

**BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 13, 2022**

The public hearing was called to order at 6:15 pm for the purpose of hearing comments regarding the rezoning of the property owned by AU Properties located on Ruah Street. No one from the public attended the hearing.

The 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, James Rakoski, 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:** Natalie Kennedy from the *Wellsboro Gazette*.

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

**Mayor:**

Ed Carver will be working on the large pavilion within the next week or so to sure up the walls and make any other repairs necessary.

There will be a Memorial Service at the Monument on May 30<sup>th</sup>. The VFW and the American Legion are going to be handling the service. The Borough Manager and Chief of Police have been contacted and will block traffic that morning during the service.

**Police:**

MPOTEC has changed their certification procedure and has broken it into two (2) parts. Our officers are scheduled to take part 1 on May 11, 2022. This part must be completed by June 30, 2022. The second part can be taken online.

The Chief did not receive any interested parties for the part-time officer opening. He reached out to Mansfield University and they will send an email to past and current cadets for possible candidates.

After a brief discussion, it was suggested that we advertise the position on Indeed. The Borough Secretary will look into this.

**Police Committee:**

A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 5:00 pm in the Council Room.

**Borough Manager:**

Councilman Bartlett contacted the office to report that part of the rock wall between Main Street and Reese Lane has started to collapse. Borough Manager and the Borough Engineer will look into this and see what the best option is for repairing the wall.

A copy of a letter from the Coal Festival Committee was given to everyone. The Coal Festival would like to hold a bonfire and dance on Island Park on May 27, 2022. A discussion ensued regarding the lateness of the request as the request should first go to the Rec. Board. The Rec. Board will discuss at their meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup> and report back to Council.

**Junior Council Person:**

Nothing.

**VIBE:**

A meeting was not held in March. The community yard sale on May 7<sup>th</sup>, contact Wendy Jones to be put on the list of sales.

**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:**

Pool bracelets were discussed at the March meeting and it was determined that the prices need to be adjusted. A single bracelet with 10 entries to the pool will be \$25.00 and a bundle of 5 bracelets or 50 entries will be \$100.00. That makes a single bracelet's cost \$2.50 per entry and a 5 bracelet bundle's cost by \$2.00. Both of these are less than the daily cost of \$3.00.

The Fire and Ambulance members will be given a single 10 entry bracelet. A list will be submitted to the Borough Secretary and she will distribute the bracelets.

**Fire and Ambulance:**

A letter was received from the Fire Chief inviting members of the Council to their meeting on May 15, 2022 at 2:00 pm to receive an update on the fire company and the future of the company.

A list of events was received from the fire/ambulance association. A Motion by Timothy Martin, Second by Jill Nickerson to accept the list as presented. All in Favor.

**Library:**

Everything seems to be running smoothly. The "Raise the Roof" fundraiser which was held on March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022, was very successful. The Library exceeded their goal of \$3,000.00 and in addition received an extra \$1,000 from Blaise Alexander Family of Car Dealerships.

The summer programs are currently in the planning stages.

**Street Committee:**

Borough Manager will be looking at streets for tar and chipping for 2022, however, due to the cost of materials, we may postpone tar and chipping roads until 2023.

**Shade Tree Commission:**

Nothing

**Budget:**

Our annual Audit was completed. Everything looks good. A brief Budget Committee meeting was prior to the Council Meeting to discuss lifeguard and pool manager wages for 2022. The Rec. Board discussed raising the lifeguard hourly rate to \$10.00/hour from \$8.00/hour and the pool manager's hourly rate to \$15.00/hour from \$10.00/hour. A discussion with Mansfield Borough indicated that they will be adopting the same hourly rates.

**Blossburg Municipal Report:**

An advertisement for chlorine room bids has been placed in the newspaper for the Taylor Run tank. Bids will be opened May 17, 2022.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**LED Streetlights (April 2021):** The first section of the net LED streetlights has been completed. We are waiting for the schedule for the next section. Borough Manager and Mike Stoudt road around the area to check the lumens and to see if any lights need to be changed.

**American Rescue Plan (April 2021):** As of April 13, 2022, we are filed for the year and compliant with the current rules and regulations.

**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 on this date at 6:15 pm, Motion by Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second by Timothy Martin approve the rezoning of Joseph's Place and to remove this item from the Agenda. All in Favor. The Solicitor reminded the Borough Manager that a new zoning map will need to be recorded.

**Junk Cars on Taylor Street (June 2021):** No update was given. Will be discussed during the Police Committee meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**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 ownership of the poles should be determined in the next few weeks. This is the first step to improve the WiFi band width.
- b. **Sidewalk, Lighting and Signage for Island Park:** This is in the planning stages.

- c. **Restroom Replacement:** A replacement of the restrooms located near the football field is being spec'd and priced. As of this Meeting, \$100,000 of the \$206,000 cost has been secured, with additional parties being contacted.
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**NEW BUSINESS:**

**General Discussion:**

Councilman Bartlett asked the Borough Manager if the brush/leaves composting pile that was near the sewer plant has been moved. Borough Manager said we are not allowed to accept any more brush/leaves at the sewer plant, however, an area behind the Borough Garage has been designated for that type of material.

**Announcements:** Elkland will be hosting the TCAB Meeting for April. If anyone is going to attend, please contact the Borough Secretary.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned by President Jolene Hall at 6:54 p.m. Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second by Henry Bartlett. All in Favor

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Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary