

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, February 27, 2012, 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, Sylvia Costa, W. Carey Howell, Bill Kreisher, Fred Trump and Eric Bower; Town Administrator Ron Mull; Code Enforcement Officer Ed Fegley; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Solicitor Jack Mihalik and Office Assistant Amy Seamans. Absent were Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz and Fire Chief Bob Rupp.

PROCLAMATION – AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH – MARCH

Mayor Knorr proclaimed the month of March as American Red Cross month in the Town of Bloomsburg and presented the proclamation to Rita Inklovich Executive Director and Susanne Norton volunteer with the Bloomsburg Chapter of the American Red Cross.

PUBLIC HEARING – FFY 2012 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION

Prior to the beginning of the regular meeting, a Public Hearing was held at 7:10pm to discuss the Town of Bloomsburg's FFY 2012 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 funding to be \$152,000. B. Lowthert reviewed the application schedule, eligible activities and funding requirements, the Fair Housing Notice, Antidisplacement Plan and Section 3 requirements.

Projects currently being funded or recently completed are the Phase IV Main Street Lighting Improvements from Iron Street to East Street, Town Park Restroom Improvements Project, Streater Recreation Complex Improvements and the Curbing and Sidewalk Planning Study.

The following projects will be considered:

1. Town Park Restroom Improvement Project – \$135,000 has been set aside but the ~~project~~Project is estimated at costing \$180,000.
2. Streater Recreation Complex Improvements – \$52,000 has been set aside for the construction of a parking lot, roads and grading which is estimated at ~~costing~~ \$350,000.
3. Administrative/Planning Activities – 18% or \$27,360 is normally aside.

B. Lowthert asked Council and the public if there were any other projects that they would like to be considered.

4. B. Kreisher asked that the Fifth Street Walking Trail be added to the list again.
5. Alex Dubil asked to have an in-ground lighting system for the crosswalks at the East Street/Main Street/Lightstreet Road intersection added to the list.
6. Oren Helbok asked that improved pavement markings at other intersections in town such as Fifth and Seventh Streets be added to the list.
7. Ron Ferdock would like the curb and sidewalk replacement on West Third Street between Market and Railroad Streets added to the list.
8. B. Kreisher would like the sidewalk and curbing improvement grants to ~~income-include~~ eligible homeowners on the list again as well.

Nanci Tichbourne wanted to clarify that applications for help with curb and sidewalk repair are for low to moderate income residents only and then asked where the funds go if they aren't used. B. Lowthert confirmed that ~~thstated~~ the funds could be rolled over into another project.

Ray Vought feels that the Streater property is not a good management decision to put money into something that can flood at any time. John Jacobson agrees with Mr. Vought.

Mayor Knorr expressed that this is the perfect solution for this area and B. Lowthert noted that the funds the town received to acquire the property from DCED and DCNR have a stipulation that the property remain open space.

Mary Chamuris asked if funds could be used to repair the existing soccer fields and B. Lowthert stated no because that would be considered maintenance which is not an eligible project through DCED.

Mayor Knorr asked if the public could have until the end of business this Friday to submit any additional ideas to the Town Administrator. B. Lowthert agreed and that for now he would add the five ideas to the list.

Hearing no additional public input, the hearing concluded at 7:35 p.m.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – COREY KREISCHER

Corey Kreischer, 703 Country Club Drive, wanted to make Town Council aware of an ongoing vandalism issue along Country Club Drive. Mr. Kreischer explained that Country Club Drive is located between Honeysuckle Lane and Country Club Road. The area is highly traveled not only by vehicular traffic but foot traffic as well. Students returning to upper campus in the middle of the night destroy yards and flower gardens. The neighborhood awakens to ~~damaged~~ vehicles and mailboxes being damaged all of the time. Mr. Kreischer commended Bloomsburg Police Officer Melanie Readler for recently apprehending someone vandalizing a mailbox, but wanted to know if the Bloomsburg University Police have the ability to detain ~~spot~~ someone vandalizing property ~~if they have the authority to detain them~~. Chief Sokoloski stated ~~that~~ yes, the two departments reciprocate in helping each other. Mr. Kreischer thanked Council for listening to his concerns but ~~want to reiterate~~ d that this is an ongoing issue.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Knorr expressed that the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application deadline was December 31, 2011. The process is still ongoing and the applications are being reviewed by PEMA. He also noted that an appointment recommendation will be coming from the Administrative/Finance Committee for the vacancy on the Historical Architectural Review Board.

Mayor Knorr read a letter from Robert Manbeck, Public Affairs Manager for United Water Pennsylvania in response to the questions and concerns the residents of West Third Street have regarding the water main replacement project.

APPROVAL OF SENDING LETTER OF SUPPORT TO PENNSYLVANIA ATTORNEY GENERAL

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved sending the letter drafted by Mayor Knorr to the Pennsylvania Attorney General in support of the merger between the Bloomsburg Health System and Geisinger

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

R. Mull updated Council on the status of the Town Hall computer system. He will be meeting with various vendors in the coming weeks.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 13, 2012 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the February 13, 2012 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

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

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Hay Group, Inc. in the amount of \$285.00 from the Employees Pension Plan for a benefit calculation.

APPROVAL OF FORWARDING ENGINEERING FIRM NAMES TO PENNDOT FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION SERVICES OF THE STREET LIGHTING PROJECT

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved forwarding the following ranking of engineering firm names to PennDOT for consideration of construction inspection services of the Street Lighting Project: 1) Stahl Sheaffer Engineering, LLC, 2) Peters Consultants, Inc. and 3) Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM LARSON DESIGN GROUP, INC. TO DESIGN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WEST THIRD STREET BETWEEN MARKET AND RAILROAD STREETS

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by F. Trump and voted on unanimously, Council approved a proposal from Larson Design Group, Inc. in the amount of \$28,350 to design the reconstruction of West Third Street between Market and Railroad Streets.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for David Millard to install two (2) signs on the rear of the structure located at 240 Market Street.

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Heather Kolbush to install signage on the front of the structure located at 144 West Main Street.

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by E. Bower and voted on Six (6) (F. Trump, E. Bower, D. Knorr, D. Levan, S. Costa and C. Howell voting “Yes”) to One (1) (B. Kreisher voting “No”), Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Lanny Sheehan to install a metal roof on the structure located at 236-238 West Ridge Avenue.

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by E. Bower and voted on unanimously, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Michael and Susan Zarrett to construction a new three-story building at 158-160 West Main Street. The building will have three store fronts on first floor and 12-13 one bedroom studio apartments on the second and third floors.

The meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 8:49 p.m. and reconvened at 9:16 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACTING WITH UTILITY ENGINEERS, INC. AS CONSULTANTS

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved contracting with Utility Engineers as consultants to review final invoices received from Municipal Energy Managers.

EMPLOYMENT TERMINATION OF LUKE HUNSINGER

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved terminating the employment of Luke Hunsinger as a full-time police officer with cause effective immediately.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

RONALD J. MULL
Town Administrator & Secretary