MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
August 4, 2026

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, J. Kevin McCarty, Jessica L. Grindle and Dean E. Dum. Vice President J. Kevin Fitzpatrick had an excused absence.

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Assistant Secretaries Suse Woolever and Kathleen Miller, Solicitor Luke Gibson, Bloomfield Borough Employee Damon Hartman, ZEO/BEO Becky Smiley, Tax Collector Brenda Albright, Mayor Gary Eby, HRG representative Ryan Hostetter, Water Authority/Cemetery Representative Larry Weller and residents John W. Hair and Cindy Thebes-McEnery.

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 the Council will not deviate from the agenda and any questions should be addressed during the appropriate portion of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes – Councilwoman Grindle made the motion to approve the July 7, 2026 meeting minutes, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Councilman Dum made the motion to approve the July 2026 financial reports, seconded by Councilman Mc Carty. Motion carried.

No Executive session for July.

REQUESTED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Cincy Thebes-McEnery.

1. **Bloomfield Cemetery Street Names & Paving of Cemetery Street Aprons**
   Ms. Thebes-McEnery asked the Borough for advance notice when the paving starts in the cemetery in case there are any funerals scheduled. She also asked permission to name the cross roads/lanes within the cemetery. Permission was given since these are not Borough owned roads/lanes.
2. **Alley Way - Repair Work**
   She also inquired about repairing her alleyway that connects with Rt. 34 to South Carlisle Street. The alleyway is not owned by the Borough (it is private). PennDOT owns Rt. 34. They told her it was a Borough problem, but it is not. Ms. Thebes-McEnery will inquire with PennDOT again, but probably end up repairing it herself.

3. **Masonic Building - Storm Water Grates**
She also asked about the storm water grates at the Masonic Building. During these bad storms, the water is gushing out of those grates. These drains were put in by PennDOT. These grates are cleaned by the Borough, but the water only comes out of those drains. There is no pipe coming out. There is an intake drain above the intersection and one below at the Masonic Building. These drains were only put in to keep water out of the intersections. More discussion followed. She will go to PennDOT again.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Mr. John Hair asked if the traffic study was ever done at Bloomfield Square. President Anderson just put in a call to Mr. Clouser asking about the traffic study that was supposed to be done within sixty days. She has not heard back, so another formal letter will have to be drafted and sent requesting a copy of the traffic study if it has been completed.

Mr. Hair mentioned that he spoke with the Centre Township Supervisor. They discussed a bridge installation in Mansfield that was done for under $300,000. President Anderson stated that many discussions have been held regarding the Barnett Woods Road Bridge. The Centre Township situation is different from Bloomfield Borough's as far as the size and span of the bridge. They also did not have a stream to go over which involves DEP regulations. Again, Bloomfield Borough's situation is totally different due to the size of the bridge and scope of what needs to be done to the Barnett Woods Road Bridge. The Borough does not have the money to rebuild the bridge, which would cost over $1.2 million now due to it not being eligible for Federal funding because it is 18 inches too short. Lengthy discussion followed.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Gibson stated that he did not have any further comments beyond what was in the written report presented to Council. Solicitor Gibson stated that most of Solicitor Wakefield's time this month was spent on the PenDOT and DGS projects.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Eby stated they had recycling this past weekend with a good turnout of volunteers and about 43 cars. He stated he has heard concerns about the alley entering Main Street from the alley parallel to the one coming down from the old fire house. There is a bad drop off and it is doing damage to cars. Mr. Hartman stated there is a big double grate and not much the Borough can do about that. Mayor Eby suggested closing the alley. Mr. Hartman will follow up on this concern.

Parking Officer Report – Mayor Eby stated there were 20 tickets, 2 voided and 6 unpaid for the month of June. For July, there were 13 tickets with 2 unpaid and 1 voided .

Enforcement Report – BEO Smiley had nothing further to report other than what she submitted to Council in her written report.

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

<u>Planning Commission Report</u> – Councilman McCarty read the Planning Commission Report that BBPC President Rowlands submitted:

○ Rebel's Group Update

· Application requires substantial revisions to provide missing information (per County Planning and Borough Engineer). Detailed updates to be handled by a surveyor and an engineer for the applicant. Review anticipated at September Planning Commission meeting, but dependent on applicant.

○ DGS/PennDOT Update

· The next review is scheduled for the August 31, 2026 Planning Commission meeting.
  o Borough Engineer is working closely with agents (Hunt Engineering) on previously identified deficiencies.
  o Several items pending DGS responses (such as ADA ramps, connections to Bloomfield sewer, and Developer's Agreement).

○ Lakeside Update

· No Final Land Development Plan (FLDP) has been submitted yet. The applicant/developer is ironing out the HOA documents with his attorney.

○ Aishel Update

· We anticipate applications for Aishel to pursue a housing development on their 10.5 acre parcel east of Carlisle Street (previously subdivided from their main parcel).
  o Initial steps involve "Conditional Use' requests for (1) rezoning the land to become an R-3 district and, (2) a condominium community with individual ownership of dwellings and communal ownership of the land.
  o These steps are possible now that Aishel has secured an easement with Jamie Halke (Main Street) for access related to water, sewer, and stormwater discharge.
· Potential first review at Sept. 27, 2026 Planning Commission meeting if applications are submitted and complete at least 21 days prior.
· The above 2 topics each require a public hearing (suggested by applicant around January 2027). These could be separate hearings or combined depending on how schedules and necessary input aligns
· All of the above would proceed with a Land Development Plan in 2027. Previous ideas involved up to 50 dwellings, but probably fewer due to topographical conditions. A phased approach is expected to determine market interests and to handle their construction of new streets.

○ West Perry School District Consolidation Plan Update (President Anderson)

· We defer to President Anderson on this update. No application has been submitted.

President Anderson stated that she, Councilman McCarty, Councilwoman Grindle, Mr. Hartman and Ms. Smiley attended the West Perry School District School Board Public Hearing. It was a very contentious meeting. Right now, the District plan is to close Blain Elementary, but nothing will be decided until possibly November. A civil attorney hired by citizens admonished the Board. President Anderson stated the District conducted an unauthorized traffic study in the Borough with no Borough permission. They did this study during off school time. Another study would have to be done while school is in session, but the District has presented no official plans to the Borough at this point in time.

Water Authority Report - President Anderson read the following report:

Colin Reynolds of Centre Township informed the Board that a data center was looking into Centre Township. They obtained letters of intent for at least 1,300 acres of all of Pine Grove Road. He asked what is Bloomfield Borough's water capacity in the water aquifers. Engineer Pete Flezar said that for any large consumptive use, the data center would have to go through Susquehanna River Basin Commission approval.

The Water Service Agreement between Bloomfield Borough and Centre Township was approved and enacted upon. It will be forwarded to Centre Township for them to enact upon.

For the West End Looping project, the Water Authority received the highway occupancy permit. A pre-bid meeting on August 19th and a special meeting on September 15th are tentatively being scheduled.

The Board approved applying for a LSA grant from Barnett Woods Road to Jeanne Fry Lane for main water line replacement.

The Board gave permission for Fred Thebes to cut a dead tree down and clean up another downed tree at the spring house on Cold Storage Road.

PCBA/COG – Discussion on new representative - Tabled again.

FEMA/PEMA - Councilman McCarty had nothing to report.

Cap Tax - Councilman Dum is planning to attend the October 15, 2026 meeting with Mr. Karl Cless.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report – Zoning Officer Smiley gave out 0 permits this month.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Statement of Financial Interest - Due now (Planning Commission Member Roger Watson is still the only outstanding statement) .

Budget Meeting Dates - September 29th and 30th at 4:00pm

Community Fair (showcasing the Literacy Council Reading Trail) - Saturday October 17, 2026 - Time to be determined. This event will highlight the Borough Park and walking trail. They will try to get some food venders, etc. President Anderson would like to get the new signs put up on the Borough Building.

Resolution #2026-04: Adoption of Amendments and Edits to the Multi-Municipal Picture Perry Comprehensive Plan - Councilwoman Grindle made the motion to adopt this resolution, seconded by Councilman McCarty. Motion carried.

RIGHTS OF WAYS, UTILITIES, & SAFETY

HRG provided a project assignment to Vice President Fitzpatrick about the scope of work for the permitting/engineering of the bridge between the sewer plant and the maintenance building of the Borough. The permitting fee is $82,900. This includes the deconstruction and construction of the bridge over the stream. The closed bridge on Barnett Woods Road should not even be used as a walking/biking bridge. It will have to be taken down also. There is some permitting overlap. More bridge discussion followed. No action was taken on this permitting fee at this time.

ADMINISTRATIVE & INSURANCE (PROPERTY/LIABILITY)

Councilman Dum had nothing to report.

AESTHETICS

Councilman McCarty stated the committee met recently. They are trying to put some time frames together regarding the removal of trees in the Square, the planting of the new trees in the Square and the remedial work that needs to take place between these two events. They are still deciding on the type of tree to use as replacements. They will not be replaced until Spring.

Councilman McCarty was approached by the Sylvester trash crew requesting a Port A Potty on the west end of town for their use. The pool has bathrooms open to the crew when the pool is open. There is also one on the football field. Sylvester's have their own Port A Potties. They could ask the Lions Club to put one at the tennis courts. Discussion followed. If Sylvester's have their own Port A Potties, they could set one up. It should not be the Borough's responsibility to pay for one for their crew's use.

Ballfield trash cans - PCCA stated they could get some trashcans that matched the ones in the Square. Amazon has some with a lid. They need the trash cans now. The ballfield trash cans are not being emptied by the teams, the Borough is doing it. Discussion followed. President Anderson made the motion to order 3 trash cans, not to exceed $900 per can, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

Talmudic - South End of Campus, Road Patching. - This is no longer a Borough street so there is no paving available on that campus road. The Lutheran Church owns that road. They could contact the church.

FINANCE

Councilman Dum stated he has no report.

GRANTS

Vice President Fitzpatrick was absent, so no report.

PERSONNEL & INSURANCE (HEALTH/DENTAL)

Councilwoman Grindle had nothing to report.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business President Anderson asked for adjournment. Councilwoman Grindle made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m., seconded by Councilman McCarty. Motion carried. The next meeting of Bloomfield Borough Council will be held Tuesday September 1 , 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary