

MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
August 2, 2016

Bloomfield Borough Council met this evening in regular session in the Bloomfield Borough Council Chambers with the following Council members present: President Malinda C. Anderson, Vice President John J. Patterson V., Michelle L. Jones, Patricia A. McCarty, Karl L. Cless, Pierce L. Clouser, Jr., and Michael P. Pray,

Also present: Mayor Arlis Krammes, Borough Secretary Danielle Shope, Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Zoning/BBCEO/Water Authority Officer Edward Albright, Jr., Perry County Times Reporter Jim Ryan, and Borough Residents Peggy and Herb Robb.

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

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 identify themselves prior to speaking and they have 10 minutes to present their concern. 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 – Councilwoman McCarty made a motion, seconded by Vice President Patterson, to approve the July 5, 2016 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Vice President Patterson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Pray, to approve the financial report for July 5, 2016 as presented. Motion carried with one abstaining vote by Councilman Cless.

Councilman Cless questioned the check in the amount of \$125.00 written to the Perry County Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Cless expressed his displeasure and wanted to know why this was not presented to the entire Council before it was approved. President Anderson stated that she took on this responsibility herself because she felt it was within her right as President to make an administrative call. The cost was under \$150.00 and every other Borough in Perry County is a member of the Perry County Chamber of Commerce. Since we are the County Seat and the Chamber's new offices are in New Bloomfield, President Anderson felt it was important that Bloomfield Borough join. Discussion followed about whether it is a one-time fee or yearly. President Anderson suggested this topic be brought up for the budget meeting for future participation in the Perry County Chamber of Commerce. Councilman Cless was unhappy that everyone was not included in this decision and President Anderson stated she will take it into consideration so she will not make the same mistake again. Councilwoman Jones commented that there are other items in the financial report that everyone did not vote or agree upon for every single charge in the spending. She questioned which items need board approval and which ones do not. A heated debate erupted between Councilman Cless and Vice President Patterson to which President Anderson stated she will make sure it is a line item for next year. Councilman Cless thanked her.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Borough resident, Mr. Herb Robb, wanted to know what the Borough is doing about the Barnett Roads Bridge. President Anderson stated they can start looking into it at the budget meeting and would entertain any ideas anyone has. She stated the Borough has conferred with their solicitor concerning Mr. Jacob's loan offer and he feels it is not a legally sound move. However, that option is not closed. The Borough is continuing to work with HRG engineering and there is a lot more to the story. It is something that needs to be addressed.

Councilman Cless expounded on this matter. He has been puzzled with all the political posturing and excuse making regarding this closure, so he took it upon himself to call Rick Levan who is the District 8 representative for PennDOT. Councilman Cless stated his discoveries:

- 1) If the road remains closed indefinitely the Borough would begin to lose liquid fuels money most likely starting in October of this year.
- 2) There is a low-interest loan available through the PA Infrastructure Bank at 1.7% with a 10-year payback and liquid fuels money can assist in the repayment.
- 3) Since the small bridge span is less than 8 feet, DEP involvement would be minimal. All the Borough would need to do is file the DP11 permit application and submit the design criteria.

Mr. Levan is familiar with this crossing and believes a heavy duty crescent-shaped tile would be more than sufficient to handle the load. We could do the job ourselves or with the assistance of Centre Township. According to Councilman Cless, Mr. Thebes from Centre Township has offered to do the work. Mr. Thebes thinks the \$70,000-\$80,000 estimate is extreme and thinks it could be done for approximately \$50,000. Warning signs could be placed at both entrances of the road for oversized vehicles. Councilman Cless believes the Borough should be looking into this.

Vice President Patterson addressed this issue reminding Councilman Cless that this issue has been discussed often in the past and that 90% of the traffic using those bridges are non-residents of the Borough and do not pay taxes. Furthermore, the 8-ton limit is not adhered to which has been proven in the past. Both bridges would have to be rebuilt if this tonnage restriction is not followed. The Borough does not have the money for it and is not going to accept the offer from Mr. Jacobs for obvious reasons. There are many more problems in the Borough than the bridge.

President Anderson made a suggestion that Councilman Cless be on the committee that comes up with ways and means to address the bridge item. He stated he would accept that.

ENFORCEMENT

Solicitor's Report - Mr. Richard Wagner was not present. He asked President Anderson to present some items.

Development Judicial Judgment - President Anderson stated there is some movement in the Spring Lakeside Development issue. There is a pretrial conference scheduled for August 26, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. in Courtroom #2.

Development Pump Station - There are no further developments in this area.

Blighted/Disrepaired Homes - As was referenced at last month's meeting of blighted and disrepaired homes here in the Borough, one on Main Street and one on Barnett Street, Solicitor Wagner is reviewing options as far as what can be done with these properties. Solicitor Wagner will do the research on this and get back to Council.

Enforcement Committee Report - Councilman Clouser stated Ordinance #322, which all Council members have, was reviewed by Solicitor Wagner and the verbiage is now acceptable. President Anderson would like to have this approved and printed right away rather than wait for the other pending ordinances, one about fire prevention and the other the cell tower ordinances. Councilman Clouser made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman McCarty, for the advertising of Ordinance #322. Motion carried.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Krammes reported July was a busy month for weddings. There were calls about a sewer smell which Rick corrected. Mayor Krammes has received calls about high grass, but once she explains the ordinance to the residents they comply. She also has received many compliments about the way the Borough looks, even from people she does not know. Bloomfield Borough stands out from all other County Boroughs. Many have stated that the Borough is a friendly place to live. The advertisement for the BEO position will be in the paper for two weeks in August in the hopes of getting some qualified applicants.

Parking Enforcement Officer Report - Mayor Krammes reported there were 16 parking tickets issued in July, with 2 remaining unpaid. Mr. Kitner's work was praised. President Anderson stated that a suggestion was made about looking into getting ID badges for the Parking Enforcement Officer, the Borough Enforcement Officer, and the Zoning Officer.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence -

Proposed Budget Meeting Dates - President Anderson stated the mandatory budget dates are October 17, 18 and 19. Secretary Shope is checking with the PA Boroughs Association as to whether or not these budget meetings may begin as early as 4:00 p.m., so the meeting nights are not so late.

Lease Renewal for Join Hands - The Join Hands lease is up for renewal in September. This will be discussed with Join Hands to facilitate the renewal.

Addendums to the Library Lease - The Bloomfield Public Library lease needs an added addendum. The new lease will state exactly what the Borough responsibility is as a landlord and what the Library responsibilities are as tenants.

President Anderson was contacted by a Library Board member asking if the Borough would pay for one half of the air quality test the library is going to have completed. The cost for the test is \$300, so the Borough would pay \$150. Once the test is complete, documentation will be made public and a copy given to the Borough. Councilwoman Jones made a motion, seconded by Councilman Pray, to pay half the air quality test charge. Motion carried with one "no" vote by Councilman Cless.

The Borough is invited to the opening celebration of the joint office space of the Perry County Chamber of Commerce and the Perry County Economic Development Authority which will be held in New Bloomfield on August 12, beginning at 10:00 a.m. There will be several guest speakers and food and entertainment. President Anderson urged all Councilmen to attend, if able.

President Anderson also received a letter from Drew Tosh who represents a company called The George Junior Republic. This company sets up community service for children of Perry County who are on probation. President Anderson would like Councilman Clouser to look at the letter to see if he wants to meet with members of his Enforcement Committee along with Solicitor Wagner in order to discuss if it is something with which the Borough should become involved. Mayor Krammes stated she has a meeting with Mr. Tosh Tuesday, August 9th at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Krammes has asked Councilman Clouser to attend also.

Ordinance #321 had corrections made to state 300 feet instead of 50 feet on the street to be vacated. Councilman Clouser made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman McCarty, to pass this ordinance. Motion carried. Vice President Patterson then stated that the process to vacate the other end of that alley from Locust Street down to Apple Street which is approximately 1,450 feet has also started. Hopefully, this will be taken care of by this Fall.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright reported a \$78,000 grant was received from SEDA/COG. The monies should be coming in Spring/Summer 2017. The Water Authority will work with the Sewer Authority to get this project accomplished. Mr. Albright just received the 2015 audit back from Robert W. Morris & Company. The accountants were a month late in reporting the Water Authority's financial status to the state. Mr. Albright voiced his dissatisfaction. He will begin looking for another auditor.

Mr. Albright met with the USDA to sign more paperwork. There will be a meeting in September with the Susquehanna River Basin Authority so they can tell us how much water we can take out of the well. Then, we will have to get with Centre Township to discuss the land needed to build our well house.

The Water Authority recommended Chuck Sheaffer to the Borough as a new member. Councilman Pray made the motion, seconded by Councilman Clouser, to approve Mr. Sheaffer's appointment to the Water Authority. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Report - Ms. Rowlands was not present, so there is no report.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report - Mr. Albright reported that he issued 1 driveway permit to the Food Bank for the month of July.

Administrative Committee Report - Mr. Cless submitted the hearing notice for public comment on the wireless cell tower ordinance to the Secretary. August 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. was selected as the date and time.

Councilman Cless installed the new replacement window for the lower level, plus purchased and installed new window blinds. The room is now ready for rental.

He rebuilt the lower level light fixture, purchased replacement bulbs and ballasts for future building maintenance.

Councilman Cless completed the cleaning and painting of the library wall.

Councilman Cless joined President Anderson and Vice President Patterson in the meeting with Bloomfield Fire Company to discuss issues at the new fire company building site.

He received the Summer 2016 FEMA Resilience Report. The PA spotlight was on Cambria County for migrating their database sets into LGIM software (produced by ESRI ... same company that does ArcGis software used by Perry County) which will assist in county planning in a variety of ways.

As stated previously in the minutes, Councilman Cless contacted Rick Levan (Bloomfield Borough rep for PennDOT District 8-0) regarding the closed section of Barnett Woods Road. The results of the conversation are stated above in the minutes.

FEMA/PEMA Report - Councilman Cless received no report and there is no meeting planned.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report - Councilman Pray reported there was to be a meeting July 12, 2016, but it was cancelled. The next one will be in October.

Councilman Cless stated he heard two complaints regarding Cap Tax. He asked Councilman Pray if he has heard anything. Councilman Pray stated the meetings are very perfunctory with a set agenda. There is a new system in place and sometimes people get more than one warning, etc. Mr. Cless directed the people in question to contact the CTCB.

Borough Enforcement Officer's Report - This report was inadvertently missed earlier on the agenda. Mr. Albright reported that he gave three cars warning for parking the wrong way on the McClure Street. They all moved their cars within an hour. A car on North Apple Street was parked the wrong way and out of inspection. He spoke to the gentleman and the car was gone in a few days. He reported high grass on West McClure Street and that was taken care of. There has been a lot of activity around the square after 11:00 p.m. Apparently young adults are playing "Pokemon Go" and New Bloomfield appears to be the center of the game. Someone put a hammock on the trees in the square, so Mr. Albright took that down. Four people were at the playground at 11:30 p.m., so he asked them to leave which they did and then they parked up at the elementary school and walked around town till 12:30 a.m. They do not live in the Borough.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report - Councilwoman McCarty reported there was no meeting this month. She commended the Borough employees for the mulching of the planters, etc. Everything looks great. They will probably be meeting in September/October for holiday planning.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Telecommunications Committee Report - Councilman Pray reported that Mr. Hain of Nittany Media attended the July meeting of the Borough. He gave Councilman Pray a copy of the red line that Nittany Media came up with. President Anderson and Councilman Pray met about this and gave their comments which were typed up and sent to Mr. Fraga at Cohen Law. Mr. Fraga will follow up with Nittany Media and convey to them what the Borough decided.

Wireless Ordinance Proceedings Report - Councilman Cless reported that August 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. will be the date and time for the wireless ordinance hearing open to the public.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report - Vice President Patterson asked all the committee chairmen to be thinking about the funds they would like for the upcoming budget negotiations.

Grants Report - Councilwoman Jones had no report. President Anderson suggested Councilwoman Jones work with Councilman Cless on the loan/grant money for the bridge replacement he mentioned beforehand.

Personnel Committee Report - Councilwoman Jones reported the personnel committee met and have submitted an ad for the BEO position, with the hope of doing interviews in September.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report - Vice President Patterson reported the underground casing and finishing of the manholes is completed. The casing for the year for the sewer is completed. The Church Street storm rehab will be finished this summer. A new storm box at the corner of Church and Main should also be completed this summer. There is a drainage ditch beside the Borough playground and Don Jacobs Insurance that will need to be addressed. Damon Hartman is looking into the cost of cleaning it out.

August 2, 2016
Page 6
PABB01465

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Vice President Patterson, seconded by Councilman Clouser, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. to meet on Tuesday, September 6, 2016 for a regular meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary