

**BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
July 10, 2024**

The Council Meeting was called to order at 6:33 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, James Rakoski, Robert Bowens, Kallie Wickman, Mayor, Timothy Martin, Borough Solicitor, Patrick Barrett (Excused), Police Chief, Josh McCurdy (Excused), Borough Manager, George D. Lloyd, Borough Secretary, Cheryl Bubacz and School Representative, Kail Thompson (Absent).

Guests: Kristie Bowles from Tioga Publishing.

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 Josh Jones. All in favor.

Mayor:
Lis Miranda, the Director of the Blossburg Memorial Library, has been with the Library for 10 years now. The Mayor would like to recognize her for the service she has provided to the community, the many programs that she has started and the dramatic increase in patrons at the Library. Thank you and Great Job to Lis.

Another thank you to the Borough for utilizing local resources for purchases when possible. This helps keep small businesses viable.

The Mayor asked for an Executive Session following the meeting. No action will be taken.

Police:
Nothing.

Police Committee:
No Meeting

Borough Manager:
The total cost of a 2024 F550 pickup with a stainless steel box is approximately \$130,000, the Borough Manager checked with the people that would provide the box and the savings would only be about \$10,000 by taking the existing box off the old F550 and moving it to the new F550. Also, he would like to continue to use the old F550 after the purchase until such time as a new F350 could be purchased. Motion by James Rakoski, Second Kenneth Johnson to authorize the purchase of the 2024 F550 and new stainless steel box. All in Favor.

Junior Council Person:
Nothing.

VIBE:

Currently working on design for new signage. Blossburg theme stickers have been ordered and are available for purchase. There will be t-shirts available for pre-order and also available at Fall Festival for purchase. Smith's Vinyl, a local business, will be making the t-shirts.

Planning for Fall Fest continues.

Planning Commission Report:

No Meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board:

No Meeting

Recreation:

The Rec Board met and discussed the proposed combined concession stand/electric building to be constructed near the Ward Field on the Park. This building would cost approximately \$90,000 as proposed. After much discussion, it was decided that Council needs to talk with the Little League Board to determine their needs with regard to a concession stand and maintenance and care for the new building. A reconvened Council Meeting was scheduled for Monday, July 22, 2024 at 6:30 pm to discuss this proposed building. This will give Council members the opportunity to talk with the Little League Board prior to making a decision on this project.

The new restroom facility on the Park is almost completed. Sidewalks need to be poured and some final interior work. This facility will be ready for football season.

There is a tall grassy area on the playground that has not been mowed. This area is the butterfly garden. Various flowers have been planted to draw in the butterflies.

The pool house construction was discussed and it is the opinion of the Board that the pool house reconstruction be pushed back until 2025 due to many factors around us and other pools being shutdown next year. There are some additional architectural changes that need to be made as well.

Fire and Ambulance:

Minutes were received from the Ambulance Association.

Library:

A status report from the Library was received. Their summer programs are being received very well and they are seeing high numbers of people participating in the programs.

Street Committee:

Waiting for the contractor to provide a start schedule.

Shade Tree Commission:

Nothing.

Budget:

Nothing at this time.

Blossburg Municipal Report:

The Taylor Run wells are approved and online. The media for the Hillside Well change out has been ordered and once it is delivered, the media will be replaced. This should start by the first of August.

The Sewer Plant is operational. There are some tweaks that need to be made and everything should be completed and totally operational by August 31, 2024.

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 install sidewalks on the North side of McIntyre Street yet this year.
- b. **Island Park Restroom Replacement:** Almost complete.
- c. **Plaza Refurbishment:** Nothing at this time.

Blue Ridge Franchise Agreement: This matter is completed. Motion by Josh Jones, Second by Robb Bowens 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.

NEW BUSINESS:

Concepcion – Maple Hill: A letter was sent to Mr. Concepcion, a copy was provided to all members, regarding him living in a travel trailer on his property. This is violating Borough Ordinances. Mr. Concepcion contacted the Solicitor regarding this matter. The Solicitor would like permission to continue his discussions with Mr. Concepcion and asked Council to authorize his continued discussions and to take actions necessary. Motion by Kenneth Johnson, Second by James Rakoski. All in Favor.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

The County has presented their 2024 County Response Plan for our review and adoption. This item will be added to New Business for the August meeting.

Josh Jones attended the NIMS training in Wellsboro on July 9, 2024. All members of Council, our Emergency Response Coordinator, Borough Manager and Borough Secretary are all required to have this training for FEMA purposes. Borough Secretary will check for additional training to be provided for those unable to make the July 9, 2024 training.

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