

The Bloomsburg Town Council held their regular meeting on Monday, April 8, 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>.

Mayor Justin Hummel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., present were Council Members Toni Bell, James Garman, Bonnie Crawford, Jaclyn Kressler, Nick McGaw and Jessica Jordan. 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, Director of Finance Kim Pogash (Zoom). Also present were MJ Mahon, Barbara Coladonato (Zoom), David Hill (Zoom), Vince DeMelfi, Stacy Wagner (Zoom), Jared Harris (Zoom), Dawn Moore and her associate, Ed Knorr, Cynthia Matsko, Fred Trump, Laura Sabatino, Brian and Jane Bercher, Ron Flick, Ava Sitko, Sharima Khulsial, Adesh Odyssey.

COUNCIL REMARKS.

The zoning draft will be provided by the third party by April 12, 2024. Town Council is expected to advertise and consider for adoption at the May 13, 2024 meeting.

The SALDO draft is at legal being prepared in the correct format for consideration of adoption.

April 13, 2024 at 10 a.m. will be the opening day of Little League and representatives of local government, grant agencies and staff will be present for the first pitch. A special thanks to Don E. Bower and McTish engineering firm for a successful project.

Citizens to be Heard.

Fred Trump stated he is opposed to changing the alcohol ordinance and that he was on Council when the open container ordinance was originally passed in an effort to curb reckless behavior during block party. Loosening the regulations could lead to problems.

Gretchen Osterman supports changing the ordinance. This would allow non-profits such as the Friends of the Pool to organize different types of fund-raising events.

Laura Sabatino stated she is opposed to opening the park area to alcohol, this would just open a can of worms. If people want to serve alcohol, they should use the areas/venues that are already established. We live here.

Dr. George Ruiz, Chief of Cardiology at Geisinger stated we must find ways to make healthier hearts and more physical activities to make our community healthier. Geisinger is a partner in the community and we need to make Bloomsburg a central part of PA.

Adesh Odyssey is opposed to relaxing the alcohol ordinance. Alcohol and drug use go hand and hand, we need to prevent access to both and have more events for kids. We are shutting out the young generation.

APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 25, 2024 MEETING.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the minutes from the March 25, 2024 meeting with the adjustment of N. McGaw abstaining from the vote.

REPEAL THE CURRENT CHAPTER 3, PART 1 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCE AND ENACT BICYCLES IN ITS ENTIRETY.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the repeal of Chapter 3, Part 1 of the Code of Ordinance and enact bicycles in its entirety.

APPROVAL OF AVA SITKO AS AN AIRPORT INTERN.

On a motion by J. Hummel, seconded by N. McGaw, and voted on unanimously, Council approved Ava Sitko as an intern at the airport.

APPROVAL OF SECURING A BUSINESS AFTER HOUR EVENT WITH THE COLUMBIA MONTOUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR JANUARY 2025 FOR THE BLOOMSBURG HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION TO HAVE A COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$225.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved securing a business after hours event with the Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce for January 2025 for the Bloomsburg Human Relations Commission to have a community outreach event in the amount of \$225.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE SANTINO TRAPANE TO PROVIDE A SOUND SYSTEM FOR THE CATAWISSA MILITARY BAND ON JULY 4, 2024. NOTE: L. DOOLEY LEFT A VOICEMAIL FOR JESSICA MARTZ ON 4/5/2024 TO CONFIRM THE BAND AND THE SOUND SYSTEM LINE UP.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on unanimously, Council approved Santino Trapane to provide a sound system for the Catawissa Military Band on July 4, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION TO HAVE BOTH VOLUNTEER ENTITIES VOTE TO SEE IF THEY WISH TO HAVE THE TOWN COUNCIL START THE ACT 172 PROGRAM IN 2025 FOR ONLY BLOOMSBURG RESIDENT VOLUNTEERS PER REGULATION. MOTION PROVIDES A 20% CREDIT THAT WOULD BE REFUNDED BY THE TOWN WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT COLUMBIA COUNTY TAX ASSESSMENT WILL NOT BE LOWERING THE TAX BILL. NOTE: AMOUNT BACK TO VOLUNTEER WILL VARY DUE TO VARYING TAX ASSESSMENT RATES.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved to have both volunteer entities vote to see if they wish to have the Town Council start the Act 172 program in 2025 for only Bloomsburg resident volunteers per regulation. Motion provides a 20% credit that would be refunded by the Town with the understanding that Columbia County Tax Assessment will not be lowering the tax bill. Note: amount back to volunteer will vary due to varying tax assessment rates.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ENDING THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD OF ROBERT MOYER IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT EFFECTIVE 4/5/2024 PENDING THE LICENSE BEING SUBMITTED TO THE TOWN FOR VERIFICATION.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved ending the probationary period of Robert Moyer in the Public Works Department effective 4/5/2024 pending the license being submitted to the Town for verification.

APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT BUDGET WITH LIVIC CIVIL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$42,000 FOR SITE DESIGN, ENGINEERING SERVICES AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES IN RELATION TO THE BOAT LAUNCH PROJECT.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Kressler, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the project budget with LIVIC Civil in the amount of \$42,000 for site design, engineering services and construction phase services in relation to the boat launch project.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO SEDA-COG IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,150 FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR (FFY) 2022 HUD ENTITLEMENT PROGRAM.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by N. McGaw, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to SEDA-COG in the amount of \$5,150 for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2022 HUD Entitlement program.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO SEDA-COG IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,119 FOR FFY 2023 HUD ENTITLEMENT PROGRAM.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approve payment to SEDA-COG in the amount of \$10,119 for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2023 HUD Entitlement program.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO SEDA-COG IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,340 FOR FFY 2019-CV HUD ENTITLEMENT PROGRAM.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approved payment to SEDA-COG in the amount of \$1,340 for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019-CV HUD Entitlement program.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A TRAFFIC CONTROL QUOTE FROM ABBEY ROAD CONTROL, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$9,514.80 FOR 2024 THE BLOOMSBURG FAIR EVENT.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a traffic control quote from Abbey Road Control, Inc. in the amount of \$9,514.80 for the 2024 Bloomsburg Fair event.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A QUOTE FROM RAYNOR FOR DOCK REPAIR AT THE BLOOMSBURG RECYCLING CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,250.45.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a quote from Raynor for dock repair at the Bloomsburg Recycling Center in the amount of \$4,250.45.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A QUOTE FROM RAYNOR FOR OVERHEAD DOOR REINFORCEMENT AT THE BLOOMSBURG RECYCLING CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,200.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by N. McGaw, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a quote from Raynor for overhead door reinforcement at the Bloomsburg Recycling Center in the amount of \$2,200.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A 10 X 10 TEST AREA QUOTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,150 FROM HEPKO CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE POOL BATHHOUSE. APPROVAL OF A QUOTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,503 (LESS THE TEST AREA COST) IF THE TEST WORKS WITH HEPKO CONSTRUCTION INC.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a 10 X 10 test area quote in the amount of \$1,150 from Hepko Construction, Inc. for the pool bathhouse. Approval of a quote in the amount of \$5,503 (less the test area cost) if the test area works with Hepko Construction, Inc.

RECOMMENDATION TO ONLY SELL ONE OF TWO VEHICLES AT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FOR TWO 2024 NEW VEHICLES PURCHASED. NOTE: THE ONE TO SELL WILL BE THE 2012.

On a motion by T. Bell, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the sale of only one of the two vehicles at the Public Works Department for two new 2024 vehicles purchased. Note: The one to sell will be the 2012 model year.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A QUOTE FROM B & H IN THE AMOUNT OF \$855 FOR A PROJECTOR FOR THE AIRPORT CONFERENCE ROOM.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by T. Bell, and voted on unanimously, Council approved a quote from B & H in the amount of \$855 for a projector for the airport conference room.

RECOMMENDATION FOR THE DRAFT ALCOHOL ORDINANCE TO NOT PERMIT EVENT AREAS AT THE TOWN POOL, TOWN PARK, SKATE PARK, STREATER FIELD OR THE DOG PARK.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on 4 to 3 (McGaw, Crawford, Garman and Jordan voting yes and Hummel, Kressler and Bell voting no), Council approved the draft of the alcohol ordinance to not permit event areas at the town pool, town park, skate park, Streater field and the dog park.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE ADVERTISING THE TOWN PARK ORDINANCE.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council approved advertising the Town Park ordinance.

APPROVAL OF THE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE-SWIFT CURRENT INITIATIVE FOR THE HOUSE ELEVATION PROJECT LOCATED AT 334 E. 9TH STREET WITH PETERS CONSULTANTS, INC. NOTE: COUNCIL APPROVED AWARD ON 2/26/2024 THIS IS THE AGREEMENT LANGUAGE.

On a motion by N. McGaw, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, Council approved the professional engineering services for the flood mitigation assistance swift current initiative for the house elevation project located at 334 E. 9th Street with Peters Consultants, Inc. Note: Council approved award on 2/26/2024 this is the agreement language.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by J. Jordan, and voted on unanimously, Council adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Lisa Dooley
Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer