

BLOSSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
January 6, 2020

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Mayor Shane Nickerson called the Blossburg Borough Council Reorganizational Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council room of the Blossburg Borough Building, 241 Main Street, Blossburg, PA.

Mayor Nickerson swore in the three (3) elected Council Members being Jill Nickerson, Tonya McNamara and Henry Bartlett each of a four-year term.

Nominations for Council President, Vice-President, President Pro-Temp, Solicitor, Engineer, Secretary/Treasurer, Depository, LST Tax Collector and Insurance Carrier were taken:

Council President: Jolene Hall was nominated for Council President by Tonya McNamara and second by Tim Martin, all in favor. Council President then presided over the remainder of the Meeting.

Council Vice President: Jill Nickerson was nominated for Council Vice President by Tonya McNamara and seconded by Tim Martin, all in favor.

Council President Pro-Temp: Tonya McNamara was nominated for Council President Pro-Temp by Jill Nickerson, Second by Tim Martin, all in favor.

Borough Solicitor: Patrick Barrett, III was nominated to be the Borough Solicitor by Tim Martin, Second by Jill Nickerson, all in favor

Borough Engineer: W. Scott Bray was nominated as the Borough Engineer by Tonya McNamara, Second by Tim Martin, all in favor.

Borough Secretary/Treasurer: Cheryl Bubacz was nominated as the Borough Secretary/Treasurer by Jill Nickerson, Second by Henry Bartlett, all in favor.

Tax Collector for LST Tax: Keystone Collections was nominated as the Tax Collector for the Borough's LST Tax by Tonya McNamara, Second by Jill Nickerson, all in favor.

Depository for the Borough: First Citizens Community Bank was nominated as the Borough Depository by Jill Nickerson, Second Henry Bartlett, all in favor.

Vehicle, Liability & Worker's Compensation Insurance Carrier: Gannon Insurance Company was nominated to be the Borough's Insurance Carrier by Jill Nickerson, Second by Tonya McNamara, all in favor.

The Committees of the Council were appointed, please see the attached.

Regular Meeting:

Attendance: President Jolene Hall, Vice- President Jill Nickerson, Pro-Temp Tonya McNamara, Council Members Jerome Ogden, Henry Bartlett, 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: Betty Bartlett and Holly Lamonski.

Minutes, Treasurer's Report, Bills, Police Report and Borough Manager's Report Through the Consent Agenda, the Minutes of the December 11, 2019 meeting were accepted as presented, Treasurer's Report accepted, subject to Audit, Bills to be paid, and the Police Report and Borough Manager's Report were all accepted by Motion of Tonya McNamara; Second Henry Bartlett. All in favor.

Guests: Betty Bartlett and Holly Lamonski – No comments

Mayor: See Police Committee.

Police: At this time, the new Police Car is on the assembly line for the recall. The Borough will be signing the Grant Documents with USDA for the Grant received for the purchase of the second new Police Car. The 1st car which has been on order, will be paid for through Act 13 monies. The second car will be purchased 55% from the Grant received and the balance by either an additional donation or from Act 13 monies. Motion by Jerome Ogden, Second Jill Nickerson to proceed with the purchase of the second police car and to pay for the same through Act 13 monies if necessary.

Officer Brian Isaacson has moved to the full-time position and is doing well.

The 2020 Contracts with Hamilton Township and Putnam Township are being circulated tonight.

Police Committee: A meeting was held on Monday, December 30, 2019 at 6:00 pm. At this meeting, the Committee interviewed five (5) candidates to fill one to two part-time positions. The Committee recommends that the Borough offer part-time employment to Scott Tanner and Cynthia Griffin. Motion by Jill Nickerson, Second by Tonya McNamara that the Borough offer the part-time police officer position to Scott Tanner and Cynthia Griffin, with Scott Tanner being the first to be trained followed by Cynthia Griffin, if she is still available. Scott Tanner has currently received all of the necessary certificates needed to start immediately. A question was raised regarding if part-time officers are required to sign a one-year contract; Jerome Ogden noted that this is part of the hiring process.

Borough Manager:

1. The Street Sweeper that was purchased from Wellsboro has been transported to the Borough and if the weather holds, we will begin using it in the near future to clean up some of the cinders on the roads.
2. Larson Design Group, Engineering firm for the UTRRA water project, was going to install an underground vault structure by the existing sewer pump house. Because

additional chlorination will be needed before the water is sent to the UTRRA System, that vault will now be a building.

3. We are currently checking to see if the Covington Township and Hamilton Township UCC Code Agreements need to be re-signed for 2020 or if there is an automatic renewal clause in the existing Agreements. If there is not an auto-renewal clause, Council would need to approve the renewal of these two (2) contracts. Motion by Jerome Ogden, Second by Tim Martin to renew the contracts if there are no renewal clauses in the existing contracts.
4. The American Legion will be utilizing the Borough Garage for the monthly Military Share on January 7, 2020. The garage bays will be ready for the Legion to unload the food and distribute the same.

Committee
Business
Development
VIBE:

The next VIBE Meeting will be held on January 29, 2020 in the former Bogaczyk Law Firm office on Main Street. Tonya McNamara presented the Council members with a copy of the 2014 Mini Comprehensive Plan for the Borough for review and to see what can be accomplished in 2020.

Further discussion was held regarding putting in a small park on Borough property located on Main Street near Nevins Street. The park to contain seating, a walkway, and perhaps a water feature or sculpture. Borough Secretary said that she would contact an architect who is very familiar with the area to see if he is willing to help with such a project

Planning
Commission
Report:

Nothing

Zoning Hearing
Board:

Nothing.

Properties Sold
During Month:

There were five (5) properties transferred in November, with two (2) new families coming to town.

Recreation:

The Rec. Board will meet on Monday, January 27, 2020. The Little League Board has approached the Borough about holding their monthly meetings in the Council Conference Room. Depending on the date and time, if the Council Room is available, this would not be a problem.

Additionally, Jackie Ogden, whose son passed away from cancer, would like to put a memorial bench on the Park in remembrance of her son and his friend who also passed. She will be asked to contact the Borough Secretary to determine what kind of bench she wants and where she wants to put it.

A proposal for a 3-bay, 6-swing, swing set has been received and will be reviewed by the Rec Board at their meeting. Borough Manager has staked where on the Park the swing set would be constructed.

Playground: Reimbursement received. New Grants will be written in the near future.

Tennis Court: Nothing

River Walk: Many people still using the walking trail, even in the cold weather.

Fire: Minutes received prior to the meeting.

Library: Next Meeting will be January 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Library

Street Committee: Nothing

**Shade Tree
Commission:** Nothing

Budget: Nothing

**Blossburg
Municipal Report:** Continue to work on site of new Sewer Plant. Hope to be able to send out bids this spring.

OLD BUSINESS:

2020 Fuel Bids: The fuel bids that were opened at the December 11, 2019 Council Meeting were clarified and following review, the 2020 Fuel Contracts were awarded to WOC Energy by Motion of Jerome Ogden, Second Tim Martin, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS: _____

Ordinance: A discussion was held regarding passing an Ordinance to direct that store fronts on Main Street between the intersections of Hannibal and Carpenter Streets which are first level store fronts cannot be used as apartments. Motion by Tim Martin, Second by Jill Nickerson that this Ordinance be advertised as soon as available and Solicitor approval.

Adjournment: President Jolene Hall adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m. Motion by Tonya McNamara, Second by Jerome Ogden.

1st Cheryl L. Bubacz

Cheryl L. Bubacz, Borough Secretary

COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Revised 1/7/2020

PUBLIC WORKS:

Timothy Martin	112 Adam Drive	570-220-4160
Henry Bartlett	145 Lynd Street	570-638-3224
Tonya McNamara	113 South Williamson Road	570-638-3112

BUDGET:

Jerome Ogden (C)	262 South Williamson Road	570-638-2296
Jill Nickerson	217 Parkhurst Street	570-404-2221
James Rakoski	133 North Williamson Road	570-404-7487

STREETS & ROADS: PROPERTY & BOROUGH EQUIPMENT:

Jerome Ogden (C)	262 South Williamson Road	570-638-2296
Timothy Martin	112 Adam Drive	570-220-4160
Tonya McNamara	113 South Williamson Road	570-638-3112

LIBRARY:

Shane Nickerson	217 Parkhurst Street	570-404-2524
Jolene Hall	111 Main Street	570-638-3565
Tonya McNamara	113 South Williamson Road	570-404-7487

POLICE:

Jerome Ogden (C)	262 South Williamson Road	570-638-2296
Jolene Hall	111 Main Street	570-638-3565
Timothy Martin	112 Adam Drive	570-263-2264
Mayor Shane Nickerson	217 Parkhurst Street	570-404-2524

FIRE:

Shane Nickerson	217 Parkhurst Street	570-404-2524
Henry Bartlett	145 Lynd Street	570-638-3224
James Rakoski	133 North Williamson Road	570-404-7487

RECREATION:

Jill Nickerson	217 Parkhurst Street	570-404-2221
George Lloyd	205 South Williamson Road	570-638-2836
Jolene Hall (C)	111 Main Street	570-638-3565
Tonya McNamara	113 South Williamson Road	570-638-3112

MONUMENT:

Jerome Ogden	262 South Williamson Road	570-638-2296
James Rakoski	133 North Williamson Road	570-404-7487
Henry Bartlett	145 Lynd Street	570-638-3224

SHADE TREE COMMISSION:

Jeffrey Everett	331 South Williamson Road	570-638-3554
William Novitske, Jr.	230 South Williamson Road	570-638-2455
Robert Metarko	123 Main Street	

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT:

Timothy Martin	112 Adam Drive	570-220-4160
Tonya McNamara (C)	113 South Williamson Road	570-638-3112
Shane Nickerson	217 Parkhurst Street	570-404-2524

VACANCY BOARD:

Anthony Lupkowski (C)	209 Ruah Street	570-638-2306
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V.I.B.E.:

Jill Nickerson	217 Parkhurst Street	570-404-2221
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PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Jill Nickerson	217 Parkhurst Street	570-404-2221
James Rakoski	133 North Williamson Road	570-404-7487
Timothy Martin	112 Adam Drive	570-220-4160

***(C) CHAIRPERSON**

Council President shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.