

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, March 10, 2008, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 301 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA. Present were Mayor Dan Knorr; Council Members Paul Kinney, Paul Houseknecht, Kathy Shepperson, Diane Levan, Sylvia Costa and W. Carey Howell; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Finance Specialist Heather Jacoby; Code Enforcement/Zoning/ Planning Officer Ed Fegley; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton; Fire Chief Bob Rupp; Office Assistant Amy Seamans and Solicitor Jack Mihalik.

PUBLIC HEARING – APPROVAL OF FFY 2008 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION

Prior to the beginning of the regular meeting, a Public Hearing was held at 7:00pm to finalize the Town of Bloomsburg's FFY 2008 Community Development Block Grant application. Mayor Knorr turned the hearing over to Bill Lowthert of SEDA-Council of Governments. Mr. Lowthert stated the FFY 2008 CDBG Program allocation is \$190,417.00. The following projects have been selected for funding: \$96,489.00 for Phase III Main Street Lighting Project from Market to West Streets; \$59,660.00 for Town Park Improvements Project – New Tennis Court Construction and \$34,268.00 for Administration. Mr. Lowthert read the resolution authorizing the submission of the FFY 2008 CDBG application.

Hearing no further input from Town Council or the public, the Public Hearing concluded at 7:14pm and the regular meeting of Town Council convened.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD – DOWNTOWN MERCHANTS TIM WAGNER AND MEGAN HUMMEL

Downtown merchant's Tim Wagner and Megan Hummel were present to discuss the purchase of decorative Christmas wreaths for the downtown. Mr. Wagner expressed that the Events Committee of the Promotions Committee of Downtown Bloomsburg, Inc. would like to purchase decorative Christmas wreaths to be attached to the new street lights instead of having strings of lights in the trees. The five foot wreath would encircle the globe of the street light. Both sides of the wreath have LED lights and a plastic bow. The wreath would be attached by the Public Works Department with c-clamps. Mr. Wagner informed Council that they would like to purchase thirty (30) wreaths initially. Currently they can purchase the wreaths from Rileighs Outdoor Décor located in Bethlehem at a sale price of \$340.00 each. The committee can come up with \$5,000.00 and is asking a match of \$5,000.00 from the Town. Ms. Hummel expressed that the group will continue to raise funds and look for grants to make future purchases. On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved contributing \$5,000.00 to Downtown Bloomsburg, Inc. for the purchase of Christmas wreaths. J. Barton expressed that the wreaths will be easier for his department to put up and take down and stated that they can be stored at the Public Works facility.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – RICHARD HAMMER

Richard Hammer of 204 E. Twelfth Street presented Council with a request for speed bumps on Catherine Street. Property owners and residents in the area of Eleventh Street to Ft. McClure Boulevard feel there is a speeding problem. Mayor Knorr referred the matter to the Public Safety Committee for discussion.

VETERANS MEMORIAL DESIGN PROCEDURE DISCUSSION

Mayor Knorr expressed that he heard that at the last Veterans Memorial Committee meeting that the group voted to recommend Council approve Harry "Jay" George's original design. He feels the Town Park Improvement Association Board is being overlooked and would like just a few members of both entities to work together on a design. D. Levan asked how many Park Board members are on the Veterans Committee and Chuck Wagner stated it's just one, himself. C. Wagner feels the Veterans Committee meetings should be advertised and held at a time later in the evening to accommodate the public. C. Wagner read a letter from Park Board member Pat Taylor. K. Shepperson

would like to see both sides meet. D. Levan feels the Town Engineer and Town Planner should be included in the meetings as well.

Harry “Jay” George stated that he represents the Marines and all the people who gave donations over the past four years. Mr. George stated he brought his model to Town Hall, the Park Board, the library, the hospital and to people after Veteran’s Day parades and not one person expressed that they had a problem with the design. Mr. George wants to see the memorial built but does not want the controversy that has been in the newspaper. He is tired of hearing the experts say it’s too formal or it doesn’t have a garden affect. Not once has he heard them give an alternative idea. He is willing to compromise but would like to have granite columns remain, maybe not as much since prices have gone up, bronze medallions for each branch of the service and flag poles for the branches of the armed forces, POW-MIA and Purple Heart.

B. Lowthert offered the services of SEDA-COG to facilitate the meetings. D. Knorr asked Mr. George if he would choose a couple of people from the Veterans Memorial Committee, C. Wagner to choose a couple of people from the Park Board and then he will proceed on arranging the first meeting.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 03-10-08.01 – FFY 2008 CDBG PROGRAM APPLICATION SUBMISSION AUTHORIZATION

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution No. 03-10-08.01 authorizing the submission of an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for Federal Fiscal Year 2008 under the Community Development Block Grant Program.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 03-10-08.02 – CDBG PROGRAM INCOME PROGRAM REUTILIZATION PLAN ADOPTION

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution No. 03-10-08.02 adopting the following Program Income Reutilization Plan: this Plan shall pertain to all Program Income generated by the grantee or by any of its subrecipients, unless a separate agreement is developed for that subrecipient.

- 1) Program Income will be reviewed, not less than annually, through a public participation process including a formal media notice, a public hearing, and formal action at a public meeting identifying the total Program Income, the activity to which the Program Income is being committed, and the Federal Fiscal Year contract to which it is being assigned.
- 2) All activities for which Program Income is to be utilized shall comply with 24 CFR Part 570, meeting the federal guidelines for both eligibility and one of the three national objectives.
- 3) The Town of Bloomsburg may set aside up to 18% of identified CDBG Program Income for the purposes of administration and planning.
- 4) Program Income designated to a project shall be applied to costs associated with that project before other Community Development Block Grant Entitlement funds are drawn down for the purposes of said project activity.
- 5) Program Income shall be reported in all audits and reports prepared and/or released by the Town of Bloomsburg.
- 6) Program Income shall be reported to DCED in accordance with their reporting requirements or not less than annually.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO 03-10-08.03 SETTING CERTAIN FEES FOR 2008

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution No. 03-10-08.03 setting various fees for 2008 with one (1) addition: the fee for the purchase of student summer parking permit placards will be \$60.00 from May 19, 2008 to August 8, 2008.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 25, 2008 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved the February 25, 2008 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND FEBRUARY PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills and the February payroll authorization: General Fund, \$614,761.89; Recycling Fund, \$9,953.82; Street Lighting Fund, \$4,588.04; Norris E. Rock Memorial Pool, \$30.00; Day Care Project, \$3,562.00; Airport Extension Project, \$1,900.00; Liquid Fuels, \$170.00; Stroup Fund, \$82.31 and the February payroll authorization in the amount of \$155,684.94.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILL TO HAY GROUP, INC. FROM THE POLICE PENSION PLAN

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Hay Group, Inc. from the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$975.52 for January actuarial services.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILL TO BOYER AND RITTER FROM THE POLICE PENSION PLAN

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Boyer & Ritter from the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$2,050.00 for 2007 auditing services.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BOYER AND RITTER FROM THE EMPLOYEES PENSION PLAN

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Boyer & Ritter from the Employees Pension Plan in the amount of \$2,050.00 for 2007 auditing services.

TERMINATION OF PROFESSIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SEDA-COG FOR FACILITATION OF A FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved terminating the professional and administrative services agreement with SEDA-COG for the facilitation of a flood control project due to the formation of the Bloomsburg Area Joint Flood Control Authority.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF 2008 FORD CROWN VICTORIA INTERCEPTOR BY THREE-YEAR LEASE

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Six (6) (C. Howell, S. Costa, D. Knorr, P. Kinney, P. Houseknecht and D. Levan voting "Yes") to One (1) (K. Shepperson voting "No"), Council approved the purchase by a three-year lease of a 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Interceptor for the police department in the amount of \$24,395.00 from Warnock Fleet with DUI Center funds.

APPROVAL OF TOWN HALL SUMMER HOUR SCHEDULE

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved the following summer hour schedule for non-union Town Hall staff: Monday through Thursday 7:30am to 4:30pm and Friday 7:30am to 2:00pm, Memorial Day to Labor Day.

APPOINTMENT OF BARRY THORNE TO BLOOMSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, Council appointed Barry Thorne to the Bloomsburg Planning Commission with a term expiring on December 31, 2011.

APPROVAL OF FFY 2007 CDBG BUDGET MODIFICATION

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved modifying the FFY 2007 CDBG budget for the Street Lighting Project from Market to West Streets from \$134,416.50 to \$208,153.50. \$2,500.00 is coming from code enforcement and \$71, 237.00 from Program Income.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Jack Deal to install vinyl siding on the rear of the structure at **15-17 East Third Street**.

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on Five (5) (P. Houseknecht, K. Shepperson, D. Knorr, S. Costa and C. Howell voting "Yes") to Two (2) (P. Kinney and D. Levan voting "No"), and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Shangrila Development Corporation to construct a new three-story commercial building at the **corner of Pine Avenue and Center Street** with the improvement to the frieze board.

APPROVAL OF EDWARD MADY SUBDIVISION/LOT INCORPORATION FINAL PLAN WITH CONTINGENCY

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved Edward Mady's subdivision/lot incorporation plan for 675 and 677 Park Street contingent upon a proposed deed of incorporation being submitted and approved by the Town solicitor.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR 2008 STREET RESURFACING PROJECT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for bids for the 2008 Street Resurfacing Project. The streets to be resurfaced are: West Pine Avenue from Orchard Street to a distance of 470' traveling west, East Third Street from Oak Lane to Chestnut Street and Scott Avenue from West Main Street to West Pine Avenue.

APPROVAL OF RV FLY-IN AT BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT ON MAY 24-25, 2008

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously Council approved an RV fly-in at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport on May 24-25, 2008 with some guests camping overnight.

APPROVAL OF FARM LAND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH STEPHEN KISTLER

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved entering into a year-to-year lease agreement with Stephen Kistler to farm up to 50 acres of town-owned land, formerly known as the Streater Farm, at \$35.00/acre. C. Mas will draft an agreement for the town solicitor to approve.

APPROVAL OF SALE OF 1997 FORD F-250 DUMP TRUCK BY PUBLIC AUCTION

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved the sale of the Public Works Department 1997 Ford F-250 dump truck by public auction.

APPROVAL OF FOOD VENDORS ON LIGHTSTREET ROAD FROM PENN STREET TO FETTERMAN AVENUE DURING BLOCK PARTY WITH REGISTRATION FEE

On a motion by K. Shepperson, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Six (6) (K. Shepperson, S. Costa, D. Knorr, P. Kinney, P. Houseknecht and C. Howell voting "Yes") to One (1) (D. Levan voting "No"), Council approved up to ten (10) food vendors in the parking spaces on the north side of Lightstreet Road from Penn Street to Fetterman Avenue during block party on April 19, 2008 with a vendor registration fee of \$25.00. It was noted that the same application process as last year will be used and will be on a first come first serve basis. A list of the registered vendors will be sent to Central Tax Bureau for Gross Receipts Tax purposes.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING ZONING HEARING BOARD ALTERNATE POSITION

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for a Zoning Hearing Board alternate.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned into Executive Session to discuss Police negotiations at 9:24pm and did not reconvene.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary