

MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
August 7, 2018

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, Kevin C. Weller, Charles N. Summers, Pierce L. Clouser, Jr., Michael J. Smith, and Karl L. Cless. Vice President John J. Patterson V. was absent due to same evening home storm damage.

Also present: Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Borough Zoning/Permit Officer Ed Albright, Jr., Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, PEO applicant Kristen Johns, and resident Robin Dum.

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 Summers made a motion, seconded by Councilman Clouser, to approve the July 3, 2018 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Councilman Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilman Weller, to approve the financial report for July 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

Councilman Weller questioned the payment to Frank Bailor, but it was explained that the amount was for lumber for a fence along Barnett Woods Road. It was in the original contract for the Barnett Woods Road project that the fence would be replaced, but Mr. Bailor requested reimbursement for the wood and he would do the work himself. Mr. Weller was satisfied with explanation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no Public Comments.

ENFORCEMENT

Solicitor's Report – Mr. Richard Wagner delivered to President Anderson the proposed ordinance for a four way stop at West McClure and Church Streets in order for the Council to review and if necessary adopt this evening so it can be advertised in the paper for the necessary two week period. Councilman Weller made the motion to approve the ordinance to make a four way stop at the intersection of West McClure and Church Streets, seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion carried.

Councilman Cless mentioned most of the stop signs in Lakeside Development are not legally ordinances. President Anderson asked Councilman Cless to give Solicitor Wagner a list of those stop signs in the development so they can be ordinances in the future.

The only other issue was Lot 30. There has been no activity. At the June meeting, the Council voted that if nothing happened by the July meeting they were no longer interested. That timeline has come and gone. There is the question that the trustee may be stepping aside because one of the principals in the Corporation is questioning whether or not there is a conflict since the trustee's father once served on Borough Council years ago. So the Lot 30 issue has regressed in the past several months.

President Anderson stated the weeds have grown so high you cannot see the pump station right now. All the people's homes relying on that pump station are living on a prayer. Solicitor Wagner stated there was nothing preventing Council from sending a letter reminding them that the pump station is privately owned and if there are problems contact the corporation, not the Borough. President Anderson stated letters were sent out last year telling them to contact the corporation's principles, but another letter can be sent this year as soon as the two new homeowners have taken occupancy.

Enforcement Committee Report – President Anderson told Solicitor Wagner that the Enforcement Committee has done a sidewalk assessment and Borough ordinances and codes specify the depth of a sidewalk, but not the width. She asked if an ordinance would be needed to change the width of a sidewalk. Mr. Wagner stated if that is what the borough wants it can be done. Councilman Weller looked in the book, but could not find any measurement for a sidewalk's width. Mr. Albright said he would take a look because there are "hidden" places in the codebook. Mr. Wagner stated to let him know and this issue of sidewalk width could be dovetailed with the extra stop signs in the development ordinance and do it all at once.

Councilman Weller stated that it was brought to his attention that beside Ferster's Meat Market there is a water problem from down spouts. The resident on the corner has to fix his sidewalk and he was concerned about the water running across the sidewalk. There is a storm drain there that can be tapped into. Councilman Weller spoke to Borough employee Mr. Hartman about this issue. A box can be put in where the downspouts are so the water can run into the box and then into the storm drain. It will be approximately \$800 for the box and pipe. The machine will be available soon and it is something the Borough can fix themselves.

Councilman Weller also stated the footbridge by the River of Life Church needs to be repaired. Mr. Hartman said he can fix it. The resident at 102 is going to replace his sidewalk and if the Borough can repair the bridge at the same time as the resident pours concrete for his sidewalk it will cost less since the concrete would come on the same truck. This would save the Borough some money. Mr. Hartman suggested an amount of \$1,200 to complete both the storm box and the footbridge projects.

Councilman Weller made the motion for the expenditure of \$1,200 to make the storm box additions and repair the footbridge, seconded by Councilman Clouser. Motion carried.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Krammes said she has been getting complaints about the flowers on the square and she replies it is because of the weather. The dedication of the mural will be on September 8, 2018 during the street fair.

Mayor Krammes presided over the oath of office for the new Bloomfield Borough Parking Enforcement Officer Kristen Johns. President Anderson and Council welcomed her. Her official start date will be worked out with Johns and the Mayor.

Borough Enforcement Officer's Report - BEO Nazzaro was absent, but submitted his report stating July was very busy with the holiday, carnival and weeklong storms. He began more frequent patrols on Academy Road due to Carson Long closing and staff reduced to only 2, soon possibly no employees on site. He observed many people walking the property and at times even attempting to enter buildings. He speaks to anyone observed on the property attempting to deter any inappropriate behavior. He found open doors on the property and spoke to the last instructor who stated he would attempt to have them secured. At this time they still have not been secured.

On the 4th of July, BEO Nazzaro completed 5 hours of logged patrols. He completed extensive foot patrols on the 4th and dealt with a dog running loose, 2 juvenile males attempting to fight, a group of juvenile males harassing a juvenile female, parking issues, public drinking and many issues with noise and fireworks partly due to state law changing. July 7th for some reason was the worst night with many noise and fireworks issues, but all were handled without major incident.

He responded late at night to cows on Barnett Woods Road. They were herded back into fence and he spoke to the farmer regarding them. He also received a report that a dog had been loose several days before and had attempted at attack a resident. He spoke to the reported dog owner and also spoke to the Dog Warden so she could verify shots and licensing. The dog was licensed and the warden is checking into the shots as well. He observed a large fire and spoke to residents reminding them only small, monitored enclosed recreational fires were allowed.

BEO Nazzaro issued the following warnings: 24 hour trash (1); uninspected vehicles on public street (5); parking issues (6); loud music/individuals (3); burning (1); Park behavior (1); trash (6); grass/weeds (15); house numbers (3); sidewalk parking (1); weeds/grass and trash (5). A second warning was given to Wrights Welding shop for weeds/grass and trash. A 3rd warning was given to 39 W. McClure Street for cleanup.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence – President Anderson stated it was a light month for submissions. She informed Councilman Cless all the signatures needed for the FEMA plan for Bloomfield have been received except for Mr. Baughman's so she asked Mr. Cless to reach out to him for his signature. President Anderson also informed Council that the New Bloomfield Fire Company dropped off their compiled financial statements for 2017 and anyone on Council may view the copy which will be held by the Secretary in the Borough Office.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright reported the geologist went over the area again to see if they could drill another well somewhere, but the geologist reported back that we will not get anything better than what we have and that it could possibly be less water and not be sufficient. It would be irresponsible to abandon Well 3 with the amount of money already put into this well just because we have to filter. DEP again has us between a rock and a hard place. So the Authority has decided to press on. They have talked with USDA and they will increase their loan by \$1.868 million dollars. USDA will be sending the Borough a request that the Borough back the Water Authority's \$1.8 million dollar increase. The Authority is looking at increasing water rates over a number of years. Bloomfield is one of the lowest rates in Perry County. Bloomfield is fortunate that we can keep expenses down by doing it ourselves, meaning operate by the Water Authority, and not selling out to a company. The Authority is continuing applying for grants. They applied for a \$450,000 grant and will not stop applying for grants. The Borough can expect something from USDA by September. Once the year test for DEP is done they have to do a pilot test for the filtration system and that test will cost \$50,000.

Mr. Albright stated Mr. Hartman and Mr. Scheffey will be replacing a stretch of pipe on Apple Street. Also the line in the development which was to be a 6 inch line was discovered to be an 8 inch line. Mr. Hartman and Mr. Scheffey will do the work on this line to put in a shut off valve.

Planning Commission Report – Neither Melanie Rowlands or Mr. Fitzpatrick were present so no report.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report - Mr. Albright reported he issued one permit for the month of July to 13 West Main Street. Rita Metcalf is starting to renovate for the apartment and café, located in the former Moore Insurance Agency in the square.

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Cless reported the renovation of the office space on the upper level of the Borough Building is now complete making it ready for occupancy. Notices for availability have been placed on the Borough website and Facebook account. He purchased window treatments and installed them in the Borough Office, Council Chambers and the newly renovated office space. He replaced light bulbs in the library and cleaned the carpet in the lower level near the entryway stairs. Mr. Cless attempted to reach out to local exterior restoration companies to clean the exterior of the borough Building and these attempts have been frustrating. All potential vendors are genuinely concerned with pressure cleaning of the old bricks and mortar fearing damage to their fragile nature. One estimate was received for a less aggressive wash for \$3,200 from Kensol Service of Duncannon. He will need Council's consideration and approval to proceed. Mr. Cless received a tip that a non-resident of the Borough was dumping garbage in the Patio Court portion of the development. Surveillance photo of the culprit was obtained and will be turned over to the DA for prosecution of theft of services.

FEMA/PEMA Report - Councilman Cless received notification from FEMA of the next webinar regarding long term hazardous mitigation planning but this is something for the county not the Borough. President Anderson asked Mr. Cless to forward an invitation on pipeline safety programs that was received in the mail to Mr. Baughman.

PCBA/COG – Mr. Albright reported there has been no meeting but the next meeting is scheduled for November.

Mr. Albright made a comment as a Borough resident. He stated there is an ordinance that the grass around the Lot 30 pump station has to be cut.

Councilman Cless told Mayor Krammes that there are all sorts of “varmints” in the un-mowed fields in the Lakeside Development area. He and several other residents have taken it upon themselves to rid the area of the varmints by whatever means necessary. Mr. Cless asked the Mayor to talk to Mr. Watson about mowing the grass. President Anderson stated the Borough will have to send Mr. Watson a notice about mowing the grass and if he does not comply with the ordinance there will be a fine.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report – Councilman Cless reported the Board of Directors of CapTax met on July 9th to discuss the sale of the old office building in Harrisburg, disbursement of EIT funds to member municipalities, and the resignation of two employees. All actions were approved. CapTax board meetings will begin at the Bloomfield Borough Building on October 17, 2018. He has since learned the sale of the Harrisburg building failed due to a technical glitch with the city.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report – Councilman Summers reported that not a lot got finished because of the constant rain. They did get some mulching done around the spring area with plans to do more. One issue they had there was watering and he purchased a rain barrel that was received today. He and Mr. Hartman

will set that up. The Home Depot grant winners should be announced August 14th. He applied for money to paint the ballfield bleachers.

Councilman Cless asked Mr. Summers if the gate at the spring was replaced. Mr. Summers stated the gate has been left open and because of this more people feel free to walk into the spring park area. Right now the gate will be left open.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report - Vice President Patterson was absent so no report.

Grants – Councilman Smith reported Mike Postick sent him a variety of available grants. He will need some direction from other Council members as to what the priorities are and what projects do they want to pursue.

He and President Anderson discussed a grant available called Safe Access PA which allows safe access for children to get to and from schools. Councilman Smith reached out to someone who works for Penn Dot regarding grant opportunities. He specifically asked about ADA crosswalks as a possible resolution for the intersection of Chestnut and Main Streets, as well as other crosswalks throughout town. The Penn Dot person suggested spending money to do a borough-wide assessment first to see what the greatest needs are which would also give a “ball park” on costs. The Borough could then pick and choose which ones to fix and the assessment would provide necessary information for grant applications. Many grants are available (some of which require matching funds) that are designated for crosswalks particularly those close to schools. As he learns more about this he will keep Council apprised.

President Anderson stated the assessment the Borough had done before was not an official assessment.

Councilman Smith will reach to Mr. Postick about crosswalk grants and get back to Council in September.

Personnel Committee Report- Councilman Smith’s reported the committee recommended Kristen Johns as PEO. He will also be doing an insurance review. Mr. Hartman asked for a review of the Borough’s insurance policy on its employees. Mr. Hartman offered some suggestions. Councilman Smith is proposing a committee examine these concerns and suggestions. President Anderson made the suggestion that Councilman Smith get some thoughts together so there are some possible numbers for the October budget meeting.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report - Vice President Patterson was absent so no report. President Anderson stated the Borough employees as well as the Borough’s engineering firm will be doing a punch list along with SEDA-COG representatives to go over the final things with DeTraglia on the McClure Street project.

Mayor Krammes stated there is only one person left at Carson Long Military Academy and was concerned about the upkeep of the grounds. President Anderson stated that is something they are required to do as long as they are legally the owners. The Council will have to keep on them about the upkeep.

Councilman Cless stated that the only way to lower the Borough Building’s insurance premium is to increase the deductible. He asked the Moore Agency to check into the pricing and he will report on this at the September meeting to discuss what Council wants to do.

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CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Clouser, seconded by Councilman Summers, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, September 4, 2018 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary