MINUTES
Bloomfield Borough Council
September 7, 2021

Bloomfield Borough Council met this evening in a regular session in the Bloomfield Borough Council Chambers with the following Council members present: J. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Michael J. Smith, Kimberly A. McMullen, Brenten S. Dum and James A. Woods.

Also present: Secretary Danielle L. Shope, Assistant Secretary Kathleen Miller, Mayor Arlis Krammes, Borough Employee Damon Hartman with wife Tineill Hartman, Solicitor Isaac Wakefield, Borough Zoning and Water Authority representative Ed Albright, Tax Collector Brenda Albright, BEO Becky Smiley, Perry County Times reporter Jim Ryan, HRG representative Justin Mendinsky, Planning Commission representative Melanie Rowlands, Water Authority representative C. Larry Weller, Tuscarora Soccer representatives Grahm Brouse and Brett Beaver, and residents Karen Pelton, Ed Apple, Polly Eby, Malinda Anderson with visitor Mark Leslie Goodman, John Patterson, Jessica Grindle, Diane Grindle, Nancy Pote, Herbert Robb, Daniel Spriggle, Robin Dum, Dan Weller and Kenneth Rauch.

President Pro Tempore Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

President Pro Tempore Smith led the gathered assembly in the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

MEETING OPENING

Recording of the Meeting – President Pro Tempore Smith 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 Pro Tempore Smith 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 Pro Tempore Smith asked if any individuals in the audience were also taping the meeting and if so to identify themselves for the record. President Pro Tempore Smith stated that Council will not deviate from the agenda and any questions should be addressed during the appropriate portion of the meeting.

Resignations -

Motion to accept Wayne S. Lesher IV's resignation dated 8/19/21: Councilman Fitzpatrick made the motion to accept Wayne S. Lesher IV's resignation, seconded by Councilwoman McMullen. Motion carried.

Motion to accept Eric S. Berger's resignation dated 8/19/21: Councilwoman McMullen made the motion to accept Eric S. Berger's resignation, seconded by Councilman Woods. Motion carried.

Council Member Vacancy -

Three candidates (Malinda C. Anderson, Jessica L. Grindle and Daniel Spriggle) for the open Council positions stood and introduced themselves.

Nominations -

President Pro Tempore Smith reminded Council members that Wayne Lesher's term runs through January 4, 2022 while Eric Berger's term runs through the first Tuesday of January 2024.

Councilman Woods nominated Jessica Grindle to fill former councilman Lesher's position through the first Tuesday January 2022.

Councilman Fitzpatrick also nominated Malinda Anderson to fill this position.

Jessica Grindle was voted on first: "Yays" - Woods; "Nays" - Fitzpatrick, McMullen, Dum, and Smith

Malinda Anderson was voted on second: "Yays" - Fitzpatrick, Smith, Dum, McMullen; "No response" - Woods.

President Pro Tempore Smith congratulated Ms. Anderson on winning the nomination.

Councilman Woods nominated Jessica Grindle for the position ending in January 2024.

Councilman Dum nominated Daniel Spriggle for the position ending in January 2024.

Jessica Grindle was voted on first: "Yays" - Fitzpatrick, Woods, McMullen, Smith; "Nays" - Dum

Daniel Spriggle was voted on second: "Yays" - Dum; "Nays" - Woods, Fitzpatrick , Smith.

President Pro Tempore Smith congratulated Ms. Grindle on winning the nomination.

Councilman Fitzpatrick thanked Mr. Daniel Spriggle for coming out and expressing his interest in his community.

Oath of Office by Mayor Krammes -

Mayor Arlis Krammes presented the Oath of Office to Malinda Anderson and Jessica Grindle.

Resolutions: To Fill A Vacancy –

Councilman Fitzpatrick made the motion to approve resolution #2021-05 filling the first vacancy (term through 1st Tuesday, January 2022), seconded by Councilwoman McMullen. Motion carried.

Councilman Woods made the motion to approve resolution #2021-06 filling the second vacancy (term through 1st Tuesday, January 2024), seconded by Councilman Fitzpatrick. Motion carried.

Reorganization –

Nominations for President - Councilman Fitzpatrick made the motion to nominate President Pro Tempore Smith for President, seconded by Councilman Woods. Motion carried.

Nominations for Vice President - Councilman Dum made the motion to nominate Councilman Fitzpatrick for Vice President, seconded by Councilman Woods. Motion carried.

Nomination for President Pro Tempore -

Councilman Fitzpatrick made the motion to nominate Councilwoman McMullen as President Pro Tempore.

Councilwoman McMullen made the motion to nominate Councilman Woods as President Pro Tempore.

Councilwoman McMullen was voted on first: "Yays" - Fitzpatrick, Smith, Grindle, Woods; "Nays" - Anderson, Dum.

Councilman Woods was voted on second: "Yays" - Dum, Anderson, McMullen, "Nays" - Fitzpatrick, Smith, Grindle

Councilwoman McMullen won the votes for President Pro Tempore.

Appointment to Planning Commission - Councilwoman Anderson made the motion to approve R. Kevin McCarty to the Bloomfield Borough Planning Commission, seconded by Vice President Fitzpatrick. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes – Vice President Fitzpatrick made a motion, seconded by Councilman Woods, to approve the August 3, 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report – Councilwoman McMullen made a motion, seconded by Councilman Dum, to approve the financial report for August 3, 2021 as presented. Motion carried.

REQUESTED PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Tuscarora Soccer Club – Help with maintenance of soccer fields

Soccer club representatives Brett Beaver and Grahm Brouse explained about the history of the soccer club which now has approximately 200 children and how the club would like to help the Borough with the maintenance of the field. They were told to contact Mr. Damon Hartman. President Smith thanked them for their offer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR PRESENTATIONS

Resident Polly Eby, 110 Barnett Street, asked if the Borough was responsible for the inside of the Post Office. President Smith replied, "Yes". Mrs. Eby then suggested getting security cameras for the Post Office Lobby. Secondly, Mrs. Eby thanked the Council for the new dog ordinance. She asked that this ordinance be placed in the sewer bills for public knowledge.

Councilwoman Anderson stated that the Borough did install security cameras around the perimeter of the Borough Building. Because the Post Office is a federal facility, cameras cannot be placed inside unless the Post Office approves. Councilwoman McMullen spoke with the Postmaster who in turn asked his superior in Harrisburg and was told no to installing cameras within the Post Office.

Brenda Albright, 212 Oak Road, suggested including sending the dog ordinance out with the Landlord/Tenant notices

MONTHLY REPORTS

Solicitor's Report – Solicitor Wakefield had no report.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Krammes reported there were many complaints this month about people putting items out on curbsides for free. This is not allowed. Also, on Church and Barnett Streets there was some trash in the yard. It has been there for a month. The Mayor took pictures and she will ask them to take care of things. Mayor Krammes suggested Council address this issue of just leaving items out curbside. Vice President Fitzpatrick thanked the Mayor and Councilwoman McMullen for their efforts in the placement of the centennial markers placed around the borough.

Parking Officer Report – Mayor Krammes reported there were 5 tickets issued with 4 paid and 1 unpaid.

Enforcement Report – Councilman Dum has been in contact with BEO Smiley and there is nothing major to report. BEO Smiley reported the owner of the dog that attacked several people and their dogs has moved according to their landlord. Ms. Smiley has been in contact with Mr. Hartman and has done some research on the low hanging trees along the streets that have become an issue for some truck drivers. BEO Smiley and Mr. Hartman have deemed that 15 feet up from the street level would be an appropriate height. However, this is not in any ordinance. Mr. Hartman asked if the Shade Tree Commission has the $6,000 still available in their budget that the Borough does the trimming of these trees. President Smith asked Councilwoman McMullen to contact the Borough's Association to see what sample ordinances might be available for this low hanging tree limb issue and then President Smith asked Mr. Hartman to get some tree trimming cost quotes also.

BEO Smiley's report included : 7/16, email from council member about fireworks being set off at midnight, will follow up and may need to send a warning letter ; 7/17, email with complaint from a truck driver that had local deliveries about low hanging trees on Carlisle and Main Street; 7/19, more fireworks complaints; 7/24, call from resident about a neighbor outside screaming and using foul language; 7/29, email from borough secretary with complaint form about a broken down car on E. McClure; 8/4, call to landlord of tenant with abandoned car on McClure Street; etc.

A complete, detailed Borough Enforcement Officer Monthly Report is on file in the Borough Office.

Resident Larry Weller, Barnett Street, informed Council that some windows were broken at the Lutheran Church Parrish House. The State Police were informed and a report was filed. The boys were discovered and the State Police spoke to their mother and the boys.

Planning Commission Report – Melanie Rowlands stated they were glad to have their fifth member on the committee. Ms. Rowlands stated they have received again a submission associated with Lot 30. She stated they are trying to get the pump station turned over to the Borough but the new submission is not clear. They plan to have an informational, non-voting meeting with the owners to see what the owners intend. Their drawings do not match each other and Ms. Rowlands has an application that does not match any of the drawings. More information is needed and she is hoping the landowners will be cooperative and clarify these drawings.

FEMA/PEMA Report – Councilwoman McMullen had no report.

Water Authority Report - Mr. Albright stated they had a meeting last week and had Talmudic University personnel down to discuss the easement. The easement revision is at the Solicitor's office being re-written.

Mr. Albright was assured Talmudic will sign this agreement and then the Authority can start putting their pump out for bids. Mr. Albright invited everyone to the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new well on September 22, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

PCBA/COG - Mr. Albright stated there was a meeting on Thursday night at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning/Permit Officer's Report - Mr. Albright issued no permits for the month.

Capital Tax Collection Bureau Report – Councilman Smith stated there was no meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Announcements and Correspondence –

President Smith informed everyone the budget meeting dates would be Monday, October 11 and Wednesday October 13, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Leaf connection begins Monday, October 11, 2021 and ends Wednesday, November 24, 2021.

Trick or Treat will be held Saturday October 30, 2021 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

New email address: bloomfieldborough@gmail.com

Vice President Fitzpatrick made the motion to approve **Ordinance #353- Regulation of Dogs**, seconded by Councilwoman McMullen. Motion carried. Councilman Woods stated that dogs within an invisible fence that works are also protected by the ordinance. The issue becomes when a dog is running at large.

President Smith announced that the bank account names have been changed and they also released some $29,000 and change back to the Fire Company that we were holding in escrow.

Mr. Smith stated the garbage contract was put out to bid. Pick up is still Wednesday.

He stated he signed the Penn Dot paperwork for the blinking school zone signals at Chestnut and Main Streets.

It is now official. The Borough has an easement with the Cupps recorded in the CourtHouse that the back part of the Borough shed is on their property but we do not have to tear it down.

Administrative Committee Report – Councilman Dum reported the Borough Building sidewalk ramp has been repaired temporarily. It will have to be replaced eventually. The Borough Building roof should be completed at the end of September. No date given. The two Borough Building room leases have been renewed. There is still one room vacant. The Post Office door on the right is broken. They are waiting for cost estimates for repair or replacement. This was not from vandalism, just high usage. It will take some time because of a backlog of parts.

Councilwoman McMullen reported they had a handyman who did some facelift work to the interior of the Post Office lobby. Holes patched, walls painted etc. The Borough is responsible for the "common areas".

AESTHETICS

Aesthetics Committee Report – Councilman Woods reported the Committee met August 11, 2021 with Mayor Krammes, Councilman Woods, and volunteers Barb Woods, Mondie Cunningham, Peg Kingsborough, and Malinda Anderson present. They had discussions on cleaning the "Spring" and this has now been completed. The Spring was cleaned, mowed, weed wacked, fencing hand washed with solvent and then power washed, and brush removed. Councilman Woods thanked those who helped him: Mondie Cunningham, Malinda Anderson, Barb Woods, Deb Smith, Ed Albright, and Dave and Maryanne Gouack. Ground mulch will be ordered for the spring. Mums will be planted in the town square planters after the street fair is over. Some curb weeds will be sprayed in the town square area. The restaurant's outside tables needed to be cleaned. Mayor Krammes took care of this issue and now the tables look better. Councilman Woods contacted Mr. Balthaser about the town Christmas tree. Mr. Balthaser will give the town a concolor tree for $100. Mr. Hartman and Mr. Woods will get the tree in early November. The Christmas Tree Lighting program will be held Sunday, November 28, 2021 at 5:00pm. Volunteers will decorate the tree. Mr. Woods would like this information placed on the Borough website. The Mayor will order swags for the monument. Mr. Woods stated there is a need for 29 new flags for the Borough flagpoles around the square. As was stated there are four new centennial markers in the square area. Please view them with respect.

Councilman Woods asked permission to open up the duck pond to the ducks again. The landowner gave permission. Once ducks come back, they will eat the vegetation that is growing and it will look much nicer. Permission was given. Mr. Woods will do this.

BEO Smiley asked if they dealt with property needing painted in the historic district. Mr. Woods replied no. She asked if there was an historical committee. There has never been one.

Mr. Woods asked Daniel Spriggle if he would be willing to help on this committee. Mr. Spriggle stated that would interest him very much.

FINANCE, INSURANCE, & SAFETY

Finance, Insurance & Safety Report – President Smith stated there was no report.

President Smith asked for a motion to establish a new municipal checking account for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money. Councilwoman Anderson made the motion to establish a new checking account for ARPA funds, seconded by Vice President Fitzpatrick. Discussion: Mr. Fitzpatrick stated the Borough has received their first ARPA check for $65,000 and change. The second half is coming in January. Mr. Fitzpatrick sat in on the Commissioner's meeting last week and they recommended establishing this account for audit purposes. The Borough has until 2024 to use these ARPA funds. Council has not yet discussed how to use this money. Motion carried.

Grants – Vice President Fitzpatrick stated the Borough has applied for two grants. One is a Greenway Trails Grant which is to put the ADA compliant walking trail and park behind the Borough Building. The other is the Multi-Modal Grant through DCED to pave Lakeside Development. Both grant requests are progressing forward.

Vice President Fitzpatrick stated they received a phone call from Senator DiSanto's office the evening before the final budget requests were due in Harrisburg. They asked if we had any shovel ready projects.

With the help of Damon Hartman and President Smith's assistance they put together two shovel ready projects. One being Apple Street and the other Locust Street with the cost of approximately $168,000-$175,000. Senator DiSanto was able to secure for Bloomfield Borough a grant of $200,000 for infrastructure and streets. Apple Street is already committed because that bid has gone out. With the assistance of President Smith, Damon Hartman and HRG we are putting forth a proposal for the $200,000. Once we deal with Penn Strategies and put the formal appraisal in (which Mr. Fitzpatrick plans to do Friday with Council's approval), the money will come to the Borough within 45 days. That money will be given to the Borough in advance which is subject to audit so we will be recommending opening up a separate checking account for this money. At this point, he is recommending Locust Street, and the East West allies, (Grass Alley, Locust/Hickory Alley). On Grass Alley, they will put in two culverts because of some flooding issues. That will also include paving the alley the sheriff's department uses that comes down and intersects Main Street. In addition to this, there is a five year plan to line the terra cotta sewer lines. They are proposing using some of this funding to do the short run that's on Barnett Street, go from High Street at the manhole cover on the hill to Cold Storage Road to Main Street. Then East High to Hickory Alley to Main Street. The entire Borough will then have all sewer lines completed except for Main Street East and West. This funding Senator DiSanto secured for the town will give us a big jump start on the infrastructure in this Borough. These projects will take roughly $185,000 of the $200,000 received. Vice President Fitzpatrick made a motion that Council agree to these maintenance and infrastructure projects so we can get the utilization of this funding as quickly as possible, seconded by Councilman Dum. Motion carried.

Personnel Committee Report- Councilwoman McMullen had no report.

Vice President Fitzpatrick made the motion to allow the Borough to advertise and interview for a Zoning Officer, seconded by Councilwoman Anderson. Discussion: Mr. Edward Albright is the current Zoning Officer and he is running for Mayor in the November election. If he wins Mayor he cannot do both duties. The Zoning Officer position will have to be advertised. They are not hiring now, just interviewing. Motion passed.

RIGHTS OF WAY & UTILITIES

Rights of Way & Utilities Committee Report –

Vice President Fitzpatrick mentioned there was a lot of water in the Borough and there was 1 million 61 gallons of water coming through the water treatment plant. Mr. Damon Hartman was thanked because he had to stick around till midnight.

There was a complaint about the stones on Gusler Alley. The Borough will put the stones down to correct that situation.

Lot 30 discussion – Council will not take over Lot 30 until it is completely compliant and ready to change over. This requires a phone line and a call out. CenturyLink has refused to put in a working phone line for Mr. Watson and Ms. Fraker until it has an address. Council's recommendation is that from Timber Circle to the limit of the Borough boundary it be called Locust Street Extension. By doing so,an address can be assigned to Lot 30 and the current owners can get a phone line installed which would insure another item off the checklist for a smooth transition. We would need to draft an ordinance and advertise it if Council agrees to move forward with this name. Hopefully, this ordinance can be ready for the October meeting. Council is fine with this procedure. An inspection of Lot 30 was completed ten days ago and some things on the checklist Mr. Watson and Ms. Fraker claimed were done were not. Now, they have a follow up checklist.

ADA sidewalks – HRG update - Justin Mendinsky representing HRG stated the highway occupancy permit plan is complete and will be provided to the Borough for review and comment. There are three different elements to a project and all the items they are working on are nearing completion and will be able to be shared with the Borough for review.

Announcement of Executive Session (if any) - None

President Smith announced that if there ever is a need for an Executive Session it will be held before the regular meeting.

CLOSING COMMENTS

There being no further business, upon motion by Vice President Fitzpatrick , seconded by Councilman Dum, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, October 5, 2021 for a regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Miller, Assistant Secretary