

Bloomsburg Town Council held a meeting on Monday, December 13, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Town Hall and via teleconference. The public joined by dialing: +1 646 558 8656 U.S. and included the meeting ID: 456-920-3798. The public could also join online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4569203798>.

Council Vice President Toni Bell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., Council Members James Garman, Justin Hummel, Vince DeMelfi, Mayor William Kreisher (by phone) and Council Members Bonnie Crawford and James Huber via Zoom, Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Dooley, Chief of Police Roger Van Loan, Director of Finance Kathy Smith, Director of Public Works John Fritz, Director of Governmental Affairs Charles Fritz, Airport Coordinator BJ Teichman, Fire Chief Scott McBride and Director of Code Enforcement Ken Roberts. Also present were David's I-pad, Eric Ness, Dan Knorr, Corey Kreischer, Steve Coladonato, Barbara Coladonato, Brendan Lucas, Fred Gaffney, Jamie Shrawder, Mary Osborne, Andrew Barton, Roxanna Zoppetti, Randy Karschner, Sean Logsdon, Michael Martin, Missy Crawford, Alex Dubil, Aaron Crawford, Pamela Smith, Kevin Meek, Dennis, and Julye Wemple.

#### **COUNCIL REMARKS.**

Executive sessions:

November 23, 2021 from 2:19 p.m.- 2:42 p.m. regarding a potential legal matter.

2:43 p.m.- 2:53 p.m. regarding police personnel.

2:54 p.m.- 3:35 p.m. regarding Town vehicle usage.

3:36 p.m.- 3:52 p.m. regarding a potential legal matter.

3:53 p.m.- 4:44 p.m. regarding a potential legal matter.

4:45 p.m.- 5:36 p.m. regarding police personnel.

December 9, 2021 from 10:51 a.m.- 11:38 a.m. regarding public works personnel matters.

#### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD.**

Roxanna Zoppetti, owner of La Malbec, 18 W. Main Street, came before council to request resolutions 2.24.14.01 and 9.8.14.01 be rescinded. These resolutions prohibit dancing at the 18-20 W. Main Street location. The general consensus of Council is to update the resolution to be less restrictive.

James Walsh read a prepared statement in regards to the noise and dirt ordinances and is included at the end of the minutes.

#### **APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1, PART 6 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG TO CHANGE THE RETIREMENT BENEFIT FOR NON-POLICE EMPLOYEES HIRED, ELECTED OR APPOINTED BY THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2022- KRIS SEETS.**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising an ordinance amending Chapter 1, Part 6 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Bloomsburg to change the retirement benefit for non-police employees hired, elected or appointed by the Town of Bloomsburg on or after January 1, 2022.

#### **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 12.13.2021 FEE RESOLUTION.**

Town Council Minutes, December 13, 2021

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the adoption of Fee Resolution 12.13.2021.

**ADOPTION OF THE 2022 BUDGET.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the adoption of the 2022 budget.

**ENACTMENT OF THE 2022 TAX LEVY ORDINANCE.**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the enactment of the 2022 Tax Levy Ordinance.

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 12.13.2021.02 SIGNATORY RESOLUTION.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Hummel, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the adoption of Resolution 12.13.21.02 the Signatory Resolution.

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 12.13.2021.03 ARLE EXTENSION.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Hummel, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the adoption of Resolution 12.13.21.03 the ARLE Extension.

**APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES FROM THE 11/23/2021 MEETING.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Hummel, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the minutes from November 23, 2021 with no corrections or additions.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND NOVEMBER PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$767,420.03.**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills: General Fund \$359,210.88, Recycling Fund \$26,526.88, Street Lighting Fund \$6,029.21, Commercial Revolving Loan \$5,302.50, Fire Fund \$5,598.34, Liquid Fuels Fund \$128,190.12, Pool Fund \$2,712.41, and November Payroll Authorization \$233,849.69.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO SARATOGA ADVISORS GROUP NOT TO EXCEED \$3,000 FOR A BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION FOR THE NEW CHIEF OF POLICE.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Saratoga Advisors Group not to exceed \$3,000 for a background investigation for the new Chief of Police.

**APPROVAL TO EXTEND THE PROBATIONARY STATUS FOR THOMAS KUBASCH TO 6/28/2022 IN THE PARKING ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on unanimously, Council approved extending the probationary status for Thomas Kubasch to June 28, 2022 in the parking enforcement department.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PLACING AUDIT SERVICES OUT TO BID FOR FIVE YEARS.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on 5 to 2 (Crawford and Hummel

voting no), Council approved placing the audit services out to bid for a five-year contract.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE 2022 NORRIS E. ROCK MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL RULES.**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the 2022 Norris E. Rock Memorial Swimming pool rules.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE \$446,890 TO BE UTILIZED FOR STORM DRAINAGE AND STREET LIGHTING ON TOWN PARKING LOTS E. PINE, PINE, W. PINE, & THE DINER LOT (AMERICAN RECOVERY FUNDS).**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved \$446,890 to be utilized for storm drainage and street lighting on Town Parking lot E. Pine, Pine, W. Pine and the Diner Lot (American Recovery funds).

**APPROVAL OF THE 2022 MEETING DATES AND TIMES (ZONING AND PLANNING MAY DIFFER).**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on 6 to 1 (DeMelfi voting no), Council approved the 2022 meeting dates and times (zoning and planning may differ).

**APPROVAL TO EXTEND CHIEF ROGER VAN LOAN'S RETIREMENT UNTIL JANUARY 9, 2022.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved extending Chief Roger Van Loan's retirement until January 2022.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ENDING MICHAEL REFFEOR'S 6-MONTH PROBATIONARY STATUS EFFECTIVE 11/10/2021.**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved ending Michael Reffeor's 6-month probationary status effective November 10, 2021.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE UTILIZING THE 2022 RATE OF PAY ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> FOR EMPLOYEES RECOGNIZING THE HOLIDAY ON FRIDAY. NOTE: EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK STATES THAT A HOLIDAY THAT FALLS ON SATURDAY IS RECOGNIZED FRIDAY.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on 6 to 1 (Hummel voting no), Council approved utilizing the 2022 rate of pay for Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup> for employees recognizing the holiday on Friday.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ACCEPTING JARED HARRIS'S RESIGNATION EFFECTIVE 11/22/2021 FOR THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY BOARD, CODES APPEAL BOARD AND AIRPORT TASK FORCE.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Hummel, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the resignation of Jared Harris effective 11/22/2021 from the Bloomsburg Municipal Authority, Codes Appeal Board and the Airport Task Force.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT SYLVIA COSTA TO THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL**

**AUTHORITY BOARD WITH A TERM EXPIRING 12/31/2025 (TO FILL JARED HARRIS'S VACANCY). THREE SUBMISSIONS: SYLVIA COSTA, WILLIAM BROBST & CAREY HOWELL.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the appointment of Sylvia Costa to the Bloomsburg Municipal Authority Board with a term expiring 12/31/2025.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A QUOTE FROM BACKSTAGE LIBRARY WORKS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,760.35 TO DIGITALIZE THE 1977- 2010 COUNCIL MINUTES (AMERICAN RECOVERY FUNDS).**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Huber, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a quote from Backstage Library Works in the amount of \$3,760.35 to digitalize the 1977- 2010 council minutes (American Recovery funds).

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE 2022 CHECK SIGNORS: JUSTIN HUMMEL, TONI BELL, VINCE DEMELFI AND LISA DOOLEY.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the 2022 check signors: Justin Hummel, Toni Bell, Vince DeMelfi and Lisa Dooley.

**APPROVAL OF THE 2022 SALARY LISTING.**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the 2022 salary listing.

**RECOMMENDATION TO PLACE OUT TO BID THE INSTALLATION OF GAS FIRED HEATING APPLIANCES NEEDED TO REPLACE THE EXISTING COAL FIRED STEAM HEATING SYSTEM AT THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT. THE BID WILL INCLUDE THE HEATING UNIT INSTALLATION, GAS PIPING AND ELECTRICAL NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE SYSTEM INSTALLATION (AMERICAN RECOVERY FUNDS).**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved placing out to bid the installation of gas fired heating appliances needed to replace the existing coal fired steam heating system at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport. The bid will include the heating unit installation, gas piping and electrical needed to complete the system installation (American Recovery funds).

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE QUOTE FROM W.T.C. CONTRACTING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,000 FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING (AMERICAN RECOVERY FUNDS).**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the quote from W.T.C. Contracting in the amount of \$4,000 for the police department building (American Recovery funds).

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE QUOTE FROM HARREL SPRINKLER FOR THE BLOOMSBURG RECYCLING CENTER FOR A UL AIR COMPRESSOR, COMPATIBLE WITH THE CURRENT SPRINKLER SYSTEM, WITH AN AIR MAINTENANCE DEVICE SPECIFICALLY FOR A DRY PIPE SPRINKLER SYSTEM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,194. NOTE, THIS AMOUNT DOES NOT INCLUDE LABOR OR MATERIALS FOR INSTALLATION.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the quote from Harrel Sprinkler for the Bloomsburg Recycling Center for a UL air compressor, compatible with the current sprinkler system, with an air maintenance device specifically for a dry pipe sprinkler system, in the amount of \$2,194. Note, this amount does not include labor or materials for installation.

**APPROVAL OF THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2021 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT #1.**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Federal Fiscal year 2021 Annual Action Plan Substantial Amendment # 1.

**APPROVAL OF THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2020 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT (CAPER).**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Federal Fiscal Year 2020 Consolidation Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

**APPROVAL OF THE FAIR HOUSING RECOMMENDATIONS.**

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by J. Hummel, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Fair Housing Recommendations.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE SECTION 3 ACTION PLAN.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Hummel, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Section 3 Action Plan.

**APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE THE NOISE ORDINANCE.**

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on unanimously, Council approved tabling this ordinance. A public workshop will be held at the Bloomsburg Fire Hall in the near future.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ADVERTISING THE DIRT ORDINANCE.**

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved tabling the dirt ordinance.

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, the meeting adjourned into an executive session and did not reconvene (8:17 p.m. and lasted until 9:48 p.m.)

Lisa Dooley  
Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer

Good evening, Mayor and Council

I would like to thank you for staying on point and focused with the problems concerning the new Race track at the fairgrounds and the concerns of town residents , businesses and surrounding communities . I wish I would have been able to attend the last committee meeting regarding the noise ordinance but had previous engagement that I could not cancel.

I read an article in the newspaper concerning that planning meeting where the new ordinance was discussed last week and where it was stated by the solicitor for the fair that the town council had approved the new track and were aware of the new construction , I have to mention at a council meeting I attended in June of this year where discussion on the noise and dust problem were discussed and where a majority of current council and mayor were present and at that meeting not only were council members and resident's in the dark concerning the new race track , but so were the fair's own shareholders, and they were unaware of this project which was also mentioned by some of the shareholders that were also in attendance .

I know that many of you have been contacted from many residents and businesses regarding the concerns of residents in regards to the noise and dust from the new race track and can say from talking with neighbors, we know you care about the towns people and their concerns .

I have read the proposed town's noise ordinance and I feel it is not only reasonable but shows a definite commitment to the residents' concerns and also a willingness to work with the fair board and the continued success for the Fair and that the Town are striving for .

We have to consider 5 weekends of racing a year at the fair that is being proposed in the ordinance offers an extended use to the Fair's racetrack, that was never in the original race plan at the fairgrounds from when racing was started decades ago and that ended racing at the fair in the mid 1980's which was one race a year ( during fair week ) and at best twice a year ( for a special occasion race ) .

The proposed ordinance does not go without saying there is still the potential for the continuing problems at the track, and to have potentials for health issues of various types from (noise and breathing issues from the dust to mention a few ) but also the potential for property value loss , due to the destructive / nuisance nature a race track in town does produce from the dust and noise that is kicked up with each lap made .

I am encouraged to read in the newspaper that the fair board is working on fixing the problems the newly constructed racetrack has created to the town residents, businesses and surrounding area's. The mention of changing of the clay with a less dusty type of clay and adding a 60' wall around the track should help, and I hope it does. but until 1 or 2 seasons at 5 weekends have been completed and with the effects from these changes the fair board is proposing, I would encourage council to vote yes for the passing of this ordinance and know they will be doing the right thing for the health of the residents and best interest of the town. If at a time in the future the problems that currently face the community from the Race track at the Fair are negated then an amendment to the ordinance could be explored with adding additional days of use at the track.

Thank you