

MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
July 6, 2021

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

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Mayor Arlis Krammes, Borough Employee Damon Hartman with wife Tineill Hartman, Solicitor representative Justin George, Borough engineer Ryan Hostetter, Borough Zoning and Water Authority representative Ed Albright, Water Authority representative C. Larry Weller, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, and residents Galene Weller, Karen Pelton, Ed and Pat Apple, Krista Wills and Polly Eby.

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

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

MEETING OPENING

Recording of the Meeting – President Berger 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 Berger 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 Berger asked if any individuals in the audience were also taping the meeting and if so to identify themselves for the record. President Berger 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 Fitzpatrick made a motion, seconded by Vice President Leshner, to approve the June 1, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Councilman Fitzpatrick made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman McMullen, to approve the financial report for June 1, 2021 as presented. Motion carried.

REQUESTED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

There were no Requested Public Comments or Presentations

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Resident Krista Wills questioned the process of how Borough Council does things. She was considering running for Council, but cannot because she is presently on the school board. She asked how with the resignation of Jacob Casey that he is still listed as having an excused absence. President Berger stated that upon instruction from the solicitor, Council has until the end of August to fill his position. They have 75 days. President Berger stated they are in the process, but are running it to the end. Ms. Pelton asked to go on record that she believes it would be in the best interest of the Borough and the residents that the position be filled sooner rather than later. President Berger stated they would also like the position filled, but need a person who is willing to put the time and work into the position because it is more than just attending a meeting once a month. Ms. Wills asked if there was somewhere residents could find out what a position entails if they are interested in becoming involved. President Berger suggested going to the PA Boroughs Association's website for that information. Councilwoman McMullen reminded everyone that as of the election this fall Council will drop to six members and then two years from now membership will drop to five.

Mr. Ed Albright, Republican Committee member for Bloomfield Borough, stated it is not recommended that Council just run the clock out on filling this position. Vice President Leshar asked if Mr. Albright knew anyone who would want to fill the position. Mr. Albright said that he did and he would get Council a candidate.

Mrs. Polly Eby, 110 Barnett Street, spoke about the vandalism inside the Post Office Lobby and asked who is responsible for fixing that and when it would be done. Vice President Leshar stated the Post Office is the tenant and it is their responsibility for repairs inside. The Borough is the landlord. Councilman Fitzpatrick asked if we know what the lease states. President Berger stated that to the best of his knowledge, the lease that the Borough has with the Post Office states that the Post Office is responsible for fixing anything inside, not the Borough. He informed Mrs. Eby that she would have to ask the Postmaster as to a timeline for fixing the vandalism.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Justin George stated Solicitor Isaac Wakefield has been working with the Personnel Committee on some personnel issues. They have received the closing for the Water Authority. Mr. Wakefield is currently working through the animal ordinance, code and zoning issues. Mr. Wakefield sent the updated laws about the posting of the meeting agenda on the website prior to the meetings to Secretary Shope.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Krammes stated the town looks pretty good as a whole, but she received many complaints about old furniture being left out on the curbside for days. This was not allowed before. President Berger stated this information was put in the newsletter and he does not know what else can be done except to tell the homeowner in person this cannot be done. Mayor Krammes agrees that this personal contact is what needs to be done. She mentioned that the Postmaster spoke to her about all the vandalism in the Post Office lobby. Mayor Krammes asked him to install a camera and cooperate with the Borough. The Postmaster suggested closing the Post Office at night. Mayor Krammes did not think this was a good idea.

Parking Officer Report – Mayor Krammes reported there were 6 tickets issued with 2 still unpaid.

Enforcement Report – Vice President Leshner stated a citation was issued last week to the old Freysinger building for non-conditional use. They are waiting to hear back from the owner.

BEO Smiley's report stated the following in her written report: 5/17- violation notices were issued to two residents on Main and High Streets for high grass, she spoke to the resident on High Street; Couch on Barnett – issued violation notice; 5/18- email from Crystal to run plates ; 5/19 – email from Danielle about high grass at 14 A/B West Main Street – emailed complaint back , emailed Danielle for updated landlord list; received email about a dog in hot sun barking for 45 min. on W. High Street, drove past but dog had been taken in, called dog warden; brown couch removed from Barnett St. – notice on door; 5/20- went to Office to fax license plate checks to 911 dispatch, drove through borough, talked to residents at 307 Veterans Way to remove toilet from end of yard along street, grass high at house at the end of Barnett St and if grass not mowed will issue a warning tomorrow, received call back from dog warden, confirmed that mini-bikes on road are a police issue; 5/22- drove through borough, cleaned trash up in borough; 5/24 – drove through borough ; saw a post on FB about a dog attack on Church St. on May 23, will monitor area daily; 5/26- walked through borough ; lot beside the Mayor's house was mowed; made note of several houses that grass is getting high ; 5/27-5/30 – out of town but checked emails and phones several times a day; 5/31- call received about dog attack on Church St., received a name and number of the daughter of the person attacked; 6/1 – called daughter of person attacked by dog on Church St. for details; Borough Meeting; 6/2 – walked through Borough saw a few houses that need grass cut, issued ordinance violations; 6/4,6/6 – drove through borough; 6/7- email about permit, forwarded to Ed Albright; drove through borough; 6/9- verbal warning violations issued to 121, 127, 129 W. McClure St. ; 120 W. McClure St. issued grass violation; sprayed brick sidewalk at end of Barnett St.; verbal warning about burning to resident at end of Barnett St. ; 6/11- Call from 120 W. McClure; will take care of grass ASAP, mower broke; 6/14- complaint about high grass at 120 W. McClure advised already taken care of.

Planning Commission Report – Councilman Fitzpatrick stated there was nothing to report at this time.

FEMA/PEMA Report – Councilwoman McMullen had no report.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright reported as of the end of June they closed out the construction loan with the bank and are now under USDA completely. By July 28, 2021, DEP is to come up for their final walk through and if it passes they will be able to put water in the tower/town.

PCBA/COG - Mr. Albright stated there was no meeting.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report - Mr. Albright stated he issued two permits for the month of June. One zoning for 42 West Main Street owned by Perry Housing Partnership. They are beginning to repair the fire damage. The other permit was for a driveway at 31 West High Street.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report – Councilman Smith was absent so no report.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence –

Thank you Note – Library - President Berger read a thank you note from Library Director Julia McGuigan for the Borough's generous donation to the town library.

Resolution 2021-02: Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement - President Berger read the resolution. Councilman Fitzpatrick made the motion to accept this resolution, seconded by Councilman Dum, motion carried. President Berger summarized the resolution to the public stating that Council has been working with HRG and is in the process of installing signals where pedestrians cross at the main crosswalks and beacons for speed on High Street in front of the elementary school. PennDot approval is needed for anything on Main and Carlisle Streets.

Resolution 2021-03: Lakeside Streetscape Project - President Berger asked Councilman Fitzpatrick to summarize this resolution. Councilman Fitzpatrick stated the Borough is applying for a DCED Multi-Modal grant to pave Lakeside Development. This is Barnett Street from Locust Street to Apple Street, Timber Circle, Lakeside from Barnett to Timber Circle, Lakeside Drive, Timber Circle to the dead end where future development will take over, and Patio Court. The grant is for \$376,177. The deadline for this grant is July 31, 2021. Councilman Fitzpatrick made the motion to accept this resolution, seconded by Vice President Leshner, motion carried.

VFW-Port A Potty Donation - A letter was received from the VFW concerning the 3 port-a-potties placed at the Borough playground, the Borough ballfield, and the one out at the soccer field which is technically on Dan Paul's property in Centre Township. The VFW is asking for a donation from the Borough to offset the expense of these port-a-potties. The one at the playground for seven months totals \$616.00 and the one at the ballfield for six months totals \$528.00. President Berger asked the Council's feelings about a donation for these facilities. Discussion followed. Councilman Fitzpatrick made the motion to pay for half the total of \$1,144.00 (which would be \$572.00), seconded by Vice President Leshner, motion carried.

New email address: bloomfieldborough@gmail.com

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Dum had no report but he will follow up with the Postmaster about the vandalism issue.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report – no report.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, & SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report – Councilman Fitzpatrick had nothing on Finance to report.

Grants – Councilman Fitzpatrick stated the Multi-Modal grant from DCED was already explained. He is also planning to submit a Multi-Modal grant in September to help us with the match. The grant for the Trail Project behind the Borough Building was submitted and will not know the outcome until the October Board meeting. The AARP application has been submitted with the state of PA in the amount of \$131,000. This application was accepted but no answer yet.

Personnel Committee Report- Councilwoman McMullen made the motion to hire Jeremy Foulkrod as the Assistant Waste Treatment Operator/Maintenance Tech 2 with a tentative start date of July 20, 2021, seconded by Councilman Fitzpatrick. Motion carried (Vice President Leshner abstained).

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report – President Berger deferred to Mr. Ryan Hostetter, who stated the Apple Street paving bid has been advertised and slated to be opened next Thursday (July 15, 2021 at 2 p.m.). Mr. Hostetter suggested with the addition of the Apple Street crosswalk there should be a council member designated to accept those bids to keep the project moving before the next meeting. President Berger made the motion to appoint Councilman Fitzpatrick as the contact person for HRG when bids are opened up for the crosswalk project, seconded by Vice President Leshner. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

Mr. Hostetter stated regarding the ADA sidewalk update with the signal maintenance agreement resolution that he will work with Secretary Shope to get everything signed and sent in to PennDOT and once that is executed they can submit for the signal permit for the school zones. The HOPs for ADA upgrades at Apple Street will be going in next week.

Announcement of Executive Session (If Any) - None

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councilwoman McMullen, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, August 3, 2021 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary