

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held this Monday, April 10, 2006, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 301 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA. Present were Mayor Claude Renninger; Council Members Bill Brobst, Terry Lemon, Paul Kinney, Dan Knorr, Paul Houseknecht and Don Pursel; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Finance Specialist Heather Jacoby; Code Enforcement/Zoning/Planning Officer Ed Fegley; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton; Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz; Fire Chief Bob Rupp; Solicitor Jack Mihalik and Office Assistant Amy Seamans. Absent was Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – RANDY BROWN, DOWNTOWN BLOOMSBURG, INC.

Randy Brown, Chair of the newly formed Downtown Bloomsburg, Inc. Board of Directors spoke to Council on their progression. The Board of Directors are as follows: Randy Brown, Chair (term expires 12/31/07); Tim Wagner, Vice Chair (term expires 12/31/06); Pam Young, Treasurer (term expires 12/31/06); Carol Mas, Secretary; Fred Gaffney, Jim Hollister (term expires 12/31/07); Kathy Lowe (term expires 12/31/07); Don Pursel (term expires 12/31/06); Steph Severn (term expires 12/31/07) and Karen Wood (term expires 12/31/07). Mr. Brown expressed that the Board has been very busy, meeting weekly. The bylaws have been adopted and Articles of Incorporation have been filed. Application is being made for non-profit status through the Department of Revenue. Interviewing has begun for a Downtown Manager. The Board will be using the Downtown 101 four-point approach. At the March 28, 2006 visioning session, the Pennsylvania Downtown Center outlined the plan the board needs to follow. Four committees are going to be formed, one for each point of the plan. Mr. Brown presented the proposed operating budget and asked Council to contribute \$29,730.00. He also asked if Council would front \$5,300.00 for the consulting fee of the PA Downtown Center until DCED grant funds were approved. Mayor Renninger referred the matter to the Administrative/Finance committee.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – JIMMY GILLILAND

Swimming Pool Chairman, Jimmy Gilliland, addressed Council concerning an issue raised at a pool board meeting in the summer of 2005. Resident Joe McCarthy circulated a petition and received 80 plus resident signatures who wanted to see the adult swim hours modified to accommodate families with small children. The meeting lasted two hours with no decisions being made. Former Mayor Coffman received numerous phone calls and written correspondence from persons who attend the adult swim thinking the Town was going to do away with the program all together. There were no changes made last season. The pool board discussed the issue at their meeting on April 3, 2006. The current hours of the pool are adults only from 11:00am to 1:00pm and general admission for all ages from 1:00pm to 7:00pm. Mr. Gilliland proposed 11:00am to 12:00noon for adults only; 12:00noon to 1:00pm would be for adults and for families who have purchased family passes or combination adult/child passes with children under 18 being accompanied by an adult in the shallow end. Adults only will be allowed in the middle and deep ends with the pool opening at 1:00pm for everyone. The proposal was voted down with three members voting no to two members voting yes. After further discussion, the board voted and approved with three members voting yes to two members voting no, the same proposal with families with passes or combination adult/child passes allowed in from 12:30pm to 1:00pm.

Swimming Pool board member and past Chairman, John Green, expressed that the adult swim hours began 51 years ago. Most adults use the pool for therapy and socialization with others their own age. Mr. Green feels that 75% of the town pool hours are for children with 25% of the time for adults.

Joe McCarthy explained that of the 80 plus residents who signed his petition never wanted to see the adult swim time done away with but only modified. Mr. McCarthy expressed that when swim lessons are held in July, it's inconvenient to attend classes in the morning and then have to pack up the whole family and leave for a couple of hours to return at 1:00pm when the pool reopens for general admission.

Sarah (Sally) Keys was present to express her concern of having the adult swim hours changed. For eight years she taught water exercise from noon until 1:00pm daily at the Town Pool and would like to start the program again. In the past she would have between 15 and 20 people attend her class. She is concerned that if children were allowed in the pool at the same time, her class would not be able to hear her or the music that is played.

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on Six (6) (T. Lemon, D. Pursel, C. Renninger, B. Brobst, P. Houseknecht and D. Knorr voting “Yes”) to One (1) (P. Kinney voting “No”), Council approved changing the Town Pool swimming time to 11:00am to 12:30pm for adults only, 12:30pm to 1:00pm for adults and for families who have purchased family passes or combination adult/child passes with children under 18 being accompanied by an adult in the shallow end. Adults only will be allowed in the middle and deep ends with the pool opening at 1:00pm for everyone.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – HERSCHEL KLINGER

Mr. Klinger stated his wife had received a parking ticket for having her vehicle parked on the street the day the street sweeper went through. Mr. Klinger observed the sweeper going around nine parked cars on Fourth Street later that day and after a half an hour the vehicles still had not received tickets. J. Barton stated the parking enforcement officer might have been called away to take care of a different matter. Mayor Renninger directed Mr. Klinger to speak with Chief Sokoloski.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 04-10-06.01 – AGREEMENT WITH COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution No. 04-10-06.01 agreeing to enter into an agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania acting through the department of Transportation, a preapplication to extend RW 9/27 to 3200’ x 60’ – Phase II, Easement and Land Acquisition, Object Removal/Lighting Initial Site Preparation and has made available the sum of \$13,158.00 as its share toward the cost of the project.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 04-10-06.02 – DESIGNATION OF AGENT

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution No. 04-10-06.02 designating Carol L. Mas, Town Administrator, as agent authorized to execute all required forms and documents for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. C. Mas stated there is one item to be finalized from the September 2004 Ivan Flood and former Mayor Coffman was the designated signatory.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 895 – AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC REGULATIONS AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 15 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Ordinance No. 895, amending certain sections of the motor vehicle and traffic regulations in force in the Town of Bloomsburg, as set forth in Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances, including traffic regulations, parking regulations and handicapped parking.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 27, 2006 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on unanimously, Council approved the March 27, 2006 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND MARCH PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills and the March payroll authorization: General Fund, \$145,951.78; Recycling Fund, \$20,424.96; Street Lighting Fund, \$7,503.64; Norris E. Rock Memorial Pool Fund, \$92.94; Day Care Project, \$3,562.00; Airport Expansion Project, \$2,411.08 and the March payroll authorization in the amount of \$173,969.14.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO ACE IMAGING

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Ace Imaging for the annual maintenance for the DocSTAR system in the amount of \$1,395.00 contingent upon the installation of an upgrade at not charge before payment is released.

APPROVAL OF DON HARRIS TO PROCEED TO NEXT STEP OF COMMERCIAL REVOLVING LOAN REQUEST PROCESS

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on unanimously, Council approved Don Harris, owner of Bloomin' Bagels located at 61-63 East Main Street to proceed to the next step of the commercial revolving loan request process.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTANCE OF PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER CHRISTOPHER BARNES

On a motion by D. Pursel, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the resignation of part-time police officer Christopher Barnes.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTANCE OF DONALD PURSEL FROM CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on Six (6) (C. Renninger, T. Lemon, B. Brobst, P. Kinney, D. Knorr and P. Houseknecht voting "Yes") to One (1) abstention (D. Pursel abstaining), Council accepted the resignation of Donald Pursel from the Civil Service Commission.

APPOINTMENT OF EMILY SAYLES FERLAND TO BLOOMSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council appointed Emily Sayles Ferland to the Bloomsburg Planning Commission with a term expiring December 31, 2009.

APPROVAL OF UNPAID FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE FOR CHRISTINE HANEY

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on unanimously, Council approved an unpaid family medical leave for Christine Haney with a start date to be determined.

APPROVAL OF BLOOMSBURG SKATEBOARD PARK FUNDRAISER

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Bloomsburg Skateboard Park to hold a fundraising event on April 29, 2006. C. Mas expressed that since the Town owns the skateboard park and holds the liability insurance Council needed to sanction the competition as they have for previous fundraising events. Town Park President Chuck Wagner assured Council that all safety procedures and policies currently followed will be in effective for this event as well.

WIFI SERVICE DISCUSSION

Mayor Renninger informed Council that representatives from AIM Beyond Wire gave a presentation to the Administrative/Finance Committee concerning WiFi service which could have a substantial cost reduction for the Town and possible revenue. A representative will be contacting Bloomsburg University as well as meeting with the police, public works and fire departments

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by T. Lemon, 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 Lisa Lamprou to install a new gutter system at **409 Catherine Street**.

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, 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 Aaron Snyder to install a stove vent at **133 East Fifth Street**.

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 approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Shawn Evans to install replacement windows and a new screen door at **429 Iron Street**.

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Mike Morzilla to do exterior renovations at **156 Iron Street**.

HARB APPLICATION DISCUSSION – ROBERT DWORSAK – 21 EAST MAIN STREET – EXTERIOR RENOVATIONS

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by D. Knorr and on the question, B. Brobst asked E. Fegley to see samples of the building materials proposed for the exterior renovations of 21 East Main Street by owner, Robert Dworsak. E. Fegley said that the applicant took the samples with him the night of the Historic Architectural Review Board meeting. Council questioned if there is a time line for making a determination. Solicitor Mihalik reviewed the Historical District ordinance and determined that Council can either approve or deny the application and he recommended Council deny the application. The applicant can then file an appeal and have a hearing before Town Council. Solicitor Mihalik did not believe there is a timeline according to the ordinance but will check the state statute at his office and inform Council the next morning. P. Houseknecht withdrew his motion and D. Knorr withdrew his second. Council agreed to take no action on the application.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF FORKLIFT FROM FORKLIFTS, INC.

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of a new forklift from Forklifts, Inc. in the low bid amount of \$33,249.00. The forklift will be purchased with \$24,000.00 in grant funds and \$9,249.00 from the Recycling Fund which was not budgeted for this year.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF RECYCLING BINS

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of 500 additional recycling bins with grant funds in the amount of \$2,000.00.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISEMENT IN COLUMBIA MONTOUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S COLUMBIA COUNTY PUBLICATION

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council approved placing a recycling informational display ad in the Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce's Columbia County publication in the amount of \$995.00. Grant funds will be used.

APPROVAL OF THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS TO CONSTRUCT THREE (3) BOCCE BALL COURTS ON TOWN-OWNED LAND

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Columbia/Montour Special Olympics to construct three (3) bocce ball courts on town-owned land across from the swimming pool.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS TO SELL 1982 FORD F600 BUCKET TRUCK

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by D. Pursel and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for bids to sell a 1982 Ford F600 bucket truck.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS TO SELL 1991 CHEVROLET CAPRICE

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Knorr and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for bids to sell a 1991 Chevrolet Caprice. It was noted that one advertisement will be published for both vehicles.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF 2006 JEEP LIBERTY SPORT

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of a 2006 Jeep Liberty Sport through the state contract in the amount of \$17,497.00. The vehicle will be used by the Public Works Department superintendent.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF POWER INVERTER FROM MOBILE LIFTS, INC.

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of a power inverter from Mobile Lifts, Inc. in the amount of \$1,350.00 for the new bucket truck.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF KUBOTA MOWER

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of Kubota ZD21F-60P zero turn mower with professional deck in the amount of \$9,022.50 through the state contract from TPC Power Center. J. Barton stated that the Town Park Improvement Association will be paying half of the cost.

APPROVAL OF REPAIRING RETAINING WALL AT COLUMBIA CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM DAYCARE FACILITY

On a motion by T. Lemon, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved repairing a retaining wall at the Columbia Child Development Program daycare facility in the amount of \$3,700.00. The low quote was received by CJ Contractors.

APPROVAL OF HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE FOR T. JANE SMITH

On a motion by D. Pursel, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on Six (6) (D. Pursel, P. Kinney, C. Renninger, P. Houseknecht and D. Knorr voting "Yes") to One (1) abstention (T. Lemon abstaining), Council approved a handicapped parking space for T. Jane Smith of 591 W. Main Street, Apt. 2.

APPROVAL OF PROMOTING OFFICER LEONARD ROGUTSKI TO SERGEANT

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by T. Lemon and voted on unanimously, Council approved promoting Patrolman Leonard Rogutski to Sergeant effective May 7, 2006 with a \$3,868.01/yr. wage increase.

REALLOCATION OF FFY 2005 CDBG FUNDS DISCUSSION

B. Lowthert of SEDA-COG reported to Council that there is \$2,422.74 leftover from the completed West Pine Avenue Reconstruction Project and \$60,290.00 allocated for a Bloomsburg Flood Control Project outstanding in the FFY 2005 CDBG application. DCED generally likes to see project money spent within three years which will be the Spring of 2008. Project suggestions included the Main Street Lighting Project, Fifth Street Traffic Calming Reconstruction Project and the Veterans Memorial. If the total amount of \$62,712.74 were to be transferred to only one project, a public hearing would have to be held. If a portion of the funds were split between projects, no hearing would be needed. Council took no action at this time.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary