

**BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 14, 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 (Absent), Pro-Temp Tonya McNamara, Council Members: Jill Nickerson, James Rakoski (Absent), Henry Bartlett, Kenneth Johnson, Mayor, Shane Nickerson, Borough Solicitor, Patrick Barrett, Police Chief, Josh McCurdy (Absent), Borough Manager, George D. Lloyd, Borough Secretary, Cheryl Bubacz and School Representative, Kail Thompson (Absent).

Guests: Josh Jones, Ian Hicks-Lee and Natalie Kennedy from Tioga Publishing.

Guests have nothing to report.

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

Minutes and monthly Reports were accepted as presented by Motion of Jill Nickerson, Second Henry Bartlett. All in favor.

Mayor:

The Joseph's Place property will have a temporary fence installed around the perimeter of the property. This is for safety and security reasons.

Police:

Police Chief is on vacation. Nothing to report.

Police Committee:

No Meeting.

Borough Manager:

The Municipal Authority has voted to sell the 2002 Caterpillar Backhoe with a \$15,000 reserve price and asked Borough to do the same. Motion by Jill Nickerson; Second by Kenneth Johnson, All in Favor.

Junior Council Person: Nothing

VIBE:

Josh Jones said that they are still working on a 2nd Saturday event or an event which would coincide with the alumni dinner the first Saturday in August. Also, they discussed signage for the Borough which would be similar to a mall map with business locations, address, etc., signage to the Island Park and EV Station. Design concepts are in the design stage.

Planning Commission Report:

Henry Bartlett has submitted his letter of resignation from the Planning Commission effective January 1, 2024. Borough Manager asked if we didn't have a replacement if he would stay until a replacement was found. He said yes.

Zoning Hearing Board:

Zoning Hearing Board held a meeting on June 7, 2023 to review the special exemption request for 316 Wilson Street. The Board stated they would need off-street parking. The Board voted to authorize the special exemption to the applicant, Garri Lee Ogden, not to the property, meaning that if Garri Lee Ogden leaves the premises, the special exemption ceases and no new business would be allowed.

Recreation:

No Meeting in May. The old bleachers near the Little League fields have been removed by Jim Smith. A request for a skate park competition to be held August 5th was received. Motion by Jill Nickerson, Second by Kenneth Johnson to allow the skate park competition pending Rec. Board approval. All in Favor.

Fire and Ambulance:

No minutes were received from the Fire Department. The Ambulance Department sent in minutes.

Library:

The Library is very busy with their summer programs.

Street Committee:

Borough Manager presented a list of streets for tar and chipping in July or August. It is a total of 1.3 miles, which includes 0.5 miles on the East Creek Road for Dust Oil. The total cost would be approximately \$42,334.00. Motion by Tonya McNamara, Second Henry Bartlett to authorize the tar and chipping as presented. All in Favor.

Shade Tree Commission:

Nothing.

Budget:

Nothing

Blossburg Municipal Report:

Taylor Run Well #1 is almost completely piped. Working on installing the electric and completing the electrical building.

The Sewer Plant is moving along. The concrete was poured and cured and Dutchland set the walls on May 31st.

OLD BUSINESS:

LED Streetlights (April 2021): Penelec is finishing up the change order.

Project Goals for 2022: Project Goal Updates:

- a. **Better Wi-Fi on Island Park:** On Hold

- b. **Sidewalk, Lighting and Signage for Island Park:** A sidewalk layout has been received.
- c. **Island Park Restroom Replacement:** On Hold
- d. **Plaza Refurbishment:** The light pole needs to be removed so that we can select the design.

Holly Jolly Christmas – A confirmation of the authorization of the Holly Jolly Christmas event, to be held December 9, 2023, was made by Motion from Kenneth Johnson, Second by Tonya McNamara. All in Favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Henry Bartlett requested that additional grills be installed near the large pavilion. Also, he wanted to thank Dave Thompson, Heather Dietrick and Kail Thompson for their hard work cleaning the Park following the Coal Festival. They did a great job!

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned by President Hall at 6:49 p.m. Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second by Tonya McNamara. All in Favor

Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary