

## MINUTES Bloomfield Borough Council January 6, 2020

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, Vice President Eric S. Berger, Kimberly A. McMullen, Michael J. Smith, and Brenten S. Dum.

Also present: Secretary Danielle Shope, Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Borough Employees Damon Hartman and Jacob Morrison, Mayor Arlis Krammes, HRG Borough engineer representative Keith Rhodes, Solicitor Randy Zimmerman, Zoning Officer/Water Authority Ed Albright Jr., PEO Suse Woolever, potential Borough Council candidates Alex M. Bender and Wayne S. Leshner IV., Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, Karen Anderson for public comment and residents Steve McMullen and Malinda Anderson.

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

### ***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 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 Vice President Berger, to approve the December 3, 2019 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 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

### **Council Member Appointment – 4 Year Term**

Mayor Arlis Krammes administered the Oath of Office to Alex M. Bender to fulfill a four year term on the Bloomfield Borough Council.

Councilman Smith made the motion to approve **Resolution 2020-01 (Fill a Vacancy)** which is the appointment of Alex M. Bender to the vacant four year seat on Council, seconded by Vice President Berger. Motion carried.

### **Council Member Appointment – 2 Year Term**

Mayor Arlis Krammes administered the Oath of Office to Wayne S. Leshner IV to fulfill a two year term on the Bloomfield Borough Council.

Vice President Berger made the motion to approve **Resolution 2020-02 (Fill a Vacancy)** which is the appointment of Wayne S. Leshner IV to the vacant two year seat on Council, seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion carried.

**Appointment of Administrative Technician and Capital Tax Collection Bureau Representative – Karl L. Cless**

Mr. Cless was not present, but Vice President Berger made the motion to appointment Mr. Cless to this position, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

***PUBLIC COMMENTS***

Karen Anderson, past Democratic candidate for county commissioner, read another prepared statement criticizing Zoning Officer Ed Albright for taking down her large campaign billboard signs (15 sq. ft.) while her opponent's large signs were left up. She was not happy with the lack of response from Council during the December 2019 meeting. She requested that in the future, the Borough needs to clarify their sign ordinance and post it on the Borough website and clarify how a situation like the one that happened in October would be addressed. She believes the Borough ordinance discriminated against her political signs as enforced by the Borough Zoning Officer. She asked Council if Mr. Albright had ever explained his actions. President Fitzpatrick explained that since this is a totally new Council this situation had not been discussed but he thanked Ms. Anderson for bringing it to Council's attention. She handed out copies of her December prepared statement for the new Council members to read.

***ENFORCEMENT***

**Solicitor's Report** – Solicitor Zimmerman had nothing to report. He will not be at the February meeting. He is reading the files that the past Solicitor Wagner has given him. He commended Ms. Anderson for her statement.

**Enforcement Committee Report** – Vice President Berger had no report.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Krammes had no report. She reported 12 parking tickets were issued in December, with 6 remaining unpaid.

**Borough Enforcement Officer's Report** - BEO Nazzaro was not present, but he dropped off his report to be filed at the Borough Office.

***ADMINISTRATIVE***

**Announcements and Correspondence** – President Fitzpatrick stated the Annual County Convention will be held at the Greenwood Elementary School on Saturday February 29, 2020. Those of Council who wish to attend must inform Secretary Shope by January 9, 2020. Additionally, a flyer on a boot camp for newly elected officials' was given to council. President Fitzpatrick suggested new Council members should try to attend this event.

**Water Authority Report** - Mr. Albright stated on Christmas Eve, DEP gave the Authority the construction permit to begin the Well 3 building. Bids will go out in January and open them in February. They are still waiting for the tank which has been approved. This should be started sometime in January or February. Once the tank is put up, then the well filtration plant will go online and hopefully, water will be able by the end of 2020. Once this well gets online Mr. Albright stated the Borough would never have to be on a drought watch again. The Water Authority will be able to pump 240 gallon a minute out of Well 3. Mr. Albright stated the Borough will be in a good position to support all residents and to expand with this new well. Councilman Leshar asked about how much expansion would be possible to which Mr. Albright responded the Water Authority could go as much as the sewer plant which is only doing about one third capacity right now. Discussion followed about future expansion when the former Carson Long property expands. Mr. Albright stated the Water Authority would be able to support future development in and out of town.

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

**Zoning/Permit Officer's Report** - Mr. Albright issued one zoning permit in December for solar panels at 234 Barnett St. He collected a total of \$6,230 in tapping fees and zoning permit fees during 2019.

President Fitzpatrick stated that as part of the reorganization they will have to select chairmen for the various committees so he will speak with Secretary Shope and then, with the various Council members about accepting these positions.

**Administrative Committee Report** – Past Council Member Karl Cless provided his final activity list for 2019. He completed the relocation of the Zoning Office to the lower level of the Borough Building. He refurbished a left over library computer with Windows 10 and Microsoft Office and purchased a printer for installation of the IT system for the zoning office. He created an email account and labeled the office door for visitors. He will list the access change in the upgraded borough website. Mr. Cless began work on the new borough website format. He will need a list of Board appointments and Council officers and members to complete the Council and Board pages of the website and will publish as soon as the ordinance/resolution codification is complete.

**FEMA/PEMA Report** – No report. A chairman will need appointed.

**PCBA/COG** – Mr. Albright stated there was no report and there will be no meeting until spring.

**Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report** – Past Councilman Cless stated in his written report the recent scheduled meeting of the Capital Tax Collection Board was held on December 11, 2019 at 7 PM in Bloomfield Borough Council Chambers. Municipal disbursements and quarterly bills were reviewed and approved. The board also made appointments for Solicitor and Auditor as well. 2020 meeting dates and holidays were approved and reserved on the Borough calendar for room accessibility.

## ***AESTHETICS***

**Aesthetics Committee Report** – No report. A chairman will need appointed. Past President Anderson did report the Christmas tree and lights were put up and the Christmas street lights will remain up until next week.

***FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY***

**Finance, Insurance & Safety Report** – No report. A chairman will need appointed.

**Grants** – No report. A chairman will need appointed.

**Personnel Committee Report-** Councilman Bender had nothing to report.

***RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES***

**Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report** – No report. A chairman will need appointed.

**ADA Sidewalks** – HRG Engineer representative Keith Rhodes reported Mr. Postick is planning to have a field preconstruction meeting at the end of this week and starting field work next week on the ADA sidewalks. As far as Mr. Rhodes knows the Capital Improvement Plan is finished but Mr. Postick can get back to Council on that also.

***CLOSING COMMENTS***

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman McMullen, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, February 4, 2020 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary