

**MINUTES**  
**Bloomfield Borough Council**  
**February 6, 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, Vice President John J. Patterson V., Kevin C. Weller, Charles N. Summers, Michael P. Pray and Karl L. Cless.

Also present: Secretary Danielle Shope, Mayor Arlis Krammes, Solicitor Richard P. Wagner, Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Water Authority and Zoning Officer Ed Albright, HRG Borough Engineer Michael T. Postick, New Bloomfield Fire Company representatives Pete Ellerman, and Chad Tressler, BCC Swimming Pool representatives Betsy Page, Dan Paul and Michelle Yoder, Merit Badge Scout Dominic Muscatell, West Perry students and parents Nathan Ferrer, Karen Reed, Myles Reed, Megan Pressler, Addison Thomas, and Jake Hannan, Borough residents Gloria Trostle, Robin Dum, John D., Kelvin Spotts, Jeff Bailor, Frank Bailor, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Patricia Brodisch and Laurence Brodisch, and Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan.

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 should be addressed during the appropriate portion of the meeting.

**Approval of Reorganizational Meeting Minutes** - Councilman Pray made a motion, seconded by Vice President Patterson, to approve the January 2, 2018 minutes of the reorganizational meeting as presented. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes** – Councilman Summers made a motion, seconded by Councilman Cless, to approve the January 2, 2018 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 January 2018 as presented. Motion carried.

**BCC POOL**

Betsy Page, representing the BCC Swimming Pool, brought before Council a discussion of a Color Run fundraiser to benefit the pool. The Color Run is scheduled to be held Saturday, April 21, 2018 in the Borough. Dan Paul and Michelle Yoder were also there representing the BCC pool. They are

presenting this to Council because they want to use Borough property for this run. Dan Paul explained the Color Run route. It would start at the BCC Pool and go over through the football field out to the end by the Church/School property and then come down onto High Street and then onto Apple Street, up the hill and around Oak Road and back to the pool, which is approximately 1 mile. Mr. Paul explained a color run is where people run and other people throw dye at them. In this instance, ketchup bottles full of colored dye will be used to squirt onto the runners. People will be posted at the end of the football field and people will be posted to cover the two intersections for traffic control if needed. Fire Police may also be used. They will contact the West Perry Elementary School also for permission. The West Perry football team has volunteered to help. They have the Perry County Roadrunners sponsorship so the BCC Pool does not have to purchase additional insurance. This group will handle liability insurance. There will be food available and T-shirts for sale. Mayor Krammes stated a permit is not needed for this event.

President Anderson offered use of the Borough Face Book page and website for this event's advertising. President Anderson stated she saw no problem with this event and is looking forward to attending.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Laurence Brodisch, East Main Street resident, commented on turning Barnett Woods Road into a one way street. He thought the idea was really stupid. He thought everyone on East Main Street with cars parked on the South side would have to do a U-turn if they wanted to go to Karns, or to Carlisle. He was concerned travelers would be using private driveways, etc. He wanted to know where these people would do their turn around if they can not use Barnett Woods Road. He feels the idea of one way will not work and questioned who would enforce it.

Kevin Firzpatrick, East Main Street resident, stated the alternative would be people would just make U turns in the middle of East Main Street which would be a traffic hazard. Secondly, the two alleys on East Main Street that give access to McClure Street, neither one maintained by the Borough, are not wide enough to handle the traffic.

President Anderson asked HRG Engineer Michael Postick to respond to these issues. He explained it is not all of Barnett Woods Road that would be one way. That alleviates the alley problem, but not the turnaround problem. Mr. Postick stated a Borough can make roads one way, not based on a study, but based on safety concerns and other complaints. He stated making it one way puts restrictions on turn-arounds and the flow of traffic people are used to, but on the other hand the Borough is dealing with complaints. Mr. Brodisch interrupted stating it is one house complaining, and to put up guard rails at that point. Mr. Postick stated everyone will not be happy with the outcome, but the main issue is to reduce truck traffic. Vice President Patterson stated signs have not worked. He said the intentions right now are all the traffic coming from 34 going north will enter 3 axles or less only and an 8 ton limit. This will be from South to North. The amount of traffic must be limited on Barnett Woods Road or there will be another bridge that will not make it. The cost of fixing that one is high. Vice President Patterson stated the second bridge passed inspection, but not by much. He asked if the Borough residents would want to spend over \$500,000 for the second bridge.\

Resident Jeff Bailor spoke about his working family farm located on Barnett Woods Road. The current proposal will not work for them getting hay wagons and mowers and other equipment around the Square and down a narrow McClure Street.

Vice President Patterson stated these people are suggesting the Borough take just these few people into consideration as opposed to the over 2,600 people that cross the bridge every day. Mr. Bailor asked why property owners were not notified. President Anderson stated this issue has been advertised in the local paper for months. Vice President Patterson stated the Borough owns from the Centre Township line to East

Main Street North (PA Route 34) and it is their decision to make the best decision to alleviate the problems they have.

Someone suggested placing an overhead sign. Vice President Patterson asked if they would be willing to pay for that? He stated it is not cheap. Bloomfield Borough is paying for a bridge that is mostly used by people who do not live in the Borough. The only basic reason they decided to go ahead with this is because of public pressure. Mr. Brodisch asked if Vice President Patterson would compensate people for driving extra miles. Vice President Patterson said he would not.

President Anderson stated there was public notification done over a month ago that the Borough was considering making this one way and no one ever came forward in November or December until now. There was also a public forum held to discuss this exact situation with Barnett Woods on October 3, 2016..

Discussion followed.

President Anderson called for the end of this discussion.

Borough Engineer Postick said the biggest need was for safety at both intersections dealing with big trucks.

Kelvin Spotts, McClure Street resident, stated this has been a problem for over 50 years. He asked if it was still safe for light vehicles to travel Barnett Woods Roads. Engineer Postick stated it was safer. The Borough cannot enforce the 8 ton limit signs presently used. So who will enforce the one way?

Solicitor Wagner stated the overriding concern is the cost factor. The bridge that was fixed cost \$128,000 and now the second bridge is of concern. When you weigh the perceived inconvenience of a few with the cost of that perceived inconvenience a balancing act has to be done. No one will be completely satisfied either way. He remarked how residents need to pay attention because several meetings have been held here and have been publicized but no one came in and made any comments against it except that the bridge cost too much. Doing it this way from his perspective is legal. There is a balancing act that has to be done. He is sure that five years down the road if the second bridge at \$500,000 has to be redone and it has to be paid for by the Borough residents, then, this building would not be big enough to hold everyone with concerns. He respects everyone's opinion, but the amount of time this Council has spent with the engineer and having meetings has been substantial. If someone has a better balancing act as to how do it, the Council will listen.

President Anderson stated the only suggestion she has at this point is to table this ordinance. She invited everyone to come to another meeting, another study can be done, but the bridge will remained closed until that happens. It was stated the Borough Office has to be notified if you want to be on the agenda. Councilman Cless made the motion to table Ordinance #335, seconded by Councilman Weller. Motion carried. The road will remained closed.

Chad Tressler, New Bloomfield Fire Company, provided Council with a blueprint regarding a piece of Borough land on the back side of the ballfield with the intention of the Borough giving it to the Fire Company for a 99 year lease. They showed an aerial photo with this blocked out for Council to view. When the new building goes in this land will need to be graded a bit. If a 99 year lease was granted the Fire Company could use that land. It is 3,148.40 square feet. President Anderson stated Council agreed to this a year ago. This description was to be sent to Mr. Richard Wagner so he could draft the lease, but Council is still waiting for the lot description information. Mr. Wagner asked Mr. Tressler for a description of what the Borough is leasing to the Fire Company and it would be completed. Mr. Tressler stated they are through the first stage of the DEP permit. It is the Fire Company intent to start building the new firehouse July/August 2018, or if not March 2019.

## ENFORCEMENT

**Solicitor's Report** – Mr. Wagner spoke on the receivership. He was asked by the receiver to draft a letter stating what our position is and he did so. He has not heard anything from the receiver, but did receive a text message from Mr. Watson asking to meet with him this evening at 6:30 p.m. at Lot 30. Mr. Wagner did not respond to that message because he had a prior commitment. Mr. Wagner knows the receiver is moving forward. They will be looking for a date for presentation to a judge.

Councilman Cless asked Mr. Wagner if he was familiar with Title 35, the Emergency Management Coordinator appointment. Mr. Wagner knows only a little bit about this issue. Councilman Cless stated the state is mandating every municipality have an Emergency Management Coordinator. However, we cannot pay this person according to PSAB. This position has to be filled by either a volunteer or have this responsibility added on to a current employee's duties. We cannot create a separate position to be paid. This creates a problem since there are 18-20 courses on-line in which they must be certified plus additional on-site course attendance. This must all be done within a 3 year time frame. If no one accepts this position, Bloomfield Borough will be removed from the list of municipalities that could receive emergency funding. Councilman Cless asked Mr. Wagner if he thought it would be a good idea to advertise this position in the local paper to see if someone would be willing to take this job. Mr. Wagner agreed this would be acceptable since it would show that the Borough is moving forward in good faith to find someone to fill this role. Mr. Wagner added that this situation is something the Borough might want to talk to their local State Representative about because the Legislature is notorious for developing mandates that are impractical for many municipalities to follow. Maybe we could get an exemption or a lesser series of requirements for that appointee. Councilman Cless will discuss this issue at the annual County Convention at Greenwood on February 24, 2018.

**Enforcement Committee Report** – Councilman Clouser was absent due to a medical issue so there was no report.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Krammes stated she went out a couple calls this past month. She had an abandoned car on Church Street which she gave to the State Police. It was gone the next day. There were some fireworks in the Borough which the State Police handled as well.

**Parking Enforcement Officer Report** - Mayor Krammes reported there were 12 tickets issued for the month of January with 4 remaining unpaid.

Mayor Krammes is meeting tomorrow with the Council of the Arts about the "drug store mural", but due to a bad weather forecast she might not attend. She showed a picture of the mural to Council. It is a picture of the dedication of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in 1898. She meets with the artist April 6, 2018. Council gave their approval of the picture to be used and gave Mayor Krammes the go ahead to have the mural painted depicting that scene.

**Borough Enforcement Officer's Report** - none

## ADMINISTRATIVE

**Announcements and Correspondence** –

**Announcements** –

President Anderson stated that Council members should have received the confidential phone listing of Borough employees. These numbers are to remain confidential and for Council member use only. Council was instructed to review for accuracy.

She reminded Council that the Annual County Convention will be held February 24, 2018 at Greenwood Elementary in Millerstown. Three Council members are attending.

President Anderson reminded Council that their Statements of Financial Interest are due to the Borough Secretary by April 3, 2018.

President Anderson stated there is the 2018 Perry County Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner Friday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the recreation hall at Little Buffalo State Park. It is \$35.00 per person.

She also commented that last year Bloomfield Borough was one of the 15 municipalities in Perry County that participated in the first ever E-recycling. This service will be offered again to county residents on Saturday June 9, 2018. Place to be announced later. The Borough would like to participate, but to do so requires a \$225.00 pledge. Councilman Pray made the motion to approve the allocation of a \$225.00 pledge in order to participate in the second E-recycling project, seconded by Councilman Cless. Motion carried.

President Anderson stated they have information from the Perry County Planning Commission that they will be offering municipal planning services for 2018. This will be done through HRG. Mr. Hostetter will be doing this on behalf of the Borough.

**Water Authority Report** - Mr. Albright commented they are waiting for the ground to thaw for the at least an inch of rain to fall before DEP will come do their testing. They are probably looking for this to happen in May. They are still working with SRBC on their application to use Perry Village wells. They have to wait for the weather to break before doing McClure St.

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

**Zoning/Permit Officer's Report** - Mr. Albright reported there were no permits issued for the month of January.

**Administrative Committee Report** – Councilman Cless stated he purchased 2 desktop computers to replace the aging workstations for the tax collector and sewer plant. He will install these at his earliest convenience. He installed a new LED security light at the rear of the Borough Building. He completed the ordinance and resolution updates to the Borough website and printed replacement pages for the Borough Ordinance Manuals. He also procured estimates from commercial real estate brokers to determine actual valuation of the Borough Building to address possible unjustified insurance costs. Current insurance premiums are currently being paid on a county assessed valuation of \$1.1 million which seems excessive to him and needs to be investigated further. The Borough is actually paying insurance premiums on a value of \$1.4 million. He would like documents from a realty company so he can go to the County and challenge the assessment.

Councilman Cless made a motion to acquire the assistance of Advantage Realty to re-evaluate the value of the building at a cost of \$2,800 for their services, seconded by Councilman Weller. Motion carried.

He also purchased an electric heat contactor to be put into stock to be used for an emergency installation during heat loss. He reported there was a frozen drain line for the library sump pump to which Councilman Weller made a temporary fix. Once the weather permits they will have to find a permanent solution.

**FEMA/PEMA Report** - Councilman Cless will run an ad in the paper for the Emergency Management Coordinator position. He also reported he received the FEMA 2018 Winter Resilience Report. The Region III meeting involved a roundtable discussion to educate across state partners on flood insurance venues.

President Anderson stated Council budgeted flood insurance this year at \$13,500 and they were given a bill from the State for \$14,696 which must be paid.

**PCBA/COG** - Mr. Albright invited everyone to the COG meeting here on February 8, 2018 at 7 p.m. They will be discussing the emergency operations plans. The 2018 dues need to be paid and the delegate forms filled out. As of now the Borough does not have a backup for Mr. Albright. Secretary Shope stated the delegate forms have been filled out and sent and the dues check is ready to be signed. Councilman Cless is the alternate.

**Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report** - Councilman Pray reported the new Executive Director started when the old director retired in the middle of January.

### *AESTHETICS*

**Aesthetics Committee Report** – Councilman Summers reported he is working on the PPL grant. He received approval from our insurance company on the both pieces of playground equipment. Now, he just has to make a decision on which equipment to purchase. He passed out pictures of the equipment to Council. Councilman Summers preferred the “vehicle” because it has fewer moving parts. Councilman Pray made the motion to purchase the \$1,742 “Hummer Vehicle”, seconded by Councilman Weller. Motion carried. Councilman Summers will order this for the playground and make plans for installation.

### **Engineer Report – Mike Postick**

Mr. Postick stated most of his report about the Barnett Woods Road project was tabled. He said Penn DOT did look at our signage and our conclusions and directions and they are approving what the Borough wants to do. He also stated, referring to the earlier discussion/debate about the Barnett Woods Road one way project, that the decision on Barnett Woods Road is not etched in stone, but the Borough is trying to do what they think is best. If there are more complaints now than before, they can try to find another solution. Mr Postick asked the Fire Company about their progression. They are waiting on DEP. Mr. Postick stated they can still go ahead with our process and just put a contingent upon that receipt. He hates to see them wait another 45 days to get approval to start. The Fire Company will do this.

### *FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY*

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

**Grants** – Councilman Pray has been working on the PA Small Water and Sewer grant. He has procured letters of support from Senator DeSantos and Representative Keller’s offices. They are waiting to hear back from the Perry Count Commissioners. Basically, they are resubmitting the grant for a total of \$128,000 to replace the UV bulbs used in the water treatment plant. He needs conditional approval from Council on Resolution 2017-07 which was passed and signed on August 21, 2017 so he can submit that with the grant. The grant is due February 28, 2018 but he plans to have the grant done by the end of next week. Councilman Pray made the motion to grant conditional approval of Resolution 2017-07 if it warrants amendment, seconded by Councilman Cless. Motion carried.

**Personnel Committee Report**- Councilman Pray had no report.

### *RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES*

**Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report** - Vice President Patterson had two requests. The first involves a broken heat pump that drives the sewer plant office and machinery rooms. It was installed in

1999. He got quotes on a replacement which would be for a 30,000BTU heat pump at the cost of \$4,104. Vice President Patterson made the motion to approve the purchase and installation of this heat pump, seconded by Councilman Pray. Motion carried.

Vice President Patterson had another request. He wants to try to do more in-house maintenance to save money. He would like to purchase a 30 gallon tar kettle to seal road cracks and 75 boxes of the product which would cost \$2,250 for a total of \$4,500. Vice President made the motion to purchase the tar kettle and product for a purchase of \$4,500, seconded by Councilman Pray. Councilman Weller asked Borough employee Damon Hartman's thoughts on this. Mr. Hartman thought it was a good idea. It will help keep the cracking at bay. This product will give you about 17,300 linear feet average and that is a good stretch of roadway. Motion carried.

#### **CLOSING COMMENTS**

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Weller, seconded by Councilman Summers, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, March 6, 2018 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary