

MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
July 7, 2020

Bloomfield Borough Council met this evening in regular session in the Bloomfield Borough Council Chambers with the following Council members present: President J. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Kimberly A. McMullen, Michael J. Smith, Brenten S. Dum, and Wayne S. Leshar IV. Vice President Eric Berger was an excused absence.

Also present: Secretary Danielle Shope, Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Borough Employee Jacob Morrison, Mayor Arlis Krammes, BEO Harry Nazzaro, Zoning Officer/Water Authority Ed Albright Jr., Administrative Tech. Assistant Karl Cless, Parking Enforcement Officer Susanne Woolever, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, and residents Jacob Casey, Malinda Anderson, Pat Patterson and Kenneth Rauch.

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

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

MEETING OPENING

Recording of the Meeting – 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. President Fitzpatrick further requested that those individuals in the audience desiring to speak during Public Comment identify themselves prior to speaking. President Fitzpatrick asked if any individuals in the audience were also taping the meeting and if so to identify themselves for the record. 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 - Councilwoman McMullen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Smith, to approve the June 2, 2020 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Councilman Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dum, to approve the financial report for June 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

Council Member Appointment – 2 Year Term - Mayor Arlis Krammes administered the Oath of Office to resident Jacob Casey. He will fill the two year position vacated by Alex Bender. Councilman Smith made the motion to accept **Resolution 2020-03** to Fill a Vacancy, seconded by Councilman Leshar. Motion carried.

Executive Session - Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:06 p.m.

At 7:10 p.m. Councilwoman McMullen made the motion to re-convene the regular meeting, seconded by Councilman Leshar. Motion carried.

REQUESTED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

There were no requested public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Malinda Anderson, 118 West Main Street, stated her concern about fireworks being put off within the Borough limits. The first incident was June 3, 2020 at the Talmudic campus. She received several complaints at her home from her neighbors upset about firework sparks on their roofs. She informed them she was not in charge of Borough Council anymore, but she would try to find out what was happening. Ms. Anderson spoke to President Fitzpatrick over the phone about this issue. Another fireworks incident happened on June 27, 2020. Both these incidents involved full-fledged fireworks. She contacted BEO Nazarro who was out of town and she was told to contact PSP.

Another concern of Ms. Anderson's was how to contact the BEO or file a complaint with the new on-line complaint form. She stated that many older residents have no computers or if they send in their complaint form it may be five or six days before the complaint is even addressed. Some issues might need immediate attention.

President Fitzpatrick stated he spoke with Ms. Anderson and that the fireworks at the Talmudic campus were a misunderstanding. They asked about setting off firecrackers. President Fitzpatrick told the Rabbi they could set off firecrackers if finished before 10:00 p.m. The Rabbi apparently did not know the difference between firecrackers and fireworks. President Fitzpatrick accepts full accountability for this misunderstanding. President Fitzpatrick stated they have to look at the fireworks ordinance. He stated there were several fireworks set off on July 4th also in town.

Councilman Leshar addressed the complaint form. He said the online form was only one way to inform the Borough about an issue. The other two ways are to come into the office and fill out a form or print the form and fill it out. Councilman Leshar said BEO Nazarro is not a security officer or police. Councilman Leshar stated residents were calling Mr. Nazarro when there were problems and that is not how it is supposed to be. There has to be a process so there is a record of the complaint. Councilman Leshar stated, in regards to the fireworks, that every year there are fireworks all through this town.

Resident Kenneth Rauch, 121 West High Street, interjected that he can attest to the same thing but not on a work night after hours. Mr. Rauch asked who is here to enforce the code if, as Councilman Leshar stated, Mr. Nazarro is not to enforce the codes. President Fitzpatrick stated there is a code forbidding fireworks within the limits of the town. Mr. Rauch asked what the repercussions were when codes are not obeyed. Mr. Leshar questioned whether it is the law or the code that was the distinction. Mr. Rauch called the PSP and they told him it was the Borough's responsibility to enforce the code. Mr. Leshar asked Mr. Rauch what the fireworks code was with Mr. Rauch countering back to Mr. Leshar since he is the one on Council. Mr. Leshar could not find the code. President Fitzpatrick stated there are to be no fireworks period in the Borough. President Fitzpatrick stated that Council needs to look at all the ordinances to discover what teeth they can put in to enforce them. Councilman Smith interjected that as part of his report he was also concerned about the fireworks. As a Council, they need to look at the fireworks issue. Mr. Smith also had a confrontation with a neighbor when fireworks landed on his roof and his car. Mr. Rauch stated that was also his concern because fireworks were put off right across the street from his residence. President Fitzpatrick said Mr. Rauch was absolutely right about complaining about the fireworks. Mr.

Rauch then said “You are the Borough, you are the Borough Council, you are here to enforce things, but yet you have this gentleman who is limited on hours and he is not the enforcement, who is the enforcement?” President Fitzpatrick said, “Harry is the enforcement officer.” Councilman Leshar stated since the state took off restrictions on the size of the fireworks that can be bought and sold lots of other towns are having this same problem. President Fitzpatrick again stated Harry’s job is to enforce the ordinances. President Fitzpatrick again reiterated they have to look at all the ordinances to see how they can be enforced.

Ms. Anderson also suggested the Talmudic administration be told how its’ residents access the traffic pattern around the town square monument. Several times she has seen it used as a “round about” instead of a two way stop. President Fitzpatrick will contact them and let them know about this issue. He also stated anyone can contact the Rabbi and he will respond.

Mr. Karl Cless asked about online forms. Councilman Leshar stated all forms should go through the Borough Secretary with the exception of zoning that should go to Mr. Albright.

Councilwoman McMullen remarked that information received from the Pennsylvania Association of Boroughs was that if there is ever a matter of personal safety or fire that could be life threatening the PSP will respond to these issues, but not for code enforcement.

President Fitzpatrick stated that if BEO Nazarro is not in town Mr. Fitzpatrick has no problem with calling either himself or Mr. Leshar.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Solicitor’s Report – Solicitor Zimmerman was absent so there is no report.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Krammes had nothing to report.

Parking Officer Report – Mayor Krammes reported there were 5 tickets issued in the month of June, with 2 voided, 2 paid and 1 still unpaid.

Enforcement Report – Councilman Leshar had no report. BEO Nazarro stated that since his hours have been cut from 15 hours a week to 1 drive through a week he has not been able to do any preventive control or to look for any violations. He has been instructed not to respond to most of the coded ordinance complaints he used to receive so at this point he is not really getting paid to be the Borough Enforcement Officer unless there is a call during that one hour a week. Mr. Nazarro has a lot of concerns about how the system is being changed with not being able to do the preventive controls and doing the things he had been doing for the last three and one-half years. He was very frustrated this past weekend with a number of issues in town which he was not permitted to address anymore. At this time Mr. Nazarro does not see any other option except to resign his position as Bloomfield Borough Enforcement Officer. He does not see things changing with the new protocols that are being put into place by the new Borough Council. Councilman Leshar asked Mr. Nazarro if this was Mr. Nazarro’s official announcement that he was resigning. Mr. Nazarro stated he could make it official. Councilman Leshar asked President Fitzpatrick what Council should do. President Fitzpatrick asked Mr. Nazarro to submit his resignation in writing to Mayor Krammes. Mr. Nazarro gave his badge and phone to Mayor Krammes before leaving the meeting.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright reported they have put in the valves for the tank and filtration system. Half has been installed with the other half of the road being dug up tomorrow to finish putting the pipe in. The pipe will run the whole way back to the filtration plant. Thursday they should be pouring concrete if the rebar is finished by then. Councilman Leshar asked about a finish date with Mr. Albright

replying the actual finish date could be spring of next year. The paperwork has been started with DEP for the pump station and pump up at the Carson Long property to supply Talmudic with water.

Planning Commission Report – Ms. Rowlands was absent so there was no report.

FEMA/PEMA Report – Councilwoman McMullen had no report.

PCBA/COG – Mr. Albright stated there has been no meeting for the past two months. There might possibly be a meeting in September.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report - Mr. Albright issued no permits in the month on June.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report – Mr. Karl Cless reported their first meeting will be by July 15, 2020 in Council Chambers.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence –

President Fitzpatrick remarked he has not been able to reach Mr. Robert Wood for his **statement of financial interest**.

President Fitzpatrick stated Borough Council received **a thank you note from the Bloomfield Public Library** for the Borough's donation of \$1,000.

President Fitzpatrick stated there is no update on the **Historic District or Talmudic** at this time.

President Fitzpatrick recalled the **Senior Center's** request for help with their **recycling area project**. The Center is asking Council for \$524.91 to help with this project. Councilman Smith made the motion to approve Council giving the Senior Center \$524.91 for this recycling project, seconded by Councilman Leshner. Motion carried. Mr. Karl Cless has placed this information on the Borough website.

President Fitzpatrick read a letter from Boy Scout Blaike Kelemen, Landisburg Troop 73, who is working on his **Eagle Scout Project**. He is building 6 handicapped accessible picnic tables. President Fitzpatrick stated how this is a great idea but Council will have to decide where to place these tables. Councilman Smith made the motion to approve this Eagle Scout Project once the table placement is decided, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried. Councilman Dum will be in contact with Blaike Kelemen.

Ordinance #348 – Vacating McClure Street Extension – President Fitzpatrick explained in 1964 a resolution was passed to vacate the McClure Street alley that extended into the “state shed” (PennDOT property). PennDOT is planning to extend their property further into Centre Township but in order to continue with this expansion the state requires an ordinance from the Borough formally vacating this property. President Fitzpatrick read Ordinance #348. Councilman Smith moved to approve Ordinance #348, seconded by Councilman Casey. Motion carried.

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Dum had no report.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report – There is no chair at this time so there was no report.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, & SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report – Councilman Smith stated he contacted CapTax and the May earned income tax for this year compared to last year's was down \$1,700.00.

Councilman Smith has been researching the potential lease of a postal machine, but at this time it would not be cost effective. The Water Authority is not interested in sharing the cost of this lease which would be the only way the Borough could make this purchase work.

GRANTS

Councilman Smith had nothing new to report other than the one talked about with the county. It was a COVID 19 related grant. President Fitzpatrick stated they have been in touch with SEDA COG for grants to help with the accessibility of the grandstand and park behind the Borough Building.

Ms. Malinda Anderson asked if Council had heard anything about the beautification grant from the Perry County Economic Development Authority. Councilman Smith stated he just heard there is a meeting Friday.

PERSONNEL

Personnel Committee Report- Councilman Leshner stated the employee handbook has been updated and sent off to Council for review. Once the Solicitor does his review it should be ready for adoption. President Fitzpatrick added that once they receive Mr. Nazarro's resignation they will have to discuss a Code Enforcement Officer.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report – Vice President Berger was not present, but informed President Fitzpatrick that he had no report. President Fitzpatrick stated there were several more ADA sidewalk ramps to be installed but that project would be delayed until 2021 based on funding.

Borough employee Jacob Morrison reported the paving on West McClure Street is complete. At the beginning of the month, they did TVing of sewer lines on the Talmudic property. Two copies were made, one for them and one for the Borough. There were a few clogged sewer drains that had to be unclogged.

Councilman Leshner stated he could not find any ordinance about fireworks on his computer. Mr Albright told him to look under Health and Safety.

Councilman Leshner stated that in regards to Mr. Nazarro Council decided as a group they were going to amend his job description because Mr. Nazarro was getting involved in a lot of things in which he should not have been involved, such as arguments between neighbors with Mr. Nazarro in the middle of it. He was putting himself in situations that would make the Borough liable.

Mr. Jacob Morrison brought to Council's attention that he and Mr. Hartman are classified under Licensed Title as Class C operators but in the handbook it states Class D. It is supposed to be Class C to run the treatment plant.

Mr. Cless stated the new secretary's desk was broken when received so he sent it back for another one.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Dum, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, August 4, 2020 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary