

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, December 8, 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, Diane Levan, Kathy Shepperson, Sylvia Costa and W. Carey Howell; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton; Code Enforcement/Zoning/ Planning Officer Ed Fegley; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Fire Chief Hugh Gross and Office Assistant Amy Seamans. Absent were Finance Specialist Heather Jacoby, Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz and Solicitor Jack Mihalik.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD – JOHN AND JULIE GOMBERT

Mr. Gombert of 235 Glenn Avenue came before Council to ask that the zoning in the Glenn Avenue area be changed to High-Density (H-D) due to students living on every corner. He and his wife purchased their home two years ago and have put a lot of money into it recently but are looking at relocating to another part of town. They do not feel it is a good area to raise their two-year old son. Mr. Gombert does not believe they will get the money out of the house with the way the property is currently zoned.

Mayor Knorr informed the Gombert's that the Town's Comprehensive Plan is in the process of being updated and should be completed by June 2009. Council agreed that they don't intend on making any changes until the plan is complete but thanked Mr. Gombert for bringing his concern to their attention.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Knorr shared a letter he received from Senator Casey in response to the tolling of I-80 issue.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 917 – 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 D. Levan, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Ordinance No. 917, 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.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 918 – AMENDING CHAPTER 15, PART 8 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES SO THAT OWNERS/TENANTS OF STRUCTURES WHERE OFF-STREET PARKING IS REQUIRED ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR ON-STREET PARKING PERMITS ON CERTAIN STREETS

Jim Hollister raised concerns the University has over the elimination of guest permits where off-street parking is required. Parents and guests who come to visit students would not have a place to park. D. Levan expressed that Matt Zoppetti has stated that he always has extra spots in his parking lots. Also, parents and guests generally visit on weekends and residential permit parking is not enforced on weekends and visitors can come to the police department to obtain a temporary parking pass.

Ray Vought asked Council why the ordinance doesn't include tenants. The proposed ordinance states that "owners" of properties would not be eligible for on-street parking permits where off-street parking is required. Council agreed that it's the tenants that obtain the permits. Council will have Solicitor Mihalik change the ordinance to read "owners/tenants".

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Ordinance No. 918, amending Chapter 15, Part 8 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Bloomsburg so that "owners/tenants" of structures where off-street parking is required are not eligible for on-street parking permits on certain streets in the Town of Bloomsburg. Council will also have Solicitor Mihalik eliminate the additional paragraph to Section §15-805 regarding guest parking.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 12-08-08.01 – POLICY REGARDING REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC RECORDS PURSUANT TO THE RIGHT TO KNOW LAW

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by P. Houseknecht, and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution No. 12-08-08.01 setting forth a policy regarding requests for public records made to the Town of Bloomsburg pursuant to the Right to Know Law. Act 3 of 2008 was signed into law on February 14, 2008, amending the Right to Know Law and requiring municipal subdivisions and authorities to adopt a policy implementing the provisions and requirements of the law no later than January 1, 2009.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 24, 2008 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, Council approved the November 24, 2008 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 D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills and the November payroll authorization: General Fund, \$68,301.38; Recycling Fund, \$5,162.87; Library Fund, \$3,000.00; Street Lighting Fund, \$9,032.41; Norris E. Rock Memorial Pool, \$58.24; Day Care Project, \$3,562.00; Airport Expansion Project, \$2,135.88; Liquid Fuels, \$17,595.31 and the November payroll authorization in the amount of \$166,443.96.

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

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved a payment to Hay Group, Inc. from the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$375.00.

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

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved a payment to Hay Group, Inc. from the Employee Pension Plan in the amount of \$225.00.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO HAY GROUP, INC. FROM THE GENERAL FUND

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved a payment to Hay Group, Inc. from the General Fund in the amount of \$448.20.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the following budget transfers:

	<u>Account #</u>	<u>DEBIT</u>	<u>CREDIT</u>
Health Insurance	01.410.00.5156	5,800.00	
Social Security	01.410.00.5161	3,500.00	
Overtime	01.410.00.5183		6,000.00
Gas, Oil, Grease	01.410.00.5231	4,000.00	
Uniforms	01.410.00.5238	12,000.00	
Regional Records Center	01.410.00.5243		4,000.00
Legal Expense	01.410.00.5314	6,000.00	
Cops in Shops	01.410.00.5500		21,300.00
		31,300.00	31,300.00

APPROVAL OF PAYING OFF LADDER TRUCK LOAN

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved paying off the ladder truck loan with proceeds from a matured certificate of deposit.

ACCEPTANCE OF DCNR GRANT FOR TOWN PARK TENNIS COURT REPLACEMENT PROJECT

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved accepting a grant from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in the amount of \$244,000 for the replacement of tennis courts at Town Park. C. Mas noted that the 50% match will be met with funds from the Town Park Improvement Association, Bloomsburg Area School District and CDBG.

APPROVAL OF USE OF FORMER STREATER PROPERTY FOR CANINE PATROL TRAINING

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved Sgt. Roger VanLoan to hold canine patrol training at the former Streater property on January 13, 2009.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM BROWN AND BROWN INSURANCE FOR 2009 PACKAGE INSURANCE COVERAGE THROUGH PRAETORIAN INSURANCE COMPANY

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved a proposal from Brown and Brown Insurance for 2009 package insurance coverage through Praetorian Insurance Company in the amount of \$60,642.00.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM HIGGINS INSURANCE FOR 2009 WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE COVERAGE THROUGH EMC INSURANCE COMPANY

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Houseknecht and voted on unanimously, Council approved a proposal from Higgins Insurance for 2009 workers compensation insurance coverage through EMC Insurance Company in the amount of \$77,325.00.

APPROVAL OF UNPAID INTERNSHIP FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved an unpaid internship for the Code Enforcement office contingent upon the candidate's successful background check.

APPROVAL OF NINETY (90) DAY TIME EXTENSION – 401-403 LIGHTSTREET ROAD LLC – LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN – CONSTRUCT TEN TOWNHOUSES

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved a ninety (90) day time extension for 401-403 Lightstreet Road LLC's land development plan to construct ten townhouses.

APPROVAL OF WAIVERS – GLEN AVENUE LUXURY APARTMENTS, SHANGRILA DEVELOPMENT CORP. – LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN – CONSTRUCT STUDENT HOUSING

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved waivers from Section 404.D.1.a.3 and 702 for the location of all survey monuments to be shown on the plan and from Section 607.3.D.1. to allow the proposed buildings to be 22 feet in width instead of 24 feet for Glen Avenue Luxury Apartments, Shangrila Development Corp.'s land development plan to construct student housing.

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 Warren Faust to install vinyl siding on the north side of the structure located at **118 West Street**.

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Willard Kile, Jr. to replace the plate glass windows at **150 East Main Street** (Steph's Subs).

On a motion by P. Kinney, 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 Jack and Betsy Deal to reconstruct the rear of the structure at **15-17 East Third Street**.

On a motion by P. Kinney, 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 Rosemary Hummel to install twenty-six (26) replacement windows on the second and third floors of the structure located at **38-40 West Main Street**.

On a motion by P. Houseknecht, 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 Jeff Lylo to replace the awning at **138-140 East Main Street** as part of a Façade Grant application.

On a motion by P. Kinney, 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 St. Paul's Episcopal Church to replace one double door and four small basement windows on the Iron Street side of the church and to replace three kitchen windows, two on the easterly side and one on the north side of the church located at the corner of **East Main and Iron Streets** as part of a Façade Grant application.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Gross reported that the fire department will hold their breakfast on the third Sunday of each month until April and Santa Claus will be at the breakfast on December 21st.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTANCE OF COUNCIL MEMBER PAUL HOUSEKNECHT

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on Six (6) (C. Howell, D. Levan, D. Knorr, P. Kinney, K. Shepperson and S. Costa voting "Yes") to Zero (0), Council approved the resignation of Paul Houseknecht from Town Council effective December 31, 2008 with deep regret.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss a police department personnel issue and did not reconvene.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary