

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

March 8, 2017

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council President Jolene Hall 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; Pro Temp Tonya McNamara; Councilmembers Timothy Martin, Jerome Ogden, Paul Hosszu, (absent, James Rakoski (in Florida)); Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Junior Council Person Eion Hicks-Lee; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; (absent, Borough Secretary Mary Signor (sick)); Attorney Chris Lantz South Tioga School District Solicitor; Jason Przybycien Wellsboro Gazette; Unisatvti Hicks-Lee; William Meyers.

Borough Secretary Mary Signor was sick tonight. Borough Manager George D. Lloyd took the minutes.

Minutes: Correction on the February 8, 2017 minutes: Page 4, Section 5: Date should be 2017, not 2107.

The minutes of the February 8, 2017 meeting, with correction, were accepted on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

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

Bills: Bills to be paid on motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT AT 6:34 P.M. RECONVENED 7:00 P.M. ATTORNEY CHRIS LANTZ AND BOROUGH MANAGER GEORGE D. LLOYD ATTENDED THE EXECUTIVE SESSION. CONSIDER PURCHASE OF PROPERTY.

Guests: Unisatvti Hicks-Lee and William Meyers were attending for observation.

Reports:

(A) **Junior Council Person:** Trying to start a Quidditch Team.

Councilmember Tonya McNamara request students to contact the Council about help on their projects.

(B) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) meetings are held on fourth Wednesday of the month at 242 Coffee Company at 6:00 P.M.

The minutes from the January 25, 2017 V.I.B.E. meeting were received.

V.I.B.E. is discussing their bylaws.

Reports:

(C) **Mayor:** Mayor Nickerson brought up request from firemen to have water battles with other fire companies during Coal Festival. Firemen are willing to sign off Worker's Compensation (W/C) during activity. Borough Solicitor will write up a W/C waiver for firemen. Council approved water battles during Coal Festival, with signed waiver. Motion made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

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

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

District Magistrate Fines Total: \$1,178.42.

Councilmember Jerome Ogden commented on number of dog complaints, with reason being that Dog Warden referring complaints to police.

Police Department topics: (1) New firearms will be ordered. (2) Officers scheduling quarterly physical fitness tests. (3) Hamilton Township signed a yearly Agreement with Blossburg Borough. Borough Solicitor directed to look at contract. Council to vote on at April Council Meeting.

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

(F) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of Paul Hosszu; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

Mr. Lloyd brought up about Joe Bubacz running in 2017 New York City Marathon for the V Foundation on November 5, 2017. "Team V" is raising money for the V-Foundation for cancer research.

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

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(H) **Recreation:**

Blossburg Area United Fund money is coming in. Funds to be distributed next month.

Request for Certified Lifeguards, both full and part time, is being advertised.

Recreation Board is trying to make games available during summer to try and get kids more active.

Councilmember Jill Nickerson reported a Riparian Buffer Grant is being written by Endless Mountain for Bloss Area. Looked at Borough property along Tioga River on Reese Lane and along Johnson Creek on Island Park.

Playground / Tennis Court:

Tennis Court Bid Proposal was advertised. Bid opening was scheduled for tonight. No bids were received. Bid Proposal is to be advertised again.

Reports:

Trees: Planting of trees at park is on hold until new playground design is completed.

Island Park River Walk: Councilmember Jerome Ogden brought up about leveling some dips along trail and emptying garbage cans.

(I) **Fire:** The minutes from January 25, 2017 were received, as well as, a 2016 YTD Cash Flow Report.

(J) **Library:** A Dawn Redwood tree was planted at Library, in memory of Lida Kaiser.

A bad maple tree was cut down next to Library parking lot. Borough dug out stump and Mr. Lloyd is talking to Borough Engineer about new parking lot design, which could add six (6) more parking spaces. Design will be submitted to Library Board for review.

(K) **Street Committee:** Street Committee met on February 9, 2017 and looked at William B. Street and Wilson Street intersection and recommend installation of a stop sign at Wilson Street. Police Chief agrees that another stop sign would help with any potential accidents. Mayor agreed to have stop sign installed for a 30 day trial, under his authority. Motion to install the stop sign on Wilson Street was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

Councilmember Tonya McNamara brought up about faded street signs. Borough Manager has a list started and will review.

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

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

Update on search for used truck: Tandem truck was repaired and should be good for 2 – 5 years. This will give the Borough and the Authority time to look for another truck.

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

BMA has been approached by Southern Tioga School District to operate their water system at Liberty School. Authority is looking into.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Plan to sell the administration building on Main Street and move office to Blossburg school building.

Nothing new to report.

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

Nothing to report. Borough Manager is trying to get bids to finish work.

3. **Borough Website:** Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

4. Flood Variance for James Wagner (Jim's Service Station):

Updated building plans were submitted to Borough. Plans approved by Building Code Official. Mr. Lloyd has reviewed application with Borough Engineer and Conservation District. More information is needed from James Wagner.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Renew Road Right-of-Way Agreement with Regency Marcellus Gas Gathering:

Borough Solicitor will renew Agreement through Resolution, which he will write up. Agreement is for same amount of money. Motion was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

2. Resolution No. 3 2017 PSAB MRT Pension Advisory:

Resolution for Municipal Pension appointing title or position (i.e. Manager, Secretary, President of Council) to act as the chief administrating officer, rather than using a name. This suggestion came from PSAB (the company that manages the Pensions). Motion to appoint the Borough Manager to act as the chief administrating officer was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGHES DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2017 AT THE BLOSSBURG FIRE & AMBULANCE BUILDING, 324 MAIN STREET, BLOSSBURG, PA. SOCIAL HOUR BEGINNING AT 6:00 P.M. FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 6:30 P.M.

TIOGA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 21st ANNUAL TCDC LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST AT THE PENN WELLS HOTEL, 62 MAIN STREET, WELLSBORO, PA ON THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017 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 7, 2017.

NIMS CLASS ON MARCH 16, 2017 FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M. AT THE MANSFIELD FIRE HALL.

FISH DINNER AT THE BLOSSBURG FIRE HALL ON MARCH 24, 2017.

Meeting will not adjourn, because there are some items to be discussed / reviewed. The meeting was dismissed at 8:08 P.M. by President Jolene Hall to reconvene March 13, 2017 at 4:30 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

**Borough Council Meeting continued from March 8, 2017 –
Reconvened March 13, 2017 at 4:30 P.M. in the Council Room of the Borough Building, 245 Main Street,
Blossburg, PA.**

Attendance: President Jolene Hall; Vice-President Jill Nickerson; Pro Temp Tonya McNamara; Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, Timothy Martin, Paul Hosszu, James Rakoski (in Florida); Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd.

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett discuss Hamilton Township Police Agreement. He will review contract and make modifications if needed.

Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett discuss wavier on worker's compensation for firemen who want to have battles with other fire companies during the Coal Festival. Mr. Barrett doesn't think signed wavier will hold up in court, because you have to think about firemen's spouses and children if there is a mishap.

**COUNCIL ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION 4:45 P.M. RECONVENED 5:20 P.M. DISCUSS
PURCHASE OF PROPERTY.**

Open Council Meeting 5:20 P.M. to 5:25 P.M.

Approve firemen water battles at Coal Festival. Motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

Approve to rebid tennis courts. Any new bids to be opened at April Council Meeting. Motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

Councilmembers walked over to South Tioga School District Administration Building, 5:25 P.M. to 5:45 P.M., while Mayor Nickerson stayed at Borough Building. After Councilmembers came back to Borough Building, Mayor Nickerson left for another meeting. Vote 4 to 2 to offer STSD, \$250,000.00 for building. Jolene Hall and Timothy Martin dissenting votes.

Mr. Lloyd distributed pictures of bus shelter enclosures made of Plexiglas and aluminum frames, for review by Council. Another option to shelter students waiting for school bus.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jolene Hall closed the meeting at 5:53 P.M.

Motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Jill Nickerson. All in Favor.

**Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at
6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.**