

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, February 28, 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 Paul Kinney, Diane Levan, Sylvia Costa, W. Carey Howell, Bill Kreisher and Kathy Shepperson; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Code Enforcement/Zoning/Planning Officer Ed Fegley; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton; Office Assistant Amy Seamans and Solicitor Jack Mihalik. Absent were Finance Specialist Theresa Baylor; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz and Fire Chief Bob Rupp.

FFY 2011 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT FINALIZATION

Bill Lowthert of SEDA-Council of Governments reported that this past Saturday, the House of Representatives in Washington, DC passed a resolution to cut the CDBG Program drastically. They've heard cuts as much as 100% to 62%-68%. DCED is informing municipalities to assume a 10% cut and to still select their projects and amount of funding for each but hold off on having any final hearing until sometime in the future. The town's FFY 2011 CDBG Program allocation is estimated at \$194,400.00 or 10% less than last year. B. Lowthert reviewed the list of proposed projects that were identified at the January 24, 2011 Public Hearing: East Street Lighting Improvements from Main Street to Third Street; Improvements to the Old Restroom Facilities at Town Park; Recreation Developments at the Streater Property Recreation Area – Access Road and Parking Improvements; Construction of an Entry Feature/Traffic Circle on Market Street at Town Park; Construction of a Walking/Biking Trail along Fifth Street Hollow; Main Street Pedestrian Improvements; Curbing Improvements on selected Streets within the Town; Sidewalk and Curbing Improvement Grants to Income Eligible Homeowners; Habitat for Humanity Project and Administrative/Planning Activities.

B. Lowthert recommends allocating \$100,000 in FFY 2011 CDBG funds towards the Improvements to the Old Restroom Facilities at Town Park; \$59,410 towards the Recreation Improvements associated with the Streater Property Development to get the project approved by DCED and a maximum of 18% or \$34,990 for SEDA-COG Administrative/Planning Activities and Community Development Planning Studies.

Ranjeet Phatah of 456 West Main Street asked about the proposed Main Street Pedestrian Improvements Project. He said it's extremely difficult to cross at the Main and East Streets intersection. B. Lowthert believed the project would only include ADA compliant push buttons, changing the pedestrian signal to have the counter which indicates the number of seconds pedestrians have to cross and crosswalk enhancements. B. Lowthert did not recommend CDBG funds because there may be alternate funding sources available through PennDOT.

Oren Helbok of 705 East Fifth Street noted that if the Town wants to be more walkable, then Council should aim for more walkability projects.

B. Kreisher would like to see the walking path along Fifth Street higher on the priority list.

APPROVAL OF FFY 2011 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECTS

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on Six (6) (S. Costa, D. Levan, D. Knorr, P. Kinney, K. Shepperson and C. Howell voting "Yes") to One (1) (B. Kreisher voting "No"), and on the recommendation of SEDA-COG, Council approved allocating the FFY 2011 CDBG funds to the following projects: \$100,000 for Improvements to the Old Restroom Facilities at Town Park, \$59,410 for Recreation Improvements associated with the Streater Property and \$34,990 for Administration/Planning.

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 Susanne Norton, volunteer with the Bloomsburg Chapter of the Red Cross.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 938 – REGULATING STREET VENDORS

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Ordinance No. 938, regulating street vendors in the Town of Bloomsburg by restricting areas for such vendors, setting forth standards, requiring permits, and providing penalties for violations thereof.

VENDOR PERMIT FEE DISCUSSION

Mike Zenzel of 4 Eversgrove Road asked if the insurance policy limits were set in stone and Mayor Knorr stated that yes they were approved as part of the ordinance. Emily Zenzel heard that the other hotdog vendors had decided not to continue with applying for a permit due to the fees.

Oren Helbok of 705 East Fifth Street asked what the Town is allowed to charge. Can they only set the fee to cover administration costs or are they looking to make a profit and can they? D. Levan stated that there are two fees, an application fee to cover administrative costs and a permit fee which Council is looking at charging for the lease of the space.

Gloria Cohen-Deon of 934 Country Club Drive asked if this ordinance includes the Bloomsburg Farmers' Market. Council stated that it does not.

Dylan Bradley of 222 Honeysuckle feels setting a low fee would bring in more vendors which he believes is a good thing.

Shaun McNally of Ready-Go-Burrito located at 102 East Main Street would like more thought given to the locations. D. Levan interjected that the space locations will be discussed at the upcoming Community and Economic Development Committee meeting.

Eric Bower of 350 East Third Street asked what category this type of business falls under for gross receipts tax purposes.

Scott Kenyon of 269 West First Street thought the fees should be set low because the vendors are limited to basically three days a week amounting to only twelve days a month.

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved setting the non-refundable vendor permit application fee at \$50.00.

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on Four (4) (C. Howell, D. Levan, P. Kinney and K. Shepperson voting "Yes") to Three (3) (D. Knorr, S. Costa and B. Kreisher voting "No"), Council approved setting the six-month vendor permit fee at \$450.00.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 02-28-11.01 – SETTING VARIOUS FEES

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by C. Howell and voted on Six (6) (B. Kreisher, C. Howell, D. Levan, P. Kinney, K. Shepperson and S. Costa voting "Yes") to One (1) (D. Knorr voting "No"), Council approved Resolution No. 02-28-11.01 setting a maximum of \$500 for a demolition permit; setting the non-refundable fee to accompany the vendor permit application at \$50.00 and the six-month permit fee at \$450.00.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – GERALD BODMAN

Gerald Bodman of 98 Church Road stated that he wrote a letter to the Town asking to extend his airport hangar lease. He's been told that the matter will be discussed at the next meeting or that Carol Mas needs to speak with Shirley at the airport. He talked with Shirley at the airport and she stated that no one has contacted her. He is trying to do some long range planning and would like a response. Mayor Knorr asked when his current lease expires. C. Howell stated May of 2012. Council advised Mr. Bodman that the matter is still being discussed at the Public Works Committee and that someone will be in touch with him soon.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Knorr and the Bloomsburg Area Joint Flood Control Authority will be meeting with Congressman Lou Barletta in Hazleton later this month to discuss the flood control project. Mayor Knorr reminded everyone that the last day to file a petition to run for Town Council is March 8th.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 14, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the February 14, 2011 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF TWO-YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT WITH FIRST COLUMBIA BANK AND TRUST COMPANY FOR PURCHASE OF 2011 FORD CROWN VICTORIA

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved a two-year lease financing agreement with First Columbia Bank and Trust Company at 2.84% interest for the purchase of a 2011 Ford Crown Victoria for the Police Department.

APPROVAL OF CAROL MAS AS SIGNATORY FOR PAPERWORK PERTAINING TO PURCHASE OF 2011 FORD CROWN VICTORIA

On a motion by K. Shepperson, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved Carol Mas as signatory for the paperwork pertaining to the purchase of the 2011 Ford Crown Victoria.

APPROVAL OF SERGEANT ROGER VAN LOAN ATTENDANCE AT MID-ATLANTIC LAW ENFORCEMENT EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved Sergeant Roger Van Loan to attend the Mid-Atlantic Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar in Princeton, New Jersey on June 5-10, 2011.

APPROVAL OF HIRING TRACY LANZAFAME AS HUMAN RESOURCE SPECIALIST

On a motion by K. Shepperson, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved hiring Tracy Lanzafame as the Human Resource Specialist with a salary of \$32,500 contingent upon a successful background check.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously and on the recommendation of the Bloomsburg Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a certificate of appropriateness for Michael Hatem to install a fence and construct a rear deck at 364 East Second Street.

APPROVAL OF REQUEST OF GORDON ACORNLEY, SR. TO KEEP BUSINESS SIGN WITHIN RIGHT-OF-WAY

Gordon Acornley placed a sign in front of his establishment located at 498 West Main Street. He stated that he could not understand the Town's sign ordinance so he went ahead and set out what he felt was appropriate. The sign is located on the sidewalk at the curb and does not impede foot traffic and because there is no parking in front of the business, the sign does not conflict with car doors. He said it has increased his business by 20%.

Steve Coladonato suggests the request go to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Barry Thorne questioned why not table until Council can make a site visit and the solicitor could also be consulted.

E. Fegley stated he needs to check and see if there are zoning issues. Mayor Knorr directed Mr. Acornley visit the Code Enforcement office tomorrow.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on Six (6) (P. Kinney, K. Shepperson, D. Knorr, S. Costa, C. Howell and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to One (1) (D. Levan voting "No"), Council approved the request of Gordon Acornley, Sr. of Gordy's Philadelphia Cheese Steak to keep his business sign located within the right-of-way at 498 West Main Street.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 8:55pm and did not reconvene.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary