

**MINUTES**  
**Bloomfield Borough Council**  
**September 6, 2022**

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

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Assistant Secretary Susanne Woolever, Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Solicitor Isaac Wakefield, BEO/Zoning Officer Becky Smiley, HRG Representative Ryan Hostetter, Planning Commission Chair Melanie Rowlands, Water Authority Representative Larry Weller, PCEDA Representatives Kyleigh Spidle and Johnathan Noss, Ballfield Grandstand Treasurer James A. Woods, Perry County Times Reporter Paul Wyatt and resident 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 Comments 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.

Reporter Paul Wyatt stated he was recording the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes** – Vice President Fitzpatrick made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle, to approve the August 2, 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 August 2022 as presented. Motion carried.

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

**PCEDA – Main Street Initiative Program** - Kyleigh Spidle of PCEDA stated that she was asking for a letter of support for the Main Street Initiative Program. She presented a sample letter. She needs the letter of support by October 4, 2022. President Anderson asked about the figures for New Bloomfield’s enhancements. They were \$392,340. President Anderson asked if these figures came from the working group figures over the last two years. Ms. Spidle stated they were and that these figures were the itemized estimate of everything discussed in the Borough’s plan. Discussion followed. Vice President Fitzpatrick

made a motion to approve the letter of support for the PCEDA to be completed between now and the October 4, 2022 meeting, seconded by Councilman Cless. Motion carried.

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

James A. Woods mentioned the checking account has now been established for the Grand Stand Project. There have been five very nice donations so far. A 501C(3) account in the name “Bloomfield Grandstand Restoration Project” has been established. Becky Smiley and an engineer looked at the grandstand. Ms. Smiley has flyers that will be sent out. They are waiting for a restoration estimate before starting to solicit monies from the public. Discussion followed.

### ***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. President Anderson asked if Solicitor Wakefield had heard anything back from Zito about the 5 %. Mr. Wakefield stated he has heard nothing about this from Zito, but the proper correspondence has been sent to Zito about the adopted resolution as required.

**Mayor’s Report** – Mayor Edward T. Albright Jr was absent, but President Anderson had his report. President Anderson read that the recycling for Bloomfield residents only if on schedule to begin October 1, 2022.

Councilman Cless added that there is an electronics recycling facility near Carlisle going towards Newville, The Computer Barn.

**Parking Officer Report** – There were 10 tickets issued during the month of August with 4 unpaid and 1 was voided.

**Enforcement Report** – BEO Smiley stated in addition to her monthly report she was asked to clarify whether an alley was public or private. Spring Alley, from Barnett to Farmers Alley, was deemed a public alley.

**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 referred a request for the Rice Memorial Building to the Zoning Hearing Board because a variance and special exception was needed. The old building next to the PennDot building is to be torn down to make a new building on the same site for office space. The Zoning Hearing Board had a meeting on August 13, 2022 at 9 a.m. The variance was granted.

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

**Water Authority Report** – Mayor Edward T. Albright Jr’s report stated DEP suggested that the Borough issue a drought advisory. Mayor Albright’s report stated the wells in Bloomfield are holding steady, but residents should conserve when possible.

**PCBA/COG** – Councilman Cless stated the next meeting is September 8, 2022 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

**Zoning/Permit Officer's Report** – Zoning Officer Smiley stated she issued 1 permit for a driveway at 15 West High Street.

**Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report** – Councilman Cless stated the next meeting is 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.

**Proposed Budget Meeting Dates – September 27th & 28th at 4:00p.m.** - Mandatory for all Council members.

**Borough Committees & Responsibilities** -These may be revamped.

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

**Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report** – Vice President Fitzpatrick thanked Borough employees for their hard work on the Borough paving projects. Locust and Grass Alleys have been paved along with Hickory Alley, Locust Street, Lakeside Development in its entirety, except for Lakeside Drive. Lakeside Drive is where additional development is possible and the road might be torn up for that project. In addition, the “up to code” school zone signs are installed. The cost is now under the Borough’s EIN number for PPL, but will be transferred to the West Perry School Board in the near future.

**ADA Sidewalks** – Mr. Hostetter reported the Apple/Main Street and Development sidewalks are now complete. Mr. Hostetter stated the contractor did a great job and was very easy to work with. More compliments were given about the contractors.

Councilman Patterson stated all this work cost in the \$500,000 range, but very little, if any, came out of the Borough’s General Fund. This he found remarkable. He praised Vice President Fitzpatrick for his work on obtaining the grant money. Mr. Fitzpatrick stated it was a joint effort between Mr. Damon Hartman, former Councilman Mike Smith, HRG Ryan Hostetter and himself.

**Sewer Tapping Fee – HRG update** - Vice President Fitzpatrick addressed the sewer tapping fees. He stated a sewer tapping fee is the fee charged when a new building is built and taps into the Borough sewer system. This helps with ongoing maintenance, etc. Bloomfield Borough has been out of compliance with State regulations since 2005. HRG was approved to do a study and come back to the Borough with a recommendation to update the tapping fees and to get the Borough in compliance.

The recommendation was setting a residential tapping fee of \$3,000-\$5,000. Vice President Fitzpatrick stated Council was putting a resolution forth where the tapping fee would not be at the maximum, but set at \$3,500.

It was also recommended a commercial tapping fee be applied. Mr. Fitzpatrick is uncomfortable with the commercial fee, not because he disapproves, but he does not totally understand it.

President Anderson made the motion to hear and adopt **Resolution #2022-05** which deals with the tapping fee to be placed at \$3,500.00. Solicitor Wakefield explained further. There was no figure recommended for non-residential buildings. It would be \$24.11 per gallon per day. Discussion followed. The motion for Resolution #2022-05 died due to lack of a second.

**Executive Session** - Councilman Dum made the motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the above mentioned resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Vice President Fitzpatrick made the motion to reconvene Borough Council regular session at 7:56 p.m., seconded by Councilman Patterson. Motion carried.

President Anderson stated the Executive Session was to discuss the legal aspects concerning Resolution #2022-05.

President Anderson asked for a motion to approve **Resolution #2022-05** to approve the tapping fees for any property owner desiring to connect to the Bloomfield Borough sewer system. The tapping fee per EDU would be \$3,500. Vice President Fitzpatrick so moved, seconded by Councilman Patterson. Motion carried.

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

Mr. Cless met with Steve Gill construction and Hominy ridge and the prospective lessee of the Odd Fellows room to discuss the project update. Initial plans were modified and resubmitted. Now awaiting responses from both parties.

He met with Hominy Ridge building contractors to review the ballfield grandstand for repairs that will be required to reopen the facility. Additionally, he reviewed the Odd Fellows room update and will be forwarding estimates for both projects.

Mr. Cless received a communique from Capitol Coatings regarding the scheduling of the borough building roof coating. Due to COVID complications with the roofing team being quarantined, the start date is now scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> week of October.

He did some further research on recycling of electronics and found a business near Carlisle PA that accepts many electronic items. He has a flyer with details.

He also received a communique from PSAB regarding any applications for federal grants. Future applications will now require Articles of Incorporation for the Borough of Bloomfield to be provided for proof of enactment (March 14, 1831...P.L. 119, Act 75 of the State General Assembly). A packet is provided to the Secretary for future use to include the necessary paperwork to comply.

**Aesthetics Committee Report** – Councilman Dum reported he had to approve a tree be cut down on West McClure Street. It has been cut and removed. Looks good. He offered a replacement, but it would be hard to do because of the telephone pole.

Thursday night they are meeting with Mondie Cunningham to place mums on the Square.

**Finance, Insurance & Safety Report** – Councilman Patterson stated there was nothing to report on finance. Councilman Patterson stated regarding the ARPA monies they are expecting to be in compliance by next Thursday. These monies will help pay for the UV bulb replacements at the sewer plant and the EMS donation. Councilman Cless asked if the ARPA monies can help pay for the handicap ramp. This is not off the table. Vice President Fitzpatrick stated they are in the process of verifying the ultimate use of the ARPA money. They have only received half the money so far.

**Grants** – Vice President Fitzpatrick stated no report.

**Personnel Committee Report-**

Councilwoman Grindle had nothing to report.

**Executive Session** – already completed

***CLOSING COMMENTS***

There being no further business, upon motion by Vice President Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councilwoman Grindle, the regular meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, October 4, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary