

Bloomsburg Town Council held a meeting on Monday, April 12, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference. The public joined by dialing: +1 646 558 8656 US and included the meeting ID: 456-920-3798. The public could also join online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4569203798>.

Present were Mayor William Kreisher, Council Vice President Toni Bell, 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, Director of Governmental Services/ Recycling Coordinator Charles Fritz, Code Enforcement Officer Kyle Bauman, and Airport Coordinator BJ Teichman. Also present were Julye Wemple, Dawn C., Anna Sassaman, Jared Harris, Eric Ness, Jamie Shrawder, David's I-Pad, Dan Knorr, Dawn Hummel, Matt Zoppetti, Sante D'Ambrosio, Eric Bower, Scott Levan, Steven Hummel, Cleve Hummel, Galaxy Tab, Leo Keenan, Asa Kelley, Carlos Serrano, Charlotte Mingey, Steve Welch, Claire McFadden, Francis Folz, Ralph Magill, Patricia Wagner, Chris Marcera, Robert, Tyler Dombroski, Ed Sabo, Fred Reck, Tina Welch, Dennis, Art V., an anonymous person by phone, and Philip Polstra.

#### **COUNCIL REMARKS:**

The Mayor reported that an executive session was held on March 22, 2021 from 8:17 p.m. and ended at 8:24 p.m., regarding Code Enforcement personnel and Code Enforcement legal matters. Also, an executive session was held on April 7, 2021 from 11:12 a.m. and ended at 12:02 p.m. regarding Code Enforcement personnel, Public Works personnel and an airport legal matter. Also, there was an executive session held prior to the Council meeting on April 12, 2021 from 6:40 p.m. and ended at 7:02 p.m. regarding new hires for Public Works and Code Enforcement.

#### **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:**

Scott Levan is the owner of Munder Wear and was present to discuss the removal of his signs from the yards of private citizens. Mr. Levan stated that numerous residents are upset and feel they should be allowed to place a sign on the property that they are paying taxes on. He also questioned why political signs are allowed. Mayor Kreisher outlined the requirements for political signs and suggested that Mr. Levan attend the next Community & Economic Development Committee meeting.

Kyle Downs was present to discuss his concerns with future development of the former State Wide Furniture corner lot at East Street and Rt. 11. Traffic congestion, the use of Thorton Avenue, and children in the area were all items of concern that should be considered if this area is to be developed. Council explained that any development would be required to go through the planning process and have Council approval.

#### **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 04.12.2021 COLUMBIA COUNTY WATER MITIGATION AUTHORITY.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved resolution number 04.12.2021 for the Columbia County Water Mitigation Authority.

#### **ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NUMBER 04.12.2021.02 FOR FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES FROM THE BLOOMSBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved resolution number 04.12.2021.02 for fire protection services from the Bloomsburg Fire Department.

#### **PROCLAMATION- MAYOR'S MONARCH PLEDGE DAY.**

On a motion by J. Huber, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the proclamation authorizing April 12, 2021 as Mayor's Monarch Pledge Day.

**APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES FROM THE 3/22/2021 MEETING.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the March 22, 2021 minutes with the added change by V. DeMelfi regarding him being absent from the one vote due to a technological error.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND MARCH PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on 6 to 1 (J. Huber voting No), Council approved payment of the following monthly bills: General Fund \$340,781.19, Recycling Fund \$34,818.50, Street Lighting Fund \$5,915.93, Fire Fund \$6,350, Debt Service (\$35.00), Commercial Revolving Loan Fund \$13,595, Liquid Fuels Fund \$30,622.96, Airport Fund \$221,344.12, CDBG-DR Fund \$36,605.35, Pool Fund \$22,002.48, CDBG Entitlement Fund \$44,745 and March Payroll Authorization \$216,294.97.

**APPROVAL TO HIRE A CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER II.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Hummel, and voted on 6 to 1 (V. DeMelfi voting No), Council approved the hiring of Michael Reffeor to the position of Code Enforcement Officer II, effective May 10, 2021 at the starting wage of \$41,347.07, with two-weeks of vacation, healthcare coverage starting on the first day of employment and a 6-month probationary period.

**APPROVAL TO HIRE A PUBLIC WORKS OPERATOR/ LABORER.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the hiring of Matthew Mumaw as an Operator/Laborer in the Public Works Department, effective April 27, 2021 at the contract rate of \$20.73 per hour and a 6-month probationary period.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PRINTER/COPIER SERVICES.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Hummel, and voted on unanimously, Council approved entering into a 5-year contract with Doceo in the amount of \$723 per month with an August 2021 installation and payments starting in September of 2021 and lasting until September of 2026 (five-year savings in the amount of \$29,152.80).

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AN ENERGY SERVICE CONTRACT.**

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved entering into a 3-year agreement with WGL Energy Services, Inc. at a rate of \$0.05071/kWh (does not include GRT) starting May of 2021 and lasting until May of 2024.

**RECOMMENDATION TO OPEN THE NORRIS E. ROCK MEMORIAL POOL IN 2021.**

V. DeMelfi made a motion to recommend opening the Norris E. Rock Memorial Pool in 2021, the motion was seconded by B. Crawford. J. Hummel stated that the pool fundraising committee nor the town staff are prepared to open the pool for 2021 and that any loss/ profit is not budgeted. Mayor Kreisher and V. DeMelfi stated that if the contractor has completed the project by the end of June then a July 4<sup>th</sup> opening should be planned. Premier Aquatics Group (main contractor) is expecting to have the Board of Health inspect on 6/22/2021. J. Fritz stated that staffing the pool may be an issue. The general consensus was to table any action until the next council meeting to give the council members time to meet with the pool fundraising committee.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE RELEASING \$50,000 OF FIRE ESCROW FUNDS.**

On a motion by J. Huber, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on unanimously, Council approved releasing \$50,000 of fire escrow funds to Jim Dutt & Joan Lentczner in regards to the property located at 48 East 5<sup>th</sup>

Street.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A FIREWORKS CONTRACT.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded B. Crawford, and voted on 6 to 1 (J. Huber voting No), Council approved entering into an updated contract with Bixler Pyrotechnics regarding the firework display to be held at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds on Saturday, July 3, 2021.

**RECOMMENDATION TO ALLOW FLIGHT TRAINING AT THE AIRPORT.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on 6 to 1 (J. Huber voting No), Council voted to allow Rob Staib to conduct flight training at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport along with wording to be placed on the Town's website.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to the Bloomsburg Municipal Authority in the amount of \$15,802.60 based on SEDA-COG's recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO PORT ELEVATOR.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Port Elevator, Inc. in the amount of \$600 for a three-year pressure relief test.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO LIVIC CIVIL FOR GIS HOSTING.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Huber, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to LIVIC Civil in the amount of \$2,000 for GIS hosting for the period of March 2021 through February 2022.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO GREENMAN-PEDERSON.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. in the amount of \$864 in regards to the Bloomsburg Mitigation Expansion project (100% grant funded).

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO HEPSCO CONSTRUCTION INC.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Hepco Construction Inc. in the amount of \$50,773.95 in regards to the pool renovation project.

**APPROVAL OF AN EXPENDITURE TO REPAIR AN ELEVATOR TOWER ROOF.**

On a motion by J. Huber, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved spending up to \$17,502 to repair the roof above the elevator at Town Hall.

**APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A FUEL FARM UPGRADE COMMITMENT WITH PHILLIPS 66.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved entering into a fuel farm upgrade commitment with Phillips 66. This commitment provides \$12,000 to the fuel farm project from Phillips 66.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE RE-ALLOCATING \$51,414.50 THAT WAS DEDICATED FOR TEST KITS (CDBG-CV) TO THE FOLLOWING.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on 6 to 1 (V. DeMelfi voting No), Council approved the re-allocation of \$51,414.50 that was dedicated for test kits (CDBG-CV) to the following:

Airport fuel farm project for \$23,158.50.

Bloomsburg Fire Department for the quotes of \$13,870 and \$8,750.

Town administrative expenses for \$2,000 (will be used to pay Bloomsburg Municipal Authority).

**Also, reallocating CDBG Entitlement funds.**

Reallocating 2020 CDBG Entitlement funds in the amount of \$58,935 for the airport fuel farm project.

**Also, keeping in mind the following projects for the 2021 CDBG allocation process.**

Airport Fuel Farm project \$61,855.20.

Curb cuts \$50,000.

Town Park Improvement Project \$26,525.

**All above items require a public participation process.**

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ACCEPTING TWO TREE GRANTS.**

On a motion by J. Huber, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved accepting the Community Roots Grant (200 bare root seedlings- amount is unknown) and the Tree Pennsylvania Grant (20 trees in the amount of \$1,698.60).

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO HEPKO CONSTRUCTION.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on 6 to 1 (J. Huber voting No), Council approved payment to Hepko Construction Inc. in the amount of \$48,225.96 in regards to the pool renovation project.

**APPROVAL OF A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE COLUMBIA COUNTY WATER MITIGATION AUTHORITY.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a lease agreement with Columbia County Water Mitigation Authority.

**APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE CHANGES TO THE FOOD VENDOR ORDINANCE.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to advertise an ordinance repealing Chapter 13, Part 6 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Bloomsburg and establishing regulations for food vendors and street vendors.

**APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 27, PARTS 3 AND 8, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG RELATING TO YARD/LAWN SIGNS.**

Following a lengthy discussion, the general consensus of Council was to table this item and send it back through the Community & Economic Development Committee. No motion or second was made to table.

**APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 11, PART 1, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG RELATING TO RENTAL UNIT OCCUPANCY REGULATIONS AND ALLOWING FOR DWELLING UNITS TO BE OCCUPIED BY STUDENTS AND NON-STUDENTS.**

On a motion by J. Huber, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on unanimously, Council voted to table this item.

**APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF SUPPORT ALLOWING THE BLOOMSBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT TO APPLY FOR THE FEDERAL SURPLUS PROPERTY PROGRAM.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved sending a letter of support allowing the Bloomsburg Fire Department to apply for the Federal Surplus

property program.

**APPROVAL TO PAY LIVIC CIVIL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$565 FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to LIVIC Civil in the amount of \$565 for engineering services.

**APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS REGARDING THE 2021 ROAD PAVING AND CURB CUTS PENDING SEDA-COG'S APPROVAL.**

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for bids for the 2021 road paving and curb cuts project pending SEDA-COG'S approval.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Hummel, and voted on unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Lisa Dooley  
Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer