

MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
January 8, 2019

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, Kevin C. Weller, Charles N. Summers, Michael J. Smith, and Karl L. Cless. Vice President John Patterson excused absence.

Also present: Secretary Danielle Shope, Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Borough Zoning/Permit Officer Ed Albright, Jr., Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Planning Commission Nathan Mohler, Mayor Arlis Krammes, HRG Borough engineer Michael T. Postick, Solicitor Richard Wagner, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, new Council member Eric Berger with his wife and daughter, and residents Robin Dum and Gloria Trostle.

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 Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilman Weller, to approve the December 4, 2018 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kathleen Miller asked for a motion to approve Pamela Dobbs as the new Centre Township representative on the Bloomfield Public Library Board. Councilman Summers made the motion, seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion carried.

Council Member Appointment - Mayor Krammes administered the oath of office to new Council member Mr. Eric S. Berger as his wife Sarah and daughter Elsie looked on.

Resolution 2019-01 – Fill a Vacancy - Councilman Cless made the motion to fill the vacancy for the elected office on Borough Council, seconded by Councilman Smith. Eric S. Berger who is a registered elector in the Borough of Bloomfield is now hereby to serve as a Council member. Motion carried.

ENFORCEMENT

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Wagner reported he attended a conference set up with the ownership parties of Lot 30 and a Cumberland County judge who as overseeing the dissolution of the corporation. The parties came to a resolution and put it on record that the “Watson group” is buying out the other entities. The Watson group will become owners of the development and that Lot 30 will be coming to the Borough. Settlement is sometime in February 2019 for this agreement. Once the settlement is complete, the Borough will be working with them to obtain Lot 30. The only issue the Watson group has is that they want access across Lot 30 to get to the balance of the property. Councilman Cless asked about the pile of topsoil. Solicitor Wagner stated that was not part of the Watson negotiation at this point. Solicitor Wagner stated the lawyer for the Watson's stated they are concerned about the potential liability attached to owning Lot 30 with the pump station.

Mr. Wagner thanked the Mayor for her peanut butter balls candy.

Enforcement Committee Report – Councilman Weller stated he amended the sidewalk ordinance. They are proposing adding the width sidewalks are supposed to be and about contractors allowing inspection of form work before pouring of sidewalks. President Anderson suggested adding the actual word “feet” and “inches”. Councilman Summers made the motion to approve the changes as outlined, seconded by Councilman Smith. Mr. Postick suggested that there be added a minimum of 48 hours notification for sidewalk inspection. President Anderson suggested including this in Section 79 which pertains to sidewalk inspection. Motion carried. Mr. Weller thanked Councilman Cless for his work on this ordinance.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Krammes presented the commemorative plaque that is to be placed on the mural in the square to Council. Mayor Krammes reported there were 11 parking tickets issued for the month of November with 2 still unpaid.

Borough Enforcement Officer's Report - BEO Nazzaro was absent, but his report is as follows. BEO Nazzaro left a copy of the ordinance explaining parking on Barnett Woods road after he found a vehicle parked on Barnett Woods Road facing East Main Street just past the stop sign. He feels there should be No Parking signs posted there. Frank Bailor was burning again. Mr. Nazzaro informed the Mayor and she confirmed it was outside Borough limits. It was also reported there is a homeless camp being built on Bailor's farm with tarped structures, old RVs and makeshift buildings. This is also outside the Borough so he informed the complainant to contact Dept. of Health, Centre Township and BIU. Mr. Nazzaro received a report of possible animal cruelty. PSP responded and checked the animal, but found no obvious signs of injury. Five homes on South Carlisle were missed on trash pickup day so Mr. Nazzaro asked the residents to place the trash out of site until next week and told them to call Sylvester's so they were aware. Mr. and Mrs. Nazzaro discovered trash scattered on West Main Street for about a hundred yards from Locust Street. They cleaned it up and found it was old mail and newspapers. He attended Court for the Thebes citation but had to withdraw charges due to the witness not attending. Mr. Nazzaro spoke to Thebes who was very angry, rude and threatening despite the fact we were in the Court waiting room with the Judge and secretary observing. The following warnings were given in the month of December. Trash-1; Parking-21(primarily for parking the wrong direction); Hydrant parkng-2; Skateboard/hoverboard-3; Park hours-1; uninspected vehicle on street-2; Un-inspected vehicle on street 2nd warning-1.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence – President Anderson stated if anyone was planning to attend the Annual County Convention being held in Millerstown on February 23, 2019 the RSVP needs to be in by today January 8, 2019.

Everyone's Statement of Financial Interest are due April 2, 2019.

Ordinance #341 – Flood Plan Management – this needs to be passed. President Anderson gave her thanks to Councilman Cless who was responsible for revamping this ordinance. The last time this ordinance was done was 1978. This ordinance was advertised for the proper time period. President Anderson read an excerpt from the twenty-nine page document. The Borough Zoning Officer, Mr. Ed Albright, Jr., will also take on the role of flood plain manager since he issues the permits. Secretary Shope, along with Mr. Albright, will be the contact people for FEMA/PEMA. Councilman Cless made the motion to pass Ordinance #341 on Flood Plain Management so it can be sent to FEMA for final approval, seconded by Councilman Summers. Motion carried.

Appointments/Reappointments - President Anderson stated Solicitor Richard Wagner will be reappointed as Borough Solicitor for the year 2019-2020. HRG's contract as the Borough engineering firm will be extended for 2019-2020. Mr. Herbert R. Robb will serve from 1/1/19-12/31/23 on the Bloomfield Municipal Authority. Raymonda Cunningham has been appointed to the Bloomfield Borough Zoning Hearing Board for 1/1/19-12/31/21. Councilman Smith made the motion to approve these appointments, seconded by Councilman Weller. Motion carried.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright reported the authority met December 18, 2018 at which time the Water Authority Board approved credit card payments for water bills. Bills can be paid over the phone with a credit card at the expense of the person paying the bill, not the Authority. Well 3 has one more test. Chemicals have been ordered to induce the turbidity to 10 or higher to prove to the state that the bladder they are going to buy will take out this turbidity. This should be done by the end of January. Then DEP has to analyze all the well data and then hopefully they will give permission to build the plant. The tank will be placed first and then the building will be built in front of the tank. Hopefully no later than 2021 they will be up and running. President Anderson noted that the Jeanne Fry Lane sign is up and at the February Borough Council meeting an ordinance will be passed that actually names the lane and a stop sign will be placed at the end of the lane. Mr. Albright stated the Authority took receipt of the skid loader and will be buying a mower for it.

Planning Commission Report – Mr. Nathan Mohler had nothing to report. There was no December meeting.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report - Mr. Albright stated he did not issue any permits for December so his November report is to be considered his final report for the year.

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Cless reported he purchased a large commercial grade floor runner for the upper level entry in preparation for the increased foot traffic from the COG-BIU move. He replaced the lower level kitchen faucet and unclogged the sink drain. He provided upper level keys to COG-BIU to prepare the newly renovated room for the anticipated move. He requested a quote to construct and install a urinal enclosure in the upper level men's room. Mr. Cless and Vice President Patterson received and reviewed the complete blanket insurance coverage quote from one vendor. They are awaiting response from the second vendor.

FEMA/PEMA Report - Councilman Cless stated the floodplain management ordinance was submitted and approved by DCED for PEMA. The newspaper posting was done prior to this meeting for adoption. An officially signed copy will then be submitted to FEMA.

PCBA/COG – Mr. Albright reported there was nothing other than COG plans to move upstairs by end of January.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report – Councilman Cless stated the year- end meeting was held on December 12, 2018. Receipts and disbursements were reviewed and approved. The audit was presented and approved. The .5% increase in collection fee will be in place for Perry/Juniata counties beginning 2019 to prevent the bureau from operating in the red.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report – Councilman Summers stated there was not a lot because of the weather. Vice President Patterson contacted Mr. Summers saying the Borough is not on their usual schedule for brush pick up. It will basically be whenever Mr. Hartman can get to it. The Mayor and he are working with the Boy Scouts for shoveling out the elderly in town after snow storms. He will have to contact the Office of the Aging for a list of people possibly in need of this service. President Anderson stated she and Mr. Ken Miller have made four appointments to look at a tree but weather has delayed this meeting. She is also lining up Boyer's Tree Service and Stumps and More. Mr. Summers will work on getting the Christmas decorations down.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report – Vice President Patterson was absent so no report.

Grants – Councilman Smith stated there was nothing new to report but hoping to find new opportunities with the new year.

Personnel Committee Report- Councilman Smith reported he was behind a few weeks on end of year evaluations.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report - Vice President Patterson was absent due to medical reasons. Mr. Postick from HRG thanked Council for his reappointment. He and Mr. Hartman are looking into a few more sidewalks for the ADA ramps. They will look at the crosswalks on the state roads first. This will happen with the spring bidding. He is researching to see how much insurance has to be carried on the garage which is in the flood plain. Mr. Postick stated he reviewed the plan submitted for review for the Fire Company building on South Carlisle Street but the submission was incomplete. He spoke with the Fire Company and NavTech about this and there needs to be a more formal approval. He is putting a review letter together to give to the Fire Company and NavTech as to what needs to be in the plan. He is informing Borough Council so hopefully the plan can be approved at the February meeting. However, the plans must be submitted by January 24, 2019 which is nine days before Council meeting so Council can review the plans in time for the February meeting.

Mr. Albright stated he issued a demolition permit from the Fire Company for the building. This has been turned into COG. Councilman Cless stated the Eckert rezoning project has been complete and the new zoning map is up on the board.

Mr. Postick sent a letter to Hunt Engineering to look at expanding the PennDot maintenance facility. It is just a concept at this point but he sent a letter telling them they must comply with all Borough ordinances. Discussion followed.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Weller, seconded by Councilman Summers, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 5, 2019 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary