

MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
January 6, 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, Vice President J. Kevin Fitzpatrick, R. Kevin McCarty, and Jessica L. Grindle.

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Assistant Secretaries Suse Woolever and Kathy Miller, Solicitor Isaac Wakefield, Borough Employee Damon Hartman, ZEO/BEO Becky Smiley, Mayor Gary Eby, HRG Representative Ryan Hostetter, Tax Collector Brenda Albright, Perry County Times Reporter Paul Wyatt and residents Julie Patterson, John Patterson, Karl Cless and Ed Apple.

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. (Paul Wyatt from the Perry County Times is also recording.) 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 December 2, 2025 meeting minutes, seconded by Vice President Fitzpatrick. Mayor Eby made one correction which will be noted in the minutes. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Councilman McCarty made the motion to approve the December 2025 financial reports, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle. Motion carried.

REQUESTED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

There were no requested public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Ed Apple thanked Council and the Borough employees for paving the alley behind the Methodist Church.

Presentations of Awards -

President Anderson recognized both Mr. Karl Cless, for his many years of service (2008-2025) and also Mr. John “Pat” Patterson for his years of service (2010-2023). Both men were given recognition plaques.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Wakefield stated he did not have a written report last month so he provided his two month report to Council. There were no further updates at this time

Mayor's Report – Mayor Eby stated the Huckleberry Drop took place December 31st with moderate attendance because of the weather. He thanked Adams Lodge and the Fire Company for hosting this event. They really appreciate Adams Lodge stepping up to transition into this event's sponsor.

Parking Officer Report – Mayor Eby reported 18 parking tickets were issued in December with 4 voided and 4 still unpaid.

Enforcement Report – BEO Smiley had nothing further to report other than what she submitted to Council in her written report. Ms. Smiley mentioned her CGIS certification is due 1/20/26 and she will be doing that next week. Last week, Ms. Smiley called HJ Towing because of discussion from last month's meeting. She stated they are contracted by the Borough for towing, but she asked HJ Towing what they need from the Borough to have a car towed. The answer was the Borough must contact the PSP and get an abandoned vehicle document in order for them to tow. Ms. Smiley suggested the Borough check with other towing companies or the Borough ordinance will need to be changed. Discussion followed. President Anderson asked Solicitor Wakefield to follow up on this with Mayor Eby so this issue can be addressed at a future meeting.

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 – Vice President Fitzpatrick stated there was nothing new to report. HRG Representative Hostetter mentioned Isaac Underhill is reviewing the Lakeside plans.

Water Authority Report - President Anderson read the Report submitted by Water Authority President Larry Weller:

There is a USDA inspection scheduled in January. One of their requirements is the collection of demographic data of the population. Denice is looking at ways of collecting this information.

The Authority is going to start on Veteran's Drive for hydro-vacing curb stops when the weather is warm enough.

The new billing program went live on December 4, 2025. The new web address for paying bill online is bloomfieldwapa.frontdeskworks.com

President Anderson noted that in the Perry County Times she saw that the Water Authority received an LSA grant of \$300,000.00.

PCBA/COG – Past Councilman Cless mentioned that Ferster's Meat Market has found a buyer from the Landisburg area.

The PCBA/COG meetings will no longer be held in Borough Council Chambers. President Anderson stated Mike Gensemer stopped by and said they would still like to use the Chambers. He will be willing to open and shut down the building. Meanwhile, Jason Finnerty stated they do have another location lined up for these meetings at the Penn State Extension Office. Discussion followed about Chamber use for this organization. Most of these meetings are about township business.

FEMA/PEMA - Councilman McCarty will be the new representative for this organization and will get together with the previous representative, former Councilman Cless, for a review of duties.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report – Zoning Officer issued 0 permits this past month.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- TCRPC (Tri-County Regional Planning Commission) - Discussion on a new representative. - Vice President Fitzpatrick volunteered to be this representative.
- Council Rules for Engagement (Code of Conduct) - President Anderson read the 10 Rules for Engagement to Council members.

RIGHTS OF WAYS, UTILITIES, & SAFETY

Vice President Fitzpatrick stated all paving projects are on hold until Spring. They are concerned about where they will get the funding. The Barnett Woods Road Bridge discussion is still an open item. He needs to get back with County Commissioners. Commissioner Watson has not gotten back to Vice President Fitzpatrick.

ADMINISTRATIVE & INSURANCE (PROPERTY/LIABILITY)

This was formally done by Councilman Cless. President Anderson stated she will be the representative for the Administrative and Insurance committee for the time being.

AESTHETICS

Councilman McCarty did not have much to report. They are beginning to discuss taking the Christmas tree and lights down. Mr. Hartman will look at his calendar for this project. Councilman McCarty is working on getting pricing for work around the Square (taking trees down, etc.). President Anderson stated a plan needs to be put into place as to who actually owns the Square.

FINANCE

President Anderson stated they renewed several CD's at the end of December at a much better rate for both the Sewer and Liquid Fuels funds. They are separating the contributions to their Capital Improvement Funds so they will each have their own individual accounts. The Sewer Fund will have its own Capital Improvement Fund and the General Fund will have its own Capital Improvement Fund.

Secretary Shope mentioned she was contacted by a gentleman inquiring about using Room 8 for a AARP Senior Driving Class. He asked that the \$25 room rental fee be waived. Secretary Shope gave him other options for rooms, such as the Senior Center or our Public Library. President Anderson stated she did not want to start a precedent of waiving the room fee. Discussion followed. The general consensus from Council was that the room rental fee will not be waived. Secretary Shope will get back to this gentleman.

GRANTS

Vice President Fitzpatrick had nothing to report.

President Anderson stated that a letter was sent to PennDOT about the traffic pattern around the monument in the Square due to several residents complaining about this issue. A PennDOT representative wants to attend a Council meeting. An invitation will also be extended to the County Commissioners since the monument is not Borough property and roads are state owned.

PERSONNEL & INSURANCE (HEALTH/DENTAL)

Councilwoman Grindle had nothing to report.

Secretary Shope reminded all employees to fill out and return the exemption forms by the end of January and the Statement of Financial Interest by April 1, 2026.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There is no Executive Session.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business President Anderson asked for adjournment. Vice President Fitzpatrick made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m., seconded by Councilwoman Grindle. Motion carried. The next meeting of Bloomfield Borough Council will be held Tuesday February 3, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary