

**MINUTES**  
**Bloomfield Borough Council**  
**April 4, 2023**

Bloomfield Borough Council met this evening in a regular session in the Bloomfield Borough Council Chambers with the following council members present: President Malinda C. Anderson, Vice President J. Kevin Fitzpatrick, John J. Patterson V., Karl L. Cless, Brenten S. Dum and Jessica L. Grindle.

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Assistant Secretaries Susanne Woolever and Kathleen Miller, Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Solicitor Isaac Wakefield, BEO/ZEO Becky Smiley, Mayor and Water Authority Representative Edward T. Albright Jr., HRG Representative Ryan Hostetter, Perry County Times reporter Paul Wyatt, Tax Collector Brenda Albright, Main Street Committee member Jessica Burkholder, Junior Mustangs Athletic Association Representative John Garbin, Candidate Chrystal Prosser, and visitors Ryan Woolever and Felix Hildebrand.

President Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

President Anderson led the gathered assembly in the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

***MEETING OPENING***

**Recording of the Meeting** – President Anderson advised the attendees that the meeting was being recorded by the Council for the accuracy of the minutes and stated that side conversations should be conducted in the hallway so as to not disrupt the meeting or its recording and reminded everyone that talking when someone else is speaking also disrupts the meeting and affects the recording. President Anderson further requested that those individuals in the audience desiring to speak during Public Comment identify themselves prior to speaking and they have 3 minutes to present their concern. Individuals have 10 minutes to present their concern if they are on the agenda. President Anderson asked if any individuals in the audience were also recording the meeting and if so to identify themselves for the record. President Anderson stated that Council will not deviate from the agenda and any questions should be addressed during the appropriate portion of the meeting.

Times reporter Paul Wyatt was also recording the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes** – Vice President Fitzpatrick made the motion to approve the March 7, 2023 meeting minutes, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle. Motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report** – Councilman Patterson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cless, to approve the financial report for March 2023 as presented. Motion carried.

***REQUESTED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS***

There were no requested public comments.

## ***PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS***

Perry County Crime Stoppers - No one showed.

Junior Mustangs Athletic Association - Mr. John Garbin asked Borough Council for a donation to the Association. President Anderson and Secretary Shope stated the Council are in the process of issuing the donations checks for this year. Mr. Garbin was asked to find out who put a port-a-john on the ballfield without permission.

## ***MONTHLY REPORTS***

**Solicitor's Report** – Solicitor Isaac Wakefield submitted his formal report previously to Council and unless there were any questions, he would defer to that report.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Edward T. Albright Jr. reported recycling was held this past Saturday with 36 cars showing up and several volunteers. It has been working well.

The Mayor shared a concern about parking on the square in front of Robin Hollman's office. Cars are parking right across the crosswalk and several people have had close calls with oncoming traffic. Borough employee Damon Hartman commented that there is a short sight distance and it is hard to see oncoming traffic and it would probably be better with two spaces painted yellow. HRG Representative Ryan Hostetter suggested doing a sight distance measurement study. Mr. Hartman and Mr. Hostetter will work on this project. Discussion followed.

Mayor Albright thanked the Borough employees for Borough clean up of the streets and curbs.

**Parking Officer Report** – There were 25 tickets issued with 9 still unpaid. . There was a court date for one of the tickets on April 18, 2023.

**Enforcement Report** – BEO Smiley reported nothing in addition to her submitted report.

Ms. Smiley reported on the Grandstand Project. So far, she has made payment of \$23,500 to Hominy Ridge, leaving an outstanding balance of \$16,000. She projects making about \$2,500 on the chicken BBQ. There is also a super bingo coming up. There is a verbal agreement to make monthly payments to Hominy Ridge. Ms. Smiley also applied for 2 grants and is awaiting fund results.

**BEO Report – Becky L. Smiley** - For the complete detailed BEO report, please see Borough Enforcement Officer Monthly Report on file in the Borough Office.

**Planning Commission Report** – Melanie Rowlands was absent.

President Anderson summarized Resolution #2023-04: A Comprehensive Plan - Picture Perry  
Vice President Fitzpatrick made the motion to approve Resolution #2023-04, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

**FEMA/PEMA Report** – Councilman Cless stated he had nothing new to report.

**Water Authority Report** – Mayor Edward T. Albright Jr. stated that the pump station on North Carlisle Street is up and running. The three houses on North Carlisle Street that were hooked up now have more water pressure. As soon as things are completed at Talmudic, the Borough will start supplying them with water. Right now they are still using their reservoir to supply water.

**PCBA/COG** – Councilman Cless stated he has nothing new until the next meeting. Councilman Cless did officially submit the letter for Senator Rothman to provide support for raising the minimum prevailing wage to \$100,000. Mr. Cless has not heard back.

**Zoning/Permit Officer's Report** – Zoning Officer Smiley stated she issued one permit for a deck at 412 West Main Street.

**Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report** – Councilman Cless stated the next quarterly meeting will be held April 19, 2023 at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers. The Executive Committee meeting will be held April 11, 2023 at 5 p.m. in the Tax Office. He is still searching for an alternate.

### ***ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE***

**Credit Card Option for paying for sewer/trash invoices is now available.**

**Statement of Financial Interest** - Due April 3, 2023

**Borough Yard Sale** - May 5 & 6, 2023

**Borough Clean up Day** - May 13, 2023

President Anderson read several thank you notes from: Perry County Literacy Council, Bloomfield-Centre Swimming Pool, and Perry County Crime Stoppers. President Anderson stated Borough Council is requesting that any organization requesting a donation attend at least one Borough Council meeting during the calendar year.

### ***RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES***

Vice President Fitzpatrick reported they do not have a response yet from Tri-County about potential financial funding required for Bridge #2.

### ***ADMINISTRATIVE***

Councilman Cless's administrative report is as following:

- a. An agreement with the Tax Collector has been reached to relocate to existing space within the Borough Office to an office in the lower level of the Borough Building. Painting and carpet cleaning in the new space has been completed. All materials including furniture and computer equipment will be provided. The official move will be announced when appropriate.
- b. A Right-of-Way document has been signed and forwarded to PPL providing access to borough property to install three utility poles, two guide wires and overhead service cable from Barnett Woods Road to Borough property near the baseball field.
- c. The outdoor Borough Building directory sign is currently being refurbished due to damage caused by winter weather issues. Nameplates and other necessary materials have been ordered to complete the project.
- d. The annual Borough Building fire alarm/emergency lighting safety inspection has been performed and the report was posted on both building levels for review. One emergency light battery required replacement.
- e. The request from the Postal Service to open early negotiations for the next lease term is currently under consideration. Their current offer is \$7.72/sq. ft. for an annual revenue of \$14,500. After extensive research with other Perry County post office owner/landlords and advice from Council

members and Solicitor Wakefield, I believe we should request \$9/sq.ft. for an annual revenue of \$16,950.00 based on 1-5 year term, 2/28/2025-2/28/2030, and pay no commission to the broker since there was no money budgeted for that type of professional service. Councilman Cless requested a vote by Council. Discussion followed. Solicitor Wakefield suggested Council could just give Councilman Cless the consensus to go ahead and present this to the Post Office and then bring the lease back to Council for a vote. Council granted him their consensus.

### ***AESTHETIC***

Councilman Dum stated the committee met last Thursday and met Jessica from PCEDA to come up with ideas. He requested mulch and flowers for the square have been ordered.

President Anderson also commented that at this meeting with Councilman Dum they discussed the idea of a multi-sensory wall for children for possible inclusion at the new park being designed. A lot of ideas were discussed at the meeting.

### ***FINANCE, INSURANCE & SAFETY***

Councilman Patterson had no update on any financial issues.

### ***GRANTS***

Vice President Fitzpatrick stated they have received the DCNR grant for \$343,000 for the park which requires a match of \$85,600. He has been working unofficially with HRG to look at the Greenways Trail grant due May 30, 2023. He anticipates pursuing a grant for \$250,000 to add to the current park project and cover the match. Vice President Fitzpatrick needs approval from Council for \$5,500 to allow Vice President Fitzpatrick to work with HRG for preparation of this grant for Greenway Trails. Discussion followed. This \$5,500 would come from left over winter funds. Vice President Fitzpatrick made the motion to approve the \$5,500 for the HRG proposal, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle. Motion carried.

### ***PERSONNEL***

Councilwoman Grindle stated she had nothing to report.

### **No Execution Session**

Discussion followed between BEO Smiley and PCEDA representative Jessica Burkholder.

### ***CLOSING COMMENTS***

There being no further business, upon motion by Vice President Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councilman Dum, the regular meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary