

MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
May 4, 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, Michael J. Smith, Brenten S. Dum and Kimberly A. McMullen. Councilman Jacob L. Casey and J. Kevin Fitzpatrick had excused absences.

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Mayor Arlis Krammes, Borough Employee Damon Hartman with wife Tineill Hartman, Zoning Officer/Water Authority Ed Albright Jr., Solicitor Isaac Wakefield, Historical Society representatives Mr. Glenn Holliman and Mr. Russell Hoover, Perry Historians representative Aaron Kim Morrison and Jerry Clouse, Notary Jerry Philpott, Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellot LLC representative Ryan Mentzer, Bloomfield Borough residents Karl Cless, Edward Apple, Herb Robb, Mike Whitmer and Dan Weller.

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 Smith made a motion, seconded by Vice President Leshner, to approve the April 6, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Councilman Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dum, to approve the financial report for April 2021 as presented. Motion carried.

Announcement of Executive Session – Councilman Smith made the motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:04 p.m., seconded by Councilwoman McMullen. Motion carried.

Councilman Smith made the motion to reconvene the regular meeting at 7:42 p.m., seconded by Councilwoman McMullen. Motion carried.

President Berger informed the audience that the Executive Session was about various personnel matters.

REQUESTED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Jennifer Caron – Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott LLC (USDA Loan for Bloomfield Borough Water Authority)

Mr. Ryan Mentzer presented the USDA loan in conjunction with the Bloomfield Water Authority and the RUS debt. Mr. Jerry Philpott notarized the papers stating proper procedures were followed. Vice President Leshner made the motion to approve Ordinance # 352, seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion carried. A short break was taken to sign documents. Councilman Smith made the motion to reconvene, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

Mr. Glenn Holliman from the Historical Society reported there will be four markers and seven plaques placed around New Bloomfield to celebrate the Perry County Bi-Centennial. These markers and plaques will be delivered soon to await installment by the Borough. This will make 117 markers scattered over Perry County to commemorate the Bi-Centennial. October 24, 2021 will be the official dedication of the Bi-Centennial Plaza at the Dum Memorial Park in Spring Township.

Mr. Holliman then remarked about the concerns raised as to the Carson Long memorabilia and where it should be housed. The Perry Historians and the Historical Society of Perry County met with the Rabbi of Talmudic University (formerly Carson Long Military Academy) about having a display of Carson Long memorabilia at the University's "Welcome Center" to tell the story of the Bloomfield Academy and the Carson Long Military Academy. Most of the artifacts held by the Historians are photographs and paper. The more valuable artifacts went in the auction. However, this "Welcome Center" is in the distant future. President of Perry Historians Mr. Jerry Clouse then explained the cost of digitizing and storing photographs and papers from Carson Long. This is why the Historians were requesting monies from any left over from the sale of Carson Long.

Vice President Leshner asked if anyone knew the amount of money that follows these artifacts? Mr. Leshner heard a dollar amount of \$250,000. The Carson Long Military Academy Board has not spoken to the Historians about an amount. The reason both the Perry Historians and the Historical Society need the monies is for storage issues. These artifacts are presently being stored at no cost in Mr. Campbell's barn but they must be inventoried and put into proper cataloged formats so the public can have access. Mr. Kim Morrison from the Historical Society Board explained the issue is when the sale of Carson Long to Talmudic University is finalized if there are any funds left over then those funds will go to different organizations. One of those organizations is the Historical Society. They were told at a January meeting to expect \$200,000. Mr. Morrison explained that the issue under contention is where will this money be utilized. Mr. Morrison believes that when they have the money there are a lot of different stakeholders that need to have a voice in this. More discussion followed. Mr. Morrison stated the Borough could try to influence the decision by contacting the Carson Long Board, the Attorney General's Office or the Orphans' Court.

Mr. Dan Weller asked why this was being discussed at a Council meeting. Council stated they sent letters of influence to try to keep the monies that go with the artifacts stay within the Borough.

Resignation of Borough Employee Jacob Morrison - Councilman Smith made the motion to accept the resignation of Borough employee Jacob Morrison, seconded by Councilwoman McMullen. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

There were no public comments

MONTHLY REPORTS

Solicitor's Report – New Solicitor Isaac Wakefield had nothing in the form of a formal report.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Krammes reported people do not like the way the Borough is looking (i.e. grass blown onto the streets, trees taken out with stumps left in). At the corner of High and Cold Storage Road, there is a property that needs to be cleaned up. Also, The Leyder property is deteriorating. Vice President Leshar stated the former BEO inspected that house. It has to be dangerous or unsafe, but ugly does not fit that criteria. Mr. Leshar asked what is the Borough to do? There is nothing the Borough can do because it does not fit any criteria on the books. Letters have already been sent. Mayor Krammes stated the house at the corner of High and Cold Storage Road is looking junky. The grass is getting high. The Borough can tell them to cut the grass because that ordinance is on the books however Vice President Leshar says the Borough does not have an enforcement mechanism.

Parking Officer Report – Mayor Krammes reported 7 tickets issued during the month of April with 5 paid and 2 unpaid.

Enforcement Report –BEO Smiley's report stated the following: 3/16 – Went to 127 West McClure St to speak to the residents about the neighbor hanging laundry over the fence, case #20210316 : 3/18- drove through town: 3/19 – called Polly about Case #11-20210311 in regards to cleaning up McClure Street alley : 3/21 – Mr. Eby left a voicemail about loud music coming from the green house on McClure ; 3/22 – voicemail from Joyce Hench at 216 East Main St., called back 2 times, left message: 3/25 - spoke with Joyce Hench about junk cars across the street at the old Freysinger building at 219 E. Main St. questioning if the borough has an ordinance; 3/29 – Call from Danielle, she received a complaint from a tenant at 43 E. Main St. advising her landlord is bringing trash from outside the borough and dropping it off to be collected. I contacted complainant and she advised that the trash consisted of glass, nails and construction material that is dangerous to her and her four children, went to 43 E Main and took pictures of the pile of material and 5 bags of trash with building material in it; 4/1 - email on Case #13-20210402 responded by email, cleaned up leaves at 126 W. McClure St. ; 4/6 – drafted letter and set to landlord on Case #12-20210329; received a voicemail from 127 W. McClure that they witnessed a car driving on the sidewalk over the weekend; 4/7 – called 127 W. McClure back to discuss the incident that she witnessed over the weekend about a car driving on the sidewalk. ; had couch removed from 139 W. McClure St. gave Spring 2021 Borough flyer to remind them of Clean Up day; 4/8 – call from isa Fraker, spoke with Kim prior to calling her back, called Lisa back to discuss letter she received; 4/12 – received an email and a call from a resident that was inquiring about a building permit, sent on to Ed Albright; 4/13 Spoke to Mr. Leshar about Permit Ordinance; 4/14 – call from 43 E Main St. refrigerator with door on back porch of 41 E. Main St. concerned about small children playing near it, spoke to landlord to have refrigerator removed. For a complete report see files in Borough Office.

Vice President Leshar is going to direct BEO Smiley not to take any calls. Complaints must be made by completing a complaint form or filling it out online.

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

FEMA/PEMA Report – Councilwoman McMullen had no report

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright reported North Apple Street and Maple Lane should be done next week. A hydrant was installed at the corner of Apple and High streets.

PCBA/COG - Mr. Albright had nothing to report.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report - Mr. Albright stated he issued 2 permits for the month of April. One for a porch at Talmudic University and one for a Don Jacobs sign on Barnett Woods Road.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report – Councilman Smith stated they met last week. He opened the building while Councilwoman McMullen filled in for him. The meeting was uneventful. He will email documents to the Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence –

There is still no Statement of Financial Interest from Mr. Robert Wood. All members' statements are due to the office today April 6, 2021.

Vice President Berger stated a letter was received from Mr. Fred Morrow in reference to tree removal at 217 South Carlisle Street so the fire company can have better sight lines for the Fire House entrance. The Fire Company will pay for this expense. Councilman Smith made a motion for this removal to be completed without tree replacement, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

Bloomfield Borough clean up day will be May 8, 2021.

New email address: bloomfieldborough@gmail.com

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Dum had nothing to report.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report – Councilman Casey was absent so no report.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, & SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report – Councilman Smith stated he keeps an ongoing spreadsheet of the balances compared to January 2020 and the Borough is in very good shape financially.

He stated Councilman Fitzpatrick has been working many hours on the DCED grant for the trail proposal. The proposed fees and costs were received this evening at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Fitzpatrick has been working on letters of support from the stakeholders, County Commissioners, Representative Stambaugh, and Senator DiSantos,

Grants – see above on the DCED grant

Personnel Committee Report- Councilwoman McMullen made the motion to authorize a salary adjustment for employee Damon Hartman in the amount of \$5,000 per year retroactive to January 2021. Seconded by Vice President Leshner. Motion carried

Councilwoman stated the Borough is advertising for a replacement for Borough employee Jacob Morrison.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report – President Berger deferred to Mr. Damon Hartman who had nothing to report.

President Berger made the motion to rescind the “yes” vote from last month’s meeting on the paving project per the advice of the Borough Solicitor, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

President Berger then made the motion per Borough Solicitor’s recommendations to now advertise that paving project and put it out on bid, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

President Berger made the motion per the advice of the Borough Solicitor that the Borough use FSA (Frederick Seibert and Associates) as the land development plan review company. This is at no cost to the Borough and presently there is no one holding this position, Motion was amended to read April 29, 2021. Seconded by Vice President Leshner. Motion carried.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Karl Cless asked about an ad he saw from Lisa Fraker advertising lots for sale in Lakeside Development describing them as .4 acres and those lots are not .4 acres and there is no road frontage or water/sewer as she advertised. Vice President Leshner said that is just a marketing technique. President Berger said that no one on Council is aware of this. Nothing has been presented for formal approval.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Smith , seconded by Vice President Leshner, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, June 1, 2021 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary