

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 9, 2022

Council Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Jolene Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Guests: Robin Stangel, Roger Bunn, Jack Eckman, Dave Adams, architect, Hank Jester and Bill Frost, owners, Andrew Harding, architect and Tim Kellech. No comment by the guests.

Minutes, Treasurer's Report, Bills, Police Report & Borough Manager's Report:
Minutes and monthly Reports were all accepted as presented Motion of Timothy Martin Second Henry Bartlett. All in favor.

Mayor:
The Mayor just got back from vacation and had nothing to report at this time.

Police:
Chief McCurdy asked the Council for authorization to advertise for new part-time officer(s) as Officer Tanner will be working full-time for Wellsboro Borough. Council acknowledged that he will be a big loss to the Police Department. Motion by Timothy Martin, Second by Kenneth Johnson to advertise for part-time officer(s).

Chief said that they have been very busy.

Police Committee:
Nothing

Borough Manager:
The Borough Manager confirmed with NTSWA that Spring Clean-up will be May 10th and May 11th, whichever day resident's normal garbage day is. We were contacted by Roger Bunn on behalf of the VFW and American Legion to request the use of the Veterans' Memorial for Memorial Day Services on May 30, 2022. We will need to shut-down part of Main Street from approximately 10:45 am to 11:30 am, approximately, for the service. Council granted permission for the memorial service.

Council was provided with a proposed bus stop structure for the corner of Main and Nevins Streets which is one of the Southern Tioga School District bus pickups. The cost of the structure will be approximately \$10,000. Motion by Timothy Martin, Second by Tonya McNamara for the Borough to purchase the bus stop structure. All in Favor. Due to the fact that the purchase is under the minimum purchase amount, there is no need to bid this out.

Junior Council Person:

Nothing.

VIBE:

They will be working on the advertising for the community yard sale on May 7th.

Planning Commission Report:

The Planning Commission met on February 14, 2022 to discuss the rezoning of the old Hospital from R-2 back to S-1. The Planning Commission agrees with the rezoning and recommends that Council pass the Ordinance. Ordinance 452 was brought up for discussion, there being none, Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second by Timothy Martin to approve Ordinance 452. All in Favor, unanimously.

Zoning Hearing Board:

Nothing

Recreation:

The Rec. Board received a request from the Southern Tioga School District to utilize Island Park for the Graduation Services and Proms for both North Penn-Liberty and North Penn-Mansfield.

Secondly, Rec. Board received a request from Little League to remove the grass area in the infield (only) of the little league fields and replace with sand.

Third, Pool bracelets were discussed and it was determined that a single bracelet (10 entries) would be \$25.00 and a 5 bracelet bundle would be \$60.00.

Motion by Timothy Martin, Second by Kenneth Johnson to approve all three items. All in Favor.

Fire and Ambulance:

Councilman Martin asked if the Rec. Board would consider allowing the volunteer firemen and ambulance association personnel to have free access to the Pool. After a brief discussion it was agreed that we will offer this to the fire and ambulance volunteers for them and their families. Borough Secretary will make up a special pass for them to use to get into the Pool. The request will be taken to the next Rec. Board meeting on March 28, 2022.

Library:

Everything seems to be running smoothly. Tonight at 6:00 p.m. through Thursday to 11:59 p.m. the Library will be participating in the "Raise the Roof". If they raise a specific amount of money during the 30 hour period, Blaise Alexander Car Dealerships will match the amount. The Fire Department is also participating in this fund raiser.

Street Committee:

Nothing.

Shade Tree Commission:

Nothing

Budget:

Nothing

Blossburg Municipal Report:

Dutchland was on site on Tuesday, March 8th to review the placement of the new water tank. They intend to start construction on April 18th, 2022 unless the weather breaks before that.

OLD BUSINESS:

LED Streetlights (April 2021): Although we were not notified, the streetlights are now being converted to the LED lights. They have completed Granger Street, Parkhurst Street and some of Davis Street.

American Rescue Plan (April 2021): From a webinar earlier today, we need to file a report showing what we will be using the money for.

Sale of 245 Main Street: (April 2021): Waiting for Blossburg Improvement Association to determine if they are interested in the building.

Old Hospital: Following the public hearing and the granting of the zoning change, this item can now be removed from the Agenda. Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second by Tonya McNamara to remove this item from the Agenda. All in Favor.

Junk Cars on Taylor Street (June 2021): Need to move forward on the updated Ordinance. Since there are other areas of town with this same issue, a motion to remove “on Taylor Street” was made by Timothy Martin, Second by Tonya McNamara. All in Favor

Project Goals for 2022: We will review the eight (8) project goals for 2022 periodically and provide updates.

- a. **Better WiFi on Island Park:** The Borough received and signed the request to determine who owns the electric poles on the Park. This is the first step to increase the WiFi band width on the Park.
- b. **Sidewalk, Lighting and Signage for Island Park:** A grant request is being prepared for the installation of a sidewalk from the corner of Water Street and S. Williamson Road to the Park. This Grant will include new signage for the Park, new gate and lighting for the Park, walking trail and baseball fields.
- c. **Email Addresses for Council.** Email addresses for the council members was discussed. It was determined that they do not want to have email addresses through the Office at this time. This item can be removed from the Goals for 2022.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Borough Secretary is working on a DCNR Grant for additional upgrades to Island Park and needs Council's permission to proceed. Motion by Timothy Martin, Second by Kenneth Johnson to allow the Grant to be filed. All in Favor.

A reminder about the TCAB Meeting on Thursday, March 17th at the Blossburg Fire Hall.

General Discussion:

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned by President Jolene Hall at 7:22 p.m. Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second by Timothy Martin. All in Favor

Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary