

MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
April 5, 2022

Bloomfield Borough Council met this evening in a regular session in the Bloomfield Borough Council Chambers with the following Council members present: Jessica L. Grindle, J. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Malinda C. Anderson, and Brenten S. Dum. Councilman Cless had an excused absence.

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Mayor Edward T. Albright Jr., Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Solicitor Isaac Wakefield, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, HRG Representative Ryan Hostetter, Water Authority Representative Larry Weller, PCGDA Main Street Representative Michelle Jones, Twilight Baseball Representative Curtis Robinson, Frysinger Building Representative Greg Arsenault and Terie Adlet, Quarry Representative Dennis Weller, Tineill Hartman, and Residents Patricia Woolever, John Patterson, Ned Zook, and James Woods.

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 taping 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.

Executive session – Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. Motion made by Vice President Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

At 7:12 p.m. Vice President Fitzpatrick made the motion to reconvene the regular session of the meeting, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

President Anderson stated the reason for the Executive session was for the discussion of some legal issues and some personnel matters.

President Anderson announced the resignation, effective April 5, 2022, of Michael J. Smith. They will be seeking a new council member to fill his position. Hopefully, someone will step up to fill the position by next month.

Approval of Minutes – Vice President Fitzpatrick made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle, to approve the March 1, 2022 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Councilman Dum made a motion, seconded by Vice President Fitzpatrick, to approve the financial report for March 1, 2022 as presented. Motion carried.

Parking Officer Report - Mayor Albright reported 4 parking tickets were issued during the month of March with 1 still unpaid.

Mayor's Report - Mayor Albright reported he and BEO Smiley walked around the town looking at properties. They had a meeting and BEO Smiley gave Mayor Albright an idea of a letter she will send out to hopefully get certain property owners the incentive to clean up their properties. No other major problems. Councilman Dum mentioned how the PSP have stepped up their presence.

Water Authority Report - Mayor Albright reported the water authority is making water at the new well and looking forward to getting new clients. They had their last rate increase for, hopefully, a year or two. They really need some outside hookups and will do their best.

REQUESTED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Ned Zook, Bloomfield Borough IT Tech - Mr. Zook sent information to Council members regarding Office 365 and G suites, etc. Mr. Zook believes Office 365 would be the best option for the Borough. It would include Outlook, Word, Excel, etc. He suggests getting email addresses set up for all Council members. Then, council members can go back and pull information from the mailboxes if there are any legal issues. President Anderson stated for the audience this program is being looked into so all Council members can have email accounts other than personal accounts.

Vice President Fitzpatrick made the motion to approve acquiring the F3 level (\$4.00 per month) with the option of upgrading to G1 (\$8.00 per month) if necessary, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

Mr. Zook then stated he received information from Troy at Comcast. Comcast is in the process of rolling programs with the Borough at least for businesses initially. It will come down from the Talmudic campus and run down to the prison. Then, it will branch off 300 feet in both directions until they can justify expanding the other directions. With this there will be access to fiber and copper for speeds. No pricing yet.

Vice President Fitzpatrick spoke to Commissioner Watson about conducts. She is supposed to meet with him about the contract terms, etc.

Perry County Economic Development Authority (PCEDA) – Downtown Revitalization - Michelle Jones gave an update on the program and where they are. PCEDA is requesting to participate on behalf of all 9 boroughs. The plans are on the PCEDA website. Bloomfield Borough has the Resolution of Support available and ready for Ms. Jones. President Anderson stated they are looking to move forward and hopefully some small changes will make a big impact for the Borough.

Wayne Leshner – Zoning Changes - Mr. Leshner was a no show.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Greg Arsenault who rents the Freysinger building explained to Borough Council what his plans are for the property. Mr. Arsenault mentioned that he is a Deacon within his church and he did not appreciate the foul language Mr. Wayne Leshner used when Mr. Leshner was representing the Borough. Mr. Arsenault restores cars as a hobby. The cars at the old Freysinger Building will all be repaired and eventually sold. He has another Airbnb designed to look like a 60's service plaza and would like to do the same thing with the Freysinger Building, maybe including an ice cream parlor and deli in the front of the building. He is talking with the owners (Slikes) about buying the building so he can get the building repaired and cleaned up. He is not happy with the sewer/water bills since it is only himself there every other week so he turned off the water.

President Anderson said it was nice to meet Mr. Arsenault and is looking forward to seeing the improvements on the building.

Mr. Dennis Weller, who owns a farm in Centre Township, addressed Council about the potential quarry going in on the 600 block on Mansville Road. He stated the water will be flowing past the borough and has the potential for flooding. 30-50 truck loads of stone will be coming out of there a day with potential road destruction. There could be a possible impact on water quality. President Anderson and Council thanked Mr. Weller for his information.

Mr. Kurt Robinson, representing Mr. John Fulton, is seeking permission to use the baseball field to play Twilight baseball. He presented a copy of their liability insurance. President Anderson gave him Josh McCord's name as a point of contact. Vice President Fitzpatrick asked for contact information from Mr. Robinson and for Mr. Fulton. Mr. James Woods gave praise for Mr. Fulton.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Wakefield stated he 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 stated things are going well within the Borough. He performed 2 marriages at no cost.

Parking Officer Report – Mayor Albright stated there were 4 tickets issued in March with 1 still unpaid.

Enforcement Report – President Anderson stated she, Mayor Albright and BEO Smiley met with Perry Housing Authority board members with property concerns for the property on West Main Street. President Anderson stated most of their concerns are being addressed. There is now an open dialogue with that group. Councilman Dum and BEO Smiley went around town looking at several properties that need some serious cleaning up. Hopefully, some of this can be taken care of during the Borough clean up day. They are issuing some fines concerning dog waste. The fine is \$600.

BEO Report – Becky L. Smiley -

For the complete, detailed BEO report see Borough Enforcement Officer Monthly Report on file in the Borough Office.

Planning Commission Report – Melanie Rowlands was absent so Vice President Fitzpatrick stated the Planning Commission now has regular meetings twice a month. They are looking at Chapter 26 the zoning regulations, and changes may be made.

FEMA/PEMA Report – Councilman Cless was absent due to health reasons. President Anderson read his report. He participated in a DEP webinar regarding the management of Green Energy Solutions, such as solar panels and wind power. Unfortunately, the material covered was beyond the scope of any borough project...microgrids for energy creation, large solar arrays, megawatt generators, and battery storage vaults... Only 5 feasibility studies will be granted across the state... all applications will be considered however.

PCBA/COG – Councilman Cless stated in his report the next scheduled meeting will be held the 3rd quarter of 2022.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report – President Anderson stated Zoning Officer Smiley gave out one permit for the ballfield concession stand. It will be repainted.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report – No report. Someone else will be designated to this position since Mr. Smith resigned.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence –

New Email Address: bloomfieldborough@gmail.com

Statement of Financial Interest – Due to the office by April 6, 2022.

Resolution #2022-01 – Main Street Initiative - Councilwoman Grindle made the motion to approve this resolution, seconded by Vice President Fitzpatrick. Motion carried.

Resolution #2022-02 – Schedule of Attorney Fees - Delinquent liens and fees such as delinquent sewer invoices - Vice President Fitzpatrick made the motion to approve this resolution, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

Committees & Responsibilities – Revisions - President Anderson stated Councilman Dum will now be heading the Aesthetic Committee and Councilman Cless will head the Borough Building committee. With Mr. Smith's resignation, these committees will be revisited again.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report – Vice President Fitzpatrick stated they finalized the Chapter 94 compliance.

ADA sidewalks – HRG update – Mr. Ryan Hostetter reported the 2022 paving project and sidewalks at Apple and school zone signage should be ready for Borough review next week and then put out for bid the week after.

Administrative Committee Report – The Emergency Operations Manual was signed by the Borough EMC, Jacob Baughman, and forwarded to the County 911 Center – project complete.

Renovation of the vacated Odd Fellows meeting room is now complete. The carpet was cleaned by Dorundo Cleaning Service. Plaster repair and painting was completed. New window blinds and electrical outlets were installed. The 700 sq. ft. room is now ready for rental advertisement. Suggest minimum 3 year. lease at \$500/month as typical commercial office space.

Howard McCord of Kint Corp performed the installation of the new Borough Building fire alarm control panel and auxiliary equipment. The new system is now online. Connection to 911 and/or external monitoring is possible, but not initiated at this time.

A copy of specs and material sample for the section of Borough Building roof replacement was forwarded to Damon Hartman. Will need the bid document from the solicitor to complete for newspaper posting. Additionally, contact was made with the Post Office Maintenance Dept. in Harrisburg to address the crumbling entry ramp at the Borough Post Office. Assurance was given the issue would be “looked into”.... No response as of this date from them.

Vice President Fitzpatrick made a motion to authorize formally going out to the bid process once all the details about the roof replacement are worked out, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

The 4 remaining LED street light conversions in the development have been done. The project is finally complete.

Mr. Cless received a complaint from Harry Nazzaro regarding his daughter cutting a finger on the playground equipment. Mr. Cless inspected the device, purchased rubberized paint to cover the area of concern and applied it to prevent future incidents. Additionally, purchased and installed a new commercial swing and chains for the playground. Apparently, vandalism is still ever present.

Dumpster for Bloomfield Borough Recycling - Secretary Shope stated last month there was talk about using Cocolamus. They would provide the recycling dumpster free of charge, but residents still need to buy the bags. Waste Management would charge approximately \$169.43 a month for a 6 yard dumpster (capacity 1,200 pounds) or approximately \$200.08 a month for an 8 yard dumpster (capacity 1,800 pounds). This is a weekly pickup. If you go more than 25 days without a pickup, there is an inactivity fee of \$400. If people put bags in the dumpster, Waste Management will either not pick the dumpster up or there will be an additional fee. They do not want bags, just recycling.

There is still the issue of Borough control etc. More information and discussion is needed.

Aesthetics Committee Report – Councilman Dum is now the new head of this committee. President Anderson has notebooks, etc. for his perusal.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, & SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report – Councilman Smith emailed his report to Council this morning. Vice President Fitzpatrick stated there was nothing further except looking to get revenue within the next sixty days to replenish accounts.

Grants – Vice President Fitzpatrick stated we received \$400,000 in grants. \$350,000 of that is allocated for paving projects. They are looking at a June date to see if they receive additional grant money for more paving. They did not get the Greenways Trails grant last year so they have to decide if they want to pursue this grant again. However, based on some unforeseen costs that have hit the Borough and that this Greenways grant requires a \$30,000 match, Vice President Fitzpatrick recommends that the Borough not pursue this grant now, but maybe pursue it in the Fall.

Personnel Committee Report-

Councilwoman Grindle made the motion to approve James Kitner as the new Parking Enforcement Officer, seconded by Vice President Fitzpatrick. Motion carried.

Performance appraisals will be done at some point in the near future.

President Anderson announced the Borough received a thank you note from the Bloomfield-Centre Swimming Pool for the Borough's annual donation.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Vice President Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councilman Dum, the regular meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary