

Bloomsburg Town Council held a meeting on Monday, January 25, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference. Public joined by dialing: +1 646 558 8656 US and included the meeting ID: 456-920-3798. Public could also join online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4569203798>.

Present were Mayor William Kreisher, Council Vice President Toni Bell, Council Members: James Huber, James Garman, Bonnie Crawford, Justin Hummel, and Vince DeMelfi, Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Dooley, Chief of Police Roger Van Loan, Director of Public Works John Fritz, Director of Finance Kathy Smith, Fire Chief Scott McBride, Director of Code Enforcement Ken Roberts, Airport Coordinator BJ Teichman, Public citizens present were Dan Knorr, Julye Wemple, Eric Ness, Jared Harris, Jamie Shrawder, Alex, Wesley Rosler, Lynne, Eric Miller, James Goode, Laura Kurtz, Zach Williard, Mike Tambasco, Karli Keisling, Dennis, Karen, and two public citizens.

COUNCIL REMARKS.

Mayor Kreisher announced four executive sessions that occurred.

1/11/2021- Code personnel matters, 3:00 p.m.- 4:20 p.m.

1/13/2021- Code personnel matters, 8:01 a.m.- 9:38 a.m.

1/18/2021- Code personnel matters, 2:00 p.m.- 2:31 p.m.

1/25/2021- Police personnel matters, 6:45 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD.

Dan Knorr reminded everyone that the majority of classes are online with about 15% of classes being in person. The first two weeks of February classes will be a split version. The student health center will be up and ready when students return. All students must have a rapid test to attend class. J. Hummel questioned the value of the testing and what impact this will have on downtown businesses. B. Crawford questioned what happens if students don't show up for the test. D. Knorr stated that the online platform for learning will not activate if the students do not receive the test.

James Goode updated everyone on the public service announcements that Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble is working on. J. Goode mentioned that two will cover the vaccine and one will focus on the resident subsistence program. They should be ready for viewing by February 8th.

Wesley Rosler, is working on his merit badge for boy scouts. Rosler joined the meeting to discuss the installation of a safety light on Lightstreet Road in the area between the uni-mart and the hospital. Mr. Rosler's guardian, mentioned the accident that involved a pedestrian and a motorcycle. The area is heavily used by pedestrians. Chief Van Loan reminded everyone that Lightstreet Road is a state highway and anything suggested would require PennDOT approval.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 01.25.2021.01 ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT.

On a motion by J Huber, seconded by J. Garman and voted on unanimously, Council approved adoption of a resolution supporting the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 01.25.2021.02 FEE RESOLUTION.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Hummel and voted on unanimously, Council approved the fee resolution setting certain fees in the Town of Bloomsburg.

APPROVAL OF THE ACCEPTANCE OF A BANK PROPOSAL FROM FIRST COLUMBIA BANK & TRUST FOR THE REFUNDING OF THE TOWN'S EXISTING DEBT FOR A PROPOSED RATE OF 1.5% FOR FIVE YEARS FIXED AND A VARIABLE INTEREST RATE FOR THE REMAINING TERM (2034) NOT TO EXCEED 3.00% (NET SAVINGS TO THE

TOWN: \$55,082).

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman and voted unanimously, Council approved the proposal from First Columbia Bank & Trust for the refunding of the Town's existing debt for a proposed rate of 1.5% for five years fixed and a variable interest rate for the remaining term (2034) not to exceed 3.00% (net savings to the Town: \$55,082).

APPROVAL OF THE ACCEPTANCE OF A BANK PROPOSAL FROM FIRST COLUMBIA BANK & TRUST FOR THE TOWN'S POOL AND BATHHOUSE RENOVATION PROJECT FOR A PROPOSED RATE OF 2.13% FOR 10 YEARS FIXED AND A VARIABLE INTEREST RATE THE REMAINING TERM (2040) NOT TO EXCEED 3.5%.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford and voted on six to one (J. Huber voting no), Council approved the proposal from First Columbia Bank & Trust for the Town's pool and bathhouse renovation project for a proposed rate of 2.13% for 10 years fixed and a variable interest rate the remaining term (2040) not to exceed 3.5%.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO TWO SERIES OF GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTES, IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$2,371,000.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Hummel and voted on six to one (J. Huber voting no), Council approved advertising an ordinance relating to two series of general obligation notes, in the principal amount of \$2,371,000.

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE VACANCY BOARD.

On a motion by J. Huber, seconded by V. DeMelfi and voted on unanimously, Council appointed Rick Bogar to the Vacancy Board with the term expiring 12/31/2021.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES FROM 12/23/2020 AND 1/4/2021.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford and voted on unanimously, Council approved the minutes from the December 23, 2020 and January 4, 2021 Town Council meetings, with no corrections or additions.

APPROVAL TO HIRE A PROBATIONARY PATROL OFFICER I AT A WAGE OF \$51,789.57 ANNUALLY AND BENEFITS CONSISTENT WITH THE UNION CONTRACT UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION AND FINAL CERTIFICATION UNDER THE PA MUNICIPAL POLICE OFFICER TRAINING COMMISSION.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Huber and voted on unanimously, Council approved the hiring of Lukas Stiver as a Probationary Patrol Officer I at a wage of \$51,789.57 annually. With benefits consistent with the union contract upon successful completion of a physical and psychological examination and final certification under the PA Municipal Police Officer Training Commission.

MOTION TO APPOINT AARON ELDRED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved appointing Aaron Eldred to the Planning Commission to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Carey Howell. The term will expire December 31, 2021.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO AQUATIC FACILITY DESIGN, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$285.00 FOR A POOL CONCEPT.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford and voted on six to one (J. Huber voting no), Council approved payment in the amount of \$285.00 to Aquatic Facility Design, Inc. for a pool concept. This is fully reimbursed to the Town through the Friends of the Pool fundraising efforts.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO AQUATIC FACILITY DESIGN, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,300 FOR SERVICES

REGARDING THE BIDDING PHASE OF THE POOL RENOVATION PROJECT.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford and voted on six to one (J. Huber voting no), Council approved payment in the amount of \$5,300.00 to Aquatic Facility Design, Inc. for services regarding the bidding phase of the pool renovation project. This is fully reimbursed to the Town through the Friends of the Pool fundraising efforts.

APPROVAL OF THE 2020 TAX COLLECTOR OFFICIAL REPORTS.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Huber and voted on unanimously, Council approved the 2020 Tax Collectors official reports.

APPROVAL OF THE CDBG-CV RESIDENT SUBSISTENCE PROGRAM INTAKE AND INCOME VERIFICATION ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH AGAPE.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman and voted 6-0-1 (J. Huber abstained from the vote), Council approved an agreement with AGAPE for intake and income verification administrative services for the resident subsistence program.

APPROVAL OF THE CDBG-CV POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR EMERGENCY SUBSISTENCE PAYMENTS.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by T. Bell and voted on unanimously, Council approved the CDBG-CV policies and procedures for emergency subsistence payments.

APPROVAL OF ACCEPTING AN ADDITIONAL FIRE ESCROW FOR THE ADDRESS OF 48 E. 5TH STREET FROM JAMES DUTT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$12,380.00.

On a motion by J. Huber, seconded by T. Bell and voted on unanimously, Council approved accepting an additional fire escrow payment for a structure located at 48 E. 5th Street for James Dutt in the amount of \$12,380.00.

APPROVAL TO ACCEPT THE RETIREMENT OF RALPH MAGILL WITH HIS LAST DAY WORKING FOR THE TOWN AS CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER III ON JANUARY 29, 2021.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by V. DeMelfi and voted on unanimously, Council accepted with regret the retirement of Ralph Magill. R. Magill's last working day for the town being January 29, 2021. The Council wished him congratulations and good luck.

MOTION TO APPOINT A CANDIDATE TO THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY BOARD.

J. Hummel nominated Jared Harris. V. DeMelfi nominated Fred Trump. T. Bell nominated Sylvia Costa. Candidates were voted on in the order of nominations.

Voted on 4-3 (with W. Kreisher, V. DeMelfi, J. Garman and J. Hummel voting yes), Council approved Jared Harris to the Municipal Authority Board with a term ending 12/31/2025.

MOTION TO APPOINT THE TOWN'S ENGINEER FOR 2021.

On a motion by J. Huber, seconded by J. Hummel and voted on unanimously, Council approved LIVIC Civil as the Town engineer for 2021.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND DECEMBER PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills: General Fund \$906,702.39, Recycling Fund \$19,031.47, Street Lighting Fund \$6,803.46, Fire Fund \$3,709.48, Library Fund \$3,412.02, Commercial Loan Repayment \$16,243.00, Liquid Fuels Fund \$3,450.01, CDBG-Annual Entitlement Fund \$87,540.08, CDBG-DR Fund \$5,097.53 and December Payroll Authorization \$311,890.27.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PITNEY BOWES IN REGARDS

TO A 5 LB. SCALE LEASE (ANNUAL SAVINGS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,565.04-AND 5-YEAR SAVINGS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,825.20).

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by T. Bell and voted on unanimously, Council approved entering into a lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for a 5 LB. scale for the mailing machine.

APPROVAL TO END RALPH MAGILL'S TERM ON THE HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD AND APPOINT KEN ROBERTS WITH THE TERM ENDING 12/31/2023.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford and voted on unanimously, Council approved ending Ralph Magill's term on HARB and appointed Ken Roberts with the term ending 12/31/2023.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE SENDING A LETTER TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIES GROUP.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman and voted on unanimously, Council approved sending a letter of support to the Community Strategies Group for the housing project at the top of Franklin Avenue.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONAL ITEM FOR THE LUCILLE STRAUSSER LOT INCORPORATION LAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Hummel and voted on unanimously, Council approved the lot incorporation for Lucille Strausser with the following conditional item.

1. Any comments received from the Columbia County Planning Commission shall be mitigated by the applicant, prior to final approval being granted.

APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8, PART 9 RELATING TO RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING ACCESS TO THE FLOODWALL, INCLUDING DEFINITIONS.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Huber and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising the amendments to Chapter 8, Part 9 of the code of ordinances relating to access to the floodwall, including definitions.

Motion to adjourn was made by J. Hummel, seconded by J. Garman and voted on unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Lisa Dooley
Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer