

The Bloomsburg Town Council held a Public Hearing on Monday, September 9, 2024 beginning at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Town Hall and via teleconference. The public joined by dialing: +1 646 558 8685 U.S. and included the meeting ID: 456-920-3798. The public could also join online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4569203798>. The reason for this hearing was a request to abandon a portion of Sterner Avenue.

Mayor Hummel opened the hearing at 6:30 p.m. and introduced the Town Solicitor, Matthew Turowski.

Attorney Turowski outlined the order of business for the hearing and introduced into the record five exhibits.

1. Letter from Attorney Robert Davidson.
2. Notice of hearing letter to Senior Living.
3. The certified copy of the legal advertisement from the Press Enterprise.
4. Letter to Greg Houseknecht and Robert Eckroth.
5. Letter of the date, time and location of the hearing.

Mr. Zoppetti stated that for safety and planning reasons he requests the Town vacate this portion of Sterner Avenue. He is not planning on building a structure on the alley.

Atty. Turowski has concerns with Snyder's Run that travels in a westerly direction under this area. In the case of needed repairs, it would be impossible to access.

Currently, a commercial truck driving school is operating out of one of the buildings on the lot owned by Mr. Zoppetti.

Sylvia Costa stated that the past fire chief was not in favor of vacating the street due to access by a fire truck to the residential and commercial structure in that area.

Mr. Zoppetti stated that he has no plans to build anything on the site in the near future, and future plans would have to go through the Planning Commission for approval. Any issue would be caught at that time.

Atty. Turowski stated that if there are no immediate plans to develop the area, then it would be premature to vacate the street now.

Theresa Huff questioned the access to two properties that abut Sterner Avenue.

A motion to vacate a portion of Sterner Avenue was made by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on 2 to 4, McGaw and Hummel voting yes and Crawford, Kressler, Garman and Jordon voting no. The request to vacate is denied.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council adjourned the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

The Bloomsburg Town Council held their regular meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024 beginning at 7:15 p.m. in Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Town Hall and via teleconference. The public joined by dialing: +1 646 558 8656 U.S. and included the meeting ID: 456-920-3798. The public could also join online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4569203798>.

Mayor Justin Hummel called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m., present were Council members James Garman, Bonnie Crawford (6:49 p.m.), Jaclyn Kressler, Nick McGaw and Jessica Jordan. Town Manager/ Secretary/ Treasurer Lisa Dooley, Town Solicitor Matt Turowski, Chief of Police Scott Price, Public Works Director John Fritz, Director of Finance Jack Breech, Director of Governmental Services Charles Fritz, Director of Code Enforcement Mike Reffeor (8:16 p.m.), Airport Coordinator BJ Teichman (6:57 p.m.- Zoom), and Fire Chief Scott McBride. Also present were Andrew Barton, William Stewart, Vince DeMelfi (Zoom), David Hill (Zoom), Matt Zoppetti, Dawn Moore, Theresa Huff (6:57 p.m.- Zoom), Jared Harris

(6:57 p.m.), Scott Mowery, Steve and Barbara Coladonato (Zoom), Dave Stabley, Kat Holdren (6:51 p.m.- Zoom), Brad Cole, Sylvia Costa, Jared Harris (6:57 p.m.), Drew McIntyre, Jared Fenstermacher, Mark Gardner, Rick Bogar, Cody Blass, Brian Trombly, six family members of Brian Trombly, Maria Valentin, Jack Devine, Courtney L., Tim Wagner, Jamey Michael Harding, Lindsay from Ervin Blank, a representative from the Press Enterprise, and Terry Van Dyke.

#### **NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF A COUNCIL MEMBER.**

Mayor Hummel opened the floor for introductions of the residents interested in serving out the term on the Council. The below candidates submitted their interest and Ran

1. Brad Blass
2. Brian Trombly
3. Jared Fenstermacher
4. Maria Valentin
5. Jack Devine
6. Mark Gardner

Withdrew

7. Heather Smith- E-mailed 9/6/2024 at 5:53 p.m.
8. Theresa Huff- E-mailed 9/5/2024 at 8:02 a.m.
9. Dalton Shaffer- E-mailed the Mayor 9/6/2024 at 8:11 a.m.
10. Melissa Tucci- Not present at the meeting
11. William Stewart- announced at the meeting he would like to remain as the compost site attendant.
12. Miranda Moser- E-mailed 9/9/2024 at 6:14 p.m.
13. Will Ralston- E-mailed 9/6/2024 at 4:49 p.m.

Ineligible

14. Shawn Rosler- lives in a different municipality

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council opened the floor to receive nominations to fill the vacant Council position.

J. Kressler made a motion to nominate Marie Valentin.

N. McGaw made a motion to nominate Jack Devine.

B. Crawford made a motion to nominate Brian Trombly.

Being no other nominations, the Mayor closed the nominations.

Mayor Hummel called for a vote on the first candidate Maria Valentin, the vote was 4 to 2 (Crawford and Garman voting no). Voting was closed since Council reached a majority vote.

Attendee, Brad Cole stood up and abruptly left the room while saying "Now I know this is a clown show".

Mayor Hummel administered the oath of office to Ms. Valentin. Ms. Valentin also signed the residency affidavit.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 26, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING.**

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the minutes from the August 26, 2024 Council meeting.

#### **RESOLUTION 09.09.2024.01- UP TO \$1,344,657.05 MULTI-MODAL.**

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution 09.09.2024.01 for up to \$1,344,657.05 Multi-Modal grant submission.

**APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR A POOL COORDINATOR FOR THE 2025 SEASON AT THE RATE OF \$18 PER HOUR. NOTE: JOHN FRITZ IS REQUESTING THE PESTICIDE LICENSE TO BE A REQUIREMENT.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to advertise for a pool coordinator for the 2025 season. Applicant must have a valid pesticide license prior to hire.

**APPROVAL OF A QUOTE FROM GENERAL CODE FOR \$8,360 FOR SIX ORDINANCES.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on 5 to 2 (McGaw and Garman voting no), Council approved a quote from General Code for \$8,360 to codify six ordinances.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST LIST OF BILLS.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills: General Fund \$191,358.10, Recycling Fund \$36,793.47, Street Lighting Fund \$2,409.00, Fire Fund \$3,796.25, Pool Fund \$6,431.86, Liquid Fuels Fund \$6,795.02, Home Fund \$14,330.00, Library Fund \$23,562.99 and the August Payroll Authorization \$343,759.11.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ACCEPTING THE RETIREMENT OF SCOTT MARTZ IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WITH REGRET.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by N. McGaw, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to accept, with regret, the retirement of Scott Martz from the Public Works Department.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ENDING THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD FOR EVAN LINGOUSKY IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT EFFECTIVE 9/25/2024 PENDING ANY INCIDENTS LEADING UP TO THAT DATE.**

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved ending the probationary period for Evan Lingousky in the Police Department effective 9/25/2024 pending any incidents leading up to that date.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT JACLYN KRESSLER TO THE COLUMBIA CHILD DEVELOPMENT BOARD.**

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the appointment of Jaclyn Kressler to the Columbia Child Development Board.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT BONNIE CRAWFORD AS VICE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the appointment of Bonnie Crawford as Vice President of Council.

**ANY VOTE FOR A PRESIDENT PRO TEM.**

On a motion by B. Crawford nominating J. Garman, seconded by N. McGaw, and voted on unanimously, Council approved James Garman as President Pro Tem.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE NICHOLAS MCGAW AS THE DOWNTOWN BLOOMSBURG, INC. ALTERNATE.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the appointment of Nicholas McGaw as the Downtown Bloomsburg, Inc. as the alternate.

**RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT A TREE GRANT FOR \$4,000 FROM THE GIANT COMPANY THROUGH THE 2024 HEALING THE PLANET GRANT.**

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to accept a tree grant in the amount of \$4,000 from the Giant Company through the 2024 Healing the Plant Grant.

**RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000 FROM THE PA'S EJ FOREST GRANT PROGRAM. NOTE: \$12,000 FOR TREES AND \$3,000 FOR STAFF/ SITE REIMBURSEMENT.**

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved accepting a grant in the amount of \$15,000 from the PA'S EJ Forest Grant Program.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE TWO WINDOWS FOR THE EXCHANGE WINDOW PAINTING CONTEST.**

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved two windows to be painted for The Exchange window painting contest. Nick McGaw has generously agreed to donate \$40 towards the cost of the contest entry.

**APPROVAL OF A BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE FIRE FUND TO TAKE \$16,000 FROM THE UNIFORM ACCOUNT AND ADD \$6,000 ADDITIONAL FOR MAINTENANCE- FIRE TRUCKS AND \$10,000 ADDITIONAL FOR EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by N. McGaw, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a budget amendment for the fire fund to take \$16,000 from the uniform account and add \$6,000 additional for maintenance-fire trucks and \$10,000 additional for equipment maintenance.

**APPROVAL TO AWARD A BID TO ROBERT C. YOUNG FOR \$64,175 FOR THE RECYCLING CENTER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to award a bid to Robert C. Young in the amount of \$64,175 for the recycling center improvement project.

**RECOMMENDATION FROM COMMITTEE TO FORWARD THIS ITEM TO FULL COUNCIL: ANY VOTE TO ADJUST THE LETTER THAT WAS SENT PRIOR TO CHARLES W. GRIMM CONSTRUCTION, INC. NOTE: TOWN SOLICITOR, MATTHEW TUROWSKI WISHES TO SEE NO ADJUSTMENTS AT THIS TIME.**

No motion was made on this item, therefore no action was taken.

**REVIEW OF THE QUOTES FOR THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT ROOF. THIS PERTAINS TO THE AREA WHERE COLUMBIA AIRCRAFT SERVICES LEASES FROM THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG. THE QUOTES WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING.**

Council reviewed the quotes from Rettew and LIVIC Civil. The overall condition of the current building needs to be taken into consideration prior to spending money on repairs. Council requested a workshop be scheduled at the airport within the next week.

**RECOMMENDATION TO INSTALL A TREE AND PLAQUE TO SHOW APPRECIATION TO THE EYERLY FAMILY FOR THE VOLUNTARY DONATIONS FOR THE TOWN PARK LAGOON ELECTRICITY SINCE 1992. NOTE: FROM 2018- 2023 THE TOTAL PAID TO THE TOWN WAS \$8,402.68 FOR DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR OF WHAT APPEARED ON THE TOWN'S PPL ACCOUNT FOR THAT AREA. L. DOOLEY COMMUNICATED WITH PAUL EYERLY AND THE TREE SPECIES IS A MAGNOLIA.**

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the planting of a tree and installation of a plaque to show appreciation to the Eyerly family for the voluntary

donation to the town park lagoon electricity cost since 1992. Paul Eyerly stated that the family would like to see a Magnolia tree planted.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO M & J PAVING. NOTE: THE AMOUNT WILL BE PROVIDED BY LIVIC CIVIL AT THE MEETING WITH AN UPDATE ON THE OVERALL PAVING PROJECT.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council tabled this item until the next meeting.

**RECOMMENDATION TO INSTALL SIGNAGE AT PAVILION #3 TO REFLECT THE PAST KIWANIS CONTRIBUTION. THROUGH THE 2025 TOWN RENOVATION PROJECT, THE TOWN WILL REPLACE THE PAVILION ROOFS AND INQUIRE WITH THE ORIGINAL DONOR OF THE PAVILIONS TO SEE IF THEY WISH TO COVER THE PAVILION ROOF COST. IF THE ORIGINAL DONOR DENIES IT, THE TOWN WILL INSTALL SIGNAGE TO REFLECT THE ORIGINAL DONOR AND THE RE-DEDICATED SPONSOR.**

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved installing signage on pavilion # 3 to reflect the Kiwanis contribution. The pavilion roofs will be replaced during the 2025 renovation project, the Town will inquire whether the original donor of the pavilion wishes to cover the pavilion roof cost. In the event the original donor wishes not to participate, signage will be installed to reflect the original donor and the new roof renovation sponsor.

**RECOMMENDATION TO PAINT A CROSSWALK ON CATHERINE STREET FROM THE ADJACENT TOWN-OWNED PARKING LOT TO THE NORRIS E. ROCK MEMORIAL POOL SIDEWALK.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the painting of a crosswalk on Catherine Street from the adjacent Town-owned parking lot to the Norris E. Rock pool sidewalk.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE COLUMBIA COUNTY RECYCLING COORDINATOR DOCUMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF CHARLES FRITZ.**

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the appointment of Charles Fritz as the Columbia County Recycling coordinator and the accompanying document.

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A QUOTE FROM NEIGHBOR FENCE AS THE VENDOR TO PLACE THE ELECTRIC GATE AT THE BLOOMSBURG RECYCLING CENTER FOR \$11,500.**

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a quote from Neighbor Fence as the vendor to place the electric gate at the Bloomsburg Recycling Center in the amount of \$11,500.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council adjourned into an executive session at 8:44 p.m. to discuss an airport legal matter and code personnel matter. Council reconvened the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO CHARLES W. GRIMM CONSTRUCTION, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,572.14.**

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to Charles W. Grimm Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$9,572.14.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council adjourned the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

Lisa Dooley  
Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer