

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, January 22, 2007, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 301 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA. Present were Mayor Claude Renninger; Council Members Don Pursel, Bill Brobst, Paul Kinney, Dan Knorr and Paul Houseknecht; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Code Enforcement/Zoning/Planning Officer Ed Fegley; Fire Chief Bob Rupp; Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton and Office Assistant Amy Seamans. Absent were Council Member Terry Lemon; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Finance Specialist Heather Jacoby and Solicitor Jack Mihalik.

#### PUBLIC HEARING – FFY 2007 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Prior to the beginning of the regular meeting, a Public Hearing was held at 7:00pm to discuss the Town of Bloomsburg's FFY 2007 Community Development Block Grant application. C. Renninger turned the meeting over to Bill Lowthert of SEDA-Council of Governments. Mr. Lowthert gave an overview of the program, stating that the program is federally funded and that the Department of Community and Economic Development has not announced 2007 funding but it's estimated to be \$200,351.00. Mr. Lowthert reviewed the application schedule, eligible activities and funding requirements. He distributed the Fair Housing Notice and Antidisplacement Plan and noted that the Town has a Section 3 preference. Projects currently funded are as follows: the Main Street and Market Square Street Lighting Project, the Fifth Street Reconstruction Project from Catherine Street to East Street, a Town Park Master Site Plan, Code Enforcement and Administration which the town can use up to 18% of the funds to administer the program. Mr. Lowthert asked the public and Town Council if there were any other projects to be considered. The following will be added to the list:

B. Brobst stated it was his personal desire to continue the Main Street Lighting Project to the east and west of Phase II (Main Street from Market Square to Iron Street) and north and south on Market Street. Phase II should be completed this spring. B. Brobst stated it was the original intention of Council to have two more phases. CDBG funds along with PennDOT Transportation Enhancement Grant funds are being used. B. Lowthert stated he has not heard from PennDOT about future Transportation Enhancement grant funds opportunities.

P. Houseknecht asked if funds could be set aside for shade tree replacement to enhance the downtown area. B. Lowthert believes this would be a fundable project. C. Mas reported that she downloaded several grants from the Bureau of Forestry and will be applying for one that has a deadline in March.

D. Pursel asked if sidewalk replacement was a fundable project. B. Lowthert stated that Council had sidewalk replacement for Main Street in their 2006 application which DCED approved as eligible and fundable.

B. Rupp expressed that the concrete apron at the Fire Department along Ninth Street has large cracks developing and asked if this would be a fundable project. The Fire Department has received a \$15,000.00 grant through the state but the estimated cost of the replacement is \$30,000.00. B. Lowthert would like to meet with B. Rupp at the site to discuss the project further.

Jim Hollister of Bloomsburg University asked if the construction of a sidewalk on East First Street from Penn Street to Honeysuckle Lane would be a possible project. B. Lowthert stated that DCED would question the service area. B. Brobst expressed that there is a large number of residents in the Country Club Drive/Road area and beyond.

Hearing no additional public input, the Public Hearing concluded at 7:41pm.

#### APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2, 2007 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved the January 2, 2007 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

#### APPROVAL OF 2007 VENDOR LIST

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved the 2007 vendor list as required by the auditors.

#### APPROVAL OF CHANGING/PROMOTING THE RECYCLING CENTER PART-TIME LABORER POSITION TO A FULL-TIME DRIVER POSITION

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved changing/promoting the part-time laborer position at the Recycling Center to a unionized full-time driver position with the successful candidate receiving his/her CDL license within six months.

#### APPOINTMENT OF JOHN GREEN TO SWIMMING POOL OPERATIONS BOARD

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on unanimously, Council appointed John Green to the Swimming Pool Operations Board with a term expiring on December 31, 2010.

#### APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH MCCARTHY TO SWIMMING POOL OPERATIONS BOARD

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on unanimously, Council appointed Joseph McCarthy to the Swimming Pool Operations Board with a term expiring on December 31, 2010.

#### APPOINTMENT OF DONNA LEMON TO THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council appointed Donna Lemon to the Historic Architectural Review Board with a term expiring on December 31, 2010.

#### ACCEPTANCE OF 2006 DUPLICATE AND INTERIM DUPLICATE COLLECTION REPORT FROM MARY F. WARD, TAX COLLECTOR

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the official report from Mary F. Ward, Tax Collector covering 2006 Town of Bloomsburg duplicate collections for the period ending December 31, 2006 in the amount of \$894,099.79 and the official report from Mary F. Ward, Tax Collector covering 2006 Town of Bloomsburg interim duplicate collections for the period ending December 31, 2006 in the amount of \$901.42.

#### DENIAL OF SUBORDINATION AGREEMENT REQUEST

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on unanimously, Council denied the request to subordinate the 2001 commercial revolving loan of Ruth Kranig for the property located at 26 Rear East Main Street.

#### APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO MUNICIPAL EMPLOYERS INSURANCE TRUST FROM THE POLICE PENSION FUND

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved the payment of a bill from Municipal Employers Insurance Trust from the Police Pension Fund in the amount of \$2,411.67.

#### APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on Five (5) (D. Knorr, P. Houseknecht, C. Renninger, P. Kinney and D. Pursel voting “Yes”) to One (1) (B. Brobst voting “No”), and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Steven and Mary Ellen Brink to install vinyl siding at **315 Catherine Street**.

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Shade Mountain Winery to install a sign at **9 East Main Street**.

#### APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR FENCING AND GATE AT RECYCLING CENTER

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for bids for fencing and gate at the Recycling Center. Grant funds will be used for the purchase.

#### APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR A NEW BALER AT THE RECYCLING CENTER

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for bids for a new baler at the Recycling Center. Grant funds will be used for the purchase.

#### APPROVAL OF RENEWING BALER MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH BE EQUIPMENT

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved renewing the baler maintenance agreement with BE Equipment in the amount of \$575.00.

#### APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF ESTIMATE #4 TO TRA ELECTRIC, INC.

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of estimate #4 to Tra Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$4,141.23 for the Main Street Lighting Project.

#### APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF SIGN MACHINE FROM HIGHWAY HANDYMAN PRODUCTS

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of a sign machine from Highway Handyman Products in the amount of \$1,625.43 with liquid fuels funds.

#### APPROVAL OF WORK ORDER NO. 1 FROM TRA ELECTRIC. INC.

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved work order no. 1 from Tra Electric, Inc. in the decreased amount of \$2,400.00 for the Main Street Lighting Project.

#### APPROVAL OF WORK ORDER NO. 2 FROM TRA ELECTRIC. INC.

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved work order no. 2 from Tra Electric, Inc. in the increased amount of \$1,880.53 for the Main Street Lighting Project.

## TOWN PARK MASTER SITE PLAN STUDY COMMITTEE

Mayor Renninger asked for a volunteer to represent Council on the Town Park Master Site Plan Study Committee. B. Brobst stated he would serve. C. Mas noted that the first of five meetings will be held on February 1, 2007.

### APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS SECTION 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 AND 4.5

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved amending Sections 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 of the Civil Service Rules and Regulations changing any language noting "top 10 scorers" to "top 15 scorers".

### APPROVAL OF MAINTAINING SECTION 5.2(3) OF THE CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved maintaining Section 5.2(3) of the Civil Service Rules and Regulations which requires candidates for the position of officer be interviewed by Town Council or its designee.

### APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS SECTION 3.6(B)

On a motion by D. Pursel, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved amending Section 3.6(b) of the Civil Service Rules and Regulations to require candidates for promotion to sergeant have five (5) years experience with the department. It was noted that this amendment will be consistent with the department work rules, policies and procedures.

### APPROVAL OF PLACING DONATED JEEP DEUCE AND A HALF VEHICLE ON TOWN INSURANCE COVERAGE

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved placing a 1950's/1960's Jeep Deuce and a half vehicle on the Town's insurance coverage. The vehicle is being donated to the Bloomsburg Fire Department by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry. The fire department will only use the vehicle in times of flood or snow disasters.

### COUNCIL SUPPORT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT CONCERNING THE BLOOMSBURG FAIR ASSOCIATION

P. Houseknecht wanted to publicly support the Bloomsburg Fire Department concerning the recent decision of the Bloomsburg Fair Association to bid out fire services for the 2007 Bloomsburg Fair because of the minimum wage being increased.

Fire Chief B. Rupp whole heartedly thanked Council for their support and expressed that any further relationship with the Fair Association will be contractual.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.

CAROL L. MAS  
Town Administrator & Secretary