

MINUTES Bloomfield Borough Council June 4, 2019

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, Charles N. Summers, Vice President John J. Patterson V, Eric S. Berger, Alex M. Bender, and Karl L. Cless.

Also present: Secretary Danielle Shope, Borough Employees Damon Hartman, Mayor Arlis Krammes, HRG Borough Engineer Michael T. Postick, Solicitor Richard Wagner, Bloomfield Borough Zoning Officer and Water Authority Ed Albright, Jr., Bloomfield Borough Planning Commission representative Melanie Rowlands, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, New Bloomfield Fire Company representative Justin Kretzing, NavTech representative Roger Watson, and residents James A. Woods, Herb Robb, Wayne Leshar, and Patricia A. Woolever.

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. Individuals have 10 minutes to present their concern if they are on the agenda. 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 – Councilman Summers made a motion, seconded by Councilman Berger, to approve the May 7, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Vice President Patterson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Berger, to approve the financial report for May 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENT

Potential Council Member Question and Answer Session - There is a vacancy on Council due to a previous member moving out of the area. According to the PA Association of Boroughs, Bloomfield Borough Council is required to hold a question and answer session for the two candidates attending the meeting. Only Borough Council members are permitted to ask questions. The two candidates are Mr. James A. Woods and Mr. Wayne S. Leshar. Councilman Cless began asking questions. Mr. Cless knew of Mr. Woods' qualifications since Mr. Woods was on Borough Council previously. Mr. Cless asked what Mr. Leshar could bring to Council. Mr. Leshar responded that he has experience in land development, SALDO, infrastructures, codes requirements and he is also a Borough landlord. He has lived in town for 26 years. He does not want to see Bloomfield become another Newport or Duncannon. Mr. Bender and Mr. Berger had no questions for either candidate. Vice President Patterson stressed to both candidates that being a member of Borough Council takes a big time commitment. Mr. Woods has helped with Council before in the past, has lived her over 40 years and stated he is here to help. Councilman Summers stressed

about the time commitment. Also, Mr. Leshner stated he has time to commit or he would not have put his name out there.

President Anderson stated to everyone that Council is in a state of flux with a lot of changes happening in the next six months. She hopes other residents step up to fill the upcoming vacancies to keep the town running.

President Anderson called for a roll call vote. She did it in order of receivership of the affidavits of residency; as well as, the candidates' letters of interest.

Mr. James Woods:

Councilman Cless – Yay
Councilman Berger – Yay
Councilman Bender – Yay
Vice President Patterson – Yay
Councilman Summers – Yay

Mr. Wayne Leshner:

Councilman Cless – abstain
Councilman Berger – abstain
Councilman Bender – abstain
Vice President Patterson – No
Councilman Summers – abstain.

Mr. James Woods won the roll call vote and is appointed to fill out the rest of Mr. Weller's term which will end in December of 2019.

President Anderson stated that she appreciated Mr. Leshner coming forward and mentioned to him about keeping future vacancies in mind.

Oath of Office - Mayor Krammes administered the oath of office to James A. Woods installing him as a new Bloomfield Borough Council member.

Resolution 2019-04 – Fill a Vacancy - Councilman Charles Summers made the motion to approve Resolution 2019-04, Fill a Vacancy, seconded by Councilman Eric Berger. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ed Albright, 212 Oak Road, mentioned that all three trash cans at the ballfield were full of soda cans. He picked up two fifty-five gallon bags of bottles and cans thrown all over the place and every bag they used to line the field last year were stuffed in the dugout. Mr. Albright stated that if the Borough is going to let the ball teams use the field the Borough should not have to do their maintenance. He suggested charging the teams a \$100 fee if they are not going to clean up their own trash. No one on Council has a problem with charging a fee. President Anderson stated the use of the ballfield is a privilege and this will have to be addressed again. Councilman Woods is the manager of the ballfield. Mr. Woods was under the impression that as long as the teams got the trash into the appropriate containers the Borough would haul it away. President Anderson agreed with this, but feels someone could bring the trash bags to the pickup point after a Tuesday night game. Mr. Woods apologized for not informing the teams of the exact rule. He apologized to Mr. Albright because Mr. Albright should not have had to pick up trash.

Councilman Summers feels there should be some sort of “standards” agreement between the teams and the Borough so everyone knows what is expected. The teams have stopped contacting Mr. Summers. President Anderson asked if Mr. Woods and Mr. Summers would work something out with the ball teams.

Fire Company Land Development Plan – Mr. Justin Kretzing was present to answer any questions Council might have. Mr. Roger Watson had a set of plans for Council to sign, but since Borough Engineer Mr. Mike Postick did not have them to review, the signatures would have to be done upon Borough Engineer review. President Anderson asked Mr. Watson if everything on the Borough’s punch list had been completed and Mr. Watson replied “yes”. Mr. Justin Kretzing stated demolition is being worked on and they have a tentative schedule. The asbestos dumpster has been put on a hold order but it is hopeful it will happen shortly.

Solicitor Wagner asked if when the engineer reviews these plans then sometime in the near future Council would sign them? President Anderson stated “yes”. Mr. Wagner said there would have to be a vote of Council for signature authorization. President Anderson said they would be doing a telephone vote for approval to sign the Fire Company plans.

ENFORCEMENT

Solicitor’s Report – Lot 30 pump station: Solicitor Wagner contacted council for the lot owners who responded verifying they had a deed recorded. Mr. Wagner spoke to Council President and the Borough engineer who emailed Mr. Wagner a list of issues he needed addressed, one of these being that he needed a copy of the deed. The lot owner emailed a copy of the deed which Mr. Wagner sent to Borough engineer Mike Postick. In the email, the lot owner said he would promptly address the other issues raised by Mr. Postick, so Council could keep on moving toward acquiring Lot 30. This man’s name is Adam Zei. As soon as Mr. Zei sends a response to our engineer’s punch list Mr. Wagner will forward them to the engineer so we can keep things moving.

Mr. Roger Watson had a sketch plan to show Council what Lot 30 would look like in his proposal. He presented his sketch plan to members of Council. He is proposing a fifty foot right of way to get into the land behind the state shed. Mr. Watson stated the pump station is sized for twenty-six homes. President Anderson stated Council would not work on this at this meeting and they are not ready to comment on these plans. Mr. Watson and Mr. Postick both stated it is a sketch plan. President Anderson stated that once all the issues have been addressed by attorney Adam Zei things will be looked at. She stated this presentation will meet the 21 day deadline submission for the July meeting.

Enforcement Committee Report – Councilman Berger stated he sent a letter to the owners of the Uni-Mart stating they were in violation of the blight ordinance. They responded back to him about the back and side of the building. They are getting quotes from contractors about fixing up their building. They are going to be installing new gas tanks so the parking lot will be resurfaced at that time.

President Anderson also stated another letter was sent out to a homeowner at 111 West High Street about non-compliance with the blight ordinance. The homeowner met with President Anderson and Mr. Cless last week and they went over what home repairs needed done which the homeowner did immediately. President Anderson asked Mr. Albright to waive the demolition fee as a courtesy for motivation. The homeowner plans to start the demolition on the shed within the next two weeks.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Krammes had nothing to report. Mayor Krammes stated there were 13 parking tickets issued for the month of May. Two were voided and 5 are still unpaid.

Borough Enforcement Officer’s Report - BEO Nazzaro was absent due to illness but Mayor Krammes handed out his report. Mr. Nazzaro completed special patrols monitoring the Penn State Plant Sale. He

assisted with the Borough Cleanup day and responded to and assisted with fallen tree removal on North Carlisle Street. He completed patrols before, during, and after the Memorial Day events. He issued the following warnings this month: wrong way vehicles-12; uninspected vehicle street-7; uninspected vehicle street 2nd warning-1; vehicle without a plate on street-1; double parking/not parking in lines-1; skateboarding-3; grass-7; handicap parking-1; post Office parking-10; no parking area/blocking a garage-1; bridge parking-2; juvenile riding a hover board in the street-1; pickup parked at ballfield lot for several days-1 (owner called and stated he would be towing it ASAP); juvenile riding a motorized bicycle in street-1 (he explained they legally could ride it but had to follow traffic laws); juveniles regarding language and behavior at Borough Park-2; overflowing dumpsters at Uni-Mart -1; park hours-several; warning and mailed a certified letter to a property owner regarding a “dangerous Structure”-1; dogs barking -1. Mr. Nazzaro checked on fireworks coming from W. High St. cemetery but found nothing. He received a complaint regarding mailboxes being blocked by vehicles. Presently there is no law or Ordinance against this. He tried to catch a loose dog without success. He responded to several complaints regarding noise and unusual activity after hours. One of these involved a male individual taking pictures of children playing at park and possibly following the children home. PSP was called and a report was filed. He responded to a possible fire with plume of smoke and discovered a home owner had poured gasoline on an ant colony in his backyard and burned them out using gasoline. He issued one citation of an Intrepid that was parked on Chestnut St. He completed a special report regarding the abandoned vehicles (uninspected and/or unregistered vehicles) which are beginning to fill up off street parking areas primarily at rental properties. He received a complaint regarding the mess at the Park Bleachers with overflowing trash cans and trash all over the ground. This area has been like this a long time and he explained to complainant this area was the ball team’s responsibility, but he would say something to Borough employees.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence – President Anderson stated Councilman Bender’s information is on the updated phone listing.

President Anderson asked for a vote on Ordinance #343. Basically it states all applications for any type of plan must be submitted 21 days prior to a planning commission meeting, from the old 9 day submission. It also dealt with amending chapter 26 dealing with zoning for professional offices and home occupation. Both were advertised for the two week period. Councilman Cless made the motion to pass Ordinance #343, seconded by Councilman Berger. Motion carried. Newly appointed council member Woods abstained from the vote since he had no knowledge about the ordinance.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright reported May 28, 2019 he received a letter from DEP saying the pilot program has passed. Now, DEP is requiring the Water Authority to submit a major construction permit application for a full scale water treatment plant using the pilot membrane with the parameters specified above. The Water Authority engineers are in touch with DEP before they actually put in the application. Things are moving forward.

The Authority repaired three leaks at 219 East Main Street, 303 West Main Street and 306 West Main Street last month. Repairing all these leaks brought them back up to the percentage they maintain without having any loss in their tanks.

Planning Commission Report – Ms. Rowlands had no further report.

Zoning/Permit Officer’s Report - Mr. Albright issued one permit for 111 West Main Street for sidewalk repair at no fee.

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Cless reported that he repaired a toilet in the upper level ladies restroom and replaced malfunctioning ceiling light bulbs throughout the building. He performed the annual borough building safety inspection to include the emergency lighting and fire alarm systems and posted the inspection sheet on both levels. The fire extinguishers were also checked and updated by Kint Corp. He reviewed and drafted new employee handbooks to reflect the latest updates for handouts to employees. He received notification from the post office of their intention to accept the roll over clause to renew the current lease, beginning in March of 2020. The ordinance to update the zoning and SALDO is ready for passage which was previously done.

FEMA/PEMA Report - Councilman Cless had nothing to report.

PCBA/COG – Mr. Albright stated there was nothing to report.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report – Councilman Cless reported the next quarterly meeting is scheduled for July.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report – Councilman Summers stated some members of the committee took care of the flowers on the square. The trees are down in the spring. Councilman Summers asked if they were planning to replace the trees on Church Street. President Anderson stated 2 or the 3 will be replaced. Vice President Patterson mentioned that the owner of the property requested no flowering pear. Councilman Bender has a good grasp on the type of tree to use. President Anderson has a list of trees given to her years ago by an arborist.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report – Vice President Patterson had no report.

Grants – No report.

Personnel Committee Report- President Anderson is turning the reigns of the Personnel Committee Chairman over to Councilman Alex Bender.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report - Vice President Patterson reported the paving in town is being done at a very good price. It will be done within the next three days.

ADA Sidewalks – HRG Mike Postick reported they have finished their surveying of the sidewalks for ADA compliance. He wants to get the design and HOP out this month. Once this is done, he will put it out for bid.

Mr. Postick will review the Fire Company Plan and the latest sketch on Lot #30.

Councilman Cless raised the question of Lot #30 and the pump station thinking it would be “as is”. That is why the sketch plan was put on hold until next month so Mr. Postick can review it

Mr. Cless asked if the drain was cleaned out by Shirley Watson's home. She was complaining about it being clogged. Mr. Hartman will check into this.

Mr. Woods asked about the grate holes at the corner of Apple Street and Main Street. He wondered if they could be made bigger because everything gets caught there and when the rain comes down the hill from High Street a pond develops. He takes care of it but he is worried what might happen when he is not available. Mr. Hartman believes that since the grate is on a state route it is a standardized size. Mr. Hartman will check on this issue.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Summers, seconded by Councilman Woods, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 2, 2019 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary