

MINUTES Bloomfield Borough Council August 6, 2019

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, James A. Woods, Vice President John J. Patterson V, Alex M. Bender, and Karl L. Cless. Eric S. Berger excused absence.

Also present: Secretary Danielle Shope, Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Mayor Arlis Krammes, HRG Borough Engineer Michael T. Postick, Bloomfield Borough Zoning Officer and Water Authority Representative Ed Albright, Jr., BEO Harry Nazzaro, Perry County Economic Development Authority representatives Martha Roberts, Brenda Watson and Rich Pluta, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, Borough Building Security Camera prospect Howard McCord, NavTech representative Roger Watson, observers Karen Anderson and Betsy Moyer and borough residents Robin Dum, Pastor Linda Shank, Carson E. R. Holman and Pat Woolever.

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 3 minutes to present their concern. Individuals have 10 minutes to present their concern if they are on the agenda. 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 – Councilman Cless made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woods, to approve the July 2, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Vice President Patterson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cless, to approve the financial report for July 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

President Anderson gave Borough recognition to Colonel Carson E.R. Holman for his contribution to the Borough of four pen and ink drawings depicting several Carson Long Military Academy buildings. These drawings were hung in Borough Council Chambers. President Anderson thanked him for his dedication to the Bloomfield Borough community. Reporter Jim Ryan took Colonel Holman's picture for inclusion in the Perry County Times. A certificate of appreciation will also be given to Colonel Holman.

Perry County Economic Development Authority – Martha Roberts:

Ms. Roberts had submitted to Council members an introductory letter explaining background information about what the PCEDA has been working on and how they determined that a county wide downtown revitalization project can positively impact Perry County's economy. She spoke about starting this downtown revitalization initiative and this is going to be a community based comprehensive effort to create master plans for all of the towns that want to participate in this effort. The goal is to create the plans

and submit a Main Street application for all of the participating towns to qualify as a Main Street region. These plans are what the Borough wants to see happen in town for both short and long term time lines. Support for developing each plan will come from 3rd party experts working with the community. These plans will be funded by PCEDA from grants. A team of people would come into the community to help create these plans to help improve town and county economies. Some of these plans (lighting, street scaping, etc.) could see matching funds from the Department of Community and Economic Development. It would also give the Borough the opportunity to apply for other funding, both public and private. Ms. Roberts hopes the Borough will consider this initiative. She will be coming back to New Bloomfield to have an assessment meeting once they retain the expert that will drive this initiative. There is an extended time line of just under a year. President Anderson mentioned the capital improvement plan the Borough wants to establish and this initiative would tie into this plan and what the Borough would want to do in a five year plan. Vice President Patterson mentioned about creating a committee to work with this endeavor.

Child Safety Program – Perry County Sheriff’s Office – Barbara Harman:

Ms. Barbara Harman was absent so there was no presentation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Reverend Linda Shank thanked Council for allowing her to come speak about the Young Voices Program. This program was started in 2018 by Pastor Jean Felty of the New Bloomfield United Methodist Church. It is an after school program that meets Wednesday afternoons and caters to K-grade 5 children. They are staffed with a choir director. They sing and do crafts, etc. They are trying to teach them good actions and interactions. The program received two grants to support the program this year. President Anderson thanked Reverend Shank for sharing this information and also stated Young Voices is being considered for participation in the community tree lighting ceremony this year.

President Anderson introduced Mr. Howard D. McCord who represents a security camera company from whom the Borough has entertained purchasing inside and outside cameras. Mr. McCord gave the Borough several options. He always recommends the first option. The first options would include 8 cameras, a 3 terabyte NVR which is the way of the future. The NVR allows you to look at things remotely from a cell phone or other mobile device. These cameras also have low light and night vision. Six cameras would be located outside, with 2 inside. Both systems come with these options he mentioned, but the first option will save money in the long term. Additional cameras are available, 16 on the first option, eight on the second option. President Anderson asked if print or real time footage from these cameras could be used if legal action would need to be taken. Mr. Howard said yes on both counts. Video will hold for approximately 21 days. Vice President Patterson asked if the cameras have zoom capabilities to which Mr. Howard stated they do not. This is all hard wired. The Borough is taking bids from other companies as well but Mr. Howard is the first to present his camera package to Council. See his filed proposal for more information and pricing.

NavTech – Land Development Plan – Roger Watson:

Mr. Watson presented printed land development plans to Council. Mr. Watson stated that something that has come to his attention is that Lot 30 is a buildable lot from the approved plans back in 2004 from Lakeside PRD. He stated that the pump station was just carved out as an easement and was not part of the land for Lot 30. President Anderson asked if this was done legally. Mr. Watson pointed to the 2004 recorded plan showing Lot 30 with the pump station on the easement. Borough Engineer Mr. Postick noted this plan. Mr. Postick asked Mr. Watson what his concern is. Mr. Watson wants to take Lot 30 and carve it up like it is shown on the subdivision plan and do away with it being a building lot and they would

just reserve the land for the pump station instead of an easement. The land would be given to the Borough with the pump station. Vice President Patterson asked if it was entirely the Lot 30 the Borough has been talking about? Mr. Watson stated no and that it would still be an easement. Mr. Postick just saw the plans this afternoon and stated that "If it is the flag-shaped Lot 30 as it is now and if there was an easement placed on it and that land is still a part of that property all the easement is is just simply granting whoever wants to access it, whether it's the Borough or some other entity, the easement gives them the right to do so and cross that property and do whatever they have to." Mr. Postick questioned Mr. Watson as to whether Mr. Watson was planning to give the Borough an easement to the pump station, Mr. Watson stated "No, it is already an easement now and that we would be giving them the land around the pump station instead of an easement." President Anderson questioned, "You will be giving us all of Lot 30?" Mr. Watson stated "Just the way we show on the plan." Mr. Postick stated, "Just what's on the new proposal so the easement is a moot point". Mr. Postick stated "Giving them the lot implies you are giving them the utilities as well, is this what you are saying?" Mr. Watson said "Yes". Mr. Postick stated "I don't feel it is in the Borough's best interest to take the land for the use of the pump station in the shape in which is proposed in this plan, it is entirely too small." Mr. Watson nodded agreement. President Anderson stated "Our contention has been, we want to take Lot 30 only with no restrictions, but our requirements for future use, i.e. whether you are developing other houses which would tie onto the pump station which might make the pump station bigger, that has been our contention from the get go, that is why we want Lot 30. We were supposed to have a deed by July 1 and we still don't have it." Mr. Watson said that there is the question of who owns the pump station. He said the Borough took everybody to court to see who owned the streets and utilities and the court said Mr. Fred Thebes owned it. President Anderson told him that all the Borough got were the streets. Mr. Watson does not understand how you can get the streets and not the infrastructure underneath it. He also remarked how the municipality allowed people to tie into those sewer lines. Mr. Postick remarked that a municipality can allow households to tie into a private system. The revenue collected is for the sake of treating the waste water that comes through that utility. They are not obligated to manage that utility. Mr. Watson still thinks Mr. Thebes owns the pump station. President Anderson stated that " In an effort of cooperation and since this has been such a bone of contention for many of us, I think that in the Borough's best interest and in your business' best interest it would be smarter for all of us to say that until the issue of just Lot 30 is resolved – I would have liked to have seen just separate plans for your land development plan without Lot 30 because now they are tied together – and we feel we are being forced to take Lot 30 the way we don't want it tying into the subdivision plan. These should be totally two separate things." Mr. Postick said to Mr. Watson that if you want to develop this according to the rules and regulations according to the ordinances of this Borough Mr. Watson can do so but the Borough is under no obligation to take that lot or the pump station. Mr. Watson stated that if they want growth in this Borough the only way to do it is to take the pump station. Mr. Postick stated again that the Borough does not have to take the pump station for Mr. Watson to develop the land. Vice President Patterson stated it was all or none Mr. Watson, to which Mr. Watson stated it was none. Mr. Watson and Vice President Patterson had some tense exchanges over whether or not the borough wants the pump station. President Anderson began a comment "That until we can resolve the ownership of Lot 30", to which Mr. Watson interrupted stating he owns Lot 30. Mr. Watson remarked that Council tells Mr. Postick what to say - to which Council stated "No" and Mr. Postick stated "That is two steps away from an ethical cross." Councilman Cless remarked to Mr. Watson, "You just said you own Lot 30, yet two minutes ago you said Fred Thebes owned Lot 30." Mr. Watson says it is on an easement. President Anderson requested a motion to table this issue until it can be addressed in a reasonable way and the Borough's attorney can also be present. Councilman Cless made the motion to table this issue, seconded by Councilman Woods. Motion carried.

Other Public Comments - Karen Anderson introduced herself as a candidate for County Commissioner.

ENFORCEMENT

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Wagner was absent so no report.

Enforcement Committee Report – Councilman Berger was absent, but President Anderson reported for him that the Borough has been moving along with the Blight Ordinance. Property owners have been contacted and they have made great strides in either demolishing their buildings or, in the case of the Uni-Mart, they have complied with the Borough improvement requests. Mr. Fred Morrow plans to demolish the blue house on Barnett Street by the end of September, beginning of October. Mr. Berger has contacted a few people about their sidewalk repairs and everyone has been cooperative and compliant. Mr. Berger will follow up with the other estimates for the security cameras.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Krammes stated that she was called by Mr. Dum about more burning by Frank Bailor on Sunday and Monday evenings. Mr. Albright took the Mayor out to observe the burn of trash and hay bales. The Mayor thought there was nothing to be done because it was not in the borough, but indeed it is. The Fire Company was called and they went out and put it out. President Anderson stated that Mr. Bailor has been told several times before about burning toxic materials, so a copy of the fire report could be used to fine him. Mr. Mitchell Robb would be the person to contact for the fire report.

Mayor Krammes reported there were 12 parking tickets issued in July with 3 unpaid.

Borough Enforcement Officer's Report - BEO Nazzaro reported things were really busy. His biggest issue was at 39 West High Street for which he filed an incident report which can be viewed in his file. Councilman Bender responded that Mr. Nazzaro did the correct thing and they called the PSP about these renters. BEO Nazzaro issued the following warnings: Park hours, 1; dog waste cleanup, 1; vehicle blocking sidewalk, 1; vehicle with no plate and no inspection, 1; Trash, 1; chickens running loose, 1; skateboarding, 1; weeds, 1; parking too close to crosswalk, 1; vehicle blocking driveway/private alley, 1; vehicle partly blocking public alley, 1; wrong way parking, 6; double parking, 1; disabled vehicle (flat tire), 1; uninspected vehicle on street, 12; loud music at park, 1; Perry Housing issues, 3; parking on yellow lines, 2; grass, 2; post Office Lot warnings, 11 written, 3 verbal.

For BEO Nazzaro's full report and several Incident Reports see the reports on file in the Borough Office.

President Anderson stated that notification was received today from PSP and that to access their clean system which allows the Borough to get license plate information a new contact form must be filled out by August 15, 2019. She requested Mr. Nazzaro and Mr. Bender see her to complete this form.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence – President Anderson stated budget meetings are set for 4 p.m. on October 21 and 22, 2019. Attendance is mandatory. She suggested committee chairmen get their financial figures together for fund expenditure.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright stated they accepted the bid for the tank. Hopefully, the pad can be poured before November. It looks like the tank will go up in early 2020. The preliminary plan for the building permit for DEP went through and they approved the first portion. As soon as the technical review is approved they will issue the Water Authority a permit to go ahead and build. Things are moving along and hopefully things can be completed by 2020.

Planning Commission Report – No one from the planning commission was present, but President Anderson stated Mr. Fitzpatrick submitted an email that was basically about what Mr. Watson and Mr. Postick previously discussed on Lot 30 so she would take no further time on this issue.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report - Mr. Albright issued 2 zoning permits. One for a room addition at 210 West Main Street and one for a swimming pool at 139 West McClure Street. He issued two tapping fees for 32 West McClure Street, one for sewer and one for water.

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Cless reported that he circulated the petition for reduction of council members from 7 to 5 and obtained 50 signatures surpassing the required 5%. He prepared supporting documentation; including a cover letter, the petition with signatures, list of past council members showing a pattern of resignations before completing the required election cycles, and a list of total registered voters from the precinct for submission to the Court of Common Pleas; then, forwarded to the Borough Solicitor for disposition. Mr. Cless also contacted the PA Assoc. of Boroughs regarding a request by Gary Thomas to name a street or Borough building in honor of Mr. Dale Beaston, a very active council member for many years. PSAB recommended that council remain neutral on the subject as this could create a divisive situation. If Mr. Thomas or a group wishes to lead a movement in this regard, a petition could lead to a voter referendum to decide the matter. President Anderson suggested Mr. Cless contact Mr. Thomas to advise him about his findings. Mr. Cless requested a quote from JPH Enterprises to install carpet mulch on the borough playground. The bid was \$8,325 to meet the insurance safety specification based upon the equipment we have. Mr. Cless thanked him but the budget will not allow for this expenditure. Mr. Cless repaired the multi-person swing at the borough playground. It was vandalized and discovered by the BEO during an inspection of the Park. Mr. Cless suggested that Mr. Nazzaro speak to the young man who vandalized the swing and request he pay the twenty-five dollars needed to repair the swing as restitution for his first time offense. Councilman Cless made the motion to request a \$25.00 payment from the young man who vandalized the swing as restitution in lieu of charging him with a misdemeanor, seconded by Vice President Patterson. Motion carried. President Anderson stated that Mr. Woods received a call about a young man and girl that crawled up on top of the baseball fence. Councilman Cless also installed a new lock on the COG-BIU office door.

FEMA/PEMA Report - Councilman Cless had nothing to report.

PCBA/COG – Mr. Albright stated there was nothing to report.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report – Councilman Cless reported the group met on July 17th in Council Chambers. Municipal disbursements were reviewed and approved. Other matters were discussed including municipalities wishing to drop Cap Tax as their official collector. The apparent increase from 1.5% to 2% has caused concern and has prompted some to look elsewhere for a new collector.

President Anderson regretfully remarked on the death of Perry County Sheriff Steven Hile. She attended his funeral services. Vice President Patterson made the motion to approve a monetary contribution of \$200 to be sent to the 193rd Special Operations Wing Association in Middletown in Mr. Hile's memory, seconded by Councilman Woods. Motion carried.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report – Vice President Patterson had no report.

Grants – No report.

Personnel Committee Report- Councilman Bender had no report.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report - Vice President Patterson reported everything has been completed, the paving, the sewer issues, etc. with the exception of the ADA sidewalks to which Mr. Postick will comment.

ADA Sidewalks – HRG Mike Postick spoke to Mr. Levan and once we get the approval from him we can go ahead and put the bid out. Vice President Patterson made the motion for approval to allow Mr. Postick that once he receives approval from PennDOT to go ahead and bid out the ADA sidewalk project, seconded by Councilman Cless. Motion carried.

President Anderson presented Councilman Charles “Nate” Summers resignation from Council letter. It is effective August 1, 2019. Councilman Woods made the motion to accept Mr. Summers’ resignation, seconded by Councilman Bender. Motion carried.

Councilman Woods made the recommendation that the slow moving Borough vehicles have the triangular caution emblems displayed. Mr. Hartman will look into acquiring the appropriate number needed. Councilman Woods also remarked on how the flowers around town are looking good and thanked everyone who helps take care of the flowers.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Vice President Patterson, seconded by Councilman Cless, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, September 3, 2019 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary