

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
June 12, 2024

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 Joshua Jones, Pro-Temp Kenneth Johnson
Council Members: Jill Nickerson (Absent), James Rakoski (Absent), Robert Bowens, Kallie Wickman (Absent), Mayor, Timothy Martin, Borough Solicitor, Patrick Barrett, Police Chief, Josh McCurdy, Borough Manager, George D. Lloyd, Borough Secretary, Cheryl Bubacz and School Representative, Kail Thompson.

Guests: Renee Carey – Northcentral PA Conservancy, Eion Hicks-Lee and Kristie Bowles from Tioga Publishing. Chad Riley arrived late.

Renee Carey: The GP1 Application for the riverbank stabilization and fish habitat structures is completed and ready to be filed. The funding is in place. The work should begin in mid to late August and last 3 to 4 days. If anyone would like to meet during that time and look at the work being done, please let Renee know.

Before the Conservancy can transfer the property, they must resolve the additional acreage that was noted during the survey. They are close to having the necessary rights-of-way in place and are in negotiations with a few additional landowners. If you know of anyone waiting for any answers, please let Renee know.

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

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

Mayor:

Nothing at this time.

Police:

Nothing.

Police Committee:

No Meeting

Borough Manager:

The gentleman that is the primary lawnmower at the Arbon Cemetery was out of commission during the last of May and first of June. Between the Borough guys, Josh McCurdy and other helpers, the Cemetery is looking very good.

We are looking into the cost to purchase a 2024 F550 truck. The cost would be between \$110,000 and \$125,000. We may be able to save about \$40,000 - \$50,000 by transferring the stainless steel box on our current truck to the new truck.

Junior Council Person:

Nothing.

VIBE:

The Girl Scouts cleaned up the Community Garden as part of the Silver Award. They have two (2) plots planted with veggies which will be donated to the food pantry or individuals. They are looking for donations to make higher raised beds.

They are working with a sign design company for new welcome signs. Tonya is working with PennDot. They hope to have final designs in the near future.

Planning for fall fest will be started at the June 19th meeting.

Planning Commission Report:

No Meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board:

No Meeting

Recreation:

The Rec Board met but did not have a quorum. A discussion with held regarding the status of the swimming pool in Wellsboro and if/when it will open for this season.

We have an ongoing issue with an individual who is sleeping at the Park. Need to check the signs at the Park regarding closed hours, etc. Solicitor said that the Mayor can make an emergency proclamation to announce the hours the Park is open and closed.

Penelec is waiting for us to have our panel in place before they will start the electric installation at the little league fields. Borough Manager suggested that we put the panel in a building similar to the new restroom building with ½ for the electric panel and the other ½ for a concession stand. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

A discussion commenced regarding the Wi-Fi on the Park and what is needed for the Borough, pool and community. Borough Secretary mentioned that our computer consultant, CSR, would like to meet with Josh Jones and Joe Bubacz and possibly a contractor that CSR works with to discuss these needs and any additional security services needed.

Fire and Ambulance:

Minutes were received from both organizations.

Library:

A status report from the Library was received. They are doing very well.

Street Committee:

Borough Manager provided a map showing the streets proposed for tar and chipping. The total proposed would be approximately \$64,725. This amount was budgeted through Liquid Fuel funds. Motion by Robb Bowens, second by Kenneth Johnson to move forward with the tar and chipping as proposed by the Borough Manager. All in Favor.

Shade Tree Commission:

Nothing.

Budget:

Nothing at this time.

Blossburg Municipal Report:

DEP approved the Bellman Water Tank and the Taylor Run Wells. Bellman Tank is back online, followed by Taylor Run wells the following week.

OLD BUSINESS:

LED Streetlights (April 2021): Waiting for Penelec

Project Goals for 2022: Project Goal Updates:

- a. **Sidewalk, Lighting and Signage for Island Park:** Hoping to put in more sidewalks on McIntyre Street yet this year.
- b. **Island Park Restroom Replacement:** Construction progressing extremely well.
- c. **Plaza Refurbishment:** Nothing at this time.

Blue Ridge Franchise Agreement: Blue Ridge emailed that they accepted our proposal. Once the documents are signed by Blue Ridge, the Borough can sign and the franchise fees will start in 2025. Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second by Josh Jones to remove this item from the Agenda. All in Favor.

TCAB Meeting June 20, 2024: Approximately 32 people have stated they will be attending. Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second by Josh Jones to remove this item from the Agenda. All in Favor.

Civil Service Rules and Regulations: The Solicitor needs to advertise an amendment to the previous advertisement. Motion by Josh Jones, Second by Kenneth Johnson to allow the Solicitor to re-advertise the Civil Service Rule and Regulations. All in Favor.

Resolution to Allow Farm Animals in the Borough: The Resolution to allow farm animals to housed in the Borough by the Southern Tioga School District for educational purposes was read. Motion by Robb Bowens, Second by Kenneth Johnson to approve and pass this Resolution. Vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Blossburg Fire Department has requested the use of Main Street on December 14, 2024 for the 3rd annual Holly Jolly Christmas. The parade would be the reverse of the Coal Festival Parade, starting on Island Park and ending at the Fire Department. Motion by Josh Jones, Second by Robb Bowens. All in Favor.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second by Robb Bowens to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 pm. All in Favor.

Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary