

A special meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Wednesday, May 22, 2019 beginning with a Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 301 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA. Present were Vice President Toni Bell; Council Members Fred Trump, James Garman, Bonnie Crawford, and Vince DeMelfi; Town Manager/Secretary Lauren Martz; Administrative Assistant Jessica Graham; Code Enforcement Officer III Ralph Magill; Director of Code Enforcement Ken Roberts. Absent was Council Member James Huber and Mayor William Kreisher.

At 6:00pm a Public Hearing was held to discuss three ordinance amendments to cure the Town's Chapter 27 Zoning Ordinance. Professional Planner Jack Varaly began the meeting by addressing the public. He explained that a discussion of the three ordinance amendments to cure the Zoning Ordinance was going to take place that night and gave a summary about each amendment that the committee had reviewed extensively. Vice President Toni Bell then opened the floor to discussion, where comments to Council and to the public were allowed. Each amendment was reviewed and discussed individually, and public comment was received.

First, the Homeless Shelter Ordinance Amendment was brought up where Matt Zoppetti was the first to speak, discussion ensued extensively on the matter between him and the public that attended. Karen Heaps of AGAPE stated that there are no shelters at AGAPE just a warming shelter for the winter months. She went on to say that she has worked with Gatehouse, Beyond Violence and other organizations that have helped the homeless. She added further that she supports the curative amendments that Council wants to put in place. Mary Ward and Kay Hartman voiced their opinions separately and expressed their approval for the curative amendments proposed by Council.

Discussion of the Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Ordinance Amendment followed as Matt Zoppetti expressed once again several concerns he had about Council's curative amendments. Autumn Travelpiece respectfully expressed her opinions on why she approves of Matt Zoppetti's ideas on a treatment facility within the Town of Bloomsburg. Janice McCulski stood to express how she was against Mr. Zoppetti's ideas for the facilities that he wants to put into place. Kim Mackes had the same concerns along with many others in the room about Mr. Zoppetti's proposed facilities. Joyce Winterstein spoke about how she was against Matt Zoppetti's plans and stood in support for the curative amendments. Both Stephen and Michele Diltz expressed their opinions one at a time about how they did not want Mr. Zoppetti's facility within the Town limits. Matt Zoppetti delivered his own comments at the end, addressing the public further on his concerns regarding the curative amendments.

The Public Hearing to discuss the three ordinance amendments to the Chapter 27 Zoning Ordinance ended at 7:00 p.m. with a short recess. The Special Council Meeting began at 7:03 p.m.

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

Matt Zoppetti stood and addressed the those assembled and stated that he would be open to entertain questions from the public once the meeting had ended.

Rick Bogar, Chair of the Planning Commission, told both Council and the attendees that he reviewed the ordinance amendments that Council was considering for adoption this evening regarding homeless shelters, substance abuse treatment facilities, and halfway houses for persons on parole or probation, discussion ensued.

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 993 HOMELESS SHELTERS**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Adoption of Ordinance No. 993 Homeless Shelters.

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 994 SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACILITY**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Adoption of Ordinance No. 994 Substance Abuse Treatment Facility.

Before moving forward to the adoption of the next ordinance F. Trump expressed to the public with his confidence that the curative amendment process was thorough and complete.

Karen Heaps commended the cure the Town was offering stating that it's a wonderful beginning for the Town to address these important issues that affect everyone.

B. Crawford commended the members of both the Committee and Council on the process to prepare the ordinance amendments to cure the Chapter 27 Zoning Ordinance. B. Crawford went on to say that this is just the beginning to try to update the Town of Bloomsburg ordinances, and that a lot of time and effort had been put into making these cures.

**ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 995 HALFWAY HOUSE FOR PERSONS ON PAROLE OR PROBATION**

On a motion by V. DeMelfi, seconded by F. Trump, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the Adoption of Ordinance No. 995 Halfway House for Persons on Parole or Probation.

With no further business Council adjourned the meeting at 7:35pm.