

MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
April 6, 2010

Bloomfield Borough Council met this evening in regular session in the Bloomfield Borough Council Chambers with the following Council members present: President Pierce L. Clouser, Jr., Vice President John M. Long, John J. Patterson, V., Leroy J. Weller, Karl L. Cless, Jayne M. Eckert and Edwin G. Robinson.

Also present: Mayor Jean Anstine, Secretary Nancy Pote, Dale Beaston, Steve Dowell, Richard Groff, Richard Miller, Warren Ely, Dennis "Tiny" Haag, Larry Dean, Ed Kent, Roger Watson, John Shinskie (Perry County Times), Ashley Eckert, Mary Reisinger, Pam Robb, *Katie Robinson, Zach Harless, Nash Wagner and Shawna McBride (Civics)*.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE

Recording of the Meeting – President Clouser 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.

Approval of Minutes – Councilman Robinson made a motion, seconded by Vice President Long, to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2010 meeting as reviewed. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Councilman Patterson reported that due to extenuating circumstances the financial report was not available for tonight's meeting; however, he had an opportunity to review it, without interest posted, and saw no irregularities. Councilman Patterson made a motion to approve the financial report as reviewed. Upon further discussion, Council determined they would review the report for approval next month. Councilman Patterson rescinded his motion.

AGENDA REQUEST

Scout Room – Mary Reisinger met with Council to express her concerns over what was perceived as a threat to evict the Scouts from the use of the Scout meeting room based on what the Council considered was unsatisfactory conduct within the Building. Mrs. Reisinger as Girl Scout Coordinator with 60 more or less girls, thanked Council and the taxpayers for the use of the great space in the scout room in the lower level of the Borough Building. Mrs. Reisinger further noted that the Girl Scouts only have been meeting at this location for three years due to what she considered the deplorable condition of the room and lack of maintenance prior to that. Mrs. Reisinger further stated that upon deciding to hold their meetings in the Scout Room, they put in several days of hard work to make that room nice. Mrs. Reisinger thanked Council for taking care of the door locks, heat and lights when the matter was brought before Mr. Beaston and Mr. Cless and expressed appreciation on behalf of the Girl Scouts. Mrs. Reisinger expressed concern with the threat of being kicked out of the room after all the energy and cleaning she put into that space and it is their desire to continue using the room. Mrs. Reisinger further stated that she is only aware of one Girl Scout incident, tie dying, that got out of hand and she personally took off work to clean that up. Mrs.

Reisinger further expressed the condition of the room; however, many people use that room. President Clouser stated Council does not have any intention of kicking the Scouts out of there so long as the Scouts appreciate it, take care of it and not damage Borough property. President Clouser continued by stating when the Scouts don't take care of the building that is when something will be have to be done. Mrs. Reisinger feels a check in and check out sheet by those using the room would make individuals responsible. Mrs. Reisinger does not feel custodial services should be discontinued in the Scout room and young girls and part-time volunteer leaders should not be expected to maintain the space. Mrs. Reisinger stated that custodial care was provided when the Girl Scouts used the firehouse and also the Lutheran Parish. Mrs. Reisinger further stated that the Girl Scouts try to leave things better than what they found it. Mrs. Reisinger stated she was blindsided by the rapid-fire emails and conversations with Councilman Cless about the situation. Mr. Haag stated the Boy Scouts washed the blackboard, renovated the exercise trail and also moved the space shuttle at a cost of approximately \$700 when requested by Council to do so. Mr. Haag, a leader of the Boy Scouts, stated he and other Boy Scout personnel were not included in any emails and would appreciate being included on all matters relative to them. President Clouser requested Mr. Haag provide the Secretary with a copy of those email addresses. Mr. Haag stated he received a telephone call from Councilman Cless about marks on the carpet in the hallway downstairs, followed by an onsite review and discussion and the carpet has been cleaned twice at his expense and he is not sure the marks will come up. Mr. Haag further stated he thinks they will try one more time at their expense to remove the marks on the carpet. Councilman Cless implied that the marks on the carpet came from Mr. Haag's wheelchair and Mr. Haag stated that this could have been done by shoes and anyone could have done it since the hallway is used by the library as well. Mr. Haag further stated that the Barnett Building Association transferred land to the Borough in exchange for a space for the scouts to hold their meetings. Mr. Ely stated he was a Scoutmaster at that time and as far as he knew there was nothing put in writing; however, the Borough offered use of the room for exclusive use by the scouts. Councilman Cless stated that we are missing the point here. Councilman Cless further stated that the damage was done in the hallway and they have use of the scout room, not the hallway. Councilman Cless further stated that the wheelchair put the rubber marks on the carpet. Mr. Haag stated that his wheelchair did not do that because his tires are white. Mr. Haag further stated that his scouts probably did it this time but that is not to say this could not happen again. Following a verbal altercation with Mr. Haag, Councilman Cless turned his report and resignation over to the President of Council and exited the meeting. Mrs. Reisinger stated this is a shame for all he has done.

ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement Committee Report

Vehicle Ordinance Pre-Trial Follow-up – Vice President Long stated that the lawyers and judge met in March at a pretrial conference and what they basically agreed to come up with is a statement of facts for all parties concerned. Vice President Long further stated that both sides agreed there are cars on the properties. Vice President Long stated the statement of facts as well as any pretrial motions are submitted to the Judge and he expects a hearing or trial to be held the middle of July.

Resolution 2010-01 – Permit Fees – Secretary Pote stated that Resolution #2010-01 has been property advertised and is in a position for adoption. Vice President Long made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Eckert, to adopt Resolution #2010-01, as presented, that establishes permit fees for 2010. Motion carried.

License Number Authorization – Vice President Long stated there are situations other than in the overtime parking on the square in which a license number is needed and the only person approved thru the 911 system is Robert Anstine and he is no longer issuing tickets for overtime parking on the square. Vice President Long stated that he met with Larry Smeigh, Perry County Emergency Management

Coordinator, and they don't have any problem as long as one person is designated to send the request. Vice President Long stated that it might be appropriate to have one person on the Council identified as the individual that sends the request in. President Clouser stated that would expand the limitations to anywhere within the Borough. Mayor Anstine reported this process can take months. Mayor Anstine stated that she is ultimately responsible. Upon further discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Long, seconded by Councilman Robinson, to expand the authority to check license numbers of questionable vehicles as approved by the Mayor. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence

Statement of Financial Interests – President Clouser reminded individuals that are required to file a Statement of Financial Interest that the deadline to return the paperwork to Secretary Pote is May 1, 2010.

Public Comments – President Clouser stated that anyone not on the agenda can have three minutes for their presentation and requested if anyone desired to discuss any matter at this time. Hearing none, President Clouser continued the meeting.

Mayor's Report

Barking Dog – Mayor Anstine reported that in 2006 she did a letter to the owners of a barking dog at 203 West Main Street and she has again received a complaint. Mayor Anstine and Leroy Weller both stated this dog does bark when someone walks past or a car goes past; however, it does not continuously bark.

Zoning/Permit Officers Report

Street Excavation/Driveway Permits – Zoning/Permit Officer Watson reported that he issued one driveway permit for 100-104 North Carlisle Street and one street excavation permit for 121 West High Street.

Absence – Alternate Signature – President Clouser stated that in the absence of our Zoning/Permit Officer, Councilman John J. Patterson, V. has agreed to issue permits. Councilwoman Eckert made a motion, seconded by Councilman Weller, to appoint John J. Patterson, V. to issue permits in the absence of the Zoning/Permit Officer. Motion carried.

Deteriorated Structure – President Clouser stated that Zoning/Permit Officer Watson has had no inquiry concerning the deteriorated structure located at the rear of 225 West Main Street; therefore, the matter will be turned over to Solicitor Wagner.

Planning Commission Report (BBPC)

River of Life Community Church Parking Lot – Bloomfield Borough Planning Commission Chairman Steve Dowell reported the Planning Commission met on March 22, 2010 to hear a request from the River of Life Church for a 50' X 50' gravel parking lot between the rear of the church and the stream and it was approved for a special exception and it was forwarded to the Zoning/Permit Officer. BBPC Chairman Dowell expressed concern with the swale and using railroad ties for buffers. BBPC Chairman Dowell further stated that they discussed the removal of three trees on the West end of the property along

Church Street with the Shade Tree Commission and they are not in favor of it. Councilman Patterson stated they proposed to plant three additional trees on the other side of the church if approved for the removal of the three trees. Councilwoman Eckert stated that the Shade Tree Commission determined that the removal of the three trees would provide two additional parking spaces and their recommendation is not in favor of the removal of any trees. Former Councilman Beaston stated that the Zoning Hearing Board must give a special exception and per our ordinance book, the parking lot must be of a hard surface. President Clouser tabled the matter until further research.

Schannauer Acreage – BBPC Chairman Dowell stated that they reviewed and approved the Schannauer 40+ acre sub-division that has seven acres in the Borough of Bloomfield and the remainder in Centre Township. President Clouser feels Roger Watson, Navtech, has the plans at the Centre Township meeting tonight prior to coming to our meeting. Councilman Patterson made a motion, seconded by Vice President Long, to approve the sub-division as reviewed by the Bloomfield Borough Planning Commission and subject to the review and approval of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission and the Centre Township Board of Supervisors. Motion carried.

Administrative Committee Report

Building and Grounds Maintenance – President Clouser stated three trees were removed, grass planted and new plantings are anticipated in the front lawn of the Borough Building. Councilwoman Eckert stated that someone was very upset that the trees were removed without public knowledge.

Electric Heat Installation – President Clouser stated that the electric heat installation has been completed at the quoted price.

2nd Floor Window Installation – President Clouser stated that Hershocks met with Councilman Cless to discuss the design and construction of the windows for the second floor/south facing wall of the structure and an estimate is forthcoming. President Clouser further stated Councilman Cless desires to have two small matching window air conditioners purchased to complete the project.

Fire Safety Inspection – President Clouser stated that per Councilman Cless a representative of the Pennsylvania State Department of Public Welfare (Marie Maurice) visited the Borough Building to perform a safety inspection. President Clouser stated to resolve the DPW requirements; Councilman Cless offered to conduct an annual fire safety inspection, post a certificate of compliance and label the fire alarm system, fire extinguishers, emergency lights, etc. with “tested” markers.

Ballfield Authorization – President Clouser reported that Councilman Cless made contact with Chad Chenot, President of the Youth Baseball Association to clarify some issues regarding the needed authorization of Jim Woods to coordinate and schedule use of the ballfields.

Grandstand Roof Repair – President Clouser reported that Perry Roof Systems made repairs to the rubber roof on the grandstand at no charge for the benefit of the youth.

Perry County Boroughs Association - President Clouser stated Perry County Boroughs Association met on Thursday, March 18, 2010 to discuss wind generator systems for electricity.

Computer and News Update – President Clouser reported that Councilman Cless posted upcoming events for the library and civic club to the website.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetic Committee Report

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Decorative Bows – Councilwoman Eckert stated that the teal ribbons placed at various locations around the town are to mark domestic violence month. Councilwoman Eckert further stated that red, white and blue as well as the yellow ribbons have been paid for by the New Bloomfield VFW.

Shade Tree Commission – Councilwoman Eckert reported that one permit to remove a tree at 131 West Main Street was issued because roots are getting into their water line.

FINANCE, INSURANCE AND SAFETY

Finance, Insurance and Safety Committee

Financial Update – Councilman Patterson reported that until such time we finalize our investment plans, the INVEST money will be moved to the money market program because of the significantly higher interest rate.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Rights of Way and Utilities Committee Report

East McClure Street Sidewalks/Curbing Project – Councilman Weller reported that Lou Harford is behind in his schedule and he has not received any information at this time. Councilman Weller further stated that the anticipated completion of this project is the end of July.

Barnett Street Resurfacing/Stormwater – Councilman Weller reported that the project will be advertised beginning this week, the bid package needs compiled and it will be available next week. Councilman Weller stated that the project will be bid; however, the stormwater portions will be included as two separate sub-bids so the Council can determine how far they want to extend the stormwater drainage.

West Main Street Between Church & Chestnut Streets Sidewalks – Councilman Weller stated that Zoning/Permit Officer Watson has received several requests for permits and no sidewalks are to be started prior to May 1, 2010.

Wastewater Treatment Plant – Councilman Robinson stated that all projects previously reported have been completed.

Waiver – Roger Watson, Navtech, presented the Schannauer sub-division and requested Council signatures. President Clouser questioned what Centre Township did. Mr. Watson stated they have a condition with the plan. Upon further review and discussion, Council agreed not to sign anything prior to Solicitor's Wagner's approval.

Executive Session – President Clouser called an executive session to discuss a personnel matter.

President Clouser called the meeting back to order.

There being no further business, upon motion by Vice President Long, seconded by Councilwoman Eckert, meeting adjourned to meet on Tuesday, May 4, 2010. Motion carried.

Sincerely,

Nancy A. Pote, Secretary

