

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

July 11, 2018

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Council Vice-President Jill Nickerson called the Blossburg Borough Council regular meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Room of the new Borough Building, 241 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

Attendance: (absent, President Jolene Hall (vacation)); Pro Temp Tonya McNamara; Councilmembers (absent, Jerome Ogden), Timothy Martin, James Rakoski, Paul Hosszu; Mayor Shane Nickerson; (absent, Borough Solicitor Patrick Barrett (vacation)); Junior Council Person Eion Hicks-Lee; (absent, Chief Joshua McCurdy (sick)); Corporal Robert Scott; Borough Manager George D. Lloyd; Borough Secretary Mary Signor; Natalie Kennedy Wellsboro Gazette; Unisatvti Hicks-Lee; Henry Bartlett.

Minutes: The minutes of the June 13, 2018 meeting were accepted on motion of James Rakoski; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Report accepted subject to audit on motion of Paul Hosszu; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.

Bills: Bills to be paid on motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Timothy Martin. All in favor.

Guests: Henry Bartlett is concerned about the use of fireworks in the borough. The state law changed to allow Pennsylvania residents to purchase more powerful fireworks. Mr. Bartlett feels these fireworks create too much noise that affect the elderly, children, veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder, and animals. Fire and safety are also concerns. Police Committee was asked to discuss the general fireworks provisions. Borough Solicitor to be contacted on possibly updating the ordinance.

Reports:

(A) **Junior Council Person:** Nothing to report.

(B) **Committee Business Development:**

Blossburg V.I.B.E. (Visions in Business and Entertainment) meetings are held on fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:00 P.M. Meeting locations are different each month. Check the V.I.B.E. website for meeting place.

The Minutes from the April 25, 2018 and May 16, 2018 meetings were received.

V.I.B.E. proposed upcoming events: October 14, 2018 – Fall Festival
November 24, 2018 – Small Town Christmas

V.I.B.E. projects: (1) Communication Plan. (2) Island Park 150 Race to be held on December 8, 2018.

Passed new bylaws.

American Legion Post 572 made a donation to V.I.B.E. Monies to be used to purchase picnic tables that will be used for V.I.B.E. events.

Reports:

(C) **Mayor:** Mayor Nickerson reported Island Park Skatepark blacktop was coated.

Keith Lindie archives are now available online at <https://archive.org/details/keithlindiearchive>. The films are of multitude of events. Photographs and a link to videos can be found on Facebook at "R. Keith Lindie Archive". Paul and Dusty McMullen did the underwriting / digitalization of the films and Sheila Castrick organized and uploaded project.

Mayor is looking into funding for a sidewalk replacement program. Borough and homeowner could share costs.

(D) **Police:** Everyone has received a copy of the Police Report.

The Police Report was accepted on motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

District Magistrate Fines Total: \$678.66.

Officer Ronald Warren has returned and working for the BPD.

(E) **Police Committee:** Nothing to report.

(F) **Borough Manager:**

Borough Manager Report accepted. Motion of James Rakoski; second, Paul Hosszu. All in favor.

Nothing to report.

(G) **Planning Commission:** No applications were submitted. No meeting.

Zoning Hearing Board: No meeting.

(H) **Recreation:**

Barbeque pit roof fell down on pit. Damage was submitted to Borough's insurance company.

145 pool passes were sold this year.

2019 will be 150 year anniversary for the BFD. Date of festivity is July 13, 2019. Activities were presented to Blossburg Recreation Board.

A list of twelve lifeguard names and two summer borough employees were presented to Council, so Borough's Worker's Compensation will provide coverage. Motion to approve the twelve lifeguards and two summer borough employees to be covered under Borough's Worker's Compensation was made by Paul Hosszu; second, Timothy Martin.

Borough will receive 200 trees to be planted on Island Park next spring.

Playground: Since all items are completed, Borough Solicitor and Borough Manager to contact Playground grant sources (Park Rehabilitation Development Project, Grant from the Community Conservation Partnerships Program and administered by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), to set up an inspection of project. After passing the inspection, work can start on closing out the Grant proceeds.

Reports:

Tennis Courts: Nothing to report.

Trees: Planting of trees at park is on hold until new playground is completed.

Island Park River Walk: Dog waste stations are installed at two locations along walking trail.

(I) **Fire:** No Financial Report or Minutes were received.

(J) **Library:** No meeting.

Library and V.I.B.E. are working on an open house.

(K) **Street / Building Committee:** Two (2) miles of tar & chipping to be done Thursday, July 12, 2018.

(L) **Shade Tree Commission:** Nothing to report.

(M) **Budget:** Received Act 13 money in the amount of \$115,072.82.

Motion to pay Blossburg Municipal Authority \$50,000.00 from the Borough's Act 13 Funding, to help pay for the relining of wastewater lines to stop infiltration, was made by Paul Hosszu; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.

(N) **Blossburg Municipal Authority (BMA):**

BMA are reviewing Engineering / Consulting firms to design new sewer plant.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Borough Website:** Committee met and are planning to build their own website through Wix. First year fees were paid by Mayor Nickerson. Joshua Jones paid for domain name. Site possibility ready in a couple of months.

2. **QuickBooks and Diversified Technology Utility Billing Programs:**

Jill Nickerson asked that QuickBooks and Diversified Technology Utility Billing Programs be purchased. Joseph Bubacz recommends the purchases. Blossburg Borough Auditor Lisa Guthrie feels QuickBooks more efficient and help her more at end of year. Ms. Guthrie offered training on QuickBooks at the cost of \$125.00 per hour.

Motion to purchase QuickBooks and Diversified Technology Utility Billing Programs was made by Paul Hosszu; second, James Rakoski. All in favor.

A Budget Meeting is to be scheduled to discuss programs with the Blossburg Municipal Authority.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: No announcements.

ADJOURNMENT: Vice-President Jill Nickerson closed the meeting at 7:25 P.M.

Motion of Tonya McNamara; second, Timothy Martin. All in Favor.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. in the new Blossburg Borough Building Council Room, 241 Main Street.

Mary C. Signor, Borough Secretary