

Regular monthly meeting of November 26, 2024

Present: Mayor Mark Falsone, Trustees: Gail Harrington, Marco Falsone, David Poole. Excused: Michael Didas: Clerk/Treasurer: Donna Wollschleger, DPW Supervisor: Dan Whittaker. Others: Paul Hudson

The meeting was opened at 5:30 with the pledge to the flag.

Privilege of the floor:

1. Mr. Hudson addressed the Board as a member of Grow Bloomfield. Previously, he sent an email asking the Board to view a video and came to discuss Grow Bloomfields vision for the Town and Village for growth. We have a declining student population and the average median age for residents has increased greatly. He stated that Ontario County has a lack of homes, and the County hopes to have 50 more homes within 10 years to keep up with the demand. Their group has had 3 meetings with developers. They just need to find property with owners willing to sell. Mr. Hudson encouraged any Board members to come to any Grow Bloomfield meetings which are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month. They will be having a Community meeting on February 13th.

Mr. Hudson left the meeting at 5:42

Minutes:

1. The minutes from the October 23, 2024, meeting were approved as submitted.

Mayor's report:

1. The Village received a Notice of Claim for an accident that occurred on the corner of South Ave and State St. The notice was turned over to the Village Attorney. This is a State Road and intersection. The Village should have no liability per the Village Attorney.
2. The pre-construction meeting was held on 11/22 for the demolition of 19 State St.
3. Rick Francis came in to discuss with the Mayor that the Lions Club would like to purchase a 12'x16' shed to hold their community handicap equipment. While they appreciate that they have been able to use the basement in the church it is not the most convenient place to get in and out of because of the steps. They approached the Town of East Bloomfield to see if they could put up a shed at Veterans park. They were told they could, but that the Lions Club would have to gift the shed to the Town. They asked if the Village would consider letting them put one behind the church. The Village Board unanimously approved letting them put it behind the church and they will not have to gift it to the Village. The Village does require an annual certificate of liability Insurance naming the Village as additional insured.
4. The Mayor discussed the resolution for State Aid below that NYCOM suggested we pass to seek more funding.

A Motion was made by Mayor Falsone, seconded by Trustee Falsone to approve Resolution 2024-005. All in favor.

RESOLUTION 2024-005
VILLAGE OF BLOOMFIELD
Resolution in Support of Continued and Increased
State Aid for Local Governments

Whereas, until 2024, cities, villages and towns had not received an increase in unrestricted state aid (AIM funding) in 15 years, significantly impacting their ability to provide essential services to their residents; and

Whereas, after a prolonged period without financial support, local governments finally received an increase of \$50 million in unrestricted state aid; and

Whereas, local officials express their gratitude for the \$50 million increase in unrestricted state aid, recognizing it as a positive step towards addressing long-standing funding challenges; and

Whereas, the State has referred to this new aid as Temporary Municipal Assistance, suggesting that such increase may not continue, jeopardizing the sustainability of crucial municipal programs and services; and

Whereas, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly fund the programs and services their residents need; and

Whereas, increased and ongoing state aid for local governments is vital for maintaining infrastructure, public safety, housing and other municipal services; and

Whereas, the challenges of inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end of extraordinary federal aid only accentuate the need for consistent and predictable funding to effectively plan for the future and meet the growing needs of their residents;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that [Your Municipality] calls upon the Governor and the State Legislature to commit to continuing the additional \$50 million in unrestricted state aid in the 2025-26 State Budget and beyond, and

Be it further resolved, that the Village of Bloomfield urges state officials to recognize the need for a long-term plan that ensures consistent and predictable increases in financial support for local governments that keep pace with inflation.

A copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie, Senator Pam Helming, Assemblymember Jeff Gallahan and the New York State Conference of Mayors (NYCOM).

- The Village received the parade permit for the Annual Tree Lighting that will take place on December 1st at 4:30 at the 4-corners.

Public hearing was opened at 6:00

Public hearing on Local Law #1 of 2024: the public hearing was opened regarding the 2025/2026 tax cap limit at 6:00pm and the Mayor waived reading the notice. No one was present from the public and no written or phone comments were received. There was discussion among the Trustees and the Mayor that it is in the Village’s best interest to approve exceeding the 2% tax cap limit if needed. This does not mean that the Village will exceed the tax cap but gives the authority to if needed in the upcoming budget. The budget would still have to be approved by the Village Board.

Clerk/Treasurer report: by Donna Wollschleger

- The treasurer’s financial reports for October were given prior to the meeting.
- Abstract #6 (vouchers 180-220, TA-6) was audited and approved in the following amounts: general fund \$60,244.49; water fund \$44,655.21; sewer fund \$36,243.09; TA-\$99.00. The Clerk and DPW Supervisor declared that all services have been rendered and all goods have been received. **Trustee Falsone motioned, seconded by Trustee Poole, and it was unanimously carried to pay the bills as presented.**
- Donna discussed with the board the invoice for NYS thruway tolls. It was explained that we could save almost 50% if we had EZ-Pass for our vehicles. It was unanimously decided that Donna could set up EZ-Pass for the Village. Dan will give her vehicle information.
- Tax update: The below 8 parcels totaling 8,607.44 were rolled over to Ontario County for collection for nonpayment of Village taxes.

<u>Tax Map #</u>	<u>Owner Name</u>	<u>Full</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total Due</u>
67.19-1-67.000	Schultz Patrick	1,256.43	113.06	1,437.96
67.19-1-72.000	Creswell William T	344.09	30.96	393.80
67.19-2-9.100	Every Ronald W	1,378.67	124.09	1,577.90
67.19-2-20.000	Saxby Christine	964.96	86.85	1,104.40
67.19-2-33.100	South Ave Rentals, LLC	244.20	21.97	279.48
67.19-2-42.000	Baker Nancy A	1,080.84	97.28	1,237.03
80.07-1-9.000	Kruger James	443.99	39.96	508.15
80.08-1-24.000	Seneca Management Par	2,183.55	196.54	2,499.09

- The new Village sign is up and looks great.
- There were 2 more houses sold in the Village in the last month.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:08

CEO report: by Kim Rayburn

1. The October report was submitted and reviewed.

Public works report: By Dan Whittaker

Water:

1. The second water tap for Ahn Lee on Bennett Avenue has been done. Dan believes we may be able to do one more before he must extend the water main.
2. The water service at 19 state street was disconnected and left the water service sticking up out of the ground with a ball valve for durable demolition to use while demolishing the house.
3. Meter pits were inspected for sump pumps and heaters and replaced as necessary.
4. The village water tank was inspected through Aqua store tanks, we are waiting for their report.

Sewer and WWTP:

1. The U.V. treatment process has been shut down for the winter and winterized.
2. All other processes that are outside and prone to freezing have been winterized.
3. A sewer tap was repaired at 34 state street. The sewer lateral also had to be replaced all the way to the main by the homeowner.

Streets and Equipment:

1. Working on some sidewalk and gutter repairs on East Main.
2. Installed a new 35 ft section of culvert pipe on church street.
3. The banners and wreath installation is almost complete, just a few more wreaths to go.
4. The Staff is working to modify the plow frame for the old sidewalk tractor to fit the new tractor.
5. The department continues prepping the plow fleet.

Plans for December:

1. Chris and Merrick will be leaving for sewer school on Monday the 2nd for 2 weeks. Then gone again January 6-10th. The department will be shorthanded, and they have one employee whose wife is due to deliver a baby any day.
2. Dan is hoping to continue sidewalk and gutter replacement.
3. The Department will be installing actuators in the sewer plant.
4. The Mayor asked Dan what the process is to add fluoride to the water. Dan said it is injected daily and tested and maintained at the required level.

Standing committees: none

Special Committees: none

Unfinished Business: none

Audit Committee: The audit committee is planning the audit of the Clerk/Treasurer on Thursday December 12th.

New Business:

1. Discussion was held on the tax cap override.

Mayor Falsone made a motion, seconded by Trustee Harrington to adopt Local Law #2024-005 to override the tax cap for the year commencing June 1, 2025. A roll call vote was necessary to pass Local Law #5-2024, to exceed the fiscal year commencing June 1, 2025, tax cap. Roll call vote: Trustees: Falsone-Yes, Trustee Poole-yes, Trustee Didas-Yes, Trustee Harrington-yes, Mayor Falsone-Yes. Motion Passed 5-0

Adjournment: The December meeting will be Wednesday December 18, 2024. Mayor Falsone motioned, Trustee Falsone seconded, and it was unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Wollschleger-Clerk