

## **PUBLIC HEARING – FFY 2015 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION**

The Town of Bloomsburg held its final Public Hearing associated with the preparation and submittal of the Town’s 2015 Community Development Block Grant application.

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, August 24, 2015, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 301 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA. Present were Council Member W. Carey Howell presiding; Council Members Diane Levan, Bill Kreisher, Sylvia Costa, Fred Trump, and Eric Bower; Town Administrator William Lowthert; Assistant Town Administrator Lauren Martz; Chief of Police Roger Van Loan, and Superintendent of Public Works John Barton. Absent were Mayor Sandy Davis; Environmental Services Coordinator Charles Fritz; Director of Finance Lisa Dooley, and Fire Chief Bob Rupp.

### **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 08-24-15.01 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO PA DCED FOR FFY 2015 UNDER THE CDBG PROGRAM**

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Resolution No. 08-24-15.01 authorizing the submission of an application to PA DCED for FFY 2015 under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, application projects include Streater Field Phase II improvements (82%) and administration fees (18%).

### **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 08-24-15.02 FAIR HOUSING**

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Resolution No. 08-24-15.02 regarding fair housing as part of the Town’s CDBG Program. Town Council also decided to send a letter to DCED requesting permission to amend the resolution to include additional classes for housing protection in Bloomsburg.

### **APPROVAL OF OUTDOOR ALCOHOL SALES ON THE REAR DECK OF FILET 18 (18 WEST MAIN STREET)**

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by B. Kreisher and voted on unanimously, Council approved outdoor alcohol sales on the rear deck of Filet 18 (18 W. Main Street).

### **APPROVAL OF AUGUST 10, 2015 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the August 10, 2015, Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

### **APPROVAL OF BLOOMSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT UNION CONTRACT AGREEMENT**

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by E. Bower and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Bloomsburg Police Department Union Contract Agreement dispute settlement with the following terms:

#### **Bloomsburg Police Department Union Contract Agreement**

##### **1. Wages**

2015 – 3.5% wage increase retroactive to 1/1/15

2016 – 3% wage increase as of 1/1/16

2017 – 3% wage increase as of 1/1/17

2018- 3% wage increase as of 1/1/18

##### **2. Pension Contribution**

2015 – 4% retroactive to 1/1/15 just like the 2015 wages

2016 – 4.5%

2017 – 5%

2018- Remains at 5%

### **3. Healthcare**

- A. Union members will annually pay one half month of health care premiums divided equally across all regular paychecks. The one half month premium contribution will increase if the health care premium increases.
- B. Police union employees will remain on the current health plan during the term of this contract (1/1/15 to 12/31/18). However, if the current health plan is cancelled, discontinued or no longer made available by the current health care carrier the Town shall have the ability, after consulting with the Police union, to switch to a comparable health plan with comparable benefits at comparable premium costs. The Town shall choose a plan with comparable benefits and coverages and work to match the current level of benefits and coverages as much as possible within the cost range of the premium costs at the time the plan is cancelled or discontinued.
- C. Cadillac Tax

The Town shall have the ability, if a Cadillac Tax is projected by the Town to be assessed in 2018, to file for arbitration early in 2017 in order to ensure that an Act 111 decision is awarded by October 1, 2017 dealing with the issue of health care costs and the Cadillac Tax. The Town, if a Cadillac Tax is projected to be payable in 2018, shall file for Act 111 arbitration by June 1, 2017 and the arbitrator must issue a decision on health care costs and all contractual issue presented by October 1, 2017. If the Town does not file for early Act 111 arbitration by June 1, 2017 the normal Act 111 deadlines for filing shall apply.

### **4. Pension for New Hires**

The age and service requirement for new hires to receive an age and service retirement pension shall be 25 years of service and age 55.

- 5.
  - (A) Change leave requests for vacations to thirty (30) days notice;
  - (B) Direct deposit will be mandatory for union members
  - (C) Allow officers to submit leave requests of less than thirty (30) days with approval of the Chief of Police at his/her discretion. However, the Chief of Police's decision cannot be grieved and the number of such requests for less than 30 day approval is limited to no more than 3 requests per year;
  - (D) Eliminate each officer's individual (Town owned) life insurance policy and replace with \$45,000 of Town owned group life insurance coverage. (This transition will likely need to take place as the current individual policies expire, but the Town will attempt to make this transition as soon as possible.)

### **6. Just Cause**

Keep current civil service discipline language in the contract and add a Just Cause grievance procedure with binding arbitration. Just Cause grievance procedures can only be used in association with a suspension of over 10 days or for terminations. The Union and Town will equally split all arbitrator costs. If the Officer selects to use Civil Service then the officer waives the Just Cause grievance procedure.

### **7. Bi-weekly Payroll**

The Town may institute bi-weekly payroll (payroll every two weeks instead of every week), if it so chooses, beginning on or after January 1, 2017.

### **APPROVAL OF THE RESIGNATION OF PART-TIME PATROL OFFICER FRANK VARANO**

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the resignation acceptance of Frank Varano as a part-time Patrol Officer effective August 31, 2015, with regret.

**APPROVAL OF SENDING A LETTER OF INTEREST TO HUD TO CONSIDER BECOMING A HUD DIRECT ENTITLEMENT COMMUNITY**

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved writing a letter of interest to be reviewed by the Admin/Finance Committee to express interest in becoming a HUD direct entitlement community regarding the Town's CDBG funds.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP FOR THE PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL UPGRADE PROJECT THROUGH 7/25/15 WITH ARLE GRANT FUNDS**

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group, Inc. in the amount of \$3,500 for professional services of the Pedestrian Signal Upgrade Project through 07/25/15 with ARLE Grant Funds.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP FOR THE STREATER FIELD PHASE II IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT THROUGH 7/25/15 WITH CDBG FUNDS**

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group, Inc. in the amount of \$5,111.04 for professional services of the Streater Field Phase II Improvements Project through 07/25/15 with CDBG Funds.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP FOR THE HANDICAP RAMP AND CURB-CUT PROJECT THROUGH 8/01/15 WITH CDBG FUNDS**

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by B. Kreisher and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group, Inc. in the amount of \$489.29 for professional services of the handicap ramp and curb-cut project through 08/01/15 with CDBG Funds.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP FOR THE 900 BLOCK OF WEST MAIN STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT THROUGH 8/01/15 WITH CDBG-DR FUNDS**

On a motion by E. Bower, seconded by B. Kreisher and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group, Inc. in the amount of \$2,000 for engineering services of the 900 Block of West Main Street Sidewalk Project through 08/01/15 with CDBG-DR Funds.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP FOR THE FORT MCCLURE BOULEVARD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT THROUGH 8/01/15 WITH CDBG-DR FUNDS**

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group, Inc. in the amount of \$5,027.50 for professional services of the Fort McClure Boulevard Reconstruction Project through 08/01/15 with CDBG-DR Funds.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP FOR THE FISHING CREEK BANK STABILIZATION PROJECT THROUGH 8/01/15 WITH CDBG-DR FUNDS**

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by F. Trump and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group, Inc. in the amount of \$5,358.64 for professional services of the Fishing Creek Bank Stabilization Project through 08/01/15 with CDBG-DR Funds.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP FOR THE TOWN HALL GENERATOR PROJECT THROUGH 8/01/15**

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by F. Trump and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group, Inc. in the amount of \$365.24 for professional services of the Town Hall Generator Project through 08/01/15.

**APPROVAL OF THE RESIGNATION OF PAMELA DONOVAN FROM THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by B. Kreisher and voted on unanimously, Council approved the resignation of Pamela Donovan from the Shade Tree Commission effective 09/01/15 with regret.

#### **APPROVAL OF APPOINTING JOHN HINTZ TO THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council appointed John Hintz to the Shade Tree Commission with a term expiring on 12/31/17.

#### **APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #2 FROM ARC ELECTRIC CONSTRUCTION CO. INC.**

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by B. Kreisher and voted on unanimously, Council approved change order #2 from Arc Electric Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$825 for the Town Hall Generator Project.

#### **LAURA HADEN – DOWNTOWN BLOOMSBURG, INC. REPORT**

Downtown Manager Laura Haden explained that the recent Artfest was a successful event again this year and several additional Downtown events are soon on their way. Specifically, Brewsburg will be on Halloween this year and will include an 80's theme for guests. Council member D. Levan requested that DBI, Inc. consider changing the name of Brewsburg in the future. L. Haden also mentioned that instead of trick or treating in the Downtown this Halloween there will be a scavenger hunt which the Downtown businesses will participate in. There will also be the traditional Halloween window painting as well this year. Laura went on to mention that DBI, Inc. is still working towards fundraising for the Downtown Strategic Campaign. Approximately, \$75,000 has been raised for the plan so far. The overall fundraising goal is \$125,000 for the plan.

#### **BILL SEIGEL – COLUMBIA COUNTY FLOODWALL PROJECT UPDATE**

B. Seigel explained the current status of the Columbia County Floodwall Project. The slurry wall is complete and 301 of the pylons have been set for the wall. There are 60 that still remain for the project. The project will be stopped temporarily for the Bloomsburg Fair and construction will resume after the event.

#### **CITIZEN TO BE HEARD**

Doug Chaido, 101 Arbutus Park Road, expressed concern that the Town of Bloomsburg was pursuing and accepting federal grant funds for Town projects.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 7:57 p.m. to discuss Police Department personnel matters and did not reconvene.

William Lowthert  
Town Administrator/Secretary