

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

March 14, 2018

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; (absent, Pro Temp Tonya McNamara); Councilmembers Jerome Ogden, James Rakoski, (absent, Paul Hosszu), Timothy Martin; Mayor Shane Nickerson; Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett; Junior Council Person Eion Hicks-Lee; Chief Joshua McCurdy; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Corporal Robert Scott; Natalie Kennedy Wellsboro Gazette; Joshua Jones; David Thompson, Jr. Vice-President Blossburg Coal Festival, Annie Brooks Secretary Blossburg Coal Festival, Quentin Wood.

Minutes: The minutes of the February 14, 2018 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, James Rakoski. All in favor.

Bills: Bills to be paid on motion of Jerome Ogden; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.

Guests: Natalie Kennedy Wellsboro Gazette / Tioga Publishing Company, offered a Landmarks Award Reception invitation. The event is to be held Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 4:00 P.M. the Coolidge Theatre in the Deane Center for the Performing Arts, 104 Main Street, Wellsboro, PA.

Blossburg State Coal Festival will be held May 24 – 26, 2018. Officers are: David Thompson, Jr. Vice-President, Annie Brooks Secretary, and Jessica Sandstrom Treasurer. Mr. Thompson spoke about the upcoming festivities.

Reports:

(A) **Junior Council Person:** Junior Council Person Eion Hicks-Lee announced Annie, a school musical, will be performed by North Penn – Mansfield High School students on March 23, 24, 25, 2018.

(B) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) meetings are held on fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:00 P.M. Meeting locations are different each month. Check the V.I.B.E. website for meeting place.

V.I.B.E. proposed upcoming events: April 28, 2018 – Community Yard Sale – 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
October 14, 2018 – Fall Festival
November 24, 2018 – Small Town Christmas

(C) **Mayor:** Mayor Nickerson will hold office hours on Tuesdays, 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. and on Thursdays, 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. in the Borough Building located at 241 Main Street.

Reports:

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

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

District Magistrate Fines Total: \$772.86.

Three applicants applied for the job of part-time police officer. Job opening was posted on the Police Department Facebook page.

(E) Police Committee: Nothing to report.

(F) Borough Manager:

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of James Rakoski; second, Jerome Ogden. All in favor.

Tioga County Emergency Services is offering a G-402: NIMS for Elected Officials course on April 4, 2018 at the Tioga County Department of Emergency Services (TCDES) building from 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. Mayor Shane Nickerson and Councilmember Timothy Martin will be attending the class.

Blossburg State Coal Festival parade will be held on May 26, 2018 at 11:00 A.M. PennDOT Parade Permit paperwork will be sent in by the Borough Secretary.

Spring cleanup is only on regularly scheduled garbage day, either May 1 or May 2.

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

Ralph Mundis submitted his resignation on January 11, 2018, effective immediately. An ad was published in the Penny-Saver requesting any Borough resident wishing to fill this vacancy should submit a letter of interest. No responses were received.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(H) Recreation: Recreation Board met on February 26, 2018 at 6:00 P.M.

Topics discussed at Recreation Board Meeting and by Council:

- (1) United Fund letter was mailed.
- (2) Pool Association hired an architect to draw up plans for a combination pool bath house / locker rooms.
- (3) Quote for KCC Building remodeling is approximately \$5,000.00. Repairs include: Replace six (6) broken windows, repair tile in the main room, replace heater covers, replace two (2) bathroom lights, and replace inside door. Motion to approve repairs to KCC Building was made by Jill Nickerson; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor. Cost of repairs to be disbursed from the Act 13 Account.
- (4) Lewis and Clark Circus requesting permission to perform on Island Park, July 2, 2018. Motion to allow Lewis and Clark Circus to perform on Island Park, July 2, 2016 was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor. (*Recreation Board members to be contacted about this event.*)

Reports:

Playground: Motion to advertise for Island Park Plantings was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

Tennis Courts: Nothing to report.

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

Island Park River Walk: Nothing to report.

(I) **Fire:** Reports received: The BFD minutes dated January 23, 2018 and the Transaction Report 12/19/2017 to 02/26/2018.

Jolene Hall brought up request from firemen to have water battles with other fire companies during Coal Festival. Council approved water battles during Coal Festival on motion of Jill Nickerson; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

(J) **Library:** The Blossburg Memorial Library / "Turning Outward" plan to host conservation events with Riverside residents, school students, and area residents.

(K) **Street / Building Committee:** Plans to seek quote for new carpet in new office building at 241 Main Street.

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

(M) **Budget:**

Bucket truck needs ball joints, steering u-joint repairs at the cost of approximately \$1,100.00. Motion to purchase bucket truck from Robert Martin at the cost of \$3,000.00 was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Jill Nickerson. All in favor. Payments will be disbursed from the Equipment Savings.

In the summer of 2017, BMA requested \$50,000.00 from the Borough's Act 13 Funding to help pay for the relining of wastewater lines to stop infiltration. Borough Budget Committee reviewed and recommends payment of \$50,000.00 be paid to BMA through Act 13 Funding, when money becomes available in June or July 2018. Motion to make payment of \$50,000.00 to BMA was made by Jerome Ogden; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

(N) **Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):** 50% sewer rate increases will start this month.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Borough Code of Ordinances – Update Keystate Publishers:** Nothing to report.

3. **Borough Website:** Meeting to be scheduled with Borough website designer.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TIOGA COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF BOROUGH DINNER MEETING WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018 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 22nd ANNUAL TCDC LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST AT THE PENN WELLS HOTEL, 62 MAIN STREET, WELLSBORO, PA ON THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2018 FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 10:00 A.M. (BUFFET OPENS AT 7:30 A.M.). R.S.V.P. & PAYMENT DUE BY MARCH 23, 2018.

COMMUNITY DAY AT ISLAND PARK – APRIL 7, 2018 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT: President Jolene Hall closed the meeting at 7:39 P.M.

Motion of Jerome Ogden; second, James Rakoski. All in Favor.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. in the Blossburg Borough Building Council Room.

EXECUTIVE SESSION REQUESTED BY BOROUGH SOLICITOR PATRICK BARRETT AT END OF MEETING. PERSONNEL ISSUES DISCUSSED. NO ACTION TAKEN.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary