, 2015.

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2015 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 11, 2015 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: President James Rakoski closed the meeting at 7:39 P.M.

Motion of Thomas Bogaczyk; second, Jolene Hall. All in Favor.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY PRESIDENT JAMES RAKOSKI, AT END OF COUNCIL MEETING. NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary