

MINUTES Bloomfield Borough Council November 7, 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., Kevin C. Weller, Charles N. Summers, Pierce L. Clouser, Jr., Michael P. Pray and Karl L. Cless.

Also present: Secretary Danielle Shope, Mayor Arlis Krammes, Assistant Borough Secretary Kathleen Miller, Borough Employee Damon Hartman, BEO Harry Nazzaro, Water Authority and Zoning Officer Ed Albright, Planning Commission Melanie Rowlands, HRG Engineer Ryan Hostetter, New Bloomfield Fire Company representative Justin Kretzing, Civics student Truitt Detra, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan and resident James A. Woods.

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. 10 minutes if they are on the agenda. President Anderson stated that Council will not deviate from the agenda and any should be addressed during the appropriate portion of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes – Councilman Pray made a motion, seconded by Councilman Clouser, to approve the October 3, 2017 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Budget Minutes – Councilman Clouser made a motion, seconded by Councilman Summers, to approve the October 15, 2017 budget minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Vice-President Patterson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Pray, to approve the financial report for October, 2017 as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Fire Company - Fire Company representative Justin Kretzing presented to Council the Capital Fund Account Balance for Bloomfield Borough from the New Bloomfield Fire Company statistics sheet for the past two years. Mr. Kretzing explained to new council members that the Fire Company came to Council several years back and asked for some help with buying fire apparatus and upkeep for building purposes because the money they were receiving a few years ago only covered operating expenses with just a few thousand dollars left over. He then explained the statistics sheet he handed out to Council. President Anderson stated that they had some concerns which they addressed with Mr. Kretzing that the dollars being provided by Bloomfield Borough to the Fire Company be designated and shown how those tax monies were spent. President Anderson and Mr. Kretzing had a meeting about this and Mr. Kretzing mentioned at that meeting the Fire Company was meeting with their auditors to start setting up a new accounting system that would have the ability to show all municipalities that provide the Fire Company funding how their

monies are spent. Robert Morris agency stated if the Fire Company provides them with those figures they will include it in the audit. President Anderson asked if they anticipate that every year the Fire Company will delineate what every township or municipality gives the company and how that money is spent. Mr. Kretzing said this is what will be done in the future. Anything above that .4 mil is going into a capital fund, to be used for apparatus, equipment or building.

Mr. Kretzing stated the Borough and Centre Township have a fire tax. Wheatfield, Spring and Carroll give the Fire Company funding through tax dollars, but it is not called a fire tax.

Engineer Report – Ryan Hostetter – Mr. Hostetter discussed Barnett Woods Road. HRG performed a one way street engineering and traffic study. He presented the study in letter format to Council. They thought there would be a lot of complications in turning the entire roadway into a one way road. The sewer treatment plant, several residential houses and the tough intersection at 34 South would make it difficult to turn it into one way and might restrict traffic flow. The biggest reason to turn Barnett Woods Road into one way is for the “cut through” traffic. It is used very heavily (2000 vehicles per day) for that and the road is not designed for such use. The bridges, which are single lane, can only handle 8 tons. The road itself narrows to 20 foot width. There is a lot of potential for accidents. They focused on just converting the section from McClure Street to Route 34 (Main Street) to a one way traffic flow. Truck traffic turning into Barnett Woods Road from Main Street has damaged the house on the corner and it is hazardous for trucks pulling out from Barnett Woods Road onto Main Street because they have to use the whole road and this is not safe. Improvements realized from making this block one way would be reduced traffic flow on Barnett Woods Road; thus, eliminating traffic conflicts at the one lane bridge. Some concerns would be the vehicles not cutting through on Barnett Woods would now be using other streets, and the one way restriction may have concern on emergency vehicle access. In summary, it would not dramatically affect traffic flow. Before this would be implemented a discussion would be needed with all emergency responders and local residents affected. Appropriate signage would also be installed.

Mr. Hostetter recommends proceeding in this manner. It would be a relatively inexpensive project mainly using signage. Vice- President Patterson mentioned that the second bridge on Barnett Woods Road is wearing and this would help prevent wear and tear on that bridge.

President Anderson asked about the timeline for installing signage. Mr. Hostetter stated that since the road is closed now, it should help keep the truck traffic from using it once it reopens. This study will need to be submitted and the TE106 form is what PennDot will review. HRG will discuss it with PennDot and hopefully PennDot will be willing to install some of the signage.

To make it one way an ordinance will need to be passed.

Vice-President Patterson suggested the Council members review this study and by next month's meeting Council will give Mr. Hostetter an answer on when to proceed. Council members' questions should be directed to Vice-President Patterson or President Anderson so they can be brought to Mr. Hostetter's attention.

ENFORCEMENT

Solicitor's Report – Mr. Richard Wagner was absent, but he asked President Anderson to bring several items to Council's attention. First, the Governor's plan to balance the state budget deals with an issue involving gambling and casinos. That portion of the budget will affect every municipality, township and borough in the state. The Borough is mandated to decide by December 31 whether or not to allow mini-casinos within the Borough limits. This will involve video gambling terminals (VGTs) which can range from a minimum of 30 units up to 700 units and still be considered a mini-casino. The Borough has been given no direction from the State Gaming Commission so no one knows how this will play out. The Borough has until December 31st to either opt into the program or not. President Anderson questioned how the constituents can be notified about this idea which would affect all of them. Another question would be what type of income would this generate for the Borough, if any, but no one can answer these questions. Mr. Wagner is meeting with several attorneys because everyone in the state will be faced with these

decisions and he will bring to the December meeting an ordinance draft of something if we opt to not allow the mini-casinos within Borough limits. President Anderson contacted the PA Association of Boroughs and they have been given no actual direction from the state either. A decision cannot be made without information so Council will have to wait to see if they get any information.

Second, Mr. Gene Stilp, a political activist, is going to be arriving on the Perry County Courthouse steps Thursday November 9th at noon to burn the Nazi and Confederate flags. He has been given this permission of exercising his first amendment rights by the county commissioners. The PA State Police, the Perry County Sheriff's Department and the FBI out of Harrisburg have been notified of this activity. Zoning Officer Ed Albright was notified by the State Police about the burning ordinance. Mr. Albright said the burning must take place inside a metal container. Mr. Stilp brings his own container.

Enforcement Committee Report – Councilman Clouser reviewed the contract with the Humane Society and gave it to Council to send in. President Anderson signed it and the contract was sent.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Krammes stated on Monday, November 13th there will be 8 large trucks coming through New Bloomfield from the Zander Construction Company. They are building a bridge at Bixler Run. All the parking spaces in front of the County Seat Restaurant will be blocked off plus the ones in front of Orrstown Bank and two in front of the Bloomfield Pharmacy. The trucks will go left at the Square and need room to swing around. They will come from 34 South going West through town. The State gave them permits. If there is any damage at all the Construction Company will pay damages. President Anderson has copies of all their permits, bonding and insurance in case there is any damage. Mayor Krammes will ask for several fire police to be on hand. The time frame of 9a.m. - 3 p.m. was given.

Parking Enforcement Officer Report - Mayor Krammes reported 15 tickets were issued in October with 5 remaining unpaid. Council has an estimate for the new parking tickets, which are the same tickets.

Borough Enforcement Officer Report - BEO Officer Mr. Harry Nazzaro reported the month of October was quiet in terms of violations so he concentrated on patrols overnight and in the morning while kids are walking to school. He did a lot of foot patrols. He is seeing less overnight activity due to the colder weather. He issued the following warnings: 1 Park Hours; 1 skateboarding; 2 cemetery hours; 9 nuisance vehicles; 1 bushes needing to be trimmed; 1 curfew; 1 burning; 1 tires on front porch; 1 trash. He has had a lot of issues with the Post Office parking lot still being used by sport spectators. President Anderson said she would be talking to the Post Mistress because the Post Office is a tenant of the building and they put up some signs that were not authorized. She stated since there is a new parking lot for sporting events the team leaders need to send out letters to all their team and opposing team members because towing will be sanctioned by the Borough if cars are parking illegally. Mr. James Woods, athletic field manager, stated he informed all the coaches about telling their parents about the new parking lot, etc.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence – Kathleen Miller from the Bloomfield Public Library Board presented to Council the name of Barbara J. Berquist as a new candidate for library board member. Councilman Cless made the motion, seconded by Councilman Weller, to accept Barbara J. Berquist to the library board. Motion carried.

Proposed Budget Discussion – President Anderson stated Council had their budget meeting October 15, 2017 and they now have a “proposed” budget. There are several line items they would like to add on or comment on. The budget will not be approved tonight because it is not in its final stages. Vice-President Patterson asked for an increase in the printing and advertising (400.342 general account). The original request of \$350 needs to be increased to \$650 because of the additional printing needed for the new parking tickets. Councilman Cless made the motion, seconded by Councilman Weller, to accept the \$650 figure for printing. Motion carried. Vice-President Patterson had another item on the highway, roads and streets

which would be a new line item. The lining of streets, crosswalks etc. is much cheaper to contract out than doing it with Borough employees. Mr. Patterson has an estimate from Jeffrey T. Sutton for this lining. The linear foot information the Borough gave Mr. Sutton might be lower than estimated so Vice-President Patterson is asking another \$500 to this item. \$2,000 is what Vice-President Patterson is asking to have put into the budget as a line item under highway, roads and streets for the lining of streets, marking of crosswalks and street signage. Secretary Shope stated she was not sure if there is a line item for line painting, etc. so she will look into where it can be placed in the budget. Councilman Clouser made a motion, seconded by Councilman Pray, to accept that \$2,000 be placed into the budget for line painting, etc. Motion carried. No other chairmen had additions to make to their budgets.

President Anderson stated some Council seats were up for re-election this evening so January 2, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. will be the reorganization meeting of Borough Council.

Ordinance #331 – Blighted and Disrepaired Properties – President Anderson asked Councilman Cless to sit down with Solicitor Wagner in the upcoming weeks to iron out the issues that were unclear and the changes that have been made to the ordinance. Councilman Cless asked if Secretary Shope could email Mr. Wagner those changes to expedite things. Mrs. Shope believes she already did so. The changes need to be advertised in the newspaper.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright stated they are still waiting for their engineer to set up a meeting. Mr. Albright has signed off on the authorization to proceed on the McClure Street project. Well 3 is finished with the flow testing, but DEP has requested they not take apart any of their pipes or remove their equipment until after a significant rain. Then DEP will come out to do their final end test for particulates. This, of course, will entail more money.

Planning Commission Report – Ms. Rowlands asked for a request for Council to “non-object” to a Little Free Library Box being placed in the Historic District as part of the Master Gardeners project. The Master Gardeners of Penn State will be installing this box on the side of their building on the parking area side. The Free Public Library logo will be on the box. The books should be about gardening. The Master Gardeners are required to police the box. Councilman Clouser made a motion, seconded by Councilman Pray, to accept a request to “non-object” to the Little Free Library box be placed in the Historic District. Motion carried.

Zoning/Permit Officer’s Report - Mr. Albright stated he issued 1 permit for the month of October. Since it was for steps to the garage at Eagle Rook, the Veterans Building, he waived the fee. He has been getting a lot of phone calls about the “development” going up for sale and that the property lines were all messed up. Of course, this was way before most of the present Council members were seated. President Anderson stated that she could comment on the fact that the present owners of Lakeside “development” are in receivership. The Borough is still waiting for word on this receivership because they would like to take over the pump station on Lot 30. Some of those surveyors might be because of this receivership. Mr. Albright is still having issues with the sandwich sign boards at the church. The church wanted him to attend their trustees meeting and Mr. Albright refused. He told them if they had question about their sandwich boards on the Square they needed to come to this Council meeting. No one showed up. Mr. Albright will remove the Presbyterian Church sign from the Square since they did not ask permission.

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Cless stated he had a fly infestation in Join Hands so he put the sticky paper traps up. He had to reset the heaters in Join Hands also. He scraped the remaining non-working dehumidifier in the Library. He also had to have Blumenschein perform another service call on the Borough Office HVAC again. There was a refrigerant leak in the branch box which Mr. Blumenschein fixed. He charged the system up to half because he ran out of refrigerant. Mr. Blumenschein is to return to add the rest of the refrigerant sometime in the future. Councilman Cless received the 2018 census update form which he did not complete since it is voluntary, would take several hours to complete and it was of no benefit to the Borough.

FEMA/PEMA Report - Councilman Cless received the 3rd quarter resilience report that had nothing of importance for our immediate area.

PCBA/COG - Mr. Albright reported the next meeting would be November 9, 2017 at 7 p.m. in Borough Chambers and he encouraged everyone to attend.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report - Councilman Pray reported the new executive director started working this past month.

President Anderson stated the Borough is considering going from a 7 member council to a 5 member council. She went to the voter registration office. There are only 676 registered voters in the Borough so only a minimum of 34 signatures is needed on the petition to reduce Council. Solicitor Wagner suggests getting at least 50 signatures. Council will pursue this next year. Each Council member will be asked to get out to get between 5-10 signatures.

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report – Councilman Summers stated the Tree Lighting will be November 26 at 5 p.m. Also, the space shuttle has been removed from the playground and he is looking for new equipment as a replacement.

President Anderson encouraged everyone to attend the Tree Lighting.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report - Vice President Patterson had nothing to report.

Grants – Councilman Pray had nothing to report. President Anderson stated since the state has not passed their budget the Borough is not allowed to submit any grants. We were going to submit a grant for UV bulbs for \$128,000. Now, this is on hold.

Personnel Committee Report- Councilman Pray the insurance broker is still trying to get the 2018 rates.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report - Vice President Patterson stated they had a date of delivery for the bridge concrete culvert for the week of November 20th.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Councilman Summers, seconded by Councilman Weller, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. to meet on Tuesday, December 5, 2017 for a regular meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary