

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, February 23, 2009, beginning at 7:29 p.m. in Council Chambers, Town Hall, 301 East Second Street, Bloomsburg, PA. Present were Mayor Dan Knorr; Council Members Paul Kinney, Diane Levan, Kathy Shepperson, Sylvia Costa, W. Carey Howell and Bill Kreisher; 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.

PUBLIC HEARING - FFY 2009 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION PROJECTS

Prior to the regular meeting a Public Hearing was held to review the list of projects for the FFY 2009 Community Development Block Grant. Bill Lowthert of SEDA-Council of Governments reiterated that the town's FFY 2009 CDBG Program allocation is estimated at \$190,400.00. There is also \$6,855.34 in FFY 2008 funds left from the Phase III Main Street Lighting Project to be re-budgeted. Bill stated he will bring back suggestions to the final public hearing on March 23, 2009. The following proposed projects were identified at the January 26, 2009 Public Hearing: Demolition of buildings at the former Streater Property (initial cost estimate is \$100,000, project is eligible as a recreation activity and is fundable under Town-wide LMI based upon the end use of the property as athletic fields). Curb and Sidewalk Improvements (eligible and fundable under Town-wide LMI within downtown business district but in other areas of Town would need to be evaluation). Town Park Improvements – Recreation Activities (currently New Tennis Courts Project is partially being funded by FFY 2008 CDBG funds; Market Street Traffic Circle, additional funding not in place for this project but future transportation funds may be available for this project). Phase IV Main Street Lighting Project from Iron to Third Streets (no additional funding currently available) which he recommends waiting until next round of Transportation Enhancement grants become available through PennDOT). Downtown Camera System and Infrastructure Improvements to include installation of two high quality cameras, as well as associated infrastructure in the Downtown/Town Hall monitored by the Police Department as public safety improvement (DCED generally indicates that police services are not eligible activities). Columbia County Courthouse Plaza Project, DBI, located at the Columbia County Courthouse – project may not be fundable under Town-wide LMI, DBI is still waiting to hear on grants they've applied for and CDBG funds would trigger prevailing wage increasing the cost of the project by 25% or more. 18% would be set aside for Administration and Planning studies.

K. Shepperson asked if the Amish or other parties would be interested in taking down the buildings at the former Streater property for free. J. Barton reported that he is waiting to hear back from Mr. Stoltzfus who is taking down the greenhouses on whether he would like to dismantle the barn. The asbestos would need to be removed by the Town first. C. Mas stated that she is working on other leads as well.

Ray Vought stated he would like to see the funds used on finishing the street light project even if it's just the infrastructure for now. B. Lowthert expressed that funds could not be used to do just infrastructure with hopes of finishing the project in a few years, there needs to be a project end. Mr. Vought also asked why an ad couldn't be placed asking for interested persons/companies to dismantle the buildings for free at the Streater property. D. Levan asked if there would be a liability issue.

Hearing no additional public input, the Public Hearing concluded at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF FFY 2009 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION PROJECTS

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, and on the recommendation of SEDA-COG, Council approved the following projects for funding: \$156,128.00 for Streater Property Demolition and \$34,272.00 for Administration/Planning.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO 02-23-09.01 SETTING CERTAIN FEES

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved Resolution No. 02-23-09.01 amending the setting various fees resolutions to include the following:

PURSUANT TO OFFENSE/INCIDENT REPORTS, the fee will be \$20.00.

PURSUANT TO ACCIDENT REPORTS, the fee will be \$15.00.

PURSUANT TO THE ISSUANCE OF RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING DECALS – ORDINANCE NO. 920: the annual nonrefundable fee for the owner or such owner's lawfully authorized designee of each residential dwelling unit shall be \$10.00 each at a maximum of two (2).

PURSUANT TO THE ISSUANCE OF GUEST PERMIT PARKING DECAL – ORDINANCE NO. 920: the annual nonrefundable fee for the owner or such owner's lawfully authorized designee of each residential dwelling unit shall be \$20.00 at a maximum of one (1).

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Knorr stated that BU NOW is working on hosting a forum with regards to Block Party and Homecoming Weekend and is tentatively set for March 31, 2009. Warren Faust who was recently appointed to HARB cannot make the meetings so he may fill a vacancy on the Planning Commission. Nancy Vought is interested in serving on HARB again. The Walgreen's project being planned for Fifth and East Streets has been put on hold until 2011 due to the state of the economy. St. Paul's Episcopal Church is in the process of a capitol campaign to upgrade the electric system and furnaces and would also like to add an elevator to make the church more accessible. Their goal is \$280,000.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 9, 2009 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved the February 9, 2009 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – 345 MARKET STREET – COVERED WALKWAY BUILDING MATERIAL CHANGE

E. Fegley stated the church is applying to change the building material of a covered walkway being constructed at the rear of the property which received approval from HARB and Council in April of 2008. Architect Susan McGarry expressed that the church would like to change the fascia material from steel to wood due to economic reasons. The beams are already in place and will remain steel. The fascia will be constructed of wood and covered with aluminum. On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by B. Kreisher and voted on unanimously, Council approved a certificate of appropriateness for First Presbyterian Church of 345 Market Street to change the fascia building materials from steel to aluminum wrapped wood.

APPROVAL OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS – JASON AND BROOKE SNAVELY,
AIRO LOGISTICS, INC. – 17 EAST MAIN STREET – SIGN INSTALLATION

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by P. Kinney and voted on unanimously, Council approved a certificate of appropriateness for Jason and Brooke Snavely, Airo Logistics, Inc. to install an engraved, synthetic wood sign with the words “Airo Logistics, Inc.” and logo flush mounted with brackets on the front façade of the structure at 17 East Main Street.

APPROVAL OF 2009 STREET SIGN BID

On a motion by P. Kinney, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved awarding the following companies with the low bid in each category of the 2009 Street Sign bid: Osburn Associates, Inc., Vulcan Signs, Newman Traffic Signs and Custom Products Corporation.

RESCIND APPROVAL OF USE OF TOWN PARK LAND FOR VETERANS MEMORIAL

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council rescinded their approval of the use of town-owned land in Town Park for the construction of a veteran’s memorial. The Veterans Committee is planning to build their memorial in New Rosemont Cemetery in Scott Township. Mayor Knorr hoped a compromise could have been worked out and wishes them well.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 7:52pm and did not reconvene.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary