

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

November 11, 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; Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Jolene Hall, Paul Hosszu, (absent, Stephen Wagner); (Thomas Bogaczyk, resigned on 10/14/2015), Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Hawbaker Engineering of State College representative Chris Force; William Meyers President Riverside Homeowners Association.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 14, 2015 meeting were accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Jolene Hall. 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 Jolene Hall; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Guests: Hawbaker Engineering of State College representative Chris Force did a presentation on the proposed Hydro Recovery Frac Wastewater Plant expansion. The expansion consists of additional storage tanks and parking. If all permits are approved, construction is to start late winter or spring.

Councilmembers requested a fence be constructed or the planting of a tree line in front of the Hydro Recovery Plant to help cover-up the business, because it is the first thing people see when coming into Blossburg after exiting from new Route 15. Mr. Force is to relay the request to Hydro personnel.

William Meyers President Riverside Homeowners Association thanked Borough Manager George D. Lloyd for taking care of a tree and flag, by the Borough Building that needed attention.

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. will sponsor Small Town Christmas on November 28, 2015 from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. This year's event will involve the business district.

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

Reports:

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

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

District Magistrate Fines Total - \$162.41.

Department qualified in fire arms.

Kent Warner needs to recertify to stay an active police officer. Mr. Warner requested doing the testing through the Department. He will pay for all costs. Mayor Nickerson approved Mr. Warner's request.

(E) **Police Committee:** A Police Committee meeting was scheduled for November 17, 2015 at 4:00 P.M. to discuss the hiring of part-time police officer.

(F) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Nothing to report.

(G) **Planning Commission:** A meeting was held on October 27, 2015. Board Members reviewed and approved amended expansion at the Hydro Recovery Frac Wastewater Plant.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board member Shelby Kinsey is moving out of the area. Amy Augustine has agreed to serve on Zoning Hearing Board, as Mrs. Kinsey's replacement.

Appointment to Zoning Hearing Board: Motion to appoint Amy Augustine to Zoning Hearing Board was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

(H) **Recreation:**

New donated slide is constructed at pool. Plumbing for slide is to be done in spring.

United Fund Drive to start in January.

Trees: Seven bare root trees were delivered and planted at Island Park on November 10. A plan is being worked on to cut down more white pine trees around playground and replant different trees in the area. Proposal is as follows: Cut down seven trees at the cost of ± \$2,000.00. Replant three sugar maples and three commemoration sugar maples, cost \$4,850.00 (\$809.00/each). Plantings around guide wires in front of Coal Museum, cost \$1,725.00.

Island Park River Walk: Nothing to report.

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

The 2015 Halloween Parade was sponsored by the Blossburg Fire and Ambulance Departments on October 31, 2015.

Reports:

(J) **Library:** Nothing to report.

(K) **Street Committee:** Nothing to report.

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

(M) **Budget:**

Proposed 2016 Budget: \$854,521.00 Revenues/Expenses. Increase Borough taxes by ½ mill. Borough: 6.807 Mills – Fire: .568 Mills – Library: .250 Mills. Effective rate: 7.63 mills.

Proposed 2016 Budget was advertised. A motion to accept the proposed 2016 Budget was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Motion to advertise the 2016 Tax Ordinance was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Garbage rate increase of \$.17/week. New quarterly bill will be \$34.06. Cost per extra bag of garbage will be increased from \$1.00 to \$1.10. Motion to advertise the Garbage and Refuse Ordinance to allow for the authorized increased revenue for collection of garbage and refuse within the Borough of Blossburg was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor. New ordinance to be adopted at the December 9, 2015 Council Meeting.

A Budget Meeting was scheduled for November 17, 2015 at 4:30 P.M.

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

Getting prices for mainline and lateral lining on sewer system

OLD BUSINESS:

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

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

3. **Condemned Properties Update:** 101 Post Street listed for Judicial Sale on December 4, 2015.

4. **Councilmember Thomas Bogaczyk Replacement:**

Councilmember Thomas Bogaczyk resigned as of October 14, 2015. An ad was published in the Wellsboro Gazette requesting any Borough resident wishing to fill this vacancy should submit a letter of interest. One (1) resident submitted a letter stating their interest to be Mr. Bogaczyk's replacement: Tim Martin, 112 Adam Drive, Blossburg, PA. Motion to appoint Tim Martin as a member of Blossburg Borough Council until term ending December 31, 2017 was made by Jolene Hall; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resolution No. 3 – Blossburg Police Pension Plan Act 600:

Annual requirement for record: Resolution for Police Pension Fund stating if necessary for officers to pay into the Pension or not. No payment required for 2016.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 – Motion to adopt Police Pension Fund Resolution was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

2. Advertise for 2016 Vehicle Fuel Bids:

Motion to advertise for vehicle fuel bids was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

3. Re-Appointments to Committees and Boards (Last Term Year 2015):

Re-Appointment to Planning Commission: Deb Everett (agreed to re-appointment); 4yrs. – Term ending 2019.

Re-Appointment to Zoning Hearing Board: Daniel Harman (agreed to re-appointment); 5yrs. – Term ending 2020.

Re-Appointment to Shade Tree Commission: Jeff Everett (agreed to re-appointment); 5yrs. – Term ending 2020.

Re-Appointment to Blossburg Municipal Authority: Joseph Bubacz (agreed to re-appointment); 5yrs. – Term ending 2020.

Re-Appointment to Blossburg Recreation Board: Jolene Hall (agreed to re-appointment); 5yrs. – Term ending 2020.

Motion was made by Jerome Ogden to approve all re-appointments to Committees and Boards; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2015 AT THE PENN WELLS HOTEL, WELLSBORO, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 5:30 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M. R.S.V.P. BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2015.

Motion to invite Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Bogaczyk to the Tioga County Association of Boroughs Dinner on December 11, 2015 was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Jolene Hall. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: President James Rakoski closed the meeting at 7:18 P.M.

Motion of Jerome Ogden; second, Jolene Hall. All in Favor.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.