

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, December 10, 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, Terry Lemon, Paul Kinney, Bill Brobst, Dan Knorr and Paul Houseknecht; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Finance Specialist Heather Jacoby; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton; Environmental Services Coordinator Charles Fritz; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Code Enforcement/ Zoning/ Planning Officer Ed Fegley; Fire Chief Bob Rupp; Solicitor Jack Mihalik and Office Assistant Amy Seamans.

Prior to the regular meeting, a public informational session regarding the newly installed pedestrian signals on Main Street was held at 6:30 p.m. Present was PennDOT District 3-0 Traffic Engineer Alan Keller and Civil Engineer Mara Skoczynski. Ms. Skoczynski stated the purpose of the meeting is to give the audience an educational presentation of the new pedestrian signals and to specifically review the federal and state regulations, the design methodology used, how to use the new concurrent phased pedestrian signals and to answer any questions. It was noted that the contractor for the Bloomsburg Congested Corridor Improvement Program completed the timing of the pedestrian signals on Thursday, December 6, 2007.

The regulations and guidelines for pedestrian signals come from the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) 2003 edition, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Official Traffic Control Devices Publication 212 of March 31, 2006 and the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes – Title 75 – VEHICLES (Vehicle Code) 2004 edition. It was explained that the pedestrian facing the “Walking Person” signal indication is permitted to leave the curb or shoulder and start to cross the roadway in the direction of the signal indication, possibly in conflict with turning vehicles. The pedestrian shall be given the right-of-way by drivers of all vehicles. The MUTCD states that the walk interval should be at least 7 seconds in length so that pedestrians will have adequate opportunity to leave the curb or shoulder before the pedestrian clearance time begins. The walk time in Bloomsburg is set at 7 seconds which is typical in most designs. Pedestrians should not start to cross the roadway when the “Flashing Upraised Hand” is indicated but any pedestrian who began crossing during the “walk” indication should proceed to a sidewalk or safety zone, and all drivers or vehicles should yield to the pedestrian. All pedestrian crossing timings in Bloomsburg were calculated using 4 feet per second for walk speed. If crossing was started under the “Walking Person” there should be ample time to finish on the “Flashing Hand”. Currently there are approximately 300 signals in District 3-0, 20% have “all red” pedestrian phases. Typically the all red pedestrian phases are being phased out with signal projects as traffic volumes increase.

Charles Wettling of 84 Deep Drift Drive asked Mr. Keller if the Town had to go with the new signals. Mr. Keller stated that as part of the Congested Corridor Improvement Program the Town did have the option and the Town wanted progression and you can not get that with an all red pedestrian phase. It was also noted that PennDOT paid for the new traffic and pedestrian signals.

Kurt Smith of 130 N. Market Street expressed that he witnessed Ms. Florence Thompson almost getting hit by a vehicle as she was crossing to come to Town Hall this evening.

Florence Thompson of 424 Iron Street stated as she was crossing in front of the Bloom Diner to come to Town Hall this evening a vehicle almost hit her. She stepped off the curb when the “Walking Person” indication came on and when she was half way across the road it changed to the “Flashing Hand” indication. When the “Flashing Hand” indication comes on, it also gives a green turning arrow to vehicles on Main Street that are turning left onto Lightstreet Road which turn into the path of pedestrians. Ms. Skoczynski stated that a two second lead pedestrian phase can be added to this area giving pedestrians more time to cross before vehicles are turning into their path.

Cory Kreisher of 703 Country Club Drive stated he has worked at a downtown business for seven years and has personally never seen a vehicle yield to a pedestrian. Mr. Kreisher asked what could be done to educate drivers. He knows that police cannot sit and patrol all the time.

Mr. Keller expressed that a local advertising campaign could be done. He also suggested visibility in the area to show drivers that the area is being watched and the issuance of citations for not yielding the right-of-way.

PROCLAMATION – BLOOMSBURG HIGH SCHOOL PANTHERS FOOTBALL TEAM

Mayor Renninger proclaimed the week beginning December 10, 2007 as Bloomsburg High School Football Week in the Town as a gesture of gratitude and pride for Coach Sones and every member of the 2007 Panther Football Team for their recent accomplishment. The proclamation was presented to Coach Sones and Senior football team members.

PRESENTATION – OUTGOING MAYOR AND COUNCIL PLAQUES

Carol Mas presented outgoing Mayor Claude Renninger and Council Member Bill Brobst, Terry Lemon and Don Pursel with plaques inscribed with their years of dedicated service.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO 12-10-07.01 SETTING VARIOUS FEES

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Setting of Various Fees Resolution No. 12-10-07.01 with the following changes: BYOB application fee increased from \$10.00 to \$25.00; antique dealers and second hand goods dealers license application fee increase from \$10.00 to \$25.00; rental of metered parking space increase from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per day and six month parking lot permit placards for all lots increase from \$75.00 to \$100.00 except Hoppes parking lot increase from \$50.00 to \$75.00.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 12, 2007 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council approved the November 12, 2007 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 26, 2007 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council approved the November 26, 2007 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND NOVEMBER PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills and the November payroll authorization: General Fund, \$111,028.71; Recycling Fund, \$16,707.85; Street Lighting Fund, \$5,338.04; Norris E. Rock Memorial Pool Fund, \$92.68; Day Care Project, \$3,562.00; Liquid Fuels, \$35,146.99 and the November payroll authorization in the amount of \$196,392.63.

APPROVAL OF 2008 BUDGET

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on Six (6) (D. Knorr, D. Pursel, C. Renninger, B. Brobst, T. Lemon and P. Kinney voting “Yes”) to One (1) (P. Houseknecht voting “No”), Council adopted the 2008 budget that included total General Fund Expenditures of \$4,068,995.00 and total General Fund Revenues of \$4,058,760.00; Excess Revenue over Expenditures of -\$10,235.00; a Beginning Fund Balance Available of \$10,600.00; and an Unappropriated Ending Fund Balance of \$365.00

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO SEDA-COG FOR SERVICES RENDERED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BLOOMSBURG AREA FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT

On a motion by D. Pursel, seconded by D. Knorr and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to SEDA-COG in the amount of \$6,029.40 for services rendered in the development of the Bloomsburg Area Flood Control Project for the period November 1, 2006 through May 15, 2007.

APPROVAL OF REINVESTING FUNDS WITH FNB BANK, NA

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council approved reinvesting funds with FNB Bank, NA at a rate of 4.75% for a term of twelve months.

APPROVAL OF INCREASING CROSSING GUARD HOURLY WAGE

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council approved increasing the crossing guard hourly wage to \$7.50 effective January 1, 2008.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF 2007 FORD CROWN VICTORIA INTERCEPTOR

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of a 2007 Ford Crown Victoria Interceptor for the Police Department in the amount of \$26,128.48 with drug forfeiture funds from Warnock Fleet.

APPROVAL OF CRS HAZARD MITIGATION ACTION PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

On a motion by D. Pursel, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Hazard Mitigation Action Plan recommendations noted in their September 10, 2007 planning committee minutes.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTANCE JOHN CHIARTAS AS A PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the resignation of John Chiartas as a part-time police officer effective December 10, 2007.

APPROVAL OF HIRING CHAD SUNDAY AS A PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER

On a motion by D. Pursel, seconded by D. Knorr and voted on unanimously, Council approved hiring Chad Sunday as a part-time police officer contingent upon his graduation from the police academy and successful completion of a comprehensive exam.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTANCE OF DIANE LEVAN FROM BLOOMSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the resignation of Diane Levan from the Bloomsburg Planning Commission with regret but it was noted that Diane resigned because she was elected as a Council Member beginning January 1, 2008.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTANCE OF DAVE ASHBY FROM BLOOMSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the resignation of Dave Ashby from the Bloomsburg Planning Commission with regret.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTANCE OF BONNIE GIRTON FROM BLOOMSBURG SHADE TREE COMMISSION

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the resignation of Bonnie Girton from the Bloomsburg Shade Tree Commission with regret.

APPROVAL OF 2008 NON-UNION EMPLOYEE SALARIES AND WAGES

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on unanimously, Council approved the following 2008 Non-Union Employee Salaries and Wages:

Appointed Official

Town Administrator	Carol L. Mas	56,850.25
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Administrative Salaried

Code Enforcement & Zoning Officer	Ed Fegley	47,972.25
Assistant Code Enforcement & Zoning Officer	Ralph Magill	35,053.98
Human Resources Assistant	Amber Kenney	36,750.00
Finance Specialist	Heather Jacoby	38,000.00

Clerical

Administrative Assistant (Code)	Christine Haney	16.78
Office Assistant	Amy Seamans	13.00

Building/Grounds

Cleaning/Maintenance Personnel	Edward Miller	9.50
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Police Department

Police Clerk	Calvin Rupert	16.77
Police Clerk	Elise Hughes	16.77
Police Clerk	Holly McAnall	14.00
Parking Enforcement Officer	Harry Rogers	11.83
Parking Enforcement Officer	Doug Levan	11.83

Public Works

Superintendent	John Barton	58,850.85
Foreman	Carl Barratt	19.29

Recycling

Environmental Services Administrator	Charles Fritz	35,987.27
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Other Wage Rate and Commissions

Town Solicitor		100.00/hr.
Town Solicitor - litigation		125.00/hr.
Zoning Hearing Board Solicitor		110.00/meeting
Town Public Works Consultant		(as needed)
Fire Chief		2,000.00/yr.
Emergency Management Coordinator	Joseph Wondoloski	2,000.00/yr.
Earned Income Tax Commission		1.75%
Occupational Privilege Tax Commission		1.75%
Gross Receipts Tax Commission		1.75%
Amusement Tax Commission		1.00%
Tax Collector - Real Estate and Per Capita Taxes		15,000/yr.

ACCEPTANCE OF WAL-MART GRANT

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council accepted a grant from Wal-Mart in the amount of \$400.00.

APPROVAL OF AWARDING SALE OF 1987 E350 FORD CUBE VAN TO NORTH CENTRAL HIGHWAY SAFETY NETWORK, INC

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council awarded the sale of the 1987 E350 Ford Cube Van to North Central Highway Safety Network, Inc. in the bid amount of \$3,501.99.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by D. Pursel, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Vern Ryman and Brenda Fry to install vinyl replacement windows at **138 West 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 David Ferro to install vinyl replacement windows at **138-140 Murray Avenue**.

DENIAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council denied a Certificate of Appropriateness for Todd Zeisloft to demolish a garage at the rear of **327 East Second Street** due to no representative being present at the meeting to provide pertinent information.

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council denied a Certificate of Appropriateness for Shangrila Development Corp. to construct a new commercial building at the **corner of Pine Avenue and Center Street** due to no representative being present at the meeting to provide pertinent information.

APPROVAL OF WAIVER FOR BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY HAAS CENTER FOR THE ARTS EXPANSION LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved a waiver from Section 702.1.B requiring a concrete monument along the S.R. 0487 right-of-way line for Bloomsburg University's Haas Center for the Arts expansion land development plan.

APPROVAL OF BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY HAAS CENTER FOR THE ARTS EXPANSION LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved Bloomsburg University's Haas Center for the Arts expansion land development plan contingent upon the certification of ownership being signed and notarized (404.B1.a.7).

APPROVAL OF NINETY (90) DAY TIME EXTENSION – SHANGRILA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION – IRONDALE ROAD HOUSING PROJECT – LAND DEVELOPMENT

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved a ninety (90) day time extension for Shangrila Development Corporation's Irondale Road housing project land development plan.

APPROVAL OF REVISED AIRPORT HANGAR LAND LEASE AGREEMENT
FORM

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the following revisions to the airport hangar land lease agreement form: page 1, add the lot size; pages 11 and 12, change the bodily injury amount from five million dollars to one million and leave the number of bays blank.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary