

## **MINUTES Bloomfield Borough Council January 3, 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., Michelle L. Jones, Michael P. Pray, Karl L. Cless and Pierce L. Clouser, Jr. Councilwoman Patricia A. McCarty excused absence.

Also present: Mayor Arlis Krammes, Borough Secretary Danielle Shope, Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Zoning/Water Authority Officer Edward Albright, Jr., BEO Officer Harry Nazzaro, Borough Employee Damon Hartman, Perry County Times Reporter Jim Ryan, HRG engineer Michael T. Postick, Former BEO Frank Freeland Jr., and Borough residents Charles N. Summers, Crystal R. Summers, and Kevin Weller.

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 10 minutes to present their concern. 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** – Councilwoman Jones made a motion, seconded by Councilman Pray, to approve the December 6, 2016 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 December, 2016 as presented. Motion carried.

### ***PUBLIC COMMENTS***

There were no public comments.

### ***COUNCIL MEMBER RESIGNATION***

Council received a letter of resignation from Councilwoman Patricia A. McCarty dated December 19, 2016. She decided to resign her position as Councilwoman effective January 9, 2017 due to family and other commitments. Councilman Clouser moved to accept Mrs. McCarty's resignation effective January 9, 2017, seconded by Vice President Patterson. Motion carried.

There are two people interested in filling the vacancy left by Mrs. McCarty. President Anderson asked them to come before Council to introduce themselves and explain why they would like the position. A decision as to who will fill the vacancy has to be made within 30 days from Mrs. McCarty's effective date of January 9, 2017 so an appointment would be announced at the February 7, 2017 meeting.

***CHARLES NATHAN SUMMERS***

Mr. Charles "Nate" Summers stated he and his family moved here two years ago. He has a wife and three children. He is self-employed. He wants to ensure that the Borough remains a safe, comfortable place in which his children can grow up. The Aesthetics Committee would interest him. He enjoys that sort of thing. He would like to fill the Council Chambers with townspeople to get everyone more involved with the Borough.

***KEVIN WELLER***

Mr. Kevin Weller was born and raised in New Bloomfield. He runs his own construction business. He wants to make sure the taxpayers money is spent wisely. He wants to see New Bloomfield stays a nice community.

Vice President Patterson commented how much time and effort it takes to be a council member. President Anderson stated to both candidates what they need to do to procure the position permanently after this vacancy's term expires. Councilman Cless applauded both candidates for coming forward and offering their service. President Anderson stated both candidates will be provided with an affidavit of residency which they will have to fill out and return within a week of the next meeting.

***RECOGNITION - FRANK FREELAND JR.***

President Anderson asked former BEO Frank Freeland to stand and be recognized for his service to the Bloomfield Borough. Mayor Krammes presented Mr. Freeland with a gift of a recognition plaque. She praised his work and thanked him for his dedication to the Borough. She then read what was on the plaque. Refreshments were available to everyone following the meeting.

***ENFORCEMENT***

**Solicitor's Report –**

**Development Judicial Judgment** – Mr. Richard Wagner was absent due to illness. He asked President Anderson to report that the party determined to be the owner of the streets is in cooperation with the Borough and wants to turn over the streets; however, his family does not. According to council, the Borough has the right to go ahead and take over the streets through ordinance. Mr. Wagner is developing the ordinance and then, it will be available to the public for the mandatory period. This situation which has gone on for over 10 years will hopefully be resolved by April.

**Development Pump Station** - Mr. Wagner is trying to work this out with the owners of the property.

**Blighted/Dis-repaired Homes** - Solicitor Wagner has some samples of ordinances that the Borough can use in this regard.

**Enforcement Committee Report** – Councilman Clouser had nothing more to report.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Krammes reported that she called the State Police about the spray painting taking place around town. They do what they can, but we cannot keep calling them for every little thing. If we can find out who is doing the vandalizing, then the State Police can do something. Mayor Krammes contacted CenturyLink about the offensive language spray painted on their building. After she spoke with a CenturyLink representative the offensive wording was sandblasted off. Mayor Krammes sent them a thank you note.

**Parking Enforcement Officer Report** - Mayor Krammes stated there were 16 parking tickets issued in December with 2 remaining unpaid.

**Borough Enforcement Officer Report** - BEO Officer Mr. Harry Nazzaro handed out a sign-up sheet for all Council members so he can send his report through email to the members. He also asked for their phone numbers. He reported there were 4 incidents. (a suspicious vehicle, an ongoing spray painting issue, a window being broken out and the Borough Building being left unlocked.) He made more communication efforts with the public around the holidays. For detailed information see his reports on file.

#### *ADMINISTRATIVE*

**Announcements and Correspondence** – President Anderson made everyone aware that the Perry County Convention of Township Officials is holding their 104<sup>th</sup> annual convention at Greenwood Elementary School on Saturday, February 25, 2017 from 8a.m.- 1 p.m. The deadline for reservations is January 16, 2017.

The Council members have been provided with a new phone number list. They are asked to review for accuracy.

**Appointment/Reappointments** - President Anderson stated that at the beginning of every new calendar the Borough has make various appointment and reappointments:

***Solicitor*** - Richard Wagner. The Borough is going to continue this association. Councilman Clouser made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, to continue using Mr. Richard Wagner as Solicitor for the Bloomfield Borough. Motion carried.

***Engineer*** - HRG. The Borough would like to continue their association with the engineering firm of HRG. Vice President Patterson made the motion, seconded by Councilman Cless, to continue using HRG as the Borough's engineering firm. Motion carried.

***Bloomfield Municipal Authority*** - Councilman Cless volunteered to fill the vacancy on the Bloomfield Municipal Authority (1/1/17-12/31/21). Councilman Pray made the motion, seconded by Vice President Patterson, to nominate Mr. Cless to fill the vacancy on the Bloomfield Municipal Authority. Motion carried.

***Bloomfield Borough Water Authority*** - Mr. Edward Albright asked Council to appoint Mr. Chuck Sheaffer to the Bloomfield Borough Water Authority for the term from 1/1/17-12/31/21. Councilman Clouser made the motion, seconded by Councilman Pray, to accept this nomination. Motion carried.

***Bloomfield Zoning Hearing Board*** - Mr. Richard L. Watson is willing to serve on the Bloomfield Zoning Hearing Board for the term 1/1/17-12/31/19. Councilman Cless made the motion, seconded by Councilman Clouser, to accept this nomination. Motion carried.

***Bloomfield Borough Shade Tree Commission*** - There is a vacancy on the Bloomfield Borough Shade Tree Commission. Since Councilwoman McCarty was head of this Commission whoever is selected to fill her term on Council will be expected to fill the Shade Tree commission vacancy as well. This vacancy will be left open until her Council chair is selected at next month's meeting.

**Water Authority Report** - Mr. Albright reported the GEO service has completed the plan to be submitted to DEP for the Swift testing. They have contacted PPL to put electricity on the site. They probably will not get started testing until April 2017, and it will be six months after that (September 2017) before we can do

anything with our well site. We are at the mercy of DEP right now. Mr. Albright also stated the Borough is still under a drought watch.

**Planning Commission Report** - Ms. Rowlands was not present so there was no report.

**Zoning/Permit Officer's Report** - Mr. Albright reported he issued no permits in the month of December, so his November report will be his yearly report.

**Administrative Committee Report** – Councilman Cless reported he purchased and installed a new HP color printer at the Borough Office and moved the existing printer to the tax collector's desk. He updated and printed the ordinance page replacements for the code books and posted the changes to the website. At Join Hands, the carpet and electrical circuit installation is now complete...a few light bulbs were replaced...room now ready for paint and this will be done by Steve Umholtz in February at Join Hand's cost. Councilman Cless checked into a noxious odor emanating from the Post Office. The primary heating system malfunctioned and in so doing, jump started the auxiliary system which over heated deposits of dust that had accumulated on the resistance style heating fins...causing the odor! The Post Office maintenance Department is responsible for repairing the system. Ashley Eckert replaced 2 low voltage contactors for electric heating units in the Borough Building...Join Hands room upstairs and Room 8 downstairs. He received a phone call on New Year's Day from Perry Collision (formerly Perry Automotive) regarding a possible sewer backup. He directed them to have a plumber determine the location of the clog. Borough Employee Damon Hartman stated he took care of that problem. It was Perry Collision's line. Mr. Cless met with the local COG representatives to discuss possible rental of Room 8. Final decision to be made by the department head ... no further contact as yet.

**FEMA/PEMA Report** - Councilman Cless had no report this month.

**PCBA/COG** – Mr. Albright had nothing to report.

**Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report** - Councilman Pray stated there was a meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in December. The move from Harrisburg to Marysville was successful.

### *AESTHETICS*

**Aesthetics Committee Report** – President Anderson shared Councilwoman McCarty's aesthetics report. The committee had funding left over at the end of the year and they have ordered cigarette "butlers"/receptacles that will be attached to all the trash barrels in town. Two new lamp posts have also been ordered. They are to be used as replacement lamp posts as needed. The Christmas Tree lighting was well attended.

### *TELECOMMUNICATIONS*

**Telecommunications Committee Report** - Councilman Pray stated we are still in a holding pattern with this issue with Nittany Media. We had an option of an expensive personal meeting or a less expensive teleconference to resolve our issues.

### *FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY*

**Finance, Insurance & Safety Report** - Vice President Patterson reported that we finally received our PEMA money on December 28, 2106 in the amount of \$7,766.77. This was from Storm Jonas which hit last January.

**Grants Report** - Councilwoman Jones reported they have not heard anything from their PA Small Water and Sewer Grant. HRG representative Mr. Postick stated that grant applications will be reviewed and awards announced at the March 27<sup>th</sup> CFA board meeting.

**Personnel Committee Report** - Councilwoman Jones had nothing to report. President Anderson noted that all personnel were given reviews and we still have to write a job description for the custodian and then have a personnel review with her.

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

**Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report** - Vice President Patterson turned this over to Mike Postick our HRG engineer. Mr. Postick remarked that he had submitted a report on the 2<sup>nd</sup> bridge inspection at last month's meeting. This report is revealing a lot of similar difficulties the 1<sup>st</sup> bridge had but on a bigger scale. The concrete is in poor condition, the guiderails are not up to PennDot standards, etc. The conclusion is that ultimately this 2<sup>nd</sup> bridge will need to be replaced also. Right now there is no eminent failure and it should handle the 8 tons for a few more years. HRG will keep an eye on it. HRG would like to submit a proposal for the design and replacement of bridge #1 and hopes this process can start the summer of 2017. The bridge replacement will be approximately \$117,000.00. The engineering portion will be approximately \$47,000.00. Councilman Pray made a motion, seconded by Vice President Patterson, to accept HRG's proposal for the bridge #1 design as proposed. Motion carried.

President Anderson reminded everyone about a motion several months ago to vacate the remaining portion of the McClure St. Extension and several residents have come forward with concerns, complaints and questions so there will be a meeting with those residents on January 19, 2017 at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers with our Borough Solicitor, Mr. Hartman and as many councilmen as can attend.

Vice President Patterson has been in contact with members of the Bloomfield Fire Company and got some updates on their planned development. They expect to have some updates ready to discuss with Council before the next Borough Council meeting.

Councilman Cless stated the security camera project for the Borough Building is on the back burner for the time being. Councilman Cless also stated he has the opportunity to return to his consulting business with the railroad so he is looking for someone else to be Administrative Committee Chairman who can be around during the day to do the everyday duties.

### ***CLOSING COMMENTS***

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Clouser, seconded by Councilwoman Jones, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. to meet on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 for a regular meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary