

**BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**October 9, 2019**

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

President Jolene Hall called the Blossburg Borough Council meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Room of the Blossburg Borough Building, 241 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

**Attendance:** President Jolene Hall, Vice- President Jill Nickerson, Pro-Temp Tonya McNamara, Council Members Jerome Ogden, Paul Hosszu, Tim Martin, James Rakoski, Mayor, Shane Nickerson, Borough Solicitor, Patrick Barrett, Police Chief, Josh McCurdy, Borough Manager, George D. Lloyd and Borough Secretary, Cheryl Bubacz.

**Guests:** Henry Bartlett, Derek Lindquist, Uni Hicks-Lee, Natalie Kennedy from Tioga Publishing and Kevin Lindquist.

**Minutes** The Minutes of the September 11, 2019 meeting were accepted as presented, by Motion of Paul Hosszu; Second Tim Martin. All in favor.

**Treasurer's Report** Report accepted subject to audit by Motion of James Rakoski; Second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

**Bills:** Bills to be paid by Motion of Tonya McNamara; Second Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

**Guests:** Kevin Lindquist: The Fire Department and Ambulance Association held two (2) fund raisers for the Lawrenceville Fire Department recently. The two (2) events raised approximately \$1,200 for the Lawrenceville Fire Department.

Derek Lindquist: A number of items from the Fire Department:

- The Fire Department will lead the Halloween Parade on October 31, 2019.
- This week is National Fire Prevention week, the Fire Department will be going to the Elementary School and Headstart to discuss fire prevention.
- Riverside Park, Buildings A and B and the Cottages will be taking part in a fire drill.

Henry Bartlett: Wanted to reiterate the need for something to be done about the feral cat situation in town. Secondly, he stated that he recently obtained a map of Riverside Park and took it to the Communications Center in Wellsboro for them to add to their computer system. The Council thanked him for his foresight.

**REPORTS:**

**Junior Council**  
**Person:**

Eion stated that he met with the Principals of the two (2) high school regarding his proposed replacement for Junior Council Person when he graduates in June. The replacement is Skye Dayton. Skye came to the meeting and was welcomed by the Council.

**Committee**  
**Business**  
**Development:**

Tonya McNamara reported that VIBE is working on the Fall Festival which will be held Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Preparing for additional upcoming events, including Small Town Christmas. There will be a "Pop Up Shop" at the Small Town

Christmas where you can purchase your Blossburg items such as t-shirts, mugs, etc. She urged all to support Small Town Christmas.

**Mayor:** The Soap Box Derby will also be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> from the corner of Seymour and Granger to the corner of Carpenter and Granger.

The Police Department is seeking a grant for the purchase of a new police car in 2020 to replace one of the older SUVs. The Grant Funds would supplement the purchase of the vehicle with the balance of the purchase price being paid from Borough Funds. The Mayor asked Council for authorization to submit the Grant with a Notification being advertised in the Gazette. Motion by Tonya McNamara, Second by Tim Martin to advertise the Borough's intention to apply for a grant to assist with the purchase of a police car in 2020.

**Police** The Police Report was accepted on Motion of Tonya McNamara, Second James Rakoski. All in favor.

The Officers will be qualifying with their weapons the week of October 14<sup>th</sup>. Due to his injury, Chief McCurdy will qualify at a later date.

Chief McCurdy was asked to place No Parking signs on Main Street Saturday evening and also on Granger Street from the intersection of Seymour to Carpenter for the Soap Box Derby.

**Police Committee:** A meeting was held on September 17, 2019 to discuss scheduling to be as close as to having 24 hour coverage as possible. Another Meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Mayor's Office.

- Borough Manager:**
1. Borough Manager's Report accepted by Motion of Tonya McNamara, second by Jill Nickerson. All in favor.
  2. The Monument repairs are completed and Mr. Wise did a wonderful job. Mr. Wise will check the Monument annually to see if any additional repairs are needed.
  3. The Borough was contacted by Wellsboro Borough regarding a street sweeper available for sale. The sweeper is in good shape and has new brushes. The Wellsboro Borough was asking \$5,000 for sweeper. Motion by Jerome Ogden, Second by Paul Hosszu that the Borough purchase the street sweeper from Wellsboro. All in favor.
  4. Mr. Ogden asked how the tour of the Lock Haven WWTP Plant went. Mr. Lloyd said that the system is larger than our proposed system, with the depth being approximately 15 feet deeper than ours. Lock Haven uses a forty foot (40') extension ladder to go into the tank. That was not liked by employees. Mr. Lloyd is working with the engineer to see about a ladder being mounted on our tank which could be lowered into the tank.

**Planning  
Commission  
Report:**

Meeting will be held on October 14, 2019 to discuss the height variance request for new garage proposed by Sandy Higgins and to review the subdivision plans for the Ollock Property on Granger Street.

**Zoning Hearing  
Board:**

Meeting to be held on October 29, 2019 to review the height variance for Higgins Garage.

**Properties Sold  
During Month:**

There were two (2) properties transferred in September, one to new residents.

**Recreation:**

Waiting for Southern Tioga School District to appoint a replacement representative to the Recreation Board. The Borough Secretary followed up again with the School District.

Discussed parking issues by the large pavilion. People are driving their vehicles to the pavilion and leaving them there. Looking into ways to stop this process.

The Rec. Board received a donation from the VFW of \$600.00 for the basketball court resurfacing project. The Board was very appreciative for the donation.

The Board met with the concession stand contractor for 2019 to discuss the operation, what went well, what needs to be changed. The contractor expressed interest in running the concession stand for the 2020 season.

The Canyon Music Festival had previously asked if they could hold the 2020 music fest on Island Park. With the recent passing of Dennis Gee, the organizer of the music fest, this concert would be held in his memory and honor. Tentative date would be July 18, 2020 for the music fest and it is believed this year's fest would have more of a country vibe. Chief McCurdy commented that all in all there were no issues during the fest in 2019 and that if at all possible, the organization should retain the services of the security group they used in 2019.

**Playground:** The final Progress Report is almost complete.

**Tennis Court:** Nothing

**Island Park River Walk:** Walk looks good.

**Fire:**

Minutes received; The Fire Department is mailing out a fund raising campaign in the next few weeks. Kingdom Inc. has graciously agreed to print the mailers at no cost to the Fire Department.

**Library:**

The teenage initiative known as "CATCH" assisted with the setup for the October book sale at the library. They were a big help in carrying boxes of books. Each day after school, the Library has between 20 and 30 children and teenagers at the Library utilizing services. The CATCH groups is making Carmel apples to sell at the Fall Fest.

**Street Committee:** Nothing.

**Shade Tree  
Commission:** Nothing

**Budget:** Meeting October 21, 2019 at 6:00 pm to discuss initial budget.

**Blossburg  
Municipal Report:** The Municipal Authority previously received a letter regarding an automatic shutdown of the Bellman Plant. The DEP letter was sent because the plant is not manned 24 hours per day. An alarm system must be in place when the water quality meets certain levels and the plant has to shut down. Right now we have a contractor that has been used for 20+ years that came up with a way to shut the plant down automatically. We will also have a call out that goes to George, Dan, Chad and Scott when the water quality levels start decreasing so that they can go to the plant and fix the problem before the plant shuts down automatically.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

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**Borough Website:** Working on Content, actively updating the site.

**Consent Agenda:** Sample provided to Council members. Will review and advise.

**Codification:** Codification is completed. We have a copy on a disc. The Ordinances are on American Legal Publishing's website and will be on the Borough Website. Motion by Jill Nickerson, Second by Tonya McNamara to remove this item from the Agenda. All in favor.

**Ordinances:** The three Ordinances, one for Grass Cuttings, one for Snow Removal and one for Fireworks were duly advertised. Motion made by Jerome Ogden, Second by Paul Hosszu to adopt all three Ordinances. Grass Cutting and Snow Removal passed unanimously. The Fireworks Ordinance had one nay vote, Tim Martin.

**Cybersecurity:** Contacting computer companies which specialize in Cybersecurity for proposals regarding their services.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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**Board  
Reappointments:** Lisa Frederick appointment to the Recreation Board which will expire on 12/31/2019. Borough Secretary will contact Mrs. Frederick to see if she wants to continue on the Board. If she desire to continue, Motion by Jerome Ogden, Second by Jill Nickerson that her term be renewed through 2025.

**ADJOURNMENT:** President Jolene Hall adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Motion by Jill Nickerson,  
Second by Tim Martin.

A Reconvened Council meeting will be held on October 14, 2019 at 8:00 pm in the Council Room to discuss the results of the Planning Commission Meeting held same night.

*/s/ Cheryl L. Bubacz*

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Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary