

MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
December 4, 2018

Bloomfield Borough Council met this evening in regular session in the Bloomfield Borough Council Chambers with the following Council members present: President Malinda C. Anderson, Vice President John J. Patterson V, Kevin C. Weller, Charles N. Summers, Michael J. Smith, Pierce L. Clouser Jr. and Karl L. Cless.

Also present: Secretary Danielle Shope, Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Borough Zoning/Permit Officer Ed Albright, Jr., Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Planning Commission Melanie Rowlands, Mayor Arlis Krammes, Borough Enforcement Officer Harry Nazzaro, HRG Borough engineer Michael T. Postick, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan and Bloomfield Borough resident Robin Dum.

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

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

Approval of Minutes – Councilman Summers made a motion, seconded by Councilman Weller, to approve the November 6, 2018 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Councilman Smith made a motion, seconded by Vice President Patterson, to approve the financial report for November 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments

ENFORCEMENT

Solicitor's Report – Mr. Wagner was in court so President Anderson reported that the Borough should be receiving a letter from the attorney representing the Borough in the garbage bid dispute. There is also a new court date hearing for December 19, 2018 in Cumberland County to decide the status of the dissolution of the corporation established between Mr. Roger Watson, Mr. Joe Katcocin and Ms. Lisa Fraker. If there is not a satisfactory ruling by the Judge on December 19 by 11:00 a.m. Mr. Wagner will be filing a motion on behalf of the Borough, so that the Borough can proceed to trial to try to take over Lot 30 on behalf of the Borough residents using that pump station.

Enforcement Committee Report – Councilman Weller was reviewing the contract from the Humane Society. The Borough has to pay a \$250 contracting fee in order to belong to the Society and then, also the Borough will be charged by the type of animal if the Humane Society has to come pick up an animal. Mr. Weller questioned if the Borough needs this service since it was not used this past year. Discussion followed. President Anderson asked BEO Nazzaro about lost dogs in the Borough. BEO Nazzaro stated that sometimes the Dog Warden will take a lost dog to Perry County Animal Rescue for free. Councilman Smith asked if the fee had to be paid now or when the need arises. The fee has to be paid in advance. PCAR does not come to pick up an animal; whereas, the Humane Society will pick up and will take sick animals also, but not feral cats. Councilman Clouser made the motion to approve the payment of the \$250 membership fee to the Humane Society, seconded by Councilman Cless. Motion carried.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Krammes stated the plaque for the mural would be \$60. It would be black with silver on the edge with silver lettering. Vice President Patterson made the motion to purchase a plaque to place beside the mural in the Square, seconded by Councilman Summers. Motion carried. Borough employees would install the plaque. Mayor Krammes questioned if there should be a light on the mural but this is something the building owner would have to decide.

There were 22 parking tickets issued in the month of November, 7 remaining unpaid.

President Anderson stated she and Mr. Harman marked off the alley corners behind the Methodist Church so there would be better sight lines. Another sight line problem is at the corner of Barnett Street and Carlisle Street. Part of this issue is the trees.

Borough Enforcement Officer's Report - BEO Nazzaro reported this past month was fairly quiet despite the fact there were several bad weather incidents including ice, snow, and rainstorms. He completed vehicle and foot patrols during snow and ice storms checking on elderly residents, helped push cars back on the road and cleared debris off roadways and drains. He attended the Tree Lighting and served as crossing guard. He assisted the PEO with completing citations for unpaid tickets. He had a dog dropped off at his house and kept it for several hours until the owner stopped to pick it up. Facebook is an effective tool to advise residents and find pet owners. He turned over the information to the Dog Warden for follow up. He issued the following warnings: Trash/junk – 5; Parking – 13; Uninspected vehicle on street – 4; Noise from a school employee using a leaf blower to gather leaves at 11:30pm - 1; Snow/ice on sidewalks – 1; Loud rooster - 1, he spoke to residents regarding a loud rooster waking up neighbors at 4am and continuing to crow till 10am. They removed the rooster from the property. BEO Nazzaro commented that while enforcing ordinances is not always popular and there are instances of property owners and residents being angry, they do appreciate his efforts to keep the town nice. Mr. Nazzaro will be attending Court tomorrow for the Thebes illegal dumping citation. He also reported a light still out. President Anderson will personally contact PPL. Councilman Weller mentioned a car on East Main Street. BEO Nazzaro stated he has seen it move and it is currently registered and inspected.

Mayor Krammes mentioned about snow shoveling for senior citizens. The newsletter will ask residents to look after their older neighbors and Mr. Summers will ask the Boy Scouts.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence – President Anderson asked Council to note that January 1, 2019 is actually the first Tuesday, so the next Council meeting will be held Tuesday January 8, 2019.

The Annual County Convention will be held in Millerstown on February 23, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at the Greenwood Elementary School. Please RSVP to Mrs. Shope by the January 8th meeting.

The two bricks to be purchased for the Perry County Memorial Wall in Marysville will be \$100 a piece. President Anderson wants some input on the engraving of each brick. Suggestions can be left in the office.

Final 2019 Budget Discussion –

President Anderson and Secretary Shope presented the revisions to the final Borough budget.

The changes are as follows:

- 1) Liquid Fuels Account: There was \$20,000 budgeted for the ADA crosswalks to be increased to \$40,000. The first sidewalk to be done would be at Main and Chestnut Streets for the school children's safety and access.
- 2) Borough Building Account: Because PC COG will be moving its office upstairs in the Borough Building; there will be an increase of approximately \$325 in rent for 2019.
- 3) General Account: The shade tree account was originally budgeted at \$200 and will now be budgeted at \$6,000. President Anderson explained this is because the Borough Park Spring tree will need to be removed and the trees in the Square need trimming. Tree removal can in itself be \$2,000.

The Tri County was budgeted for \$500, but the paperwork increased to \$600.

The "Other Legal" was budgeted for \$2,000, but had to increase to \$6,000 because there is a new statute that applies to all mayors. If there would ever be a dispute between the Mayor and Council, Council has to fund this up to \$4,000.

Also, for "Purchase of Equipment," \$28,000 is budgeted for the purchase of a Kubota to be shared with the Water Authority. This would be the Borough's share for this equipment. Discussion followed. The money for this equipment will be taken out of the 2019 General Fund budget.

Councilman Smith presented the numbers for health insurance. Highmark was \$365 less a month, but then a phone call from Mr. Gary Baker says Highmark will not insure the Borough because of two different EIN numbers, (The Borough and the Water Authority which are two different employers). In this case, the Borough will now stay with Capital Blue Cross. These deductibles are slightly lower than Highmark anyway. The total for all five employees would be \$4,580.38 per month. The \$40,000 budgeted should cover this amount.

Councilman Smith moved to approve the final budget for 2019, seconded by Councilman Cless. Motion carried.

Ordinance #337 – Establishing Tax Rate –

President Anderson read it will be .21622 of a mill on each dollar of assessed evaluation. Councilman Summers moved to accept this tax rate, seconded by Councilman Weller. Motion carried. Taxes have not been raised in eleven years.

Ordinance #338 – Establishing Tax Rate for Fire Company –

President Anderson read the tax rate shall be .7 of one mill on each dollar for the assessed evaluation of taxable property or \$.70 on each \$100 of assessed taxable real estate property. This goes into effect January 1, 2019. Councilman Weller moved to approve this tax rate, seconded by Vice President Patterson. Motion carried.

Ordinance #339 – Local Services Tax –

President Anderson read a tax rate of \$52.00 shall be paid for the privilege of engaging in an occupation with the primary place of employment in New Bloomfield. Vice President Patterson moved to accept this tax rate, seconded by Councilman Clouser. Motion carried.

Ordinance #340 – Rezone (Commerical to Residential) –

Councilman Cless explained this is the ordinance to rezone the McNeillie/Eckert property on West Main Street from commercial to residential. Councilman Cless made the motion to rezone this property, seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion carried.

Resolution #2018-02 – Fee Schedule –

President Anderson read the fee schedule for all the fees the Borough is allowed to collect. These have remained the same as last year. Councilman Weller moved to accept the fee schedule, seconded by Councilman Summers. Motion carried.

Resolution #2018-03 – Independent Auditor (Herring, Roll, & Solomon) –

President Anderson stated this is for the appointment of the Borough's independent auditor which will remain Herring, Roll, and Solomon. Vice President Patterson moved to approve this company as the Borough's independent auditors, seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion carried.

Resolution #2018-04 – Per Capita Tax –

President Anderson stated this establishes the per capital tax which imposes a \$5.00 per capita tax for the calendar 2018 and 2019. The reality tax transfer of 1% on all transfer of real estate in the Borough has not changed and will remain 1%. Councilman Clouser made the motion to accept this tax rate, seconded by Councilman Weller. Motion carried.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright reported last week members of DEP and the filter system company met with the Authority and DEP was fine with the test process and it looks like after all the statistics come back there should be no problem using the new filtration system. DEP gave permission for the Authority to erect a 300,000 gallon holding tank at any time, but first they must talk to USDA for their permission to put the tank up before the building. Last Friday, the Authority got their interim loan increase approved. The Authority approved gave up their half ownership in the tractor and turned in their skid loader over to the Borough for turn in. The sewer line at the pool is going to be put in and the Authority will provide a 6 or 8" valve for that. Mr. Albright stated the Authority decided they will name the street going back to Well 3 "Jeanne Fry Lane" in honor of Mrs. Jeanne Fry's many year of service. This will require a Borough ordinance.

Planning Commission Report – Melanie Rowlands stated they had nothing to report from last month. She was just handed plans for the Fire Department which the Commission will have to review with Mr. Postick. Kevin Fitzpatrick will be the contact person since Ms. Rowlands will be out of the country for several months.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report - Mr. Albright stated no permits were issued in November. The Borough presented Mr. Albright his check.

President Anderson stated the Council was invited to the annual PC COG Holiday luncheon held December 13, 2018 at Zeiderelli's in Newport. If anyone wants to attend they are to contact Mrs. Shope.

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Cless reported the lease for the available upper level office space has been approved and signed by the borough/tenant. Possession by PC COG/BIU will take place on February 1, 2019 as network wiring must be done prior to re-location from the lower level. The public hearing for the Eckert/McNeillie rezone project was held on November 7 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. The only remaining issue is to pass the ordinance to correct the original zoning error. There needs to be a motion to accept Ordinance 340. Mr. Cless contacted Joe Landis, Penn Township Supervisor, regarding the possible rental of a radar style speed limit portable setup to monitor speeding on Main and Carlisle Streets. The offer to use this without charge was extended. Penn Twp. would like a mutual working agreement, if possible. Mr. Cless installed a new security light at the upper level ramp entrance and purchased two voice recorders for borough activities. He submitted the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan and Survey to the County for their review and update. He also assisted the secretary in scanning audit files for preliminary review by the state.

FEMA/PEMA Report - Councilman Cless received a communication from DCED, which now regulates the state floodplain management for flood insurance rates pertaining to all municipalities, requesting an update of our floodplain ordinance. He will continue to work with them to draft an ordinance which has mutual benefit.

PCBA/COG – Mr. Albright reported there was a meeting last month at which they approved COG moving from downstairs to upstairs of the Borough Building.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report – Councilman Smith reported the year-end meeting will be held December 12, 2018. This will be the first meeting for CapTax in the Borough Building and Mr. Cless will assume primary delegate responsibilities as Councilman Smith has a conflict with Wednesday meetings.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report – Councilman Summers reported on the Tree Lighting. He thanked everyone who helped with this event. He thanked Borough Employees for the extension of the leaf collection dates. He met with the Boy Scouts and is hoping to get them more involved with Borough service projects. Mr. Summers mentioned a tree cut down on South Carlisle Street. He went to speak with the homeowners, but no one was home. This tree will have to be replaced. President Anderson asked Mr. Hartman to have the homeowners contact the office for tree replacement information.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report - Vice President Patterson reported he had nothing on finance and insurance has been discussed.

Grants – Councilman Smith deferred to Mr. Postick. He is looking into potential grants for ADA compliant sidewalks. Liquid Fuels funding is best for this project. President Anderson would like submissions to Mr. Levan at PennDot to be done by January, so this could be put out for bid in early spring.

HRG has provided to the Borough a proposal for providing engineering services relative to the design, bidding and construction administration of a construction project to install ADA ramps at several priority Borough intersections (everything at Chestnut and Apple Streets and one crossing at Barnett Street). They are looking at the crossings that would have the most impact.

See HRG Engineer's Report to Bloomfield Borough, December 4, 2018 for more detailed information.

Personnel Committee Report- Councilman Smith's report was the insurance update already discussed under the 2019 Budget Discussion.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report - Vice President Patterson stated this was already discussed under Mr. Postick's report.

Vice President Patterson stated the BCC Pool leak will be dug up and piping replaced along with a valve and manhole. The cost incurred will be split three ways between Bloomfield Borough, Carroll and Centre Townships. They hope to get this done within the next two months, depending on weather and personnel.

President Anderson asked Mr. Ryan from the Perry County Times if he would be agreeable to include an article in the paper about all the groups that came together to help do these improvements for the pool and the community. He said he would.

President Anderson accepted Councilman Clouser's resignation. Councilman Cless made the motion to approve acceptance of Mr. Clouser's resignation effective December 31, 2018, seconded by Councilman Weller. Motion carried. President Anderson thanked Mr. Clouser for his service.

Councilman Cless has two names to submit as a possible replacement for Councilman Clouser.

President Anderson thanked Mayor Krammes for her gift of her famous peanut butter balls to everyone.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Weller, the meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, January 8, 2019 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary