

**BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 8, 2025**

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

**Guests:** Renee Carey – North Central Conservancy, Debbie and Darrah Hinshaw, Shane and Uni Hicks-Lee, Bob and Carol Wooley, Kristie Bowles – Tioga Publishing.

Renee Carey reported that DEP has sent out all permanent Easements for the AMD project. The Conservancy has signed their necessary documents. Kleinfelder is finalizing the design, permit applications and bids packages for the Project. They believe it will be one (1) bid with subcontractors, rather than multiple bids.

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

Minutes and monthly Reports were accepted as presented by Motion of R. Bowens, Second J. Jones. All in favor.

**Mayor:**

The Mayor swore in Officer Eion Hicks-Lee as a new full-time officer who will start his six (6) months probationary period effective immediately. Officer Hicks-Lee completed the academy and the Borough’s Cadet Program. We are very pleased to have Officer Hicks-Lee.

The Mayor was asked to meet with the Governor in Harrisburg in November and did so. He noted that the Governor and the Tioga County Commissioners, who were also in attendance, have a great working relationship. The Governor has asked the Commissioners to be present when he discusses the 2025 Budget and to talk about the effects of Tropical Storm Debby on the County.

**Police:**

Nothing.

**Police Committee:**

No Meeting.

**Borough Manager:**

Nothing at this time.

**Junior Council Person:**

Nothing.

**VIBE:**

Nothing at this time.

**Planning Commission Report:**

No Meeting.

**Zoning Hearing Board:**

No Meeting

**Recreation:**

No Meeting.

**Fire and Ambulance:**

Nothing at this time.

**Library:**

A report was received from the Librarian. They have several upcoming events planned for January including Community & Family Night and STEM Afterschool with the Bloomsburg Children's Museum. Yoga classes will start on February 11, 2025.

**Street Committee:**

Nothing.

**Shade Tree Commission:**

Nothing.

**Budget:**

Nothing.

**Blossburg Municipal Report:**

Insight Pipe is here relining the section of N. Williamson Road along the Tioga River. So far there were 17 laterals lined over where houses have been removed. BMA is waiting for approval from RUS to start another section along Main Street for additional relining.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**LED Streetlights (April 2021):** Talked to Penelec and provided them a list of the lights that were missed in the original conversions.

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

- a. **Sidewalk, Lighting and Signage for Island Park:** The pine trees along the entrance to the Park have been removed in preparation for the installation of the new pole, that will provide electric to new Concession Stand/Electric building behind Ward Field.
- b. **Plaza Refurbishment:** Nothing at this time.

**Concepcion – Maple Hill:** This is currently in Litigation

**County Lighting Ordinance:** After discussion, Motion by J. Jones, Second by R. Bowens to adopt the County's Lighting Ordinance. All in Favor.

**FEMA/PEMA Grant Update:** The Borough Manager and Secretary are scheduled for weekly conference calls with FEMA/PEMA regarding the damage incurred by both the Borough and the Municipal Authority and repairs made for possible grant reimbursement.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Nothing.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION:**

J. Jones discussed research he has been doing regarding fraud in local government. His research found that fraud occurrences in government are easy. There are a few things that can be done to prevent fraud in daily processes. He suggests that at least two (2) people receive copies of the monthly bank statements and review them to put a second pair of eyes on the statements. No comments from Council were made.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by J. Jones, Second by R. Bowens to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. All in Favor.

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Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary