

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, February 14, 2011, 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; Finance Specialist Theresa Baylor; Code Enforcement/Zoning/Planning Officer Ed Fegley; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton; Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz; Solicitor Jack Mihalik and Office Assistant Amy Seamans. Absent were Council Member Kathy Shepperson and Fire Chief Bob Rupp.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Knorr reported that the police contract negotiations are still ongoing; the auditors are finished at Town Hall but are still finalizing the audit; he alerted Council of a possible second Administrative/Finance Committee meeting being scheduled for next Wednesday and that the Community and Economic Development Committee will be discussing the inspection of non-student rental units at their next meeting.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 24, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the January 24, 2011 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND JANUARY PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills and the January payroll authorization: General Fund, \$241,540.53; Debt Service Fund, \$5,986.69; Recycling Fund, \$25,610.29; Street Lighting Fund, \$16,032.47; Norris E. Rock Memorial Pool, \$109.01; Capital Projects, \$76,532.61; FFY 05 CDBG Entitlement Program, \$65,167.38; FFY 08 CDBG Entitlement Program, \$44,477.99; FFY 09 CDBG Entitlement Program, \$13,435.79; Day Care Project, \$2,737.40; Airport Expansion Project, \$1,392.77; Liquid Fuels, \$18,405.64 and the January payroll authorization in the amount of \$178,614.00.

APPROVAL OF PROCEEDING WITH PLANNED PARKING LOT REORGANIZATION AS OUTLINED IN PARKING STUDY

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved proceeding with the planned parking lot reorganization as outlined in the Parking Study. Law Enforcement Administrative Assistant Elise Hughes and Parking Enforcement Officer Ryan Salas gave a presentation on how the new system would work. Downtown residents and employees will be able to purchase a permit for a specific zone which consists of the municipal parking lots, a portion of East Street and a portion of Market Street. The parking meters will be removed from all of the red posts. This will be the area where residents and employees will park. The meters on the silver posts located closest to the businesses for shoppers will remain. Mayor Knorr interjected that informational signs will be posted at the entrance of each lot listing the lot number and enforcement hours. Council thanked Elise and Ryan along with the Parking Study Execution Task Force for all their hard work.

APPROVAL OF ADDITION TO TOWN VENDOR LIST

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the addition of AmeriHealth and North Centre Township to the 2011 town vendor list.

APPROVAL OF BLOOMSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Bloomsburg Police Department School Crossing Guard rules, regulations and procedures.

APPROVAL OF BEGINNING HIRING PROCESS FOR A NEW POLICE OFFICER

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Four (4) (D. Levan, S. Costa, D. Knorr and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to Two (2) (P. Kinney and C. Howell voting "No"), Council approved beginning the hiring process for a new police officer.

APPROVAL OF A TWO-YEAR LEASE FOR THE PURCHASE OF 2010 OR 2011 FORD CROWN VICTORIA FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved a two-year lease for the purchase of a 2010 or 2011 Ford Crown Victoria for the Police Department. L. Sokoloski stated this will replace Car #6.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP FOR CURBING AND SIDEWALK STUDY WITH CDBG FUNDS

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group in the amount of \$3,071.50 for the Curbing and Sidewalk Study with CDBG Funds.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a certificate of appropriateness for Tiffany Breisch to replace the canvas awning cover at 18 West Main Street.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a certificate of appropriateness for Sandra Davis to replace the wrought iron porch railing at 251 Jefferson Street.

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on Four (4) (C. Howell, D. Levan, D. Knorr and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to Two (2) (P. Kinney and S. Costa voting "No"), and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a certificate of appropriateness for SJD Realty to construct a new commercial/residential building at 158-160 West Main Street.

P. Kinney and S. Costa voted no because they are uncomfortable with the idea of having four individual garage doors opening onto Jefferson Street. P. Kinney asked Stephen Hummel if they could be relocated to the rear of the building. He said that a couple of them could but they plan on having an enclosed trash and recycling area at the rear of the building. P. Kinney noted that the Public Safety Committee has already discussed the lack of parking on Jefferson Street between Main and Third Streets. Architect Susan McGarry who is familiar with the site after working on the Towne Camera building next door acknowledged that there are only three parking spaces along Jefferson Street between Main and Pine Avenue and at least two of them would be eliminated to allow for the garage entrances.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTING BID FROM EVANS DISPOSAL SERVICE, INC. FOR SOLID WASTE REMOVAL AT TOWN-OWNED FACILITIES FOR THREE YEARS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the bid from Evans Disposal Service, Inc. in the amount of \$28,200 for solid waste removal at town-owned facilities from March 1, 2011 through February 28, 2014.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF 25 NEW TRASH/RECYCLING RECEPTACLES FOR MAIN STREET

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of 25 new trash/recycling receptacles for Main Street in the amount of \$25,422.50 from The Fibrex Group, Inc. The container will be brown in color and the lids will be green. It was noted that the purchase was budgeted.

APPROVAL OF BEGINNING GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS FOR RENOVATIONS AND RESTORATION OF MAIN BUILDINGS AT THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved Carol Mas to begin the grant application process for infrastructure, rehabilitation, construction and other costs related to renovations and restoration of the main buildings on the airport grounds at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport. C. Mas was successful in obtaining a line item in the state's capital budget in the amount of \$1,500,000.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTING 2011 ROAD MATERIAL BIDS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the 2011 Road Material bid for 2A subbase, 2RC, 1B and 2B stone from Sokol, Inc., FOB Bloomsburg and Hanson Aggregates, Inc., FOB plant; and ID-3, Superpave 9.5mm and Superpave 25.0mm from HRI, Inc., FOB plant only.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING FOR BIDS FOR 2011 STREET RESURFACING PROJECT

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for bid the 2011 Street Resurfacing Project. The streets to be resurfaced are: Catherine Street from E. Eighth Street to E. Twelfth Street; Iron Street from E. Main Street to E. Third Street, Penn Street from Lightstreet Road to E. Second Street (College Hill) and West Street from W. First Street to W. Main Street.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF EDUCATIONAL PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL SIGNS

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of educational pedestrian signal signs in the amount of \$600.49.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF A COMPUTER FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of a computer for the Public Works Department in the amount of \$1,000 with liquid fuels funds.

SOLICITOR REPORT

J. Mihalik reported that he has a draft of the shade tree ordinance ready and that he talked with the counsel for LCE concerning the liquor license transfer ordinance amendment.

APPROVAL OF WAIVING BUILDING PERMIT FEES FOR BLOOMSBURG AREA YMCA TO RENOVATE FORMER ATHLETIC FIELDHOUSE

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved waiving the building permit fees for the Bloomsburg Area YMCA to renovate the former athletic fieldhouse owned by the town.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING ORDINANCE REGULATING STREET VENDORS IN THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising an ordinance regulating street vendors in the Town of Bloomsburg. Solicitor Mihalik will have the ordinance advertised for possible adoption at February 28, 2011 Town Council meeting.

Council made the following modifications: vendors will provide proof of being registered with the PA Department of Revenue for sales tax purposes and proof of being registered with Central Tax Bureau for gross receipts tax purposes. Vendors will be allowed to sell promotional t-shirts advertising their business only. The comprehensive liability insurance minimum policy limit will be \$500,000 per person and \$1,000,000 per occurrence coverage for personal injury, and \$50,000 coverage for property damage.

Charlie Baker of Lightstreet Road questioned the definition of a vending cart. He stated that he knows of a “catering cart” that would comply with the requirements listed. Council made it clear that they do not want to permit enclosed trailer- type units that someone stands in to service customers, plus the cart must fit within the parking space. E. Fegley believes the definition of a cart in Reading’s ordinance seems to be solid. Solicitor Mihalik will review their ordinance again and expand on the one drafted.

VENDOR PERMIT FEE DISCUSSION

Downtown Manager, Josh O’Brien, gave several detailed examples to support DBI’s recommendation to charge vendors \$600 for a six month permit or \$100/month. The Community and Economic Development Committee felt the fee should be no less than \$50 and no more than \$100 per month. D. Levan made a motion to approve a permit fee of \$450 for six months or \$75/month, it was seconded by P. Kinney and voted on Three (3) (D. Levan, P. Kinney and C. Howell voting “Yes”) to Three (3) (D. Knorr, S. Costa and B. Kreisher voting “No”), and the motion died due to a split vote. Council decided to table the decision until the next Council meeting on February 28th.

APPROVAL OF ALLOWING LYCOMING SUPPLY, INC. TO PLACE THEIR JOB TRAILER ON TOWN-OWNED LAND FOR KAWNEER’S FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECT

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved allowing general contractor, Lycoming Supply, Inc., to place their job trailer on town-owned land along Ninth Street for Kawneer’s flood protection project for 12 months.

DOWNTOWN BLOOMSBURG, INC. REPORT

Newly hired Downtown Manager, Josh O’Brien, introduced himself to Council and the public. Josh reported that there is an Art Walk-In at the Moose Exchange this Thursday, February 17 at 4:00pm and the Annual Downtown Spaghetti Dinner will be held at the Caldwell Consistory on March 23 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm.

APPROVAL OF SETTING A DEMOLITION PERMIT FEE MAXIMUM

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved setting a maximum of \$500 for a demolition permit. The fee will still be calculated at 10 cents per square foot. C. Mas expressed that the fee resolution will be amended and placed on the next Council agenda for adoption.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 9:18 p.m. and did not reconvene.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary