

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
July 17, 2019

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

President Jolene Hall called the Blossburg Borough Council reconvened meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Room of the Blossburg Borough Building, 241 Main Street, Blossburg, PA. The Meeting was reconvened from July 10, 2019 due to a quorum not being present.

Attendance: President Jolene Hall, Vice- President Jill Nickerson, Pro-Temp Tonya McNamara, Council Members Jerome Ogden (Absent), Paul Hosszu, Tim Martin, James Rakoski (Absent), Mayor, Shane Nickerson, Borough Solicitor, Patrick Barrett (Absent), Police Chief, Josh McCurdy, Borough Manager, George D. Lloyd and Borough Secretary, Cheryl Bubacz.

Guests: Henry Bartlett, Josh Jones, Natalie Kennedy, Myra Kreger, Charlie, Danielle, Abi and Finley Irwin and Corporal Bob Scott.

Minutes The Minutes of the June 12, 2019 meeting were accepted as presented, by Motion of Tim Martin; Second Tonya McNamara. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report Report accepted subject to audit by Motion of Paul Hosszu; Second, Tim Martin. All in favor.

Bills: Bills to be paid by Motion of Tim Martin; Second Jill Nickerson. All in favor.

Guests: Henry Bartlett: The property on the corner of Lynd and Morris Streets needs to be addressed further. He believes it is becoming a hazard for drivers due to the weeds and fence falling. Also, stated that he saw in the paper that liens were placed on certain properties. He believes that people shouldn't be allowed to get behind on their bills.

Myra Kreger presented Jolene Hall a commemorate Fire/Ambulance coin as a life member of the Ambulance Association and a Prayer Coin for being a past assistant Ambulance Chief.

Also wanted to let the Council know that the Fire Hall is the emergency site for the town for any emergency. The pending heatwave is one such emergency. However, the Fire Hall has been previously rented and will not be available should people need shelter from the heat. Chief McCurdy said he would check with the School District and President Hall stated that the Borough Hall had air conditioning and a generator if needed. Myra stated that there would be water, Gatorade and ice available at the Fire Hall for people if needed.

REPORTS:
Junior Council Nothing, Eion not present.
Person:

Committee
Business
Development:

VIBE will be holding a chicken barbeque on August 10, 2019.

Still preparing for the 2nd Annual Island Park 150.

People have been weeding at the Community Garden.

Planning for the Fall Festival is starting. The Festival will be Sunday, October 13th.

Mayor:

1. The Mayor presented a Proclamation to the Blossburg Ambulance Association in honor of their 70th Anniversary. Myra Kreger accepted the plaque on behalf of the Ambulance Association.
2. The Mayor presented a Proclamation to the Blossburg Volunteer Fire Department in honor of their 150th Anniversary. Charlie Irwin accepted the plaque on behalf of the Fire Department.

Police

1. The Police Report was accepted on Motion of Tonya McNamara, Second Tim Martin. All in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION CALLED STARTING AT 6:45 p.m.
MEETING RECONVENED AT 7:10 p.m. – Security Discussion

Police
Committee:

Police Committee met regarding the current vehicle problems. One of the cars is completely shot and a second has transmission problems. The last several cars were purchased as used cars and it is time that the Borough invests in a new car. The new car would be a hybrid which will save on gas due to not burning gas while the car is idling. Motion made to purchase a new 2020 police car with the total not to exceed \$55,000 with transferring as much equipment from the old police car as possible to save on cost by Paul Hosszu, Second by Tim Martin.

Additionally, the Chief stated that he has applied for Grant monies that will cover 55% of up to \$50,000. Pending the receipt of the Grant monies, the car would be purchased with Act 13 monies.

Chief discussed the new Fireworks Law that recently became effective. Part of the Law contains a provision that fireworks cannot be launched within 150 feet of a building or structure. The Department is enforcing the fireworks based on the new Law, however, we need to look into an Ordinance. This matter will be referred to the Solicitor.

Borough Manager:

1. Mr. Wise has started work on the Memorial. He will be removing the old grout followed by power-washing.

2. The Cybersecurity discussion that was held on July 10th was very informative. The Borough and Municipal Authority have items to look into to further protect the systems we currently have.
3. The Borough Manager provided each Council Member with a copy of an email from Scott Bray regarding the WWTP Upgrade Plan from HRG. A Motion was made by Paul Hosszu and Second by Tim Martin to approve the HRG Plan pending the review and approval of our Engineer, Scott Bray. All in favor.
4. Borough Manager was asked when we would have Fall cleanup and if at that time, NTSWA would have a place for old electronics. Borough Manager will check with NTSWA for dates for the cleanup and about the electronics.

**Planning
Commission
Report:**

No Meeting. A letter was received from Robin Stangel regarding the opening on the Planning Commission and her desire to be appointed to that position. Council reviewed the letter. Motion made by Paul Hosszu, Second by Tim Martin that Robin Stangel be appointed to the Planning Commission. All in favor.

**Zoning Hearing
Board:**

No Meeting.

Recreation:

1. The Recreation Board, through the School District, received a letter of resignation from Anne Harman as one of the School District's representatives on the Recreation Board. Borough Secretary will check with the School District on the status of a new representative appointment.
2. The lawns at the park look great, a special thank you to Bob Metarko.
3. Will be sending out approximately \$10,000 to various organizations from the United Fund campaign and the match by Ward Manufacturing.
4. The Pool and concession stand are doing very well. Both have been very busy. The GaGa Ball Pit is ready for use. Thank you to the Borough Employees who assisted with the construction and assembly.
5. Sealmaster has filled a majority of the cracks on the basketball court and it is ready to be resurfaced. The resurfacing should be either the week of July 15th or July 22nd depending on the weather. The cost of the resurfacing is \$3,509.54, of which \$1,500 was received from the Williamson Road Foundation and requests for additional funding have been sent to the Lutes Foundation and the various Veterans' organizations.
6. There are vines growing around the footbridge that need to be removed. Borough Manager said he would take care of that.
7. We have received a maintenance plan for the trees planted on the Park in April, The Plan is posted in the Borough garage.

8. The Teen Initiative Group is painting additional garbage containers, 55 gallon drums, to be placed around the Island Park.
9. The Music Fest will be held on July 27th.

Playground: The final Progress Report is due in August and this will be finished at that time.

Tennis Court: The Mayor mentioned that one of the tennis court nets was broken and add weeding around the tennis court to the list for the Probation Department to work on. The Borough Manager will check on the net.

Island Park River Walk: River Walk looks great! Lots of people using the path.

Fire: Minutes received

The 150/70 Anniversary celebration went very well. It was well attended. The Fire Hall looks great with the new flooring and wainscoting.

Library: Mayor asked about having the end of the parking lot, where the gravel is currently located, paved. Borough Manager said he would contact Stuart Lisowski and get a quote for having that portion of the parking lot paved.

The Summer Quest program is going well. The Teen Initiative Program is also going well. The group is going to Cherry Springs State Park in Potter County for a program on Story Telling. The Tioga County Libraries and Potter County Libraries are working together on different projects and programs.

Street Committee: The tar and chipping has been completed.

Borough Manager asked about passing an Ordinance regarding grass cutting and snow removal. The Ordinance should include not blowing grass or pushing snow into the roadway. This was referred to the Solicitor.

The Council was wondering about contacting Main Street business front owners, specifically the vacant properties, about dressing up their windows. The Mayor said that he would talk to some of the property owners.

Shade Tree Commission: Nothing to Report

Budget: Nothing.

Blossburg Municipal Report: Working on new Sewer Plant Project.

OLD BUSINESS: _____

Borough Website: Content for Website is being reviewed now. Hope to have the content submitted to the designer by July 19th.

Consent Agenda: Nothing

Codification: American Legal Publishing working on the Codification

NEW BUSINESS: _____

Resolution for Disposition of Records: Resolution for the Disposition of Records was reviewed by Council. Motion made by Tonya McNamara, Second by Jill Nickerson to adopt the Resolution. All in favor.

On-line Bill Pay: The checking account is in the process of being opened. This Account will receive the online payments. Once the opening is completed by First Citizens, we can test the online bill pay. We should be able to open this up to our customers in August or September.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: President Jolene Hall adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

/s/ Cheryl L. Bubacz

Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary