

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, March 12, 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 Bill Brobst, Paul Kinney, Dan Knorr and Paul Houseknecht; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Finance Specialist Heather Jacoby; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton; Fire Chief Bob Rupp; Solicitor Jack Mihalik and Office Assistant Amy Seamans. Absent were Council Members Terry Lemon and Don Pursel and Code Enforcement/Zoning/Planning Officer Ed Fegley

#### PUBLIC HEARING – APPROVAL OF FFY 2007 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION

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 stated the FFY 2007 CDBG allocation is estimated to be \$200,351.00. The following projects have been selected for funding: \$111,788.00 for the Main Street Lighting Project from Market Street to West Street, \$50,000.00 for the Fifth Street Reconstruction Project from Catherine Street to East Street, \$2,500.00 for Code Enforcement and \$36,063.00 for Administration which includes funding for the Town Park Master Site Plan. Mr. Lowthert read the resolution authorizing the submission of the FFY 2007 CDBG application.

Downtown merchant and Downtown Bloomsburg, Inc. Vice-President Tim Wagner was present with questions from the board concerning the continuation of the Main Street Lighting Project. Mr. Wagner asked why Council would continue the project to the west when there is more retail and a larger gateway area at the east end of Main Street. B. Lowthert stated the majority of the funds allocated would go towards the engineering phase which he reiterated is not an eligible project in itself but he believes the engineering would not be as complex at the west end leaving some funds to begin construction which would keep the project eligible. B. Lowthert also stated the town would be doing this portion of the project without PennDOT Transportation Enhancement grant funding. B. Brobst explained there is more ambient lighting from storefronts to the east and the project transition would feel more seamless if continued to the west. B. Brobst reassured Mr. Wagner that eventually the lighting project would continue to the east.

Hearing no further public comment, the Public Hearing concluded at 7:14pm.

#### APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 03-12-07.02 – FFY 2007 CDBG PROGRAM APPLICATION SUBMISSION AUTHORIZATION

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by D. Knorr and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution No. 03-12-07.02 authorizing the submission of an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for Federal Fiscal Year 2007 under the Community Development Block Grant Program.

#### PROCLAMATION – CATCH THE READING WAVE DAY

Mayor Renninger proclaimed March 24, 2007 as Catch the Reading Wave Day in the Town of Bloomsburg. The proclamation was presented to Amelia Blackledge and her son and Nancy McBride and her sons.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 03-12-07.01 – PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MAIN  
STREET OPERATIONAL GRANT AND DESIGN CHALLENGE GRANT FOR  
STOREFRONT AND FAÇADE IMPROVEMENTS

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution No. 03-12-07.01 authorizing the submission of a grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for Main Street Operational Expenses, Years One and Two in the amount of \$55,000.00 and Façade Improvements in the amount of \$30,000.00. Tim Wagner, Vice President of DBI, Inc. was present to verify that they would be providing the match for the grant.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 26, 2007 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the February 26, 2007 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, \$155,297.08; Recycling Fund, \$80,549.88; Street Lighting Fund, \$4,588.04; Norris E. Rock Memorial Pool, \$59.87; Fire Fund, \$22,875.96; FFY 05 CDBG Entitlement Program, \$3,347.18; Day Care Project, \$3,562.00; Airport Expansion Project, \$17,097.60; Liquid Fuels, \$4,462.89 and the February payroll authorization in the amount of \$148,230.26.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILL TO RENCO ACE HARDWARE

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on Four (4) (B. Brobst, P. Kinney, P. Houseknecht and D. Knorr voting “Yes”) to One (1) abstention (C. Renninger “Abstaining”), Council approved the payment of a bill from Renco Ace Hardware in the amount of \$351.67.

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

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved the payment of invoices from Hay Group, Inc. from the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$200.00 and the Employees Pension Plan in the amount of \$200.00 for the preparation, attendance and discussion at the January 25, 2007 pension committee meeting and for a response to an auditor request for information.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO A.C.E. IMAGING/ADVANCE COPIER

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to A.C.E. Imaging/Advanced Copier in the amount of \$1,400.00 for the annual maintenance contract of the DocSTAR system.

APPROVAL OF CHARLES FRITZ ATTENDANCE AT ANNUAL PROP  
CONFERENCE

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz to attend the annual PROP conference in King of Prussia from July 31-August 2, 2007.

APPROVAL OF HOURLY WAGE ADJUSTMENT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT M. ELISE HUGHES

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved an hourly wage adjustment for Law Enforcement Administrative Assistant (LEAA) M. Elise Hughes to \$16.28 effective March 20, 2007.

APPROVAL OF HOURLY WAGE ADJUSTMENT FOR CUSTODIAN/PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER DOUG LEVAN

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved an hourly wage adjustment for Custodian/Parking Enforcement Officer Doug Levan to \$11.49 effective March 20, 2007.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by B. Brobst, 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 Carlos Agramonte to install temporary signage at **260 West Main Street** for up to ninety (90) days.

DENIAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved denying a Certificate of Appropriateness for Carlos Agramonte to install permanent signage at **260 West Main Street** due to lack of pertinent information.

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved denying a Certificate of Appropriateness for Glenn Roadarmel to install replacement windows at **265 West Street** due to lack of pertinent information because the applicant was not present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THIRTY-DAY TIME EXTENSION – SCARPINO TERRACE – SUBDIVISION/LOT INCORPORATION

On a motion by B. Brobst, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved a thirty (30) day time extension for Scarpino Terrace subdivision/lot incorporation. Cardinal Commercial Builders will be asked to provide a written request.

APPROVAL OF TOWN SOLICITOR TO DEFEND BLOOMSBURG ZONING HEARING BOARD DECISION

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by B. Brobst and voted on unanimously, Council approved Town Solicitor Jack Mihalik to defend the Bloomsburg Zoning Hearing Board's decision to deny a variance for side yard setbacks for the Women's Center, Inc.

DENIAL OF M & M RENTALS (MICHAEL AND MARY LOU SCALA) COMMERCIAL REVOLVING LOAN REQUEST

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by D. Knorr and voted on unanimously, Council approved denying the commercial revolving loan request of M & M Rentals (Michael and Mary Lou Scala) for the Old School House Apartments located at 50 East First Street since it did not meet the criteria for borrowing funds.

APPROVAL OF SENDING LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY'S PROPOSED BUSINESS PARK IN  
SCOTT TOWNSHIP

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved sending a letter of support to the Columbia Alliance for Economic Growth for Columbia County Industrial Development Authority's proposed business park in Scott Township.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 8:13pm and did not reconvene.

CAROL L. MAS  
Town Administrator & Secretary