

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 11, 2020

Council Meeting was called to Order at 6:30 p.m. by President Jolene Hall.

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

Guests: None.

This being Veterans' Day, a moment of silence was requested by Councilman, Henry Bartlett, in honor of our Veterans.

Minutes, Treasurer's Report, Bills, Police Report & Borough Manager's Report:

Minutes and Reports were all accepted as presented by Motion of Tim Martin; Second Henry Bartlett. All in favor.

Mayor:

The Mayor has asked the Council President, Jolene Hall, and the Chief of Police, Josh McCurdy to participate with Jill Nickerson and himself on the Covid Task Force bi-monthly telephone conferences. Our Covid positive numbers are increasing alarmingly. During the month of October there were 24 cases reported in the County. Through November 11, 2020 that count is already 117. We must be diligent with masking, distancing and washing.

Police:

An update on second 2020 Police SUV, the last we were told the car would be done the end of October first of November. Now we are being told the car is next to be assembled. Chief will continue to follow-up on the vehicle.

Police Committee:

The Police Committee met prior to the Council Meeting to discuss Personnel Matters. No action was taken.

Borough Manager:

Borough Manager asked if he would be able to use the old Police SUV in lieu of the old Municipal Authority Van. Motion by Tim Martin, Second by Jill Nickerson that the old Police SUV have the decals, lights and radios removed so that the Borough Manager may use it. All in Favor.

Junior Council Person:

Not Present.

VIBE:

VIBE is sorting out the Hometown Hero Banners, what ones need to be replaced and what ones are still in good shape. Borough Manager said that the Borough would be able to take down the faded and frayed Banners. Where should those Banners be taken? Tonya McNamara said the banners that are taken down should be given to the chair of the project, Ralaine Mundis.

VIBE is still working on signage for the Highway to promote Blossburg and businesses. Trying to get PennDot approval on signage.

Planning Commission Report:

Nothing

Zoning Hearing Board:

Nothing.

Properties Sold During Month:

Four (4) properties were transferred during October and one (1) new resident.

Recreation:

The Park looks to be in great condition. There may be a leak in the pool, but Borough Manager believes it to be the concrete settling and can be fixed in the spring.

The Rec. Board is looking to put an addition on to the skate park. The addition would be a half bowl drop in. A donation was requested from the Jones Foundation to help with the installation.

The Rec. Board discussed whether or not they would like to sell season passes for the pool for 2021. They believed that the pay as you go method worked great this year and would like to continue in this manner. We may prepare books of passes so that you can pay a week or two ahead. This will be discussed further in 2021.

Riverwalk: Nothing.

Fire:

Received Minutes from the Ambulance Association, but despite multiple attempts, have not received Minutes or Treasurers Reports from the Fire Department. Also, we need a list of the fire equipment, year, make, model and license plate number for the new fuel cards. This information has not been received. The Mayor said he would contact the Fire Chief and get the information required.

Library:

The Library is operating, but due in large part to COVID-19, it is more in the red than usual. The grants from the State were not forthcoming this year.

The Library is having their annual basket Raffle during the month of November.

Street Committee:

Nothing.

Shade Tree Commission:

Nothing

Budget:

The Budget was reviewed by Council. Motion by Tonya McNamara, Second by Jim Rakoski that the 2021 Budget be accepted and the annual Real Estate Tax Ordinance be advertised. All in Favor.

Blossburg Municipal Report:

The Taylor Run sand bank has been lowered considerably. The Borough has started mulching the area to stop erosion, and hope to finish by the end of the week.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sesquicentennial Planning:

There was a meeting held on October 22, 2020, but no one attended, other than the Mayor and Borough Secretary. Another meeting will be scheduled for November and posted on Facebook.

Shared Services Agreement:

Solicitor is reviewing Agreement with Counsel of the other municipalities.

School Lease of Park for 2020-2021

The Lease with the School District for the use of the Park for 2020, 2021 and 2022 was presented. Motion by Tim Martin, Second by Jill Nickerson to accept the Lease as presented. All in favor.

EV Charging Station

The charging station is currently being erected and hooked up. We will make the area handicapped accessible and will be pouring a concrete pad around the station, so people don't sink into the grass when using the equipment.

NEW BUSINESS:

Police Minimum Municipal Obligation

The Resolution for the Police Minimum Municipal Obligation ("MMO"), for 2021 was reviewed. Motion by Tim Martin, Second by Tonya McNamara to accept the Resolution as presented directing that the Police do not have to contribute toward the pension plan in 2021. All in Favor.

Loader:

The Borough Manager presented Council with information regarding the purchase of a new Loader. It would be purchased by the Borough, Municipal Authority and Water Company with the cost split evenly between the three (3) entities. Council asked that this be discussed with the Municipal Authority and Water Company and we will be discuss in our December meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned by President Jolene Hall at 7:12 p.m. Motion by Jill Nickerson, Second by Tim Martin. All in Favor

/s/ Cheryl L. Bubacz

Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary