

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, January 25, 2010, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 301 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA. Present were Mayor Dan Knorr; Council Members Diane Levan, Paul Kinney, Sylvia Costa, W. Carey Howell and Bill Kreisher; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton and Office Assistant Amy Seamans. Absent was Council Member Kathy Shepperson.

PUBLIC HEARING – FFY 2010 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 2010 Community Development Block Grant application. D. Knorr turned the meeting over to Bill Lowthert of SEDA-Council of Governments. B. Lowthert gave an overview of the program and reported that the Department of Community and Economic Development estimates available funding to be level to last year which was 194,200.00 with a possible 5%-8% increase. Also, there is \$80,000 in FFY 2009 CDBG funds available from the Streater demolition project and \$33,470 in CDBG-ARRA funds available which will need to be re-budgeted. B. Lowthert reviewed the application schedule, eligible activities and funding requirements. Also reviewed were the Fair Housing Notice, Antidisplacement Plan and Section 3 requirements. Projects currently being funded are the Streater Property Demolition Project, Town Park Tennis Court Construction Project and the Streater Property Master Site Plan Study. The following list of projects were compiled by the Public Works Committee as possible projects the Town could consider funding: Phase IV of the Main Street Lighting Project from Iron to East Third Streets, improvements to the old restroom facilities at Town Park nearest the ball field, construction of an entry feature/traffic circle on Market Street at Town Park, construction of a walking/biking trail from Town Park to the Streater Property, construction of a walking/biking trail along Fifth Street from Park Street to the Town line, recreation development at the Streater Property, reconstruction of Center Street from Main Street to Ridge Avenue, reconstruction of Iron Street from Main Street to Third Street and 18% is typically set aside for Administrative fees for SEDA-COG to administer the program.

B. Lowthert asked Council and the Public if there were any other projects that they would like to be considered. Vince Demelfi asked if the street lights could be changed to energy efficient. J. Barton and B. Lowthert both expressed that the technology is not there yet for street lights. Jim Hollister asked B. Lowthert to explain how funds could be put towards economic development. After some discussion, J. Hollister asked Council to add a Downtown Business Incentive Program to the list. Council asked B. Lowthert to remove the construction of an entry feature/traffic circle on Market Street at Town Park and the reconstruction of Center Street from Main Street to Ridge Avenue from the list.

Hearing no additional public input, the Public Hearing concluded at 7:50 p.m.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – KATIE FEELEY, U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Ms. Feeley was present to discuss a job offering. The U.S. Census Bureau is in the process of hiring for field positions to conduct the 2010 Census. They need census takers or enumerators as well as crew leaders and assistant crew leaders. She explained that if anyone is interested they should call 1-866-861-2010 or visit www.2010censusjobs.gov on the internet to apply. Applicants will need to take a test which is being given at the CareerLink office on Tenny Street.

APPROVAL OF RE-BUDGETING CDBG FUNDS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved re-budgeting \$80,000 in FFY 2009 CDBG funds and \$33,470 in CDBG-ARRA funds to the Phase IV Main Street Lighting Project contingent upon receiving public comment.

PROCLAMATION – NO PLACE FOR HATE

Mayor Knorr read the Anti-Defamation League “No Place for Hate” proclamation declaring that the Town of Bloomsburg will maintain a policy of zero tolerance for hate crimes.

MAYOR UPDATE

Mayor Knorr gave an update on the cresting levels of Fishing Creek and the Susquehanna River due to the recent rains. He informed everyone that Restaurant 112 is now open for business and that he would be testifying on behalf of the town at the hearing before the PLCB regarding their request to transfer a liquor license to the restaurant. There is a fundraiser called Dance Your Heart Out benefiting BTE on February 13th at the Barn at Boone’s Dam. The construction of Downtown Bloomsburg Inc.’s courthouse plaza project is set to begin in early spring with the ribbon cutting at Renaissance on April 24th and there is an Art Walk-In happening on February 18th inside the Moose Exchange on West Main Street.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 4, 2010 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the January 4, 2010 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

ACCEPTANCE OF 2009 DUPLICATE COLLECTION REPORT FROM MARY F. WARD, TAX COLLECTOR

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the official report from Mary F. Ward, Tax Collector covering 2009 Town of Bloomsburg duplicate collections for the period ending December 31, 2009 in the amount of \$1,093,876.41.

ACCEPTANCE OF 2009 INTERIM DUPLICATE COLLECTION REPORT FROM MARY F. WARD, TAX COLLECTOR

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the official report from Mary F. Ward, Tax Collector covering 2009 Town of Bloomsburg interim duplicate collections for the period ending December 31, 2009 in the amount of \$3,359.35.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO FIRST COLUMBIA BANK AND TRUST COMPANY FROM THE POLICE PENSION PLAN AND EMPLOYEES PENSION PLAN

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to First Columbia Bank and Trust Company from the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$3,503.38 and \$2,615.73 from the Employees Pension Plan for quarterly trustee fees.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO HAY GROUP, INC. FROM THE GENERAL FUND, POLICE PENSION PLAN AND EMPLOYEES PENSION PLAN

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Hay Group, Inc. from the General Fund in the amount of \$2,292.04, \$410.00 from the Police Pension Plan and \$470.00 from the Employees Pension Plan.

RETIREMENT ACCEPTANCE OF POLICE DEPARTMENT LIEUTENANT JOSEPH WONDOLOSKI

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the retirement of Police Department Lieutenant Joseph Wondoloski effective January 30, 2010 with deep regret.

APPROVAL OF BOND REDUCTION FOR 401-403 LIGHTSTREET ROAD LAND DEVELOPMENT

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved reducing the bond of 401-403 Lightstreet Road land development by \$13,608.51.

APPROVAL OF SIGNING RIGHT-OF-ENTRY FOR SURVEY AND EXPLORATION FORM FROM US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FOR BLOOMSBURG FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION PROJECT

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved signing a Right-of-Entry for Survey and Exploration form from the United States Department of Army Corps of Engineers allowing subsurface core sampling work to be performed on town-owned land. The work is being completed as part of the Bloomsburg flood damage reduction project.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1284 FORT MCCLURE BOULEVARD

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved purchasing property located at 1284 Fort McClure Boulevard from Kenneth Mueller and James Krause in the amount of \$18,000.00. The purchase is a deed in lieu of condemnation.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:28pm.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary