

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, January 26, 2009, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 301 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA. Present were Mayor Dan Knorr; Council Members Diane Levan, Paul Kinney, Kathy Shepperson, Sylvia Costa and W. Carey Howell; Town Administrator Carol Mas; Code Enforcement/Zoning/Planning Officer Ed Fegley; Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski; Superintendent of Public Works John Barton and Office Assistant Amy Seamans. Absent were Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz; Fire Chief Hugh Gross and Solicitor Jack Mihalik.

PROCLAMATION – CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Mayor Knorr proclaimed January 25-31, 2009 as Catholic Schools Week and presented St. Columba Catholic School Principal Mary Ann Venarchick with the proclamation.

NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBER

Council Member candidates: William Kreisher, Eric Bower, Edward Sabo, Jr. and Alex Dubil, Jr. briefly introduced themselves and answered questions from Council. On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council appointed William Kreisher as a Council Member filling the remaining year left vacant by Paul Houseknecht.

OATH OF OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAM KREISHER

Mayor Knorr gave the oath of office to newly appointed Council Member W. Kreisher.

PUBLIC HEARING – FFY 2009 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Prior to the beginning of the regular meeting, a Public Hearing was held at 7:35pm to discuss the Town of Bloomsburg's FFY 2009 Community Development Block Grant application. D. Knorr turned the meeting over to Bill Lowthert of SEDA-Council of Governments. B. Lowthert gave an overview of the program and reported that the Department of Community and Economic Development has estimated available funding to be \$190,400.00 for 2009. B. Lowthert reviewed the application schedule, eligible activities and funding requirements. Also reviewed were the Fair Housing Notice and Antidisplacement Plan and it was noted that the Town has a Section 3 preference. There is \$6,855.34 in FFY 2008 CDBG funds left from the Main Street Lighting Project which will need to be reallocated. Previously completed projects were the Fifth Street Improvements from Catherine to East Streets and the Phase III Main Street Lighting Project from Market to West Streets. Projects currently being funded are the Town Park Tennis Court Reconstruction and the Downtown Parking Study. Projects the Town is considering to fund is the demolition of the buildings at the former Streater property, other Town Park improvements following recommendations of the Master Site Plan, curbing and sidewalk replacement, Phase IV of the Main Street Lighting Project from Iron to East Third Streets and 18% is typically set aside for Administrative fees for SEDA-COG to administer the program. B. Lowthert asked Council and the Public if there were any other projects that they would like to be considered.

Barry Thorne asked if the street lights were energy efficient. B. Lowthert expressed that he is not an engineer but SEDA-COG has been working with other municipalities on energy efficiency and the technology is not there yet for street lights unlike LED traffic signals.

Hearing no additional public input, the Public Hearing concluded at 7:57 p.m.

Mayor Knorr asked Council Members to forward any other considerations to him by this Friday, January 30, 2009 so B. Lowthert can develop a list for Council to review and finalize at the February 23, 2009 Town Council meeting.

MAYOR UPDATE

Mayor Knorr reviewed upcoming meetings.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 5, 2009 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the January 5, 2009 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF 2009 VENDOR LIST

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the 2009 vendor list at the recommendation of Boyer and Ritter.

APPROVAL OF APPROVING NEW VENDORS PRIOR TO UTILIZATION

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, Council approved approving new vendors before they are utilized at a recommendation of Boyer and Ritter.

ACCEPTANCE OF LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT FROM HAY GROUP INC.

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the letter of engagement from Hay Group, Inc. to provide actuarial services for 2009/2010 in the amount of \$8,280.00 for the Police Pension Plan and \$8,280.00 for the Town Employee Pension Plan.

APPROVAL OF OFFICER JIM CROMLEY ATTENDANCE AT ADVANCED HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION SEMINAR

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved Officer Jim Cromley to attend an advanced homicide investigation seminar in State College, PA on April 27 to May 1, 2009.

ACCEPTANCE OF 2008 DUPLICATE COLLECTION REPORT FROM MARY F. WARD, TAX COLLECTOR

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the official report from Mary F. Ward, Tax Collector covering 2008 Town of Bloomsburg duplicate collections for the period ending December 31, 2008 in the amount of \$1,090,630.25.

ACCEPTANCE OF 2008 INTERIM DUPLICATE COLLECTION REPORT FROM MARY F. WARD, TAX COLLECTOR

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the official report from Mary F. Ward, Tax Collector covering 2008 Town of Bloomsburg interim duplicate collections for the period ending December 31, 2008 in the amount of \$6,824.55.

APPOINTMENT OF WARREN FAUST TO BLOOMSBURG HISTORIC ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council appointed Warren Faust to the Historic Architectural Review Board with a term expiring on December 31, 2012.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – MARK KREISHER – 153 WEST FOURTH STREET

Mark Kreisher presented an application to Council to replace five (5) doors, wrap windows and install vinyl siding at 153 West Fourth Street. E. Fegley noted that Mr. Kreisher received a certificate of appropriateness in 2001 and only completed the rear of the structure. On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved a certificate of appropriateness for Mark Kreisher of 153 West Fourth Street to replace five (5) doors with dual raised single pane window metal doors, to install 4 ½" Dutch lap vinyl siding on the remaining sides of the house, to remove and replace the wood heads above the windows with like and to wrap all remaining windows in aluminum with exposed j-channel.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – SUNSET HOLDING, LLC – 45 EAST MAIN STREET (CAPITOL THEATRE)

Matt Zoppetti presented an application to Council to replace and install windows and construct a rear addition at the former Capitol Theatre located at 45 East Main Street. M. Zoppetti plans to construct 8 apartments to house 30 students on the upper floor. The front façade of the building will be cleaned up by removing T-111 from two of the four windows on the front façade of the second floor and replacing all four windows with the same four over four style. The "A" in T-H-E-A-T-R-E will be replaced and lit along with the marquee. He would also like to hang a flag from the existing pole at the top of the building. On the east side of the building facing Al's Men Shop, he plans to install 30 one over one windows, one for each bedroom, replace the roof and construct an addition using new and existing bricks. The rear door will be replaced with a new Kawneer style door. Mr. Zoppetti expressed there should be enough room at the rear of the building to have four to eight parking spaces. On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved a certificate of appropriateness for Sunset Holding, LLC to do the items listed above and as presented on the sketch plan at 45 East Main Street (Capitol Theatre).

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICE NO. 1 TO HRI, INC. FOR OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL AT BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of invoice No. 1 to HRI, Inc. in the amount of \$69,444.20 for obstruction removal at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICE NO. 2 TO HRI, INC. FOR OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL AT BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of invoice No. 2 to HRI, Inc. in the amount of \$25,249.98 for obstruction removal at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 15 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES INCREASING VARIOUS PARKING VIOLATIONS

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising an ordinance amending Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances increasing various parking violation fines.

APPROVAL OF DISCOUNTING EXPIRED METER TICKET IF PAID WITHIN 30 MINUTES

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved discounting an expired meter ticket from \$10.00 to \$5.00 if paid within 30 minutes.

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 9:02 p.m. to discuss personnel and real estate issues and reconvened at 9:54 p.m.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG AND LEO V. SOKOLOSKI

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Six (6) (D. Knorr, S. Costa, D. Levan, K. Shepperson and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to One (1) (P. Kinney voting "No"), Council approved an employment agreement between the Town of Bloomsburg and Leo V. Sokoloski as drafted with an amendment to include the definition of "prevailing" being included.

APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG AND JOSEPH M. WONDOLOSKI

On a motion by D. Knorr, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Six (6) (D. Knorr, S. Costa, D. Levan, K. Shepperson and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to One (1) (P. Kinney voting "No"), Council approved an employment agreement between the Town of Bloomsburg and Joseph M. Wondoloski as drafted with an amendment to include the definition of "prevailing" being included.

APPROVAL OF WAGE INCREASE FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT MECHANIC LARRY BROWN

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approve a \$.50 per hour wage increase for Public Works Department Mechanic Larry Brown effective January 26, 2009.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:58pm.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary