

The Bloomsburg Town Council held their regular meeting on Monday, January 22, 2024 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 2nd 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.a>

Mayor Justin Hummel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., present were Council Members Toni Bell, Bonnie Crawford, James Garman, Jaclyn Kressler, Nick McGaw and Jessica Jordan (Zoom). Town Manager / Secretary/ Treasurer Lisa Dooley, Town Solicitor Matt Turowski, Chief of Police Scott Price, Public Works Director John Fritz, Director of Code Enforcement Mike Reffeor, Director of Governmental Services/ Recycling Coordinator Charles Fritz, Fire Chief Scott McBride, Airport Coordinator BJ Teichman, Director of Finance Kim Pogash (Zoom) and Administrative Assistant Christine Meeker (Zoom). Also present were MJ Mahon, Andrew Barton, David Hill, Dan Knorr, Fred Trump, Dawn Moore, Alex Dubil, Jamey Harding, Joe Wondoloski, Geralee Zeigler, Steve Coladonato, Carolyn Yagle, Tim Waters, Jeff Hopper, Rod Romig, Joe Martin, William Stewart, Stacy Wagner, Wade Verchimak, Elise Hughes and three other public citizens.

COUNCIL REMARKS.

An executive session was held on 1/10/2024 from 9:00 a.m.- 9:34 a.m. to discuss the Bloomsburg Fair lawsuit along with the Lauren Martz lawsuit.

Citizens to be heard- Ft. McClure boat launch area.

Jamey Harding would like to see access to the boat launch area at the confluence of Fishing Creek and the river to continue. He suggested that lines be painted across the BART trail and that future parking be established on the backside of the curve.

Dawn Moore would also like to see the access continue and suggested signage and painted walkways.

Tim Waters stated that he owns an island in the river just south of that launch area and uses the existing boat launch on an almost daily basis in the spring and summer. If he would be required to use the launch at the airport, that would add an additional mile that he would have to travel. He would like to see the area remain as is and suggests the addition of signage, stop signs and walkways be installed.

Jeff Hopper stated the trail is unsafe at the corner by Streater field. In order to gain access to the boat launch vehicles must drive across the BART. Mr. Hopper explained that he was at the boat launch when he was approached by a gentleman (John Fritz) that told him to move his vehicle, parking was not allowed in that area. Mr. Hopper stated that the person did not identify himself and was quite rude.

Joe Wondoloski summarized the interaction of John Fritz and Jeff Hopper from his perspective.

Hunter O'Neil presented a scout project for benches along the BART Trail. Council was in support of this project.

Carolyn Yagle was present to provide an update on the zoning ordinance rehaul. The draft ordinance is ready to go out for the 45-day public comment period followed by a public hearing and eventual adoption. Steve Coladonato questioned the timeline for public input. Ms. Yagle stated that the ordinance in its draft forms has been available on the Town website for review and comment for several months, plus it has been before the Planning Commission and the Community Development/ Public Safety Committee. The map has seen 7 modifications so far. Several residents from the area of the

Agape building are concerned with the possible establishment of a homeless shelter in their neighborhood.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 2, 2024 MEETING.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved the minutes from the January 2, 2024 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE LIST OF DECEMBER BILLS.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved payment of the following monthly bills: General Fund \$385,456.04, Recycling Fund \$37,354.57, Library Fund \$3,088.16, Commercial Loan Repayment, \$11,000.00, Street Lighting Fund \$10,256.22, Fire Fund \$11,120.29, Pool Fund \$380.20, Liquid Fuels Fund \$92,724.08, CDBG Entitlement \$19,908.00, CDBG-DR/FMA \$51,833.35, and the December Payroll Authorization \$281,940.27.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER VENDORS.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved the December list of vendors.

APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH PASSPORT FOR TICKETING SOFTWARE.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved the agreement with Passport for a new ticketing software.

APPROVAL OF HIRING WILLIAM STEWART AS THE COMPOST SITE ATTENDANT AT THE HOURLY RATE OF \$15 PER HOUR.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved the hiring of William Stewart as the compost site attendant at the hourly rate of \$15 per hour.

APPROVAL OF THE 2023 TAX REPORT FROM BEVERLY DEITRICH.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved the 2023 tax report from Beverly Deitrich.

APPROVAL OF THE AGREEMENT WITH QT POD, LLC – BLOOMSBURG MUNICIPAL AIRPORT.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved the agreement with QT POD, LLC for the Bloomsburg Municipal Airport.

APPROVAL OF AN INVOICE FROM CONNECTSIX LLC (SAY WEATHER) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$43,848.75. PILOTS WILL BE PAYING \$6,000, \$32,000 WILL BE COMING OUT OF PRIOR YEAR EXPENSE IN THE AIRPORT GENERAL FUND, AND THE REMAINING \$5,848.75 FROM AMERICA RESCUE FUNDS.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved an invoice from ConnectSix, LLC (Say Weather) in the amount of \$43,848.75. Pilots will be paying \$6,000, \$32,000 will be coming out of prior year expense in the airport general fund, and the remaining \$5,848.75 from America Rescue Funds.

APPROVAL OF AN INVOICE FROM ROBERT C. YOUNG IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,740 FOR PAVING IN THE PINE AVENUE PARKING LOT.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved an invoice from Robert C. Young in the amount of \$2,740 for paving in the Pine Avenue parking lot.

DISCUSSION OF CITIZENS WANTING TO ACCESS THE CONFLUENCE AREA OF FISHING CREEK AND THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER.

The Committee discussed the access to the boat launch/fishing area at the confluence of Fishing Creek and the Susquehanna River. It was suggested that Jo-Jo blocks be placed on the BART to deter vehicle traffic from driving on it. Matt Turowski stated that signage and pavement markings are needed for liability reasons. Tim Waters volunteered to assist the Public Works department in looking at the parking situation.

APPROVAL OF AN INVOICE FROM ACCENT WIRE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$48,079.63.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved an invoice from Accent Wire in the amount of \$48,079.63.

APPROVAL OF THE USW LOCAL 1928-06 & THE TOWN OF BLOOMSBURG EXTENSION AGREEMENT.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by N. McGaw, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved the contract extension agreement with the USW Local 1928-06.

APPROVAL OF THE SWIFT CURRENT REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING /ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved the Swift Current request for qualifications for professional engineering/architectural services.

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE DILLON CENTER, LLC – MINOR.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved the add-on Subdivision Plan for Dillon Center, LLC as submitted. All comments have been satisfied and the plans have been signed and notarized accordingly.

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE GEISINGER-BLOOMSBURG HOSPITAL – MINOR SUBDIVISION WITH CONDITIONS.

On a motion B. Crawford, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved the Geisinger-Bloomsburg Hospital minor subdivision with the following conditions.

1. The Plan shall be signed by the Plan Preparer.
2. The 'Certificate of Ownership and Acknowledgment statement provided on the Plan shall be signed by owner and notarized.
3. The deed must be reviewed by Solicitor and recorded accordingly.

APPROVAL OF ADVERTISING AN ORDINANCE AMENDMENT RELATING TO FLOODPLAIN (FEMA REQUIREMENT).

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved advertising an amendment to an ordinance relating to the floodplain.

APPROVAL OF SENDING SUPPORT LETTERS TO ASSIST SECURING THE \$50,000 LOCAL MATCH TO CONTINUE THE RABBIT TRANSIT RIDE PROGRAM FOR BLOOMSBURG CITIZENS. NOTE: EXACT GRANT TITLES ARE NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on 6-0-0, Council approved sending letters of support to assist securing the \$50,000 local match to continue the Rabbit Transit ride program for Bloomsburg citizens.

IT PROPOSALS.

L. Dooley informed Council that IT proposals will be posted by the end of the week.

Being no further business, on a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on 6-0-0, Council adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Lisa Dooley
Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer