

**BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 8, 2023**

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 (Absent), Henry Bartlett, Kenneth Johnson, Mayor, Shane Nickerson, Borough Solicitor, Patrick Barrett (Absent), Police Chief, Josh McCurdy (Absent), Borough Manager, George D. Lloyd, Borough Secretary, Cheryl Bubacz and School Representative, Kail Thompson.

**Guests:** Renee Carey from Northcentral PA Conservancy; and residents Josh Jones and Brian McClure

Renee updated everyone on the status of the acid mine reclamation project.

- SRBC is slightly behind on their in-house timeframe due to many people with time off over the holidays. They still plan to meet in March to discuss the plan and to get feedback from the Townships and Borough. They plan to go to bid in the Fall of 2023 with a construction start of Spring/Summer 2024.
- Phil from Trout Unlimited sent a packet of information to Council. The budget for the riverbank stabilization project is approximately \$14,000. That project would not begin before 2025.

**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:**

Mayor Nickerson introduced Kail Thompson who will be the new School Representative to Council. Everyone welcomed Kail.

Thank you to the Borough for installing the "No Parking" signs on Carpenter Street. It is making a big difference. The Police Department is giving out warnings right now to those who park in that area, but tickets will be written soon.

Joseph's Place demolition is going quite well. The interior has almost been completely gutted. The project is out to bid at this time. The roof is dried in and will be finished once the façade is completed.

The contractor will be contacting the Borough about rerouting the water runoff.

**Police:**

Chief was absent from the meeting due to an illness.

**Police Committee:**

No Meeting.

**Borough Manager:**

We have received an email from the President of TCAB about changing the monthly meetings to quarterly. Meetings would be held March, June, September and December, with Wellsboro hosting the December meeting. Council was in favor of this change as long as we can host one of the meetings every other year. Borough Secretary will relay this information to the TCAB President.

**Junior Council Person:** Kail Thompson reported that the North Penn Mansfield Boys varsity basketball team currently has a 20-1 record and Karson Dominick achieved a milestone by scoring his 1,000<sup>th</sup> point on Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at the game with Wyalusing.

**VIBE:**

Josh Jones, President of VIBE, reported that at the January meeting, dates were set for the various community events hosted by VIBE. Community Yard Sale will be Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>; Fall Festival will be Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> and the Island Park 150 will be Saturday, November 11.

**Planning Commission Report:**

Nothing.

**Zoning Hearing Board:**

Nothing.

**Recreation:**

The Rec Board reviewed and approved several items:

1. the Pool Bathhouse project
2. Coal Festival
3. Lewis & Clark Circus
4. 3-phase electric being brought into the Park at the main entrance
5. Painting the pickleball lines on the tennis court.

Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second Timothy Martin, to approve the projects listed above. All in Favor.

Josh Jones suggested when Penelec is laying the lines that we install cat-6 cabling for internet service. Motion amended to include the laying of cat-6 cabling by Kenneth Johnson, Second Timothy Martin. All in Favor.

**Fire and Ambulance:**

Henry Bartlett attended the January 23, 2023 meeting and all seems to be going well. The Banquet is Saturday, February 11, 2023. They are working on a “state of the Department” update to be presented to the municipalities serviced.

**Library:**

The Library will be participating in the “Raise the Region” fundraiser again this year. The Library is seeing a great deal of customers and are almost back to pre-covid numbers.

As soon as the weather allows, the stairs and sidewalks will be fixed. Borough Manager noted that before this is started, we need to locate the water curb box.

**Street Committee:**

Nothing

**Shade Tree Commission:**

Nothing.

**Budget:**

Nothing.

**Blossburg Municipal Report:**

The WWTP construction is underway. The contractors have started to bore under the Tioga River for line placements. They are having an issue with the bore collapsing when it gets to either side of the River and the rocks. The contractor is working on this issue.

The waterline at Taylor Run has been pressure tested and certified. Hope to be able to start using the tank in March . Want to take the Bellman tank offline for rehab in the spring. Borough Manager would like to put a logo on the tank and was thinking about Coalie Pickman. Council members thought this was a great idea.

The last LED request was sent in to finalize the switch from sodium to LED. Mike Stoudt and Ted Kelchner and Borough Manager went around town after dark to check the lights for any placement issues. The light arm to the streetlight on Bleeker Street is too long and is causing the excessive brightness at that location. A few other issues were also noted to be addressed by Penelec.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**LED Streetlights (April 2021):** Previously Discussed.

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

- a. **Better Wi-Fi on Island Park:** Under discussion
- b. **Sidewalk, Lighting and Signage for Island Park:** A sidewalk layout has been received.
- c. **Island Park Restroom Replacement:** On Hold
- d. **Plaza Refurbishment:** Borough Manager will stake the property and then the design can be reviewed and finalized.

**Ambulance Department – PPE Funding** – A check from the Act 13 monies has been prepared and signed. Motion to review this item from the agenda by Tonya McNamara, Second by Timothy Martin. All in Favor.

**Fire Department – Equipment** - A check from the Act 13 monies has been prepared and signed. Motion to review this item from the agenda by Tonya McNamara, Second by Timothy Martin. All in Favor.

**TCAB Meeting** – The menu for the Dinner on March 16, 2023 will be mini kabobs and pinwheel appetizers, Baked Rigatoni with meat sauce, toss salad, Italian/garlic bread and assortment of pies, cookies and cheesecake. Guest speaker will be Renee Carey to discuss the Acid Mine Reclamation project.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Speed of Sand Trucks:** Several residents are complaining about the speed of the sand trucks on Main Street. The Chief will contact the safety director for Repsol and discuss.

Borough Manager also discussed purchasing a solar powered LED speed sign.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting was adjourned by President Hall at 7:03 p.m. Motion by Timothy Martin, Second by Kenneth Johnson. All in Favor

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Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary