

**BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 12, 2022**

The October 12, 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 (Absent), Council Members: Jill Nickerson (Absent), James Rakoski, Henry Bartlett, Kenneth Johnson, Mayor, Shane Nickerson (Absent), Borough Solicitor, Patrick Barrett, Police Chief, Josh McCurdy (Absent), Borough Manager, George D. Lloyd, Borough Secretary, Cheryl Bubacz and School Representative, Sara Kelly (Absent).

**Guests:** Reneé Carey from the Northcentral PA Conservancy (NPC) and Natalie Kennedy from Tioga Publishing.

Reneé Carey informed Council that approximately 30 employees came and walked the different areas of the property and discussed ideas to have easy access for trails. They will be putting together a wish list to work on while they own the property in an effort to get some of those items completed. They are looking for cooperation from the Borough in the development of the property.

Additional padlocks were added to the gate to allow staff to access the property. The Youth Conservation Corp will be working on the property as volunteers in the spring.

A question was raised if the proposed bike path could possibly be linked with the bike path that goes from Mansfield to Corning. A feasibility study would need to be completed, which could be paid for through a DCNR Grant, to see if this is a possibility.

They are also looking for access from locations other than White Street. This is mainly due to the incline from the White Street access point to the trails.

Natalie Kennedy had no comment

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

Minutes and monthly Reports were accepted as presented by Motion of Timothy Martin, Second Kenneth Johnson. All in favor.

**Mayor:**

The Mayor was absent from the Meeting.

**Police:**

The Police Chief was absent from the Meeting.

**Police Committee:**

Nothing

**Borough Manager:**

The concrete for the bus shelter will be poured on October 14, 2022. The Shelter could then be assembled after the concrete cures for 2 weeks. There is an EMS Meeting at the Tokachi Center in Wellsboro on November 9, 2022 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. This is the night of our next council meeting. President Hall said that she would attend the EMS Meeting on behalf of the Borough. The EMS Coordinator will also be notified to see if he can attend as well.

Councilman Bartlett said that he had received a complaint that the outside railing that goes from our parking lot to the plaza is very loose and needs to be re-secured. Borough Manager said that he will look into it and will probably need to have it reset. Secondly, Councilman Bartlett reported that there is water laying in the intersection of Seymour and Ruah Street. The Borough Manager said that he was aware of that situation and it is coming from the curb box. The Municipal Authority has checked it several times and they cannot hear a leak.

Borough Manager also reported that he has spoken to the contractor that is going to repave Granger Street, where the gas line was installed, by the end of October.

**Junior Council Person:**

Nothing.

**VIBE:**

Natalie Kennedy report that the Fall Festival was one of the best that she has attended. The weather was great and there were a lot of people at the event. A big Thank You to VIBE for their efforts and success.

**Planning Commission Report:**

Nothing.

**Zoning Hearing Board:**

Nothing.

**Recreation:**

Borough Manager to check with the School District to see if putting the pickle ball lines on the tennis court will be a problem for their tennis matches. Pickleball lines will be different color than what is on there now.

**Fire and Ambulance:**

Nothing.

**Library:**

A grant request was filed to obtain the necessary funds to replace the steps into the library and part of the sidewalk.

**Street Committee:**

Nothing.

**Shade Tree Commission:**

Nothing.

**Budget:**

The Council Members reviewed the proposed Budget. The Borough Manager noted that this is a balanced budget. Motion by James Rakoski, Second by Henry Bartlett to advertise the Budget for public inspection. All in Favor.

The Council Members were also provided with a proposed list of projects that would qualify for Act 13 funding.

**Blossburg Municipal Report:**

Dutchland has completed the Taylor Run water tank and we are in the process of building the chlorination building. The footers have been poured and block will be laid shortly.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**LED Streetlights (April 2021):** Penelec is still working on making the LED replacements.

**Sale of 245 Main Street: (April 2021):** The sale of 245 Main Street is complete. Motion to remove this item from the Agenda by Kenneth Johnson, Second James Rakoski. All in Favor.

**Junk Cars on Taylor Street (June 2021):** Solicitor is working on this amendment, needs to talk with the Mayor and Police Chief.

**Project Goals for 2022:** Project Goal Updates:

- a. **Better Wi-Fi on Island Park:** We are waiting for Blue Ridge and Penelec to work through their processes.
- b. **Sidewalk, Lighting and Signage for Island Park:** Livic has received the authorization to proceed with design of the sidewalk.
- c. **Island Park Restroom Replacement:** The Southern Tioga School District workforce program has determined that this project is more than they are willing to take on. We have picked out a design and will be talking with Carver's Masonry about laying the foundation and walls for the new facility.
- d. **Plaza Refurbishment:** Livic working on options.

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **2023 Police Pension Resolution:** This Resolution will be reviewed for the November 9, 2022 meeting. Motion by James Rakoski, Second by Henry Bartlett to add this item to the Agenda. All in Favor.

**DISCUSSION:**

Solicitor discussed a resolution which would waive the real estate tax penalty for individuals who claim they did not receive their tax notice. This should be reviewed.

In the Recent Borough News, there was an article regarding changes to fireworks laws. He suggested this article be reviewed.

Borough Manager had provided a copy of the Non-Residential Solar Ordinance for Council review. We can adopt the County's Ordinance if Council wishes.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned by President Hall at 6:59 p.m. Motion by Timothy Martin, Second by Kenneth Johnson. All in Favor

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Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary