

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, November 14, 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, 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; Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Fire Chief Bob Rupp; Solicitor Jack Mihalik and Office Assistant Amy Seamans.

#### CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – GARY VADAKIN

Gary Vadakin was present to discuss his idea for the town fountain this year besides the regular holiday decorating that he does. He proposes a “fill the fountain with change” with the proceeds of the collections going to the Red Cross or AGAPE to distribute to families in need this Christmas. Collections would be from December 1<sup>st</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup>. The fountain would be decorated in gold and silver with a black tarp lining the base to cover up the lamps so they don’t get damaged. For security he was thinking of having a four foot fence around the base to deter people from taking the change and he would empty it at least every other day. He believes there may be a security camera in this area and thought putting up a sign stating “you are being watched” might help deter vandalism. Eric Bower offered to look into this and will work with JAG Housing to have a camera erected by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Council members felt this was a nice idea and directed Gary to work with J. Barton on the details.

#### CITIZEN WRITTEN COMMENTS – GENE HAMILTON

Mayor Knorr distributed an editorial written by Gene Hamilton to the Council members in reference to dredging.

#### CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – MICHAEL VATH, FEMA REPRESENTATIVE

Michael Vath of FEMA reviewed a packet of information from PEMA regarding the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). He explained that this is a competitive grant and right now FEMA estimates that \$65 million will be available for Pennsylvania and expects it to increase. In Pennsylvania there are 500 to 600 homes totally destroyed by Tropical Storm Lee and Hurricane Irene and another 8,000 to 10,000 homes substantially damaged.

Through the HMGP, FEMA provides 75% funding to States for post-disaster hazard mitigation measures. The objective is to prevent future loss of life and property due to natural disasters; to provide funding for previously identified mitigation measures that benefit the disaster area and to implement state, county and municipal hazard mitigation plans. The municipality is the applicant, not the homeowner, and must be voluntary participation.

Mr. Vath stated that the state’s first priority is buying out those who have lost their home as well as homes that have been substantially damaged. When the homes are bought out, they are demolished and the land is owned by the municipality and it must remain “open space” forever. The town now has 27 property owners who have requested their homes to be bought out. Applications can include up to 15 properties but the town can submit as many applications as it wants. The town must first submit a letter of intent/pre-application and the deadline have been extended from November 15<sup>th</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup>. If the application meets the eligibility criteria, PEMA will then send out an application packet for the municipality to complete. The first round of applications must be submitted by December 30, 2011. Mr. Vath expressed that the deadline is normally 1 year from the disaster declaration date but the state is trying to shorten the timeline so the money can get out to the homeowners. Due to the

voluntary nature of the grant, the town and/or property owners can withdraw up until the day of closing.

C. Howell asked when homeowners could see a buyout. Mr. Vath stated that typically the process takes three years but the government would like to see it done within a year. FEMA agents are here now and typically they are not called in until 8 months or so after the event.

Oren Helbok of 705 East Fifth Street asked if applications are looked at as a whole or each individually and Mr. Vath stated that they are reviewed as a whole and not individually.

Robert Garringer of 1001 Industrial Drive wanted to confirm that businesses are submitted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round and Mr. Vath stated yes.

B. Rupp asked Mayor Knorr if someone could be added to the list of persons wanting to be bought out and he said a cut off was last week. There is going to be a meeting scheduled to meet with those persons but anyone is invited who owns property within the town contemplating being bought out.

C. Renninger asked Mr. Vath if a property is bought through the HMGP but then it's determined that the property falls on the foot print of a floodwall; could the town reimburse the HMGP? Mr. Vath stated no.

C. Mas reminded everyone that properties acquired will also be tax exempt forever.

Mayor Knorr asked C. Mas to schedule the meeting with property owners next week before the holiday and to have it published in the newspaper.

#### ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-14-11.01 – SIGNATORY AUTHORIZATION

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Resolution No. 11-14-11.01 authorizing the Mayor to sign the Reimbursement and Maintenance Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Town.

#### MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Knorr congratulated Eric Bower and Fred Trump on their election to Council and Diane Levan on being re-elected. Speaker of the House Joe Boehner escorted by Congressman Lou Barletta, visited Bloomsburg today. They met with Rieter Automotive representatives and toured flood damaged areas. Mayor Knorr reported that Oktoberfest will be held this Saturday at the Moose Exchange, the next budget workshop will be held on November 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30pm and he noted he will be meeting with police department personnel regarding the recent parking permit change and will have recommendations for the next Public Safety Committee meeting.

#### APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 18, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the October 18, 2011 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

#### APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 24, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the October 24, 2011 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

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

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills and the October payroll authorization: General Fund, \$502,391.71; Debt Service Fund, \$5,986.69; Recycling Fund, \$88,617.78; Street Lighting Fund, \$10,189.02; Norris E. Rock Memorial Swimming Pool Fund, \$606.33; FFY 10 CDBG Entitlement Program, \$15,368.66; Day Care Project, \$2,737.40; Airport Expansion Project, \$865.86; Liquid Fuels, \$306.14 and the October payroll authorization in the amount of \$163,330.00.

#### APPROVAL OF ADDITION TO TOWN VENDOR LIST

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the addition of Advantage Construction of Bloomsburg LLC, Traffic Products LLC, TB Disposal, Warren Electric Corp., Eagle Point Gun/TJ Morris and Son and Mettler-Toledo, Inc. to the 2011 town vendor list.

#### APPROVAL OF GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF RECORDING DEVICES

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on Six (6) (C. Howell, D. Levan, D. Knorr, D. Levan, P. Kinney and S. Costa voting "Yes") to One (1) (B. Kreisher voting "No"), Council approved guidelines for the use of recording devices as revised by D. Knorr with number 4 being deleted. It was also agreed upon to have a sign posted in the Council Chambers stating that "proceedings in the room may be recorded."

#### APPROVAL OF REDUCING FLOOD RELATED BUILDING PERMIT FEES BY 50% UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2011

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Renninger and voted on Six (6) (D. Levan, C. Renninger, D. Knorr, S. Costa, C. Howell and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to One (1) (P. Kinney voting "No"), Council approved reducing the flood related building permit fees by 50% until December 31, 2011.

Oren Helbok asked if we know the economic impact of doing this and Mayor Knorr stated that we do not.

#### APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by D. Knorr and voted on Four (4) (B. Kreisher, D. Knorr, D. Levan and C. Renninger voting "Yes") to Three (3) (P. Kinney, S. Costa and C. Howell voting "No"), and on the recommendation of the Historical Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Pine Avenue Luxury Apartments, LLC (Matt Zoppetti and Sante D'Ambrosio) to construct a new four-story building with parking on the first floor at the corner of West Third Street and Whiteman Avenue. E. Fegley noted that this will be an identical "sister" building to the one located behind it built last year at the corner of West Pine and Whiteman Avenues.

Oren Helbok would like to know how parking is allowed as a permitted use on first floor in the Commercial District.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historical Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for David Pryor to install a standing seam metal roof, replace the third floor windows and install vinyl siding at 232 Jefferson Street.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historical Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Eric Seitzinger for repair the parapet walls at 161 E. Main Street.

#### APPROVAL OF BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION/PRESBYTERIAN SENIOR LIVING SUBDIVISION PLAN WITH CONTINGENCIES

On a motion by C. Renninger, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Bloomsburg University Foundation/Presbyterian Senior Living subdivision plan contingent upon the following conditions being met: A 'Sewage Facilities Planning Module' must be approved by the PA DEP [403.1.A.2.w] (verification of an approved waiver request from DEP must be provided.), proof of acceptance from the source providing potable water must be provided [403.1.A.2.aa], the "Owner's Statement" and "Acknowledgement of the Owner's Statement of Intent" must be signed and notarized [403.1.A.2.s and t and 404.D.1.a.7], existing contours as required by the Planning Commission (2 feet or less or 5 feet on steep slopes must be shown [403.1.A.2.g], the registered land surveyor seal must be signed [403.1.A.2.o] and all lots shall abut a public street, existing or proposed, or a private street that meets the requirements of the SALDO. The plan shows no access to Lot #5. Access must be provided and shown on the plan [507.2.A].

#### APPROVAL OF RENEWING AGREEMENT WITH REMIT CORPORATION FOR BILLING AND COLLECTION OF 2012 RECYCLING FEE

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved renewing the agreement with Remit Corporation for the billing and collection of the 2012 recycling fee at a rate of \$6.20 per bill.

#### APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF A FORD CARGO VAN FROM DAY FLEET

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of a new Ford cargo van in the amount of \$19,675 from Day Fleet through the Central Westmoreland COG program for the Recycling Center. The purchase will replace the van that was damaged during the flood.

#### APPROVAL OF REIMBURSEMENT AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN PENNDOT AND THE TOWN WITH CHOOSING PAYMENT OPTION A

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved an agreement between the Town and the PA Department of Transportation for the installation of pedestrian facilities at the intersections on Iron Street/Millville Road. Option A was chosen as the preferred payment reimbursement option.

#### APPROVAL OF BID FROM ERNEST POZZI QUALITY TREE SERVICE FOR THE HAZARDOUS TREE AND STUMP REMOVAL PROJECT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved accepting the bid from Ernest Pozzi Quality Tree Service in the amount of \$15,500 for the Hazardous Tree and Stump Removal Project.

#### APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM LR KIMBALL FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FLOOD REPAIR WORK TO THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT RUNWAY

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council accepted a proposal from LR Kimball in the estimated amount of \$21,000 for the administration of the flood repair work to the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport runway.

APPROVAL OF REJECTING THE BID RECEIVED FOR THE PHASE 5 BLOOMSBURG  
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT EXTENSION AND REALIGNMENT PROJECT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved rejecting the bid received for the Phase 5 Bloomsburg Municipal Airport Extension and Realignment Project.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING FOR BIDS OF THE PHASE 5 AND 6 BLOOMSBURG  
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT EXTENSION AND REALIGNMENT PROJECTS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for bids of the Phase 5 and 6 Bloomsburg Municipal Airport Extension and Realignment Project.

APPROVAL OF BID FROM SOKOL, INC. FOR POST FLOOD ROAD REPAIR PROJECT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Renninger and voted on unanimously, Council approved the bid from Sokol, Inc. in the amount of \$54,872 for the Post Flood Road Repair Project.

APPROVAL OF BID FROM KEVIN R. RAKER CONSTRUCTION, LLC FOR THE BLOOMSBURG  
AIRPORT HANGAR WALL REPAIR PROJECT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the bid from Kevin E. Raker Construction, LLC in the amount of \$23,400 for the Bloomsburg Airport Hangar Wall Repair Project.

APPROVAL OF FREE DOWNTOWN HOLIDAY PARKING

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved free holiday parking on Main Street from Friday, November 25, 2011 through Friday, December 30, 2011 with the two-hour parking limit enforced and free holiday parking in all municipal parking lots from Monday, December 19, 2011 through Friday, December 30, 2011.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTING GRANT THROUGH CMSU

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved accepting a grant from CMSU in the amount of \$15,000. L. Sokoloski noted that this replaces a grant not received this year from the PLCB.

APPROVAL OF HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE FOR THOMAS TELESKY – 150 WEST FIRST  
STREET

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved a handicapped parking space for Thomas Telesky at 150 West First Street.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

CAROL L. MAS  
Town Administrator & Secretary