

**MINUTES**  
**Bloomfield Borough Council**  
**October 4, 2022**

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

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Assistant Secretaries Susanne Woolever and Kathleen Miller, Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Solicitor Justin George, BEO/ZEO Becky Smiley, HRG Representative Ryan Hostetter, Planning Commission Chair Melanie Rowlands, Mayor and Water Authority Representative Edward T. Albright Jr., Ballfield Grandstand Treasurer James A. Woods, Senior Center Representatives Laurie Morris and BJ Berquist and resident Ed Apple.

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

Vice President Fitzpatrick led the gathered assembly in the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

***MEETING OPENING***

**Recording of the Meeting** – Vice President Fitzpatrick 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. Vice President Fitzpatrick 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. Vice President Fitzpatrick asked if any individuals in the audience were also taping the meeting and if so to identify themselves for the record. Vice President Fitzpatrick 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 September 6, 2022 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

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

**Executive Session** – At 7:02 p.m. Council adjourned into Executive Session. Councilwoman Grindle made the motion to reconvene Regular Session at 7:04 p.m., seconded by Councilman Patterson.

Vice President Fitzpatrick asked for a motion to amend the agenda to discuss an addition to the 2023 proposed budget. Councilman Patterson made the motion to amend the agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle. Motion carried.

Councilman Patterson made a motion to establish a pool of monies to the 2023 budget to use when considering possible raises up to 5%, seconded by Councilman Cless. Motion carried.

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

**Laurie Morris from the Senior Center** gave her presentation. She mentioned the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Senior Center is February 28. There will be several fundraising events leading up to this anniversary celebration. She gave some historic facts and founding fathers' names. They have created an endowment fund called the Central Perry Senior Center Endowment Fund and asked everyone to please consider donating. The Center has been averaging 676 visits per month. There are some concerns regarding the safety of the seniors while walking within the borough. The recycling can center has raised about \$600 to date.

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

James A. Woods mentioned the Ballfield Grandstand project checking account now has \$4,903.95. This is from 8 check donations. Becky Smiley added that after the chicken BBQ fundraiser they should have over \$7,000 which is 20% of the goal.

### ***MONTHLY REPORTS***

**Solicitor's Report** – Solicitor George stated Mr. Wakefield submitted his formal report previously to Council and unless there were any questions he would defer to that report. Mr. George reviewed the highlights.

Secretary Shope mentioned when a property has the water shut off, the resident is not billed for sewer. There was a property in town that had the water turned back on, but the Borough was not notified by the person living there. There were 3 quarters where they were not billed for sewer. A notice was sent to the owner and will owe for those delinquent quarters. Interest and penalties will not be charged.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Edward T. Albright Jr. reported on the recycling project. It began October 1, 2022. They had seven volunteers and a \$30 donation. Several West Perry High School girls donated their time to help, thus fulfilling community service hours required by their civics class. Mayor Albright stated he is on track for an every three month tip.

Mayor Albright mentioned the parking problem they have with the soccer teams. The Post Office Lot was full, the Borough lot was full with only 3 cars in the parking lot where they are supposed to park. The Mayor asked Council if he was authorized to ticket the cars parked in unauthorized spaces. The coaches have told the parents where to park. Discussion followed. "No unauthorized vehicles" is posted. The ordinance will have to be revisited for proper verbiage.

**Parking Officer Report** – There were 8 tickets issued during the month of September with 1 still unpaid.

**Enforcement Report** – BEO Smiley had nothing in addition to her monthly 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.

**Planning Commission Report** – Melanie Rowlands stated Bloomfield Planning Commission had a very robust meeting. They are going back to fine tune some of the old ordinances they are revamping. They were asked to contribute information about fencing. They were asked how the Borough deals with AirB&B's. They will look into this also. Discussion followed. Ms. Rowlands stated the various fee schedules will be discussed at the next meeting.

**FEMA/PEMA Report** – Councilman Cless had nothing important to report.

**Water Authority Report** – Mayor Edward T. Albright Jr. stated the pump at Talmudic should be shipped this month. There are some legal issues going back and forth between the lawyers. The generator is pushed back another month.

**PCBA/COG** – Councilman Cless stated the meeting was held in Borough Council Chambers on September 8, 2022. Jason Finnerty from TCRPC was present with a video presentation regarding the Perry County Comprehensive Plan on the County website and outlined its usage to post future project requests. There was a general discussion on various matters within the different municipalities. There were 352 total permits issued to date compared to 277 this time last year. The organization was alerted to the \$25 charge per meeting in Council Chambers beginning January 1, 2023. The COG rent check will include the room fee for the month the particular meeting is held.

**Zoning/Permit Officer's Report** – Zoning Officer Smiley stated she issued 1 permit for an existing driveway.

**Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report** – Councilman Cless stated the next meeting will be held October 19, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

### ***ADMINISTRATIVE***

**Announcements and Correspondence** –

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

**Credit Card Option for paying sewer/trash invoices** – This service is now available. The situation with the fees has been corrected.

**Trick or Treat Scheduled:** Monday, October 31, 2022 6:00-7:30 p.m.

**Leaf Collection Scheduled:** Monday October 10, 2022 – Wednesday November 23, 2022

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

**Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report** – Vice President Fitzpatrick had no report. Mr. Hartman stated everything is pretty much wrapped up. ADA and school zone flashers are finished and inspected

**Administrative Committee Report** – Councilman Cless stated he did the following:

- a. Purchased a new vacuum cleaner for the cleaning lady and a new commercial duty paper shredder for the Borough Office.
- b. Will need to purchase a larger replacement step ladder to convert the lower level hall lights from fluorescent to LED... anticipating a decrease in energy usage and ultimate savings.
- c. Met with Daryl Shupp of Capital Coatings regarding the roof project. Work is to commence tomorrow morning. The entire project will require several days to complete.
- d. Met with Steve Gill Construction and Eckert Electric regarding the final details of the room renovation project. While reviewing the permit application with BIU, he discovered this very small project requires an architect to provide 3 sets of drawings for review and approval. Not sure this whole endeavor is worth pursuing. Discussion followed.

**Aesthetics Committee Report** – Councilman Dum stated the mums in the Square have been planted and the pumpkins are still there! Two benches for the Borough have been ordered. The Christmas swags have been ordered for the monument. The Christmas tree has been finalized and he is working on finalizing the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony.

Councilwoman Grindle added that the Main Street Program is going to be doing a cleanup day on October 15, 2022. It is going to be called “Hallo-weeding”. All are invited to join.

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

Vice President Fitzpatrick asked for a motion to amend the agenda with regards to grants. Councilman Cless made the motion to amend the agenda, seconded by Councilman Patterson. Motion carried.

Vice President Fitzpatrick read a thank you note regarding the paving project.

Vice President Fitzpatrick stated four projects were tied to the grant from Senator DiSanto. The first project was to pave Locust Street, Hickory, Grass and Locust Allies. The second project was to install the ADA compliant crosswalks and the third was to install the school zone flashers. Finally, the last project was to pave the Lakeside Development. The final bill for these projects was \$578,267.00. Approximately \$132,000 came from the Senator DiSanto grant, a \$200,000 grant administered through DCED, \$80,000 match using Liquid Fuels, \$113,770 using the General Fund and \$55,000 from the General Fund Money Market.

Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve the MTF payment request form be submitted to DCED for the amount of \$200,000.00, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle. Motion carried.

Councilman Patterson made the motion to approve payment of the remainder from Borough funds in the amount of \$378,267.08, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

**Grants** – Vice President Fitzpatrick stated DCNR has extended grant applications across the state. The extension is a 20% match. The focus of this grant for the Borough is to put in an ADA compliant walking path behind the Borough building, to include stretching stations, etc. Councilman Dum made the motion to approve applying for this grant, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle. Motion carried.

Vice President Fitzpatrick stated Mr. Hartman and himself met with the County Commissioners to pursue Federal infrastructure dollars. In 2024, there is two million dollars that is being made available to Perry County through Tri-County for construction costs. The Borough has a great deal of concern about the main bridge (No. 2) on Barnett Woods Road. Bloomfield Borough is the first municipality within the County to go to the Commissioners to ask for their support to go after this funding of potentially one million dollars. The Borough has two choices: 1) to begin doing the specs for the larger bridge (No. 2) on Barnett Woods Road or 2) to close Barnett Woods Road in its entirety within the next 18-24 months. With or without the commissioners' support, the Borough is going after this grant money. Discussion followed

Mayor Albright mentioned the permits for the road closing for the Halloween Parade will start at 10:30 a.m. on October 29, 2022. Mr. Albright also thanked Mr. Hartman for all his help with the recycling project.

**Personnel Committee Report-**

Councilwoman Grindle had nothing to report.

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***CLOSING COMMENTS***

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Cless, seconded by Councilman Dum, the regular meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary