

City of Bloomfield City Council Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2024
6:30 p.m.

A regular scheduled City of Bloomfield City Council meeting was held Monday, March 18, 2024 at the East Nelson Fire Department 130 Perry St., Bloomfield, Kentucky.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Dudgeon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order:

Mayor Dudgeon called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Presiding Officer:	Christopher Dudgeon, Mayor
Council Members:	John Hammond
	Tina Long
	Scott Stevenson
	Laura Barnett
Water Superintendent:	Derrick Hagan
City Clerk:	Toni Burton

The record reflects council member Judy Wilson was absent.

Mayor Dudgeon shared at last month's council meeting Tina Long informed people the city follows Roberts Rules of Order. The last 9 to 10 months the city has been lenient. Invited anybody who has not signed up for public comment to sign up. After public comments we are going back to conducting it as a business meeting.

Public Comments:

Bloomfield Agenda (Joe Goodlett): Asked the council members if they have read the amended budget ordinance and financial statements. Joe went on to say that on October 16th the first reading of the amended budget ordinance was read and that \$45,000 dollars was approved to fix Pleasant View and Goodloe from the Streets and Road account. There was also \$45,000 dollars added to Public Improvement and Streets & Roads account. There was \$45,000 dollars added to Public Improvements account and Streets and Roads account. The meeting minutes do not reflect that. Mayor Dudgeon shared the motion was to take \$45,000 from Public Improvement account and put into the Streets and Road account to fix the streets. Joe replied, that has nothing to do with anything. Something else I noticed the budget ordinance number is incorrect. Mayor Dudgeon shared it's just a typo. Joe said correct.

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Public Comments Continues:

Joe asked how invoices are paid out. Mayor Dudgeon shared when an invoice comes the city pays it out. Joe said, that he has invoices from Mago Construction and they were paid out of the Revenue account. Mayor Dudgeon shared that Madisyn had wrote those checks and did not realize she wrote them out of the wrong account. Joe replied, these our tax payer dollars and that should be done correctly. Mayor Dudgeon said it was just a clerical error. Joe acknowledged the mayor and said it still should be done correctly the first time. Joe then asked city clerk Toni Burton should this be done correctly? City Toni Burton agreed that it should be done correctly, however, people make mistakes. One thing she disagreed with is that this is not our tax payer dollars. Toni went on to say Joe, you do not live within the city limits of Bloomfield. Nor do you work within the city limits of Bloomfield. Therefore, Joe you are not a city tax payer. Joe responded with I pay taxes on my water bill. Toni said you pay a school tax not a city tax; therefore, you are not a city tax payer.

Jenica Greenwell shared her interest in serving on the city council. Jenica thanked City Clerk Toni Burton for getting on the phone with Joe Greenwell and Waste Management so they could get a garbage tote.

Quentin Byrd shared his interest in serving on the city council.

Leslie Calvert asked about the police officer position posted on Indeed. Leslie said that advertisement shows pay at \$25.00 dollars an hour and full benefits. Mayor Dudgeon said the current pay plan says the max amount a police office can make is \$25.00 dollars. Mayor Dudgeon said that if we cannot find a retired police officer then we may have to hire a non-retired police officer. Leslie Calvert asked if we are requiring them to relocate and live within the city limits of Bloomfield? Leslie said that this is on some of the advertisements. She feels like the relocation language would deter people from applying. Tina Long shared that she uses Indeed everyday and that relocating info is on all advertisements. Leslie shared her concern the city has a 3 1/2star rating compared to New Mexico and Idaho. Tina shared that people do not look that deep into Indeed's ratings. Leslie disagreed with Tina. Leslie asked if the city is going to purchase a new police cruiser. Mayor Dudgeon shared that he gave each council member the documentation and the opportunity to at last month's council meeting and nobody took any action. Leslie shared if Bloomfield can't find their own police officer; then community members may want to use free services from the Nelson County Sheriff's department.

Todd Sweazy shared his interest in serving on city council.

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Public Comments Continues:

Christina Taylor shared her interest on serving on city council.

Ken Lemoine shared his interest on serving on city council.

Approval of the February 19, 2024 meeting minutes:

Tina Long made the motion to approve the February 19, 2024 meeting minutes.
Second by Scott Stevenson. Motin carried unanimously.

Approval of the February 2024 Financial Statements:

Tina Long made the motion to approve the February 2024 financial statements.
Second by John Hammond. Motion carried unanimously.

Employee Handbook – Chris Johnson with KLC:

Mayor Dudgeon reminded the council they were each provided a draft copy of the proposed employee handbook. Mayor Dudgeon went on to introduce Chris Johnson with Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) and how Chris Johnson has been helping the city create a new handbook. Chris Johnson gave a brief overview of the handbook and then Mayor Dudgeon opened the floor for council members to ask any questions. Laura Barnett asked if Chris Johnson could provide a side-by-side view of all the changes that are in the proposed handbook compared to the current handbook. Chris said he thought he could. Tina Long said this is a very comprehensive handbook and that she does not need a side-by-side view.

Tina Long made the motion to approve the employee the handbook. Second by John Hammond. By unanimous vote, motion carried. The new handbook would go in effect April 1, 2024.

Water Company Update- Derrick Hagan:

Water Superintendent Derrick Hagan shared Cornish Lane should be completed by the end of the month and then will start testing. Derrick went on to share he received a quote from LB Surveillance & Security LLC for cameras for the park, city hall, and the maintenance garage. The quote amount is for \$7241dollars. This cost includes install and it is a one-time cost. Derrick said he is working on getting a second quote.

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Appointment of BOA:

Mayor Dudgeon shared that Toni reached out to Nathan Jones. Nathan has agreed to continue to serve on the BOA. Laura Barnett made the motion to approve Nathan Jones to serve on the BOA. Second by John Hammond. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

Executive Session for Newly Appointed Council Member:

Mayor Dudgeon said Pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(f) move to go into executive session for the purpose to discuss the possibility of appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee, or member of a public agency without restricting that employee's or agency member's right to a public hearing, if requested.

Laura Barnett made the motion to go into executive session.
Second by Tina Long. By unanimous vote motion carried.

Tina Long made the motion to come out of executive session.
Second by Laura Barnett. By unanimous vote motion carried.

In open meeting, John Hammond made the motion to appoint Todd Sweaze to city council.
Second by Tina Long.

John Hammond and Tina Long voted for the motion.
Laura Barnett and Scott Stevenson voted against the motion.
Motion failed.

Laura Barnett made the motion to appoint Ken Lemoine to city council.
Second by Scott Stevenson.
Laura Barnett and Scott Stevenson voted in favor of the motion.
John Hammond and Tina Long voted against the motion.
Motion failed.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Dudgeon said he only has 1 thing to share under mayor's report.
The JD Shelburne concert is June 1st. We are looking to move the location, but do not have a definite place picked out yet. Bloomfield Farms is sponsoring the event. More information to come.

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Council Members Report:

Laura Barnett said she has talked with Chris about budgeting for a new police vehicle next fiscal year.

John Hammond recognized conversations about the pickle ball project. The estimate provided at the December meeting was not just for the pickle ball court. It included upgrades to the basketball court and resurfacing. One of the courts was going to be a multi-purpose court. John went on to say he is not against spending money for the police department. People would rather spend their tax payer dollars on public safety. That is a no brainer for me. John continued to say if I come to you and asked to spend a \$100, 000 dollars of tax payer dollars people would likely be against it. However, the money approved to spend was federal government funds given to the city. If we do not spend it; we give it back. John said he looked this as an opportunity to invest the welfare of our community. John said he hopes by the next meeting he would have more information. Mayor Dudgeon shared that Toni has contacted Lincoln Trail and we are pursuing an opportunity to apply for a dollar-for-dollar matching grant.

Tina Long and Scott Stevenson had nothing to share.

Adjourn:

Tina Long made the motion to adjourn. Second by Laura Barnett.
By unanimous vote, motion carried.

Meeting Minutes approved on _____

Christopher Dudgeon, Mayor

Toni Burton, City Clerk