

**MINUTES**  
**Bloomfield Borough Council**  
**February 2, 2021**

Bloomfield Borough Council met this evening in regular session in the Bloomfield Borough Council Chambers with the following Council members present: President J. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Jacob L. Casey, Michael J. Smith, Vice President Eric S. Berger, Brenten S. Dum, Kimberly A. McMullen and Wayne S. Leshner.

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Borough Employees Damon Hartman and Jacob Morrison, Mayor Arlis Krammes, Zoning Officer/Water Authority Ed Albright Jr., Tax Collector Brenda Albright, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, HRG Engineer Ryan Hostetter, Surveyor Joe Berget Jr., Talmudic representative and resident Rabi Yitzy Zweig, NavTech representative Roger Watson and resident Joseph Morrison.

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

President Fitzpatrick led the gathered assembly in the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

***MEETING OPENING***

**Recording of the Meeting** – President Fitzpatrick 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 Fitzpatrick further requested that those individuals in the audience desiring to speak during Public Comment 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 Fitzpatrick asked if any individuals in the audience were also taping the meeting and if so to identify themselves for the record. President Fitzpatrick 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 Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman McMullen, to approve the December 1, 2020 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report** – Councilman Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dum, to approve the financial report for December 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

Councilman Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dum, to approve the financial report for January 2021 as presented. Motion carried.

**Announcement of Executive Session** – Council excused themselves for an Executive Session at 7:02 p.m.

Councilwoman McMullen made the motion to reconvene the regular session meeting at 7:18 p.m., seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion carried.

## ***REQUESTED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS***

### **Burget & Associates:**

Mr. Joe Burget of Burget & Associates, Inc. presented Council with the Rosenberry/Wagner Patio Court property line plans. This involves the properties at 218 and 220 Patio Court. The property line for Mrs. Rosenberry runs right along the edge of Mrs. Wagner's house. Mrs. Wagner is in the process of selling her property. It was advised that the property line be fixed. Mr. Burget suggests moving the property line away from the house and to split it between the two homes. This movement has been approved by the Bloomfield Borough Planning Commission. This is just fixing a property line problem that happened many years ago. Discussion followed.

Councilman Smith made the motion to approve this property line movement, seconded by Councilman Casey. Motion carried. Mr. Burget will have the owners sign the plans first and then he will bring the plans back for President Fitzpatrick and Mrs. Shope to sign.

Mr. Joe Burget also presented the Talmudic property. The grass field across the street from the main entrance to the school is to be cut into three lots on which three model homes will be built. They will have public sewer and public water. This was presented to the Bloomfield Borough Planning Commission. During the discussion with the Planning Commission, curbing was approved; however, Mr. Burget and Talmudic asked for a sidewalk waiver which was granted. The Borough Council has the final decision on the sidewalks. President Fitzpatrick's recommendation to Borough Council was to have a notation put on the plans that sidewalks be added since this is a Borough ordinance. Discussion followed.

President Fitzpatrick made the motion to approve the plans conditionally with an added notation that sidewalks and curbing be added to the plans, seconded by Councilman Smith. All Council members voted "yay", with Councilman Leshner abstaining. Motion carried. President Fitzpatrick will sign the plans once the notations are applied.

### **Roger Watson/Lisa Fraker:**

Mr. Roger Watson thought he was here to present a change to the development for the remaining lots at Spring Lake and not for just the pump station. Mr. Watson stated the non-functioning pump was pulled about two months ago and sent off to be rebuilt. That pump should be back and installed within the next two weeks. President Fitzpatrick inquired about the balance of the pump stations recommendations from June 2019. President Fitzpatrick informed Mr. Watson that the Borough Council has nothing from Mr. Watson or Ms. Fraker on any of the recommendations being completed for the pump station. President Fitzpatrick told Mr. Watson Council needs in writing the completed recommendations from HRG Engineers to get the pump station up to compliance. Mr. Watson stated he did not know he was there to discuss the pump station. President Fitzpatrick stated that before Council looks at any other subdivision plans for building development in Spring Lake the pump station has to be addressed. President Fitzpatrick and Councilman Leshner asked if Mr. Watson took these plans to the Borough Planning Commission first. Mr. Watson said he had not, but he was there to just get Council's feelings about possibly building duplexes instead of single family homes on the remaining Spring Lake lots.

Again, President Fitzpatrick suggested that until the zoning change is addressed and the Lot 30 pump station is totally up to compliance according to DEP standards there is no reason to look at any other plans. Councilman Leshner reiterated that Mr. Watson has to go to the Borough Planning Commission first. Mr. Watson said they will meet everything that they feel is necessary on the June 6, 2019 memo he received from HRG. Councilman Leshner asked when this would happen.

President Fitzpatrick spoke to Ms. Fraker in September 2020, and still the backup pump is the only pump working and it is working overtime. Council stated the bottom line is nothing will be approved until the pump station problems are resolved. More similar discussion followed.

### ***PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS***

There were no other public comments.

### ***MONTHLY REPORTS***

**Solicitor's Report** – Solicitor Zimmerman was absent so no report.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Krammes has been working on the Centennial. The oldest house in town is the Brodisch house at the end of town. Plaques will be placed on the Lutheran, Methodist and Trinity churches plus Stoop's Barber Shop and the old Rhinesmith hotel which is now County offices. These plaques have all been funded. Mayor Krammes asked if there would possibly be any monies available for the Centennial. These plaques are in addition to the four standing markers, which are also funded. President Fitzpatrick told Mayor Krammes to inform Council if additional funding is needed for the plaques.

Mayor Krammes stated she heard the Carson Long artifacts will be moved to a Duncannon location and some people are against this move. The artifacts are owned by the Historical Society. President Fitzpatrick stated Talmudic is willing to house some artifacts on their campus.

Mayor Krammes inquired about the unsightly brush that Mr. Robert Hench piled along the Cemetery property. She asked what the Borough right of way might be along the road going into the cemetery. Councilman Leshner suggested the Cemetery Association get Mr. Burget to survey for the property line. Typically the tree line is a property line so it might be piled on cemetery property. Mayor Krammes was requested to contact Mr. Bill Bunt, with the Cemetery Association, to see about surveying the line. Discussion followed.

**Parking Officer Report** – Mayor Krammes reported 2 tickets issued in January with 1 unpaid.

**Enforcement Report** – Councilman Leshner reported BEO Smiley had nothing to report, but she is going out tomorrow to look at sidewalks since the snowfall.

**Water Authority Report** - Mr. Albright reported the North Apple Street, Maple Lane water line project is ready to begin soon as soon as USDA gives their blessing. The Well 3 building is complete and hopefully by next week there will be heat. The pumps are being shipped from Texas and should be here within two weeks. The filtration plant is being shipped and should be here within two weeks. The tank is almost half full. Mr. Burget will survey how it is sitting and then the tank will be completely full. They have an August/September timeline.

**Planning Commission Report** – Ms. Rowlands was absent, so no report.

**FEMA/PEMA Report** – Councilwoman McMullen had no report.

**Zoning/Permit Officer's Report** - Mr. Albright stated he issued a zoning permit December 2, 2020 to Perry Manor for a prebuilt shed installation. On January 29, 2021 he issued a permit to 203 West Main St. for renovating and removing walls. Mr. Albright asked about a home owner located in Spring Lake who would like to put a "little library" in their yard. As long as it is not in the right of way it should be fine.

**Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report** – Councilman Smith or Councilwoman McMullen will take over attending these meeting beginning 2021. Mr. Cless attended the last meeting in December 2020. Mr. Cless stated in his submitted report that disbursements and expenses were reviewed and approved. The Paycheck Protection Program loan was accepted and forgiveness granted. The money will be used for specific expenses per State requirements. The Cares Act block grant funding from the county was received. Election of officers was held with several officials stepping down, current officers will retain their positions for another year. Karl Cless stepped down as Appeals Board designate and Borough appointee. The 2021 approved meeting dates are as follows: April 21, July 21, (both at 7 p.m.), October 20 (at 6:30 p.m.), and December 8 (at 7 p.m.).

## ***ADMINISTRATIVE***

### **Announcements and Correspondence** –

There is still no **Statement of Financial Interest** from Mr. Robert Wood (for 2019). All members' statements (for 2020) are due to the office April 6, 2021.

President Fitzpatrick noted the **Juniata Watershed Support Letter** which is for a grant application.

There were no changes to the **Review of Council Committees and Responsibilities**.

- The Administrative Committee is Dum (Chair), Berger and Fitzpatrick (ex-officio);
- Aesthetic Committee is Casey (Chair), Smith, Fitzpatrick (ex-officio);
- Enforcement & Safety Committee is Leshar (Chair), Dum, Fitzpatrick (ex-officio);
- Finance, Insurance & Grants Committee is Smith (Chair), McMullen, Leshar, Fitzpatrick (ex-officio);
- Personnel Committee is Leshar (Chair), McMullen, Fitzpatrick (ex-officio);
- Rights of Way & Utilities Committee is Berger (Chair), Casey, Fitzpatrick (ex-officio).

### **Appointments and Reappointments** -

**Solicitor** – Councilwoman McMullen stated the Borough has received an initial proposal from Salzman Hughes, P.C. from Chambersburg. Councilwoman McMullen made the motion to approve this proposal and move forward with Salzman and Hughes, seconded by Councilman Leshar. Motion carried.

**Engineer** - Councilman Smith moved to continue with HRG, seconded by Councilman Casey. Motion carried.

Councilman Smith made the motion to approve all the following as presented, seconded by Vice President Berger. Motion carried.

**Bloomfield Municipal Authority** – Michael Whitmer (1/1/21-12/31/25);

**Bloomfield Water Authority** – Ronald Zellers (1/1/21-12/31/25);

**Bloomfield Borough Zoning Hearing Board** – Larry Brodisch (1/1/21-12/31-23) plus one vacancy;

**Bloomfield Borough Shade Tree Commission** – Jacob Casey (1/1/21-12/31/25) and Michael Smith (1/1/21-12/31/25)

**Administrative Committee Report** – Councilman Dum reported the holiday lumineers raised \$703 for the BCC Pool. He read a thank you letter from the pool committee. He would like to continue to do this project in the future. He had nothing to report on the Borough Building.

## ***AESTHETICS***

**Aesthetics Committee Report** – Councilman Casey had no report.

## ***FINANCE, INSURANCE, & SAFETY***

**Finance, Insurance & Safety Report** – Councilman Smith had the pleasure to bring before Council the deed of easement for the Cupp Property. Mr. and Mrs. Cupp were not interested in selling any property, but the Borough Shed may remain in place. Vice President Berger made the motion to approve this easement, seconded by Councilman Casey. Motion carried.

Councilman Smith made the motion to approve the cost of living adjustment to our employees' salaries as approved in the 2021 budget, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

**Grants** – Councilman Smith is going to set up an appointment with the County grant writer Mr. Jacob Fitzgerald. President Fitzpatrick will take care of this with Councilman Leshar also requesting to sit in on the zoom meeting.

**Personnel Committee Report** – Councilman Leshar asked if Secretary Shope received his email containing the personnel review form. She had not as of this date, but would check her spam mail.

## ***RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES***

**Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report** – Vice President Berger thanked the men for plowing the Borough streets. Mr. Berger stated the Borough has signed the contract with PPL to upgrade the Borough street lights to LEDs. As soon as he gets a date back from PPL, he will inform Mr. Hartman about installation.

Vice President Berger made a motion to re-organize Borough Council officers, seconded by Councilman Dum. Roll call vote: Casey (nay), Smith (nay), Fitzpatrick (nay), Berger (yay), Dum (yay), Leshar (yay), McMullen (yay). Motion carried.

Councilman Dum made the motion to nominate Eric Berger as President, seconded by Councilwoman McMullen. Roll call vote: Casey (nay), Smith (nay), Fitzpatrick (nay), Berger (yay), Dum (yay), Leshar (yay), McMullen (yay). Motion carried.

Councilman McMullen made the motion to nominate Wayne Leshar as Vice President, seconded by Councilman Dum. Roll call vote: Casey (nay), Smith (nay), Fitzpatrick (nay), Berger (yay), Dum (yay), Leshar (yay), McMullen (yay). Motion carried.

These two re-assignments are effective immediately.

**ADA Sidewalks** – Mr. Hartman stated they have \$30,000 in the 2021 budget for more ADA sidewalks and signs so if Council wishes he will go ahead with the project at Apple Street.

Councilman Leshar inquired about the committees and committee heads now that Eric Berger is President. Mrs. Shope explained what needed done. Councilwoman McMullen stated she spoke with the Borough's Association and Mr. Berger could retain his committee chairmanship if he so chooses. She will double check with the solicitors.

***CLOSING COMMENTS***

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Fitzpatrick , seconded by Councilman Smith, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 2, 2021 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary