

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, December 12, 2011, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 301 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA. Present were Mayor Daniel Knorr; Council Members Diane Levan, Paul Kinney, Sylvia Costa, William Kreisher and Claude Renninger; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Director of Finance Heather Jacoby; Code Enforcement/Zoning/Planning Officer Ed Fegley; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton, Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz and Solicitor Jack Mihalik. Absent were Council Member W. Carey Howell, Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski and Fire Chief Bob Rupp.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – OREN HELBOK

Oren Helbok, 705 East 5th Street, raised his concerns regarding the traffic on Main Street, the speed in which vehicles travel and the disregard drivers have for pedestrians even in the crosswalks.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – WILLIAM LOWTHERT

William Lowthert of SEDA-COG announced the planning schedule for the 2012 CDBG process. The funding was passed by Congress with a possible 12% reduction from the 2011 allocation.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 942 –ACCEPTING THE DEED OF DEDICATION TO STREETS IN THE SUNVIEW TERRACE DEVELOPMENT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved Ordinance No. 942 accepting the Deed of Dedication to streets in the Sunview Terrace Development.

MAYOR’S UPDATE

Mayor Knorr is working on the 2012 Committee List. The 2012 budget is in final form and is ready for adoption on December 21st.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 14, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved the November 14, 2011 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND NOVEMBER 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 November payroll authorization: General Fund, \$141,433.86; Debt Service Fund, \$5,986.69; Recycling Fund, \$31,352.80; Street Lighting Fund, \$12,403.41; Norris E. Rock Memorial Pool, \$28.77; Day Care Project, \$2,737.40; Liquid Fuels, \$352.98 and the November payroll authorization in the amount of \$162,957.05.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILL TO RENCO ACE HARDWARE FOR NOVEMBER

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on Five (5) (D. Knorr, D. Levan, P. Kinney, S. Costa and W. Kreisher voting “Yes”) to One (1) abstention (C. Renninger “Abstaining”), Council approved payment of bills from Renco Ace Hardware for November in the amount of \$73.00.

APPROVAL OF VENDORS TO 2011 VENDOR LIST

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the addition of Athletic Printing, Inc.; Hazleton Oil & Environmental, Inc.; Earthlink Business; Moore's Tire Sales, Inc. and Public Financial Management, Inc. to the 2011 Vendor List.

APPROVAL OF WAGE INCREASE FOR NON-UNION EMPLOYEES

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved a 2% wage increase for non-union employees in 2012 and the continuation of one month's health insurance premium contribution.

APPROVAL OF SOFTWARE SYSTEMS, INC. PROCESSING AND PRINTING W-2 AND 1099 FORMS

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Renninger and voted on unanimously, Council approved having Software Systems, Inc. process and print W-2 and 1099 forms for 2011 in the amount of \$399.00.

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT TO COLUMBIA COUNTY TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the appointment of a Council Member to act as the town's representative on the Columbia County Tax Collection Committee with the Town Administrator as the alternate.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED PERMIT PARKING CHANGES FOR 2012

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on Five (5) (D. Knorr, P. Kinney, S. Costa, W. Kreisher and C. Renninger voting "Yes") to One (1) (D. Levan voting "No"), Council approved the following proposed changes to the parking permits for 2012. The changes are that there will be no permit spaces sold in Zone A (East Street); in Zone B (Lightstreet Road and North Street) permits will be made available to all who qualify for downtown permits; three (3) less spaces will be sold in Zone D (East Pine Avenue Lot); the compromise parking area in Zone E (Pine Avenue Lot) near Center Street will become exclusively metered/customer parking; permit parking will be enforced from 9:00am until 5:00pm which is the same as metered parking enforcement and the 3:00am to 5:00am parking ban in the municipal lots will be repealed.

APPROVAL OF OFFICERS SZKODNY AND READLER TO ATTEND COLLISION RECONSTRUCTION COURSE

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved Officers N. Szkodny and M. Readler to attend the Collision and Reconstruction Course in Schwenksville on January 16, 2012 through January 27, 2012 in the amount of \$3,000.00.

DISCUSSION ON SKATEBOARD PARK

Mayor Knorr noted that the Safety Committee and staff were concerned about the condition of the skateboard park as well as the vandalism and the neglect of the skaters to observe the "No Trespassing" signs.

Town Park Improvement Association President, Charles Wagner said the skateboard park is a maintenance nightmare. He believes the Safety Committee lacks the experience to properly inspect the site. The Town Park Improvement Association tries to maintain the skate park but it is difficult to keep up. He does not know how to secure

it for the winter.

Tim Coyne of 213 Jackson Street works at the park which is now ten (10) years old. There is a lot of wear and tear on the ramps but it is a big asset. He admitted there are a few that break into the park.

E. Fegley visited the park and reported that there are maintenance issues. C. Fritz, Chair of the Safety Committee, said they inspect the park in early spring and present their report to C. Wagner. The goal is to have the repairs made prior to the skateboard park opening.

APPROVAL OF TRUST AGREEMENT WITH FIRST COLUMBIA BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Renninger and voted on unanimously, Council approved the updated Trust Agreement with First Columbia Bank and Trust Company who administer the town's pension plans.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Dr. Willard Kile to replace the porch deck at 365 East Second Street.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for Kile and Kile to enclose the second floor porch at the rear of the structure at 375 East Second Street.

On a motion by S. Costa, 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 Columbia County to replace the courthouse roof at 35 West Main Street.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for David Leshock to install an awning at 214 West Main Street.

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 Joe Gushen to install replacement windows at 35-37 East Main Street and 36 Rear East Ridge Avenue.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for the Caldwell Consistory to replace the asphalt roof with a standing seam metal roof at 150 Market Street.

Before continuing onto to the recommended denials, Mayor Knorr asked Council to reverse HARB's recommendation to deny the demolition and new construction for the structure at 17 East Main Street. A tour of the building showed that it cannot be repaired and would not be marketable. The Mayor preferred new construction as depicted in Option 2.

Charles Wagner of 404 Market Street questioned why the Mayor was speaking on behalf of the applicant. The developer, Mr. Zoppetti, was in the audience and was not asking for the denial to be reversed.

Oren Helbok noted that the building is a notable structure as all buildings in the downtown. By making this request, the Mayor is literally tearing up the HARB ordinance and throwing it away.

Susan McGarry asked if the tour was in violation of the Sunshine Act. She noted that HARB was there to protect the building in the historic district. Service Electric was denied a permit to demolish a building that had no significant historic value but the town will allow this building to be torn down, the only one of its kind in Bloomsburg.

The applicant Matt Zoppetti said that the bagel store was demolished as was the Hoppes building. This building is under attack by moisture. He has been to HARB three (3) times to work on a new design. He also noted that he cannot use the structure as a bank due to the agreement of sale.

S. Costa toured the facility and noticed the musty smell immediately. There is also a crack in the back wall of the foundation.

HARB member Nancy Vought opposed the denial because Matt was cooperative and you need to also consider whether or not it is economical to keep the structure.

E. Fegley admitted that HARB should have addressed the demolition first but they were told the building was not repairable. HARB did not tour the building. They do need to consider the historic significance which Susan McGarry brought to their attention.

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on One (1) (P. Kinney voting "Yes") to Five (5) (D. Knorr, D. Levan, S. Costa, B. Kreisher and C. Renninger voting "No"), Council denied the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board to deny a certificate of appropriateness for AAA Luxury Housing for the demolition and new construction at 17 East Main Street.

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by D. Levan and voted on Five (5) (D. Knorr, D. Levan, S. Costa, W. Kreisher and C. Renninger voting "Yes") to One (1) (P. Kinney voting "No"), Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for AAA Luxury Housing to demolish the structure at 17 East Main Street.

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council rescinded the approval of a Certificate of Appropriateness for AAA Luxury Housing to demolish the structure at 17 East Main Street.

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by D. Levan and voted on Five (5) (D. Knorr, D. Levan, S. Costa, W. Kreisher and C. Renninger voting "Yes") to One (1) (P. Kinney voting "No"), Council approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for AAA Luxury Housing to demolish the structure at 17 East Main Street contingent upon the approval by the Planning Commission and the Zoning Hearing Board on the Option 2 design for new construction at 17 East Main Street which are made a part of these minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40pm for a break and reconvened at 9:46pm.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by B. Kreisher and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board, Council denied a Certificate of Appropriateness for David Prior to raise the roof line at 232 Jefferson Street.

APPROVAL OF PRE-PLANNING AUTHORIZATION TO DEMOLISH – NAM FUTURES – 1010 MARKET STREET

On a motion by B. Kreisher, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved a pre-planning authorization to demolish the structure contingent upon a sketch plan being submitted to the Planning Commission for review at their December 22nd meeting and to put NAM Futures on notice that they would be proceeding at their own risk before that time.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF FORKLIFT FROM EQUIPMENT DEPOT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of a forklift from Equipment Depot in the amount of \$23,855.00 through the COSTARS Purchasing Program.

APPROVAL OF TERMINATING AGREEMENT WITH HRG, INC.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved terminating the Professional Services Agreement with HRG, Inc. for the Town Park Rest Room Reconstruction Project and the Streater Park Improvement Project as per the terms of the agreement.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FROM LARSON DESIGN GROUP, INC.

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Professional Services Proposal from Larson Design Group, Inc. for the Town Park Rest Room Reconstruction Project and the Streater Park Improvement Project at an additional cost of \$7,000.00 upon the termination notice to HRG, Inc.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO LARSON DESIGN GROUP, INC. WITH CDBG FUNDS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Larson Design Group, Inc. from the CDBG fund in the amount of \$2,919.16 for professional services of the Curb and Sidewalk Study.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO HRG, INC. WITH CDBG FUNDS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to HRG, Inc. from the CDBG fund in the amount of \$2,503.69 for professional services of the Streater Park Improvement Project.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO HRG, INC. WITH CDBG FUNDS

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to HRG, Inc. from the CDBG fund in the amount of \$2,035.00 for professional services of the Town Park Rest Room Reconstruction Project.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING FOR BIDS OF ELECTRICAL REPAIRS AT TOWN PARK

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for bids of electrical repairs at the Town Park that were damaged by the flood.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING FOR BIDS TO REPLACE FENCING AT THE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for bids to remove and replace the fencing at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport that was damaged by the flood.

APPROVAL OF BID TO REPLACE TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROLLER CABINET

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the bid from Tra Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$12,740.00 to replace the traffic signal controller cabinet and equipment at West Main and Leonard Streets damaged by the flood.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO SOKOL, INC. FOR POST FLOOD ROAD REPAIR

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Sokol, Inc. in the amount of \$56,386.52 for post flood road repair.

DOWNTOWN BLOOMSBURG INC. REPORT

Tim Wagner, President of DBI, thanked Council for allowing free parking during the holiday season. He believes the proposed permit parking changes will be good for the downtown. He also commended the Public Works department for their assistance in repairing Santa's Cottage in time for Santa's arrival.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 10:15pm to discuss Administrative and Police personnel issues and pending legal action and did not reconvene.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary