

The Bloomsburg Town Council held a Council meeting on Monday, May 12, 2025 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 2nd 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>.

Mayor Justin Hummel called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., present were Council members James Garman, Jaclyn Kressler, Nick McGaw, Jessica Jordan and Maria Valentin. Town Manager/ Secretary/ Treasurer Lisa Dooley, Town Solicitor Matthew Turowski, Chief of Police Scott Price, Public Works Director John Fritz, Director of Code/Zoning Mike Reffeor, Director of Governmental Affairs Charles Fritz, and Fire Chief Scott McBride. Also attending were MJ Mahon, Mark Gardner, Jared Fenstermacher, Andy Keister, Andrew Barton, David Hill (Zoom), Jamie Shrawder (Zoom), Karen Anselm (Zoom), Ryan Young (Zoom), Robert Echternach (Zoom), Joe B. (Zoom), Wade Verchimak (Zoom), and 5 citizens. Absent was Bonnie Crawford.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 28, 2025, MEETING.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the April 28, 2025 meeting minutes with no corrections or additions.

APPROVAL OF A FEE RESOLUTION 05.12.2025.01.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved resolution 05.12.2025.01 the Fee Resolution.

EMS PROCLAMATION- MAY 18- 24, 2024.

Mayor Hummel designated by proclamation the week of May 18-24, 2025 is Emergency Medical Services week. This is the 50th Anniversary of EMS week.

GUN AWARENESS PROCLAMATION- JUNE 6, 2025.

Mayor Hummel proclaimed June 6, 2025 as Gun Violence Awareness Day and asks that our resident wear orange on the that day as a symbol of awareness of gun violence.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE APRIL LIST OF BILLS.

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills: General Fund \$243,359.14, Recycling Fund \$21,914.76, Street Lighting Fund \$3,036.98, Fire Fund \$6,170.47, Pool Fund \$1,230.70, Commercial Revolving Loan \$11,000, Liquid Fuels Fund \$3,417.10 and the April Payroll Authorization \$268,809.86.

APPROVAL OF HIRING A CHIEF OF POLICE, EFFECTIVE MAY 13, 2025. THE SELECTED CANDIDATE WILL BEGIN EMPLOYMENT ON MAY 13, 2025, AND WILL SHADOW CHIEF PRICE THROUGH MAY 23, 2025. DURING THIS TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, BOTH CHIEF PRICE AND THE INCOMING CHIEF WILL HOLD FULL CHIEF OF POLICE AUTHORITY.

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by J. Garman, and voted unanimously, Council approved the hiring of Sergeant Michael Fosse as Chief of Police, effective May 13, 2025. The candidate will shadow Chief Price through May 23, 2025 during this transition period, both Chief Price and Chief Fosse will hold full Chief of Police authority.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF SCOTT PRICE, WITH HIS LAST WORKING DAY BEING MAY 23, 2025.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted unanimously, Council approved the resignation of Scott Price with his last working day being May 23, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE HIRING JOSEPH KELLEHER AS A PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WITH AN EFFECTIVE START DATE OF MAY 5, 2025.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the hiring of Joseph Kelleher as a parking enforcement officer effective May 5, 2025.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE FILING A PETITION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A CONSERVATOR TO TAKE POSSESSION OF 52 WASHINGTON AVE., BLOOMSBURG, PA 17815 AND DEMOLISH THE BLIGHTED STRUCTURE THEREON, FOR LATER SALE TO THE HIGHEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER AT PUBLIC AUCTION, SUCH PETITION BEING SUBJECT TO REVISION AND FINALIZATION BY THE TOWN'S ATTORNEYS OR APPROVE PURCHASING THE PROPERTY AT TAX SALE.

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by M. Valentin, and voted unanimously, Council approved entering as a legal bidder of 52 Washington Avenue, Bloomsburg, Pa at the County tax sale. These actions are pending legal review and with the stipulation of a minimum bid and a no compete clause.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A QUOTE FROM BACKYARD BOUNCIN' LLC FOR THE JULY 4TH FESTIVAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$450 FOR THE TROPICAL OBSTACLE COURSE.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a quote from Backyard Bouncin', LLC for the July 4th festival in the amount of \$450 for the Tropical Obstacle course.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A QUOTE FROM PASSPORT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$636.97 FOR A PARKING ENFORCEMENT PRINTER.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a quote from Passport in the amount of \$636.97 for a parking enforcement printer.

APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (ARP) BANK ACCOUNT DESIGNATION TO A PROJECT ACCOUNT. FURTHER MOTION TO APPROVE REPORTING THE FULL USE OF ARP FUNDS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to change the American Rescue Plan bank account designation to a project account and approved reporting the full use of ARP funds as of December 31, 2024.

APPROVAL FOR UP TO AN ADDITIONAL \$15,000 IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FROM OSTERGAARD ACOUSTICAL ASSOCIATES. NOTE: THE TOWN PREVIOUSLY PAID \$15,000 TO OSTERGAARD ACOUSTICAL ASSOCIATES; THIS APPROVAL WOULD BRING THE TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT TO \$30,000.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved up to an additional \$15,000 in professional services from Ostergaard Acoustical Associates.

APPROVAL OF A CONTRACTOR TO BE SELECTED FOR THE BOAT LAUNCH PROJECT. NOTE: BIDS WERE DUE ON 5/9/2025 AND LIVIC CIVIL IS PREPARING THE BID TABULATION. RESULTS WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE MEETING.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved awarding the boat launch project to Don E. Bower in the amount of \$242,104.85 for the base bid plus alternate 1 option. Project overage cost will be covered using the interest from the American Rescue plan funds.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE ESTIMATE OF \$226,674 FFY 2025 PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS:

ADMINISTRATION \$36,900, EAST PINE \$63,258, WEST PINE \$63,258, PINE \$63,258.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the FFY 2025 recommendations for the Community Block Grant Funds with \$36,900 for administration and the remainder divided equally between East Pine, West Pine and Pine Avenue parking lots.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ADVERTISING THE TOWN'S RIGHT OF WAY MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE.

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by M. Valentin, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to advertise the Town's Right of Way Management ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION DAMAGE PREVENTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000.

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to the Pennsylvania Utility Commission damage prevention in the amount of \$1,000.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AN ELECTRONIC RECYCLING DAY AT THE RECYCLING CENTER IN OCTOBER 2026.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approved an electronic recycling day at the recycling center in October 2026.

RECOMMENDATION TO ISSUE A CONSTRUCTION REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR THE PICKLEBALL COURT PROJECT, INCLUDING OPTIONS FOR 6, 8, AND 10 COURTS.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to issue a construction request for proposals (RFP) for the pickleball court project, including options for 6, 8 and 10 courts.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASING STONE IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,500 FOR THE PARKING LOT IN THE TOWN PARK OFF OF MARKET STREET. NOTE: J. FRITZ REPORTS THAT IT'S AROUND 10,000 SQUARE FEET.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of stone in the amount not to exceed \$1,500 for the parking lot in the Town Park off Market Street.

UPDATE ON THE SNARL PROJECT.

Andrew Barton updated the Council on the SNARL project.

APPROVAL OF GREENMAN PEDERSEN INC. RATE TABLE.

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted unanimously, Council approved Greenman Pedersen, Inc. engineers rate table.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASING PHILLIPS 66 FUEL THROUGH PURVIS BROTHERS TO RECEIVE \$12,600 FOR THE NEW AIRPORT FUEL FARM.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved purchasing Phillips 66 fuel through Purvis Brothers to receive \$12,600 for the new airport fuel farm.

RECOMMENDATION TO CONTINUE FREE ON-STREET PARKING FROM JEFFERSON STREET TO WEST STREET. NOTE: ORDINANCE WILL NEED AMENDED IF COUNCIL APPROVES.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to continue free on-street parking on Main Street from Jefferson Street to West Street.

RECOMMENDATION TO ADVERTISE THE VENDOR ORDINANCE.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to advertise the vendor ordinance.

APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE COLUMBIA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a memorandum of understanding with Columbia County Conversation District.

SUMMARY FROM LIVIC CIVIL REGARDING THE 2025 PAVING PROJECT.

Andrew Barton of LIVIC Civil presented information on the 2025 paving project with a number of options being discussed.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on 5-1 (Garman voting no), Council approved the paving of Market Street from 5th Street to Ft. McClure Blvd with curb cuts and the bike lane and the paving of the Skate Park parking area in the bid. Also included in the bid will be the addition of a preemptive signal at 5th and Market.

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by and voted on unanimously, Council adjourned into an executive session at 9:16 p.m. to discuss parking, codes and public works matters. Council reconvened the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

APPROVAL OF HIRING A PART-TIME PARKING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AT THE RATE OF \$15.

On a motion by J. Kressler, seconded by M. Valentin, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to hire a part-time parking enforcement officer at the rate of \$15.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTIONS FOR ADJUSTMENT OF PAY FOR PERSONNEL COMPENSATED IN 2025.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved an adjustment to the wages of Scott Buck and Wade Verchimak with an effective date of May 19, 2025 at the rate of \$18 an hour.

Lisa Dooley
Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer