

A regular meeting of Bloomsburg Town Council was held Monday, May 11 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, 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; Recycling Administrator Charles Fritz; Fire Chief Hugh Gross; Office Assistant Amy Seamans and Solicitor Jack Mihalik. Absent was Council Member Paul Kinney.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – KIM AND CHRIS SHETLER

Chris and Kim Shetler of 806 Country Club Drive came before Council to discuss the problem of vehicles disobeying the no right turn signs coming out of Honeysuckle Student Apartments and the 500 Club Apartments. Students continually turn right out of the complexes and then onto Country Club Drive as a means of accessing upper campus. He and his wife have tried working with the property managers by giving them license plate numbers but that doesn't seem to be working. Mr. Shetler expressed that there are currently 1,171 students living on upper campus, and this fall there will be 544 more. Also, last week after the maroon and gold game it was a total mess. University police cover the no right turn sign on Country Club Road during large events to divert traffic away from the traffic light onto Country Club Drive. Mr. and Mrs. Shetler do call town police who respond promptly, but they don't like having to call all the time. L. Sokoloski and J. Hollister will look into the sign being covered.

Mr. Shetler asked if anything can be done. The situation is getting out of hand, has gotten worse and is only going to get worse. There are 29 homes on Country Club Drive and no students. There is parking allowed on both sides of the street. Mrs. Shetler feels this creates a hazard because of the amount of vehicular and foot traffic that travels this road at all times of the day. Years ago the neighborhood asked for no left turn signs on Country Club Drive which would prohibit vehicles turning onto Country Club Road to access upper campus.

Jim Hollister stated that there is a second access road but it's not where everyone wants it. The road is located along the tennis courts on upper campus which puts vehicles onto Arbutus Park Road. J. Barton agreed that this is not a good road. Mr. Hollister indicated that traffic could be controlled at the intersections utilizing university police during major events but this will not help with day to day traffic.

The group of residents thanked Council for listening to their concerns.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – ERIC BOWER

Mr. Bower compiled a listing of criminal statistics from block party weekend and distributed them to Council.

CITIZEN TO BE HEARD – JOHN LEWIS

Mr. Lewis of 564 East Third Street preferred Council consider 24/7, year round residential permit parking in his neighborhood rather than the 7:00am to 7:00pm parking year round.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 921 – AMENDING CHAPTER 15, PART 8 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, Council adopted Ordinance No. 921 amending Chapter 15, Part of the Code of Ordinances making it unlawful between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, from January 1 through December 31, for any person to park a motor vehicle or trailer or any type of motor vehicle without a valid parking decal displayed thereon in the section of the Town of Bloomsburg bounded by East Second Street, Oak Lane, East Fifth Street, East Street and Park Street between East Fifth Street and Columbia Boulevard.

PROCLAMATION – POLICE WEEK AND PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

Mayor Knorr presented a proclamation to Chief Sokoloski proclaiming the week of May 10-16, 2009 as Police Week and May 15, 2009 as Peace Officers Memorial Day in the Town of Bloomsburg.

PROCLAMATION – AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION (AYSO) DAY

Mayor Knorr proclaimed May 23, 2009 as American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) Day in the Town of Bloomsburg.

PROCLAMATION – RELAY FOR LIFE DAY

Mayor Knorr presented a proclamation to the Bloomsburg Relay for Life Team proclaiming the 24 hours of June 12-13, 2009 as Relay for Life Day in the Town of Bloomsburg and encouraged everyone to attend the event at the Fairgrounds.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Knorr reported that the MDA lock-up is this Wednesday, the Zoning Hearing Board is Thursday night, the Annual Bengali Festival is on Sunday and next Tuesday is the primary election. The Administrative/Finance Committee reviewed the audit report at their meeting and he plans to give a summary of the report at the next Council meeting as well as a 2010 budget schedule. Mayor Knorr also gave a current budget update.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 27, 2009 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Five (5) (C. Howell, S. Costa, D. Knorr, D. Levan and K. Shepperson voting "Yes") to One (1) (B. Kreisher "Abstaining"), Council approved the April 27, 2009 Council meeting minutes with no additions or corrections.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS AND APRIL PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills and the April payroll authorization: General Fund, \$102,615.82; Recycling Fund, \$14,462.15; Street Lighting Fund, \$8,442.46; Norris E. Rock Memorial Pool, \$2,395.74; Day Care Project, \$3,562.00; Airport Expansion Project, \$31,431.34; Liquid Fuels, \$27,413.98 and the April payroll authorization in the amount of \$226,933.39.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS TO TOWN VENDOR LIST

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved adding the following companies to the Town Vendor List: Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Five Mountain Fire Equipment and Totally Trees.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1, PART 6 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO POLICE PENSION PLANS AND RETIREMENT

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising an ordinance amending Chapter 1, Part 6 of the Code of Ordinances relating to the Police pension plans and retirement to comply with Act 600.

DENIAL OF REQUEST FROM DILLON FLORAL FOR REDUCTION OF BUILDING DEMOLITION PERMIT FEES

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Five (5) (D. Levan, S. Costa, D. Knorr, K. Shepperson and C. Howell voting "Yes") to One (1) (B. Kreisher voting "No"), Council denied the request of Dillon Floral for the reduction in building demolition permit fees. Council directed E. Fegley to inform Mr. Dillon that he may request a reduction for any future demolition projects.

APPROVAL OF MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR TOWN HALL FIRE SYSTEM

On a motion by K. Shepperson, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the value enhancement service plan with Vector Security in the amount of \$92.00/month for the fire system located within Town Hall.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTANCE OF ROSE NEIDERHISER FROM BLOOMSBURG SHADE TREE COMMISSION

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the resignation of Rose Neiderhiser from the Bloomsburg Shade Tree Commission.

APPOINTMENT OF CASSANDRA PISIECZKO TO BLOOMSBURG SHADE TREE COMMISSION

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council appointed Cassandra Pisieczko to the Bloomsburg Shade Tree Commission with a term expiring on December 31, 2011.

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT TO TRANSFER OWNERSHIP OF POLICE CANINES TO SERGEANT ROGER VAN LOAN

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved an agreement to transfer the ownership of police canines Artur and Jasmine to Sergeant Roger Van Loan as of May 11, 2009.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTANCE OF FINANCE SPECIALIST HEATHER JACOBY

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council accepted the resignation of Finance Specialist Heather Jacoby with deep regret effective immediately.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING FOR A FULL-TIME FINANCE SPECIALIST

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising for a full-time finance specialist.

APPROVAL OF ENDING PROBATIONARY PERIOD OF CUSTODIAN COREY KREISHER WITH WAGE INCREASE

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Five (5) (C. Howell, S. Costa, D. Knorr, D. Levan and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to One (1) (K. Shepperson voting "No"), Council approved ending the probationary period of Custodian Corey Kreisher and increasing his hourly wage to \$9.83 effective May 24, 2009.

APPROVAL OF ASSET SMOOTHING OPTION FOR MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION FOR TOWN EMPLOYEE AND POLICE PENSIONS PLANS FOR 2010 AND 2011

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved the asset smoothing option as presented by Hay Group, Inc. for the town's Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) to the Town Employee and Police pension plans for 2010 and 2011.

APPROVAL OF 401-403 LIGHTSTREET ROAD, LLC LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN MODIFICATION

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by K. Shepperson and voted on unanimously, Council approved the fire hydrant be removed from 401-403 Lightstreet Road, LLC's land development plan. Fire Chief Hugh Gross stated he is fine with the change and that there are other fire hydrants in close proximity.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICE NO. 5 TO HRI, INC. FOR OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL AT THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

On a motion by K. Shepperson, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved the payment of invoice no. 5 to HRI, Inc. in the amount of \$5,670.00 for obstruction removal at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICE NO. 6 TO HRI, INC. FOR OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL AT THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

On a motion by K. Shepperson, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved the payment of invoice no. 6 to HRI, Inc. in the amount of \$16,375.00 for obstruction removal at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICE NO. 1 TO HRI, INC. FOR SITE PREP WORK AT THE BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the payment of invoice no. 1 to HRI, Inc. in the amount of \$30,988.47 for site prep work at the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF BOOM MOWER FROM W.F. WELLIVER AND SON, INC.

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved the purchase of a boom mower from W. F. Welliver and Son, Inc. in the amount of \$15,248.70 for the Public Works Department with \$5,000.00 funded by the Town Park Improvement Association.

APPROVAL SIGNING SETTLEMENT REGARDING BLOOMSBURG ELDERLY ASSOCIATES ASSESSMENT APPEAL

On a motion by K. Shepperson, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved Solicitor Mihalik to sign a settlement on the town's behalf regarding Bloomsburg Elderly Associates assessment appeal.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICE FROM SPIKE GILLESPIE SIGNS FOR SIGNS AT TOWN PARK

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by C. Howell, and voted on Five (5) (D. Levan, C. Howell, D. Knorr, S. Costa and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to One (1) (K. Shepperson voting "No"), Council approved payment of an invoice in the amount of \$535.80 to Spike Gillespie Signs for twelve (12) "No Dogs Allowed" signs for Town Park.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICE FROM RUCKLE'S LANDSCAPING FOR ARBORVITAE TREES

On a motion by C. Howell, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment of an invoice in the amount of \$1,890.00 from Ruckle's Landscaping for arborvitae trees that were planted as part of the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport Extension and Realignment Project.

APPROVAL OF HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE FOR EVELYN KRUM

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by B. Kreisher and voted on unanimously, Council approved a handicapped parking space for Evelyn Krum of 592 West Main Street.

APPROVAL OF ONLINE PAYMENT PROCESSING PROGRAM THROUGH FIRST COLUMBIA BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

On a motion by K. Shepperson, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved a proposal from First Columbia Bank and Trust Company for online payment processing of parking tickets and accident and incident reports. A technical assistance grant through SEDA-COG was utilized.

APPROVAL OF CHANGING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT CREDIT CARD PROCESSING TO FIRST COLUMBIA BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

On a motion by K. Shepperson, seconded by D. Levan and voted on unanimously, Council approved changing the credit card processing in the police department from United Merchant Processing Association to First Columbia Bank and Trust Company.

APPROVAL OF BLOOMSBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT TAKING FIRE APPARATUS TO PARADE IN KULPMONT

On a motion by S. Costa, seconded by C. Howell and voted on unanimously, Council approved the fire department to take fire apparatus to a parade in Kulpmont on May 23, 2009.

APPROVAL OF DOWNTOWN RIGHT-OF-WAY GUIDELINES

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on Five (5) (D. Levan, S. Costa, K. Shepperson, C. Howell and B. Kreisher voting "Yes") to One (1) (D. Knorr voting "No"), Council approved right-of-way guidelines for the downtown.

AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

J. Wolfe presented Council with a list of recommended improvements to the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport. Council asked for estimates so they have some idea of how much some of the projects will cost.

AUTHORIZATION FOR SOLICITOR TO OPPOSE BU LUXURY HOUSING, LLC VARIANCE APPLICATION

On a motion by D. Levan, seconded by S. Costa and voted on unanimously, Council authorized Solicitor Mihalik to attend the May 14, 2009 Zoning Hearing Board meeting to oppose the variance application submitted by BU Luxury Housing, LLC for the property located at the corner of Pine and Whiteman Avenues. Mr. Zoppetti is looking to have residential occupancy on the first floor in the Commercial District.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 9:13 p.m. to discuss personnel issues and did not reconvene.

CAROL L. MAS
Town Administrator & Secretary