

MINUTES Bloomfield Borough Council December 5, 2017

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., Kevin C. Weller, Charles N. Summers, Pierce L. Clouser, Jr., Michael P. Pray and Karl L. Cless.

Also present: Secretary Danielle Shope, Mayor Arlis Krammes, Assistant Borough Secretary Kathleen Miller, Borough Employee Damon Hartman, BEO Harry Nazzaro, Water Authority and Zoning Officer Ed Albright, Planning Commission Chair Melanie Rowlands, HRG Engineer Ryan Hostetter, Gloria Trostle, Madison Trostle (Civics student), residents Kevin and Patti McCarty and Bonnie Westhafer.

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; 10 minutes if they are on the agenda. President Anderson stated that Council will not deviate from the agenda and any comments should be addressed during the appropriate portion of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes – Councilman Pray made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cless, to approve the November 7, 2017 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Vice-President Patterson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Clouser, to approve the financial report for November 2017 as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Resident Kevin McCarty asked Council to Opt Out of the Casino Resolution #2017-11.

ENGINEER REPORT - RYAN HOSTETTER

Mr. Hostetter stated the Barnett Woods Road culvert project is underway. He stated Mid-State did an excellent job with getting the pipe in the ground, backfilled and they have the stone course down. Next will be the paving depending on the outside temperatures. President Anderson asked about the signage for the road. Mr. Hostetter explained the “one way” issue for Barnett Woods Road. Mr. Hostetter stated Barnett Woods Road from East McClure Street out to North 34 (Main Street) will be one way to North 34. You will not be able to turn onto Barnett Woods Road from East Main Street. The rest of Barnett Woods Road will be two way from East McClure Street, South to South Carlisle Street. The reopening of Barnett Woods Road will depend on the paving timeline.

ENFORCEMENT

Solicitor's Report – Mr. Richard Wagner discussed a telephone conference he had last week. Council has been promised they would hear about the dedication of Lot 30 to the Borough and as of December 5th Mr. Wagner or Council has not heard from anyone about this matter. A gentleman called Mr. Wagner last week with an interest in purchasing some of the lots and wanted Mr. Wagner's input. Upon reviewing the lots with a realtor, this man said he was informed Lot 30 was to be dedicated to the Borough. Mr. Wagner replied there was no official designation by those who are selling the lots. Mr. Wagner left this gentleman with the task of going back and finding the source of this information so Mr. Wagner can pursue where this is coming from. Mr. Wagner spoke with an attorney who represented two of the three members of the corporation and that attorney indicated one of the two members of the corporation was to call Mr. Wagner to discuss the Borough overtaking Lot 30. This never happened. Mr. Wagner will inform Council if he hears anything as a follow up from this. The Court appointed Attorney Robin Holman as the receiver. Vice-President Patterson asked Mr. Wagner if someone bought all the rest of those lots would he have to produce a new PRD (Planned Residential Development). Mr. Wagner replied he would not have to produce a new PRD but would have to comply with the requirements of the approved plan as approved. If he would alter the plans as approved then he would be required to come in with a modification, which could be a modified PRD.

Enforcement Committee Report – Councilman Clouser had no report.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Krammes stated things are going well in the Borough. When the big trucks came through, there were no problems. No businesses complained about blocking off their parking spaces. The tree lighting went well. The tree was donated by Mr. Steve Naylor. The Fire Company is going to have the Huckleberry Drop on New Year's Eve. There will be refreshments.

Parking Enforcement Officer Report - Mayor Krammes reported 7 tickets were issued with 4 remaining unpaid. President Anderson stated Mayor Krammes and herself are going with a local printing company for new parking tickets. They will become effective in January 2018.

Borough Enforcement Officer Report - BEO Officer Mr. Harry Nazzaro reported November was an uneventful month. He attended the tree lighting event. He has been checking on the construction site and had to speak to several kids about playing on the equipment at the bridge project. He had a report of a person in the cemetery after hours, but was unable to find them. He observed another person in the cemetery after hours, but they went into the woods when he tried to speak to them. He found a couple in their vehicle after hours parked in the cemetery and he gave them a warning. He contacted Community Aid regarding their bins again. He gave 3 warnings to different residents for trash/junk which all have been cleaned up. He found livestock loose again but got them back in their pens. He handled a number of requests for information regarding Ordinances and Borough information. He issued citations for unpaid parking tickets as requested.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence – President Anderson stated the first meeting of 2018 will be held January 2, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. because there are 4 new council members to be sworn in.

Ordinance #331 – Blighted and Dis-repaired Properties – President Anderson explained the ordinance. The ordinance has been advertised for the required 2 week period. All major changes were highlighted in boldface type. Council and Solicitor Wagner have reviewed it. Councilman Cless made a motion to pass Ordinance #331, seconded by Vice-President Patterson. Motion carried.

Ordinance #332 – Establishing Tax Rate for 2018 - President Anderson explained this ordinance establishes the tax rate for the fiscal year for the Borough of Bloomfield. This is established every year. The tax rate shall be 2.1622 mills on each dollar. Councilman Pray made a motion to accept this tax rate, seconded by Councilman Weller. Motion carried. Vice- President Patterson stated that the taxes have not been raised in the Borough since 2006.

Ordinance #333 – Establishing Fire Tax for 2018 - President Anderson explained this is a tax that is established every year. The tax rate for the Fire Company appropriations is .7 of 1 mil on each dollar, or \$.70 of each \$100.00 of assessed taxable real estate. This shall take effect January 1, 2018. Councilman Summers moved to approve Ordinance #333, seconded by Councilman Clouser. Discussion: Councilman Cless expressed his concern over the need for a tax increase when the Fire Company has a surplus of \$30,000. He is fine with the existing tax rate, but not an increase. Councilman Weller stated he thought the Fire Company is trying to make their income match their spending instead of their spending match their income and that is how companies get into financial trouble. He would like to see more financial accountability. President Anderson replied that she has tasked the Fire Company to come up with a better accounting system showing how each municipality's tax dollars are being spent. The Fire Company is working with Robert Morris Company to develop such a plan. Councilman Summers stated that being a truck driver himself he knows that \$30,000 is not much of a surplus when it comes to truck equipment. Vice President Patterson was apprehensive until they sat down and talked with Fire company representatives. He feels 2018 will tell the tale. He will vote for one more year, but if he sees no accounting improvements in 2018, he may not vote for an increase again. A verbal roll call was taken to approve Ordinance #333 with the following results: Clouser-Yes; Summers-Yes; Patterson-Yes; Weller-No; Pray-Yes; Cless-No. Motion carried.

Ordinance #334 – Extending the Local Services Tax for 2018 – President Anderson explained this tax rate shall be \$52.00 for the privilege of engaging in an occupation with a primary place of employment within the Borough of Bloomfield. This ordinance shall be applicable for the calendar year 2018. Councilman Pray made a motion to approve Ordinance #334, seconded by Councilman Summers. Motion carried.

Resolution #2017-08 – Fees for 2018 – President Anderson stated this resolution establishes all the fees that can be charged by the Borough. Councilman Cless made a motion to approve Resolution #2017-08, seconded by Councilman Clouser. Motion carried.

Resolution #2017-09 – Independent Auditor for 2018 – President Anderson explained every year the Council has to do a resolution for the appointment of an independent auditor. This year and for 2018 it is Herring, Roll, & Solomon, P.C. Vice-President Patterson made a motion to approve Resolution #2017-09, seconded by Councilman Weller. Motion carried.

Resolution #2017-10 – Levying Taxes for 2018 – President Anderson explained this resolution deals with the local tax enabling act. Five dollars per capital tax shall be extended without substantial change for the calendar year 2018; and the realty transfer tax of 1% on all transfers of real estate in the Borough shall be extended without substantial change for the calendar year 2018 and the tax for general revenue purposes on salaries, wages, commission, compensation, and earned income shall be extended at the rate of 1% and shall be extended without substantial change for the calendar year 2018. Councilman Clouser made a motion to approve Resolution #2017-10, seconded by Councilman Pray. Motion carried.

Resolution #2017-11 –Opt Out Category 4 Casino – President Anderson explained this is Pennsylvania Legislative Act 42 of 2017 entitled “Municipal Option”, which authorizes a municipality to prohibit, or opt-out of having a Category 4 casino located within its municipality. A category 4 license would allow a mini-casino to operate between 300-700 slot machines and up to 50 gaming tables. Councilman Weller made a motion to approve Resolution #2017-11, seconded by Councilman Summers. Motion carried. President Anderson stated some Borough businesses have purchased these machines but they are not functional and they may have to be removed because those businesses are not authorized truck stops.

Budget Discussion – President Anderson stated the final budget had several changes documented. There being no other additions to the proposed 2018 budget Councilman Summers made a motion to approve the 2018 proposed budget, seconded by Councilman Clouser. Motion carried.

Perry County Memorial Wall – President Anderson explained that Girl Scout Laura Steele’s project was building a memorial wall for veterans. It is being erected in Marysville. She is now asking for donations from municipalities. The projected cost to complete the project is \$100,000. They need to raise \$60,000 by the end of 2017 for the deposit on the wall and the bronze statues within the park. President Anderson asked Council if they would want to donate to this project. Discussion followed. Vice-President Patterson commented that it has not been incorporated into the 2017 budget. Councilman Clouser respects the veterans but has difficulty using taxpayers’ money when it could come from businesses. President Anderson said she would reach out to Miss Steele for more information. This issue has been tabled until more information is available.

President Anderson explained a letter received from Penn DOT. Penn DOT will be conducting a traffic study between October 2017 and February 2018. Traffic counters will be set in the Borough. These are not being set for any road project or speed trap. No streets are designated.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright stated there is a meeting on December 19 in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. The Authority is going to ask for \$500,000 from the Small Water and Sewer Grant. It will cost the Water Authority \$50,000 of their own money. This money is to help improve the infrastructure, increasing pipe size, etc. Mr. Scheffey is meeting with the contractor this week and will walk McClure Street. They began putting the hot taps in December 12th and expect this project to be completed within two months. They hired a new secretary to replace Mrs. Jean Fry. A new computer and QuickBooks were purchased for the new secretary’s use. She will work out of her home until a plant is built. The DEP test on Well #3 is completed to the tune of over 11 million gallons of water wasted. However, DEP suggests another test be done after significant rainfall. If we pass the test fine, if not the Authority will have to go ask for more money. New state regulations are costing the Authority money.

Planning Commission Report – Ms. Rowlands reported the Planning commission met on November 22, 2017 with Mayor Krammes to review the request from the Mayor to place a large mural on the wall of the Pharmacy in the historic district. The mural would depict the dedication of the Soldier’s and Sailor’s Monument. The mural would be 16’ X 18’. The artist is out of Philadelphia. The Mayor is raising \$10,000 for the mural. The Planning Commission would like Council to have a motion to grant preliminary approval of the mural with the following conditions: First, the Council is able to approve an actual sketch of the mural before it is actually painted and second, there is nothing on the mural that would be culturally offensive. Councilman Clouser made a motion for preliminary approval of the mural, seconded by Councilman Pray. Motion carried.

Mayor Krammes said there is a lot of work to do yet. She has \$4,000 toward the mural and the Council of the Arts might issue a small grant. Some West Perry art students might be involved. The Mayor would like the Borough to purchase the lighting for the mural.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report - Mr. Albright stated he issued no permits for the month of November. He has been getting calls about lots in the development. There are two lots, 63 and 50, that are buildable. The rest you cannot build upon. Lot 63 was sold. His concern is the houses built in the development that have no sidewalks and PRD requires sidewalks. President Anderson stated they will look into this since they now own the streets.

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Cless stated there was an HVAC problem in the building which has not been resolved yet.

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

PCBA/COG - Mr. Albright reported there was a meeting last month and COG is going to purchase a collection box for their plans. It will be a primer color and can be painted according to Borough requirements.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report - Councilman Pray had nothing to report.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report – Councilman Summers reported Damon Hartman switched the rest of the telephone pole decoration lights to LED, so now they are now all LED. The tree lighting went well. He thanked the Civic Club, Boy Scouts and Musically Yours.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report - Vice President Patterson has no report.

Grants – Councilman Pray stated he is going to pursue the Small Water and Sewer grant for the needed UV light bulbs. He contacted Mr. Postick about this grant.

Personnel Committee Report- Councilman Pray reported he received the final numbers from the insurance broker and he recommends keeping the current provider. It will be the same level of coverage for the employees.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report - Vice President Patterson mentioned he is looking to do a GIS (Global Imaging Satellite) survey on the storm water system outlets, etc. Once the GIS is completed, Rural Water will put this information into Google Earth database for future retrieval. The cost for this will be \$4,000 when finished by Burget Associates. Vice President Patterson made a motion for Council to approve the \$4,000 for the GIS survey, seconded by Councilman Cless. Motion carried.

December 5, 2017

Page 6

PABB01567

Closing Comments

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Weller, seconded by Councilman Summers, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. to meet on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 for the reorganizational meeting at 6:30 p.m., followed by the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary