

**MINUTES**  
**Bloomfield Borough Council**  
**June 7, 2022**

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

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Assistant Secretaries Kathleen Miller and Susanne Woolever, Mayor Edward T. Albright Jr., Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Solicitor Isaac Wakefield, BEO Becky Smiley, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, HRG representative Ryan Hostetter, Planning Commission representatives Melanie Rowlands, Kevin McCarty and Suzanne Dell, and residents Rick Rogers and Cory Peters.

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.

**Approval of Minutes** – Councilman Dum made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle, to approve the May 3, 2022 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report** – Councilman Patterson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cless, to approve the financial report for May 2022 as presented. Motion carried.

***REQUESTED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS***

There were no Requested Public Comments or Presentations.

***PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS***

There were no Public Comments or Presentations.

## ***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. He did give additional explanation on the Comcast Franchise agreement. Solicitor Wakefield's colleague is working on this agreement and they requested some standard requested changes and Comcast stated these requests were all acceptable including the maximum franchise fee requested. One sticking point is the area of the build out, but Mr. Wakefield does not anticipate this being a problem. Solicitor Wakefield will distribute a copy of this agreement to Council at the close of this meeting with the goal of approving the agreement at the July, 2022 meeting. Zito will remain.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Edward T. Albright Jr. thanked Borough Employee Damon Hartman for cleaning up the brush piled on the cemetery property. Mayor Albright performed two weddings free of charge.

**Parking Officer Report** – Mayor Albright stated there were 13 tickets issued in May with 6 still unpaid.

**Enforcement Report** – BEO Smiley had nothing extra to report other than some follow up after clean up day.

### **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 reported the Borough Council held a public meeting on behalf of the Planning Commission to look at the new proposed updates to Zoning Chapter 26 and the zoning map. It provided the public a time for questions and answers. The Commission worked with Tri County Planning and the state on this project.

Ms. Rowlands asked Borough Council to pass Ordinance #358, which is an update to Ordinance #131 which was established in 1975. Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve Ordinance #358, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

Councilman Cless asked the question if Gusler Alley's exact location has been verified. Ms. Rowlands stated that it has been corrected on the map that Gusler Alley officially goes down to behind the property at 109 South Carlisle Street, (Bill Bunt's office). Beyond that point it is private so on the map the solid gray line becomes dotted lines but you can still see it.

President Anderson thanked the Commission for their hard work

**FEMA/PEMA Report** – Councilman Cless stated there was very little to report except for webinar opportunities which he forwards to BEO Smiley.

**Water Authority Report** – Mayor Edward T. Albright Jr. reported they have finally hired a full time employee and a secretary. Mayor Albright asked Council to approve Borough employee Jeremy Foulkrod to do the weekend water testing and the Authority would reimburse the Borough for his time.

Councilwoman Grindle made the motion to amend the meeting agenda, seconded by Councilman Cless. Motion carried.

Councilman Cless made the motion to approve Borough employee Jeremy Foulkrod to help out the Water Authority as needed, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

**PCBA/COG**– Councilman Cless reported the next scheduled meeting is September 8, 2022 in Council Chambers.

**Zoning/Permit Officer's Report** – Zoning Officer Smiley reported she issued 2 permits. One for a bedroom addition and one for extending a roof to cover a patio. She fielded a large volume of phone calls.

**Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report**– Councilman Patterson made the motion to appoint Councilman Cless to be the Capital Tax Collection Bureau representative, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

## ***ADMINISTRATIVE***

### **Announcements and Correspondence** –

**New Email Address:** [bloomfieldborough@gmail.com](mailto:bloomfieldborough@gmail.com)

**Statement of Financial Interest** – Due to the office by April 6, 2022. President Anderson stated there are still two previous Council members who have not submitted their statements. Secretary Shope made several attempts to reach out to these individuals with no response. Solicitor Wakefield said that was fine.

**Dumpster for Recycling** – Mayor Albright stated they are still waiting for more information.

**Credit Card Option for paying sewer/trash invoices** – Secretary Shope stated that with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter sewer/trash mailing going out at the end of June, residents will have the ability to pay their sewer/trash bill by credit card. All other options are still in place. If you want to pay by credit card you may. Residents will have to go onto the web site and click the “Pay Invoices” icon and there will be a link. Hopefully, the launch will go smoothly.

## ***RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES***

**Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report** – Councilman Patterson deferred to HRG Engineer Ryan Hostetter. Mr. Hostetter stated on May 24<sup>th</sup> they received bids for the 2022 paving and pedestrian walkways project. There was a low bid but it had to be withdrawn because of a mathematical error so they withdrew their bid in the proper fashion. Mr. Hostetter recommended awarding the bid to the second low bidder Glenn O. Holbaker for \$524,497.25. Completion date should be mid-September. Councilman Patterson stated that if it wasn't for all the grants the Borough has been able to procure this project would not be possible. Only \$28,000 will come out of the General Fund for this project. The rest of the expense has either been budgeted or taken care of by grants. This is the biggest project this community has ever put together. Councilman Patterson praised the work done by Councilman Fitzpatrick, President Anderson and Mr. Hostetter towards making this project possible.

Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve Glenn O. Holbaker as the paving project company, seconded by Councilman Cless. Motion carried

**ADA Sidewalks** – Mr. Hostetter remarked he was looking forward to beginning construction.

**Signage concerning Barnett, Church & Apple Streets** - This has been tabled.

**Administrative Committee Report** – Councilman Cless reported he flushed a storm water drain in the lower level after a reported backup, repaired a leaky faucet and unclogged a toilet in the upper level ladies restroom, contacted Flickinger Heating & AC to repair the malfunctioning mini-split AC unit in Council Chambers, replaced the borough office door lock with a new electronic keypad lock, discussed the repair of the post office handicap entrance ramp with their maintenance man and work has been completed, received a quote for \$600 from Howard McCord of Kint Corp regarding the installation of 2 cameras in the borough building but the matter has been placed on hold. Mr. Cless responded to an alarming phone call from the librarian that resulted later in the arrest against an unruly and threatening patron. He assisted the tax collector with some excel spreadsheet work. Councilman Cless received court documents from United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas regarding Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing of Talen Energy who happens to be the Borough's electricity provider. A new supplier, Constellation New Energy has agreed to a 5 year term to provide electricity at .089 cents/kwh. Councilman Cless spoke to Mike Sarford from the office of Senator DiSantos. They are showing interest in leasing the empty room for the newly elected replacement after December 1. A postal mail carrier reported an incident on the post office parking lot which resulted in damage to one of their vehicles. Unfortunately it was reported too late because of the 1 week overwrite period of the camera system. Bloomfield Borough Council President Malinda C. Anderson held a phone quorum with the following Council members: J. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Karl L. Cless and John J. Patterson to vote on the new energy supplier. All three members listed above in addition to President Anderson voted "yes" to a 5 year contract with Constellation Energy at .089 per KH. The estimated cost for the borough's electricity will be \$52,153. This agreement was approved with a Quorum vote and will be presented for ratification on June 7, 2022. On June 7, 2022 Councilman Cless made the motion to approve the agreement with Constellation Energy, seconded by Councilman Patterson. Motion carried.

**Aesthetics Committee Report** – Councilman Dum thanked Mondie Cunningham and Deb Smith for ordering and planting the flowers on the Square.

### ***FINANCE, INSURANCE, & SAFETY***

**Finance, Insurance & Safety Report** – Councilman Patterson had no report.

**Grants** – No report. President Anderson stated that Council was holding off a bit on new grants because many grants require matching funding and right now monies are stretched thin. Councilman Patterson stated they needed to slow down to see where the Borough stands financially for future projects.

#### **Personnel Committee Report-**

Councilwoman Grindle had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Grindle reported on the PCEDA Main Street Program. They met May 26, 2022 for a reorganizational meeting. They will be meeting on July 21, 2022 at the PCEDA building to do business surveys. The next official meeting will be held at the PCEDA building on August 4, 2022 at 6:30pm. Everyone is invited to help. President Anderson recommended providing a link on the Borough's website.

#### **Executive Session** - None

Councilman Cless stated that the roof replacement project has been tabled for the foreseeable future.

***CLOSING COMMENTS***

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilwoman Grindle, seconded by Councilman Cless, the regular meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary