

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, June 27, 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, Kathy Shepperson, Sylvia Costa, W. Carey Howell and William Kreisher; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Code Enforcement Officer Ed Fegley; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski and Superintendent of Public Works John Barton.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 940 – AMENDING CHAPTER 15 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG RELATING TO ON-STREET METERED PARKING, OFF-STREET METERED PARKING, UNMETERED PARKING, AUTHORIZED PARKING BY PERMIT PLACARD, RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES

Ralph Knelly operates two businesses at 384 East Street. He expressed his displeasure at the new red meter permit parking on East Street. In his area there are 35 meters, 21 of which are being changed to permit only parking. The ordinance will eliminate the option to park at a red meter post since the meter heads are being removed. He wanted to know where his customers were to park. There have been times when patrons visiting the neighboring nail salon have taken eight or nine spaces. Customers of the Bloomn' Thai restaurant have also parked in front of his establishment when the next block has been parked full. He does not understand why Council would change something that had been working fine. He feels that Council is pushing businesses away. He asked why he was not contacted prior to the change.

Chief Sokoloski stated that the Parking Study Task Force has researched the parking in this area for quite some time. The revision is not anti-business. 14 meters will remain and if it doesn't work they can always revisit it at another time.

Mayor Knorr noted that the meter collections in this area are minimal. Even though Mr. Knelly feels the system is working on East Street, he believes it could work better. We should be able to show where customers can park and where residents and employees can park.

D. Levan explained that this system will assure the person paying \$75 for a permit a parking space. If the meters were left on the posts, there is the chance that the permit holder would have no space to park.

P. Kinney disagreed with red meter posts being placed in front of a business and the removal of the meter heads. There are 14 businesses between Third and Fifth Streets. 14 metered spots in the one block are not sufficient.

B. Kreisher believes that the more exclusive you make the sights the less they will be utilized. There should not be anything wrong with selling a few more permits than the number of spaces available.

Susan McGarry of 153 West Ninth Street suggested the spaces be numbered since the number of permits will match the number of spaces.

D. Knorr suggested working with the numbers; perhaps splitting the difference with 18 and 17 instead of 21 permitted spots and 14 metered.

B. Kreisher opposes the portion of the ordinance preventing parking in the lots from the hours of 3:00am to 5:00am. Patrons of the late night establishments may not be in a condition to drive and should be able to leave their car and find alternate transportation as should employees staying after hours to clean up. Alex Dubil noted that this was a compromise to extended enforcement on the weekends. The time refers to metered spaces only.

Downtown business owner Sharon Nixon mentioned that any person can park at a red meter post after 5:00pm. Red meter parking permits are only enforced between 8:00am and 5:00pm.

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on Six (6) (D. Levan, K. Shepperson, D. Knorr, S. Costa, C. Howell and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to One (1) (P. Kinney voting "No"), Council adopted Ordinance No. 940 amending Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances relating to on-street metered parking, off-street metered parking, unmetered parking, authorized parking by permit placard, residential permit parking and providing penalties for the violation thereof.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 941 – AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC REGULATIONS IN FORCE IN THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG, AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 15

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Ordinance No. 940 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.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 06-27-11.01 – SETTING VARIOUS FEES

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Resolution No. 06-27-11.01 setting various fees to include unmetered parking zone permit placard fees.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 06-27-11.02 – AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Resolution No. 06-27-11.02 authorizing the Mayor to sign the Transportation Enhancement Program Federal-Aid Reimbursement Agreement.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Knorr announced that the Public Safety Committee meeting scheduled for this Tuesday had been cancelled.

The Mayor presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Council Member Kathy Shepperson in honor of her 3½ years of service. This was her last meeting and he thanked her for stepping forward and serving on Council.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 13, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Six (6) (D. Knorr, D. Levan, S. Costa, P. Kinney, K. Shepperson and W. Kreisher voting "Yes") to One (1) Non-Vote (C. Howell had stepped out of the room), Council approved the June 13, 2011 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

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

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Hay Group, Inc. from the Employees Pension Plan in the amount of \$195.00 for services from April 1, 2011 through May 31, 2011.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on Six (6) (D. Knorr, S. Costa, P. Kinney, C. Howell, K. Shepperson and W. Kreisher voting “Yes”) to One (1) (D. Levan voting “No”), and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Robert and Anne Barton to replace the porch floor decking material, replace the porch roof material, replace the wrought iron railing and wooden columns with vinyl and install vinyl shutters at 111 East Fifth Street.

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 Michael Jardin to replace the asphalt shingles on the main roof of the structure at 428 Market Street.

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 B & L Properties to install stone veneer on the front of the structure under the porch roof area at 144 East Ridge Avenue.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Kathy Flick to replace the asphalt shingle roof, install seamless K-style gutters and install aluminum over the fascia portion of the trim board at 218 West Main Street.

On a motion by C. Howell, 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 Mariano Properties to demolish the portion of the existing structure above ground level and construct a one-story commercial building at 502-506 East Street.

DENIAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council denied a Certificate of Appropriateness for Michael Jardin to install a stockade style fence at 428 Market Street.

BLOOMSBURG PLANNING COMMISSION DISCUSSION REGARDING CAMPLESE, HILL AND GARRISH RE-ZONING REQUESTS READ FOR THE RECORD

E. Fegley read the Planning Commission’s discussion on the Camplese, Hill and Garrish re-zoning for the record: The requests have been on the commission agenda since June 23, 2010 and it is the general consensus of the commission that the applicants need to come forward with a definitive plan showing why a change from residential – suburban to high –density is in the **best interest of the town as a whole** or move the requests on to the next step. The commission has, over a period of a year met with all the applicants and discussed the many issues and problems related to the location and access to the property located at the top of Franklin Street. The issue of a second access/egress route has always been at the top the list of problems, followed by the impact of increased traffic and the existing condition of Franklin Street. The commission feels that they have worked diligently over the past 12 months in an effort to provide Council with a recommendation on the requests; however, the lack of a concise plan from the applicants has stalled the process.

APPROVAL OF LAND INCORPORATION – MICHAEL AND LAURIE WALLACE

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved the incorporation of a 2,626.75 square foot parcel of land from the adjoining property onto the existing property at 975 Market Street.

APPROVAL OF WAIVER – BLOOMSBURG HOSPITAL – EMERGENCY ROOM EXPANSION - LAND DEVELOPMENT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved a waiver from section 22-802.3.A requiring storm water provisions due to the fact that the activity would create less than 10,000 square feet of impervious area.

APPROVAL OF STREET VENDOR PERMIT APPLICATION

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved a street vendor permit for Emily Zenzel of Em's Pink Weiner's for space #1 effective from July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

APPROVAL OF STREET VENDOR PERMIT APPLICATION

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved a street vendor permit for John Berger of Chumley's for space #2 effective from July 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

APPROVAL OF BLOOMSBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT TAKING LADDER TRUCK TO READING, PA

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Fire Chief to take the ladder truck to Reading, PA for a demonstration in exchange for a free preventative maintenance by E-One.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary