

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, August 8, 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, Sylvia Costa, W. Carey Howell, Bill Kreisher and Claude Renninger; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Director of Finance Heather Jacoby; Code Enforcement Officer Ed Fegley; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Fire Chief Bob Rupp; Solicitor Jack Mihalik and Office Assistant Amy Seamans. Absent were Council Member Diane Levan and Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz.

#### CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – GEORGE FENIMORE

George Fenimore of Allure Hair and Body Salon located at 227 Center Street, Bloomsburg, was present regarding the new parking changes. He noted that most of the parking meters have been removed from the East Pine Avenue parking lot and is asking Council to put them back. His business has been on Center Street for six years and parking has not been an issue until last month when the meters were removed. There is a lot of business activity on Center Street with several new businesses now and no where for customers to park.

Mayor Knorr highlighted some of the changes that were made; a tiered pricing system for the parking permits was developed and meters were removed from the red posts to delineate where permit holders should park.

Cindy Shultz of 805 Cherry Hill Road asked if there will be any signage stating the hours of enforcement. Mayor Knorr stated no.

Stephanie Severn of Steph's Subs located at 150 East Main Street asked if the number of permit spaces increased and Chief Sokoloski responded no. She has people coming up to her saying that they were going to stop in for a sub but they couldn't find a place to park.

Mayor Knorr stated that the Parking Study Execution Task Force will keep discussing the issues at their monthly meeting and will look at making some changes before permits go on sale again at the end of December.

Chief Sokoloski stated that he will have 5-hour meters put back on Center Street but could not say where they would be placed.

Richard Cannaday of the Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble (BTE) located at 226 Center Street stated that it would be beneficial to the theatre if the hours of enforcement were posted on Center Street so patrons know that they can park there after 5:00pm.

Heidi Savage of Allure Hair and Body Salon has been doing business in town for 18 years and purposely moved to Center Street because of the availability of parking. Clients now have to keep circling to try and find a place to park. Then when they come in there're mad and late which then puts her behind for the rest of the day. The salon has a large clientele with some traveling from far away and when they arrive into town and cannot park where they did the month before, they are confused and wonder why all the parking spaces are sitting empty. Ms. Savage asked Council why they are catering to the students and not to the businesses. She doesn't want to move out of town but they have started looking at other locations. The parking situation is hurting the business now and they can't wait until the next permit period.

Laurie McCants of BTE expressed that more parking is needed for customers, businesses and students and hopes that there is a parking garage in the long range plan. In looking forward to December, the BTE's holiday show generally sells out which is 350 people coming from out of town and where will they park?

Mary Chamuris stated that there needs to be more parking or a parking garage instead of shifting and moving meters around.

Alex Dubil of 361 East Second Street has talked with Commissioner Chris Young and the County would allow a parking garage to be constructed on the parking lot at the rear of the annex but they do not have any funds to put towards the cost.

Tim Wagner of 146 East Main Street was in the meeting with representatives from State College. They stated that they have four parking garages and they are all paid for.

Peggy Dildine of 38 Circle Drive, Berwick, suggests the town look at State College.

Council Member Kreisher expressed that Carlisle is similar to Bloomsburg and they have a parking garage located next to the courthouse and each level is designated.

Sandy Davis said a parking garage is a good long term plan but the business owners need an answer now. They will lose their clientele by December.

Chuck Wagner asked if there really were that many complaints before from permit holders saying they couldn't find a spot. He felt this is a larger outcry for help.

Oren Helbok feels this is a more serious issue and asked if permit holders were saying they would take their business elsewhere like the business owners are saying here tonight.

Richard Cannaday asked if the meters could be put back on in the parking lot for the two weeks before students return so they don't lose customers.

Mayor Knorr stated that he doesn't want to act hastily and any change is going to require another ordinance amendment. He will have the task force discuss the issue at their next meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup>. He'll ask them for direction on how to incorporate more meters. This will be placed on the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting agenda.

George Fenimore has purchased a parking permit for the past nine years and he has never had a problem finding a spot to park.

#### CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – STEVE COLADONATO

Steve Coladonato asked to speak about the Hardware Bar that is reportedly coming to Bloomsburg at the former Harry's location on Main Street. Mr. Coladonato referenced the recent letter to the editor he wrote which was published in the Press Enterprise. In the letter he noted several website links to Youtube videos depicting the type of lewd entertainment that occurs at their other locations. He also wants to make everyone aware that the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) has cited the Hardware Bar in Wilkes Barre numerous times for lewd entertainment and serving alcohol to minors as well as other violations. This type of adult entertainment is not permitted in the Commercial District and our ordinances need to be enforced. This type of establishment is only going to hurt the town. Mr. Coladonato also stated that they advertise having male and female impersonators which is specifically prohibited in the town ordinances as well.

Mayor Knorr stated that an event like judging asses is crude but what people do on a Friday night is their own business. If it reaches the level of adult entertainment then he has no problem enforcing the town's ordinances. He noted that Chief Sokoloski, Fire Chief Rupp and Code Enforcement Officer Ed Fegley have all met with the Hardware Bar owner Ron Kamionka and informed him of the town's expectations.

Chief Sokoloski stated that in his 17 years of being in law enforcement, he has never seen the LCB revoke a liquor license. They cite the owner, a hearing is held, they pay a fine and they're back in business. He also polled the communities where other Hardware Bars are located and Wilkes Barre police had 155 calls inside the bar in one year. When he met with the owner, he stated that in some locations they are paying police departments to patrol at night. He feels this type of establishment will attract a metropolitan type crowd.

E. Fegley has asked Mr. Kamionka for a written layout of the bar describing how he is going to use each section of the floor. If it meets zoning requirements he will issue a permit but will also keep a close watch on the type of entertainment that is going on.

Oren Helbok noted that in Chapter 13, section 201-204 it states that when a transfer of a liquor license or transfer of ownership happens, a hearing shall be held before Town Council.

S. Costa feels this type of business exploits women.

C. Howell stated that if there is anything Council can do legally to stop this before it happens, we should do it.

B. Kreisher doesn't think the town can legally do anything before it happens.

Mayor Knorr asked C. Mas to schedule a public hearing at the Bloomsburg Fire Department so all residents could have a chance to speak about the transfer of the liquor license ownership. A stenographer will record the hearing and a transcript will be sent to the PLCB. Solicitor Mihalik said that the town will need to hire another attorney as he cannot be involved because of his business relationship with the Hummel's.

#### MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Knorr thanked Chuck Wagner for the Ice Cream and Cake Festival last week and Chuck then thanked the Public Works Department and Fire Police for making the event possible. Mayor Knorr also thanked Tim Wagner and Fred Gaffney for their help with Movie Night this past Friday.

#### APPROVAL OF JULY 25, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the July 25, 2011 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

#### APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND JULY PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills and the July payroll authorization: General Fund, \$124,298.51; Debt Service Fund, \$5,986.69; Recycling Fund, \$302,780.94; Street Lighting Fund, \$11,372.88; Norris E. Rock Memorial Swimming Pool Fund, \$4,807.98; FFY 10 CDBG Entitlement Program, \$16,233.47; Day Care Project, \$2,737.40; Liquid Fuels, \$21,285.67 and the July payroll authorization in the amount of \$177,823.35.

#### APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILL TO RENCO ACE HARDWARE

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on Five (5) (C. Howell, P. Kinney, D. Knorr, S. Costa and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to One (1) abstention (C. Renninger "Abstaining"), Council approved the payment of a bill from Renco Ace Hardware in the amount of \$8.74.

#### APPROVAL OF ADDITION TO TOWN VENDOR LIST

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved the addition of Mid-Atlantic Fire and Air, AE Technologies, Inc. Kile's Body Shop, Duo-Safety Ladder Corp., Creasy's Signs and Kewanna Screen Printing, Inc. to the 2011 town vendor list.

#### APPROVAL OF SITE SURVEY AND SECURITY ANALYSIS AGREEMENT WITH INNOTEK COMPUTER CONSULTING, INC.

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved a site survey and security analysis agreement with InnoTek Computer Consulting, Inc. in the amount of \$2,500.

#### APPROVAL OF RELEASING FINANCIAL SECURITY FROM GREYSTONE COURT LAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved releasing \$493,050 from Greystone Court land development project financial security.

#### APPROVAL OF FUNDS REQUEST FROM BLOOMSBURG SHADE TREE COMMISSION FOR HAZARDOUS TREE REMOVAL PROJECT

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by B. Kreisher and voted on unanimously, Council approved providing \$10,000 for the Bloomsburg Shade Tree Commission hazardous tree removal project. Cristina Mathews, Chair of the commission, stated that the tree survey revealed that there are 37 potentially hazardous trees, 14 trees that could be hazard pruned and 37 trees that are likely to die soon in town. The funds will used to help assist residents with the removal of their tree.

#### APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF FREE STANDING MAILBOX FOR TOWN HALL MAIL DELIVERY

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of a free standing mailbox for Town Hall mail delivery in an amount not to exceed \$723.

#### APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG AND DOWNTOWN BLOOMSBURG, INC.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved amendment #1 to the Cooperation Agreement between the Town of Bloomsburg and Downtown Bloomsburg, Inc. extending the termination date of the agreement from June 30, 2010 to June 30, 2012 to coincide with the amended contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for the Design Component of the New Communities Program grant.

#### APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICE TO HAY GROUP FROM THE POLICE PENSION PLAN AND EMPLOYEES PENSION PLAN

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the payment of an invoice to Hay Group from the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$3,417.60 and \$3,302.80 from the Employees Pension Plan.

## APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Renninger and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Nicole Iacovoni and Hans Bottesch to install signage at 214 Center Street.

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 Michael Howe to reconstruct the front porch of 336 East 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 St. Columba Catholic Church to make the following repairs: re-point a 5 foot by 8 foot section of wall and repair the fascia on the south side of the rector located at 42 East Third Street; reinforce the moisture barrier on the north and west wall of the stair tower end of the basement, excavate along west wall and parge and tar wall then backfill. Re-point brick and remove and replace old caulking around the glass block windows on the school gym located at 40 East Third Street. Remove the cracked fireplace cap on the chimney, form a new concrete cap and replace re-bar and repair flashing around the chimney, anchor the vent pipe on the side of building and re-paint the cover over the door of the Bloomsburg Food Cupboard located at 329 Center Street.

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

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 following waiver for Bloomsburg Hospital's emergency room expansion land development project: financial security must be provided for all proposed site improvements and a construction estimate shall be submitted [403.1.A and 404.C].

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

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved the following waiver for Bloomsburg Hospital's emergency room expansion land development project: the cartway widths shall be indicated on the plan [403.1.A.2.d].

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

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Renninger and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved the following waiver for Bloomsburg Hospital's emergency room expansion land development project: the locations of found existing survey monuments shall be indicated on the plan. [403.1.A.2.h].

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

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved the following waiver for Bloomsburg Hospital's emergency room expansion land development project: the expansion joints as specified at the 'Typical Concrete Walk Details' provided on drawing no. C3.1 shall have a thickness of 1/5 inches [504, 706.E and 706.F].

#### APPROVAL OF BLOOMSBURG HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM EXPANSION LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Planning Commission, Council approved Bloomsburg Hospital's emergency room expansion land development plan as submitted.

#### APPROVAL OF FINAL PAYMENT TO SOKOL, INC. FOR THE COMPOST SITE RELOCATION PROJECT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by B. Kreisher and voted on unanimously, Council approved final payment to Sokol, Inc. in the amount of \$17,178.42 for the Compost Site Relocation Project.

#### APPROVAL OF DESIGNATING ONE PARKING SPACE FOR LOADING/UNLOADING

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved designating one parking space at 101 East Third Street as a loading/unloading area.

#### APPROVAL OF DROP-OFF ONLY AREA FOR BLOOMSBURG MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by C. Renninger and voted on unanimously, Council approved a drop-off only area on the north side of West Sixth Street beginning at Market Street and continuing 145 feet west between the hours of 8:00am and 9:00am, Monday through Friday for the Bloomsburg Memorial Elementary School.

#### APPROVAL OF INFORMING MATT ZOPPETTI AND SANTE D'AMBROSIO TO INSTALL A CURB AND SIDEWALK ALONG WHITEMAN AVENUE

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Five (5) (B. Kreisher, S. Costa, D. Knorr, P. Kinney and C. Renninger voting "Yes") to One (1) (C. Howell voting "No"), Council approved informing Matt Zoppetti and Sante D'Ambrosio to install a curb and sidewalk along Whiteman Avenue from West Pine Avenue south to the end of their building.

#### APPROVAL OF BLOOMSBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT TAKING APPARATUS TO SCHUYLKILL COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S CONVENTION

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Bloomsburg Fire Department taking the ladder truck and rescue truck to the Schuylkill County Volunteer Firefighter's Convention in Minersville on August 27, 2011.

#### APPROVAL OF BLOOMSBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT HOLDING A BOOT DRIVE ON FIFTH STREET DURING THE BLOOMSBURG FAIR

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Renninger and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Bloomsburg Fire Department holding a boot drive on Fifth Street at Market Street during the Bloomsburg Fair from September 24, 2011 through October 1, 2011.

#### DOWNTOWN BLOOMSBURG, INC. REPORT

Board President, Tim Wagner, informed Council that Josh O'Brien is no longer with Downtown Bloomsburg, Inc. and that they are in the process of looking for a replacement. He noted that the Gridlock will be held on Main Street this Saturday from 11:30am to 1:00pm.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

CAROL L. MAS  
Town Administrator & Secretary