

Prior to the regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council, Council held an Executive Session beginning at 7:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, December 10, 2012, beginning at 8:03 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 301 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA. Present were Mayor Dan Knorr, Council Members Diane Levan, Sylvia Costa, W. Carey Howell, Bill Kreisher, Fred Trump and Eric Bower; Town Administrator William Lowthert; Assistant Town Administrator Lauren Martz; Director of Finance Heather Jacoby; Code Enforcement/Zoning/Planning Officer Ed Fegley; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton; Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz; Solicitor Jack Mihalik and Office Assistant Amy Seamans. Absent were Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski and Fire Chief Bob Rupp.

TAX APPEAL HEARING

Mayor Knorr expressed that Town Council denied an amusement tax appeal of Folk's Butterfly Farm on a vote of Five (5) (D. Knorr, D. Levan, S. Costa, C. Howell and F. Trump voting "Yes") to Two (2) (B. Kreisher and E. Bower voting "No").

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – OREN HELBOK

Oren Helbok, 705 E. Fifth Street, read aloud the following request:

A REQUEST CONCERNING RELIEF FROM THE PERCEIVED BURDEN OF PAYING FOR PARKING IN BLOOMSBURG'S DOWNTOWN AND PROPOSING A TEMPORARY SOLUTION THEREOF

WHEREAS, the Main Street Business District of the Town of Bloomsburg contains numerous and varied retail and service businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Bloomsburg wishes to do whatever it can, within its sensibly limited but nonetheless considerable powers, to aid in the success of said businesses; and

WHEREAS, customers, proprietors, and the public at large have little good to say about the parking meters within said Business District, many considering them a deterrent to shopping downtown; and

WHEREAS, one senses general, although not universal, agreement that the University students living within said Business District contribute to congested parking conditions - and certainly the perception thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Bloomsburg, in its approximately infinite wisdom, regularly ordains a holiday from parking meter fees during the month, more or less, following Thanksgiving; and

WHEREAS, customers, proprietors and the public at large consider this free parking holiday a cause for much joy, and celebrate by coming to Main Street and environs to shop; and

WHEREAS, during the month of January, each and every year, many of the proprietors of aforesaid businesses would freely describe their patronage as small, verging on non-existent; and

WHEREAS, until Monday, the 28th of January of 2013, Bloomsburg University will have no classes in session; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of the student residents of the Business District will spend the time between Christmas 2012 and the 28th of January of 2013 in numerous and varied places, all of them at some remove from the Town of Bloomsburg.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROPOSED that the Town Council of the Town of Bloomsburg continue the free parking holiday until 5 p.m., Friday, the 25th of January of 2013 for all of the meters currently bagged and for the remainder of the meters in the Business District, nonetheless continuing to enforce a two-hour parking limit at all such metered spaces during the period of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Mayor Knorr passed around downtown meter and ticket revenue statistics for the month of January from 2010, 2011 and 2012. He noted that if Council were to approve this request, they would need to find items to cut in the budget at the meeting on December 20th.

B. Kreisher expressed that he witnessed no turnover of vehicles parked on Main Street during the last snow fall. He stated that he voted no for the annual free holiday parking in the downtown because he feels it doesn't benefit merchants. He read a newspaper article from Wilkes Barre where they did away with the free parking this year for the same reason. E. Bower agreed.

Council took no action on Mr. Helbok's request.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

HMGP Update – W. Lowthert reported that the Town has acquired two of the property buyouts; there are six more closings this week and another is expected later this month or in early January. The remaining two properties will hopefully close in the spring at the request of the property owners so they can find a place to live. W. Lowthert noted that the Town will be out \$800,000 until reimbursement is received from PEMA. He has also been told that Bloomsburg is the first municipality to acquire properties through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program as a result of the Hurricane Irene and tropical Storm Lee event in September 2011.

Mayor Knorr stated that the proposed 2013 budget has been advertised for public inspection and ask A. Seamans to post it on the Town's website as well. He also noted that there is a vacancy on the Historic Architectural Review Board and letters of interest need to be submitted by the end of the month.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 12, 2012 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by F. Trump and voted on unanimously, Council approved the November 12, 2012 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND NOVEMBER PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills and the November payroll authorization: General Fund, \$105,643.68; Debt Service Fund, \$5,986.69; Recycling Fund, \$23,574.06; Library Fund, \$5,000.00; Street Lighting Fund, \$13,131.29; Norris E. Rock Memorial Swimming Pool Fund, \$30.48; Day Care Project, \$2,737.40; Liquid Fuels Fund, \$68,411.67 and the November payroll authorization in the amount of \$220,221.37.

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 Columbia County Prison to the 2012 town vendor list.

APPROVAL OF NEGOTIATED BACK RENT AND LEASE TERMS FOR COLUMBIA AIRCRAFT SERVICES

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by E. Bower and voted on unanimously, Council approved forgiving Columbia Aircraft Services lease payment from October 2011 through March 2012; deducting back owed lease payments from April 2012 through December 2012 from the received flood clean up funds; releasing the remaining flood clean up funds to Columbia Aircraft Services; and temporarily reducing future lease payments to \$2,750 per month with all other agreement conditions remaining the same while negotiations continue between the Town and Columbia Aircraft Services on a new lease.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO METRO TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, INC. FOR DATA TRANSFER SERVICES

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Metro Technology Services, Inc. in the amount of \$1,000 for data transfer services associated with software upgrades on the new police department servers.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO METRO TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, INC. FOR WEBINAR TRAINING

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Metro Technology Services, Inc. in the amount of \$750 for webinar training associated with the computer software upgrade.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO SELECTIVE INSURANCE FOR FLOOD LIABILITY COVERAGE AT THE RECYCLING CENTER

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Selective Insurance in the amount of \$4,967 for 2013 flood liability coverage at the Recycling Center.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTING PROPOSAL FROM STROSSER ARCHITECTURE & CONSERVATION, INC. FOR TOWN HALL SPACE AND SITE USAGE PROJECT

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved a proposal from Strosser Architecture & Conservation, Inc. in the amount of \$12,500 for the Town Hall Space and Site Usage Project.

APPROVAL OF A HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE FOR PAMMIE JOHNSON

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved a handicapped parking space for Pammie Johnson at 319 West Fourth Street.

APPROVAL OF A HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE FOR BEVERLY HUNSINGER

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved a handicapped parking space for Beverly Hunsinger at 320 West Fourth Street.

APPROVAL OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR GRANTING PAYMENT APPROVAL OF INVOICES FOR THE PENNDOT TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT FUNDED STREET LIGHTING PROJECT

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Town Administrator granting payment approval of invoices for the PennDOT Transportation Enhancement funded Street Lighting Project.

APPROVAL OF GEISINGER HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by E. Bower and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Geisinger health insurance renewal at an 8% increase.

APPROVAL OF ENDING THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR/SECRETARY-TREASURER WILLIAM LOWTHERT

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved ending the probationary period of Town Administrator/Secretary-Treasurer William Lowthert.

APPROVAL OF RENEWING COMPOST SITE AGREEMENT WITH SCOTT TOWNSHIP

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by F. Trump and voted on unanimously, Council approved renewing the compost site agreement with Scott Township.

APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH SCOTT TOWNSHIP FOR THE TOWN'S ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR TO ACT AS SCOTT TOWNSHIP'S RECYCLING COORDINATOR

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved an agreement with Scott Township for the Town's Environmental Services Administrator to act as Scott Township's Recycling Coordinator.

APPROVAL OF QUOTE FROM COMMERCIAL STAINLESS FOR THE REPAIR OF TWO BINS ON THE RECYCLING TRUCK

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved a quote from Commercial Stainless, Inc. in the amount of \$4,080 for the repair of two bins on the recycling truck.

APPROVAL OF QUOTE FROM PRECISION MILLWRIGHT & FABRICATING SERVICE FOR THE REPAIR OF TWELVE STEEL HOPPER BINS

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved a quote from Precision Millwright & Fabricating Service in the amount of \$2,962.54 for the repair of twelve (12) steel hopper bins at the Recycling Center. Repairs will be staggered throughout 2013.

APPROVAL OF RELEASING FUNDS TO COLUMBIA CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FROM THE DAYCARE PROJECT FUND

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved releasing \$7,675.02 from the Daycare Project Fund to Columbia Child Development Program for lighting and door upgrades.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO DON E. BOWER, INC. FOR THE THIRD STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Don E. Bower, Inc. in the amount of \$81,204.99 for the Third Street Reconstruction Project.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO DON E. BOWER, INC. FOR THE THIRD STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Don E. Bower, Inc. in the amount of \$106,262.01 for the Third Street Reconstruction Project.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES OF MAPPING THE TREE OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL AT THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group, Inc. in the amount of \$327.50 for professional engineering services of mapping the tree obstruction removal at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport through 11/03/12.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO DOBRINSKI BROTHERS, INC. FOR PHASE 5 OF THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT EXTENSION AND REALIGNMENT PROJECT

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Dobrinski Brothers, Inc. in the amount of \$53,463.49 for Phase 5 of the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport Extension and Realignment Project.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES OF THE 900 BLOCK OF WEST MAIN STREET DEMOLITION AND RESTORATION PROJECT

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group, Inc. in the amount of \$14,730.23 for professional engineering services of the 900 Block of West Main Street Demolition and Restoration Project through 11/03/12.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES OF THE STREATER RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT WITH CDBG 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 \$3,404.90 for professional engineering services of the Streater Recreation Improvements Project through 11/10/12 with CDBG Funds.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO URS CORPORATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ARCHEOLOGICAL SERVICES OF THE STREATER RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT WITH CDBG FUNDS

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to URS Corporation in the amount of \$539.70 for professional archeological services of the Streater Recreation Improvements project through 10/26/12 with CDBG Funds.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO URS CORPORATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ARCHEOLOGICAL SERVICES OF THE STREATER RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT WITH CDBG FUNDS

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to URS Corporation in the amount of \$261.99 for professional archeological services of the Streater Recreation Improvements project through 11/23/12 with CDBG Funds.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO SOKOL, INC. FOR THE SUNVIEW TERRACE STORM SEWER PROJECT

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Sokol, Inc. in the amount of \$22,239.00 for the Sunview Terrace Storm Sewer Project.

APPROVAL OF BID FROM PENN EARTHWORKS, INC. FOR THE 900 BLOCK OF WEST MAIN STREET DEMOLITION AND RESTORATION PROJECT

On a motion by F. Trump, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved a bid from Penn Earthworks, Inc in the amount of \$74,634 for the 900 Block of West Main Street Demolition and Restoration Project.

APPROVAL OF REALLOCATING CDBG FUNDS FROM THE TOWN PARK RESTROOM REPLACEMENT PROJECT TO THE STREATER RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved reallocating \$7,769.18 in CDBG Funds from the Town Park Restroom Replacement Project to the Streater Recreation Improvements Project.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO COLUMBIA COUNTY FOR STREATER FIELD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT NPDES PERMIT SUBMISSION WITH CDBG FUNDS

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by F. Trump and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Columbia County in the amount of \$1,150 for Streater Field Construction Project NPDES permit submission with CDBG Funds.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by F. Trump and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Bloomsburg Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Richard Miller to install a metal roof at **120-122 East Main Street**.

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Bloomsburg Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Yu Xue Zheng to install signage at **20 East Main Street**.

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by F. Trump and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Bloomsburg Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Ray and Nancy Vought to install three replacement windows at **360 East Second Street**.

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Bloomsburg Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Eugene Radice to construct a roof over the basement door at **144 West Fourth Street.**

DENIAL OF SERVICE ELECTRIC CABLEVISION/COLUMBIA COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY ADD-ON LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council denied Service Electric Cablevision/Columbia County Housing Authority's add-on land development plan.

PETITION FROM RESIDENTS OF MILLVILLE ROAD, SUMMIT AVENUE AND SUNVIEW TERRACE REGARDING MOBILE HOME LOCATED AT 424 MILLVILLE ROAD

Code Enforcement Officer Ed Fegley read the following petition he received signed by thirty (30) residents of Millville Road, Summit Avenue and Sunview Terrace (the petition is worded as received by the Town):

Residence of Millville Rd. (route 42), Summit Ave., and Sunview Terrace are petitioning to have a rundown mobile home located on the address of 224 Millville Rd. to be removed from our community. Most of the people of Millville Rd. lived here all their lives and do not want an eye sore in our neighborhood. It would take a lot of money to get the right building material and the proper permits to even make it look decent. Right now it is not level. With it not being level the risk of it falling on property's 420 and 428 is greater.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING AN ORDINANCE REGULATING OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE SIDEWALK RIGHTS-OF-WAY

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising an ordinance regulating obstructions in the sidewalk rights-of-way.

The meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 9:35 p.m. to discuss an active mediation with Solicitor Mihalik regarding Phase 4 of the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport Extension and Realignment Project and reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT PAYMENT TO DON E. BOWER, INC. FOR PHASE 4 OF THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT EXTENSION AND REALIGNMENT PROJECT

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved a settlement payment to Don E. Bower, Inc. in the amount of \$180,000 for Phase 4 of the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport Extension and Realignment Project.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

WILLIAM LOWTHERT
Town Administrator & Secretary