

City of Bloomfield City Council Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2025
6:30 p.m.

A regular scheduled City of Bloomfield City Council meeting was held Monday, April 21, 2025 at the East Nelson Fire Department, 130 Perry Street, 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: Todd Sweazy
John Hammond
Ken Lemoine
Scott Stevenson
Laura Barnett

City Attorney: Audrey Haydon-Blackmon

Police Chief: Eddie Whitworth

Public Super. Derrick Hagan

City Clerk: Toni Burton

Tina Long was absent.

Approval of March 24, 2025 Special Called meeting minutes:

Laura Barnett made the motion to approve the Mar24, 2025 Special Called meeting minutes.
Second by Todd Sweazy. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the March 2025 Financial Statements:

John Hammond made the motion to approve the March 2025 Financial Statements.
Second by Laura Barnett. Motion carried unanimously.

Police Department Report:

Chief Whitworth told council he has been updating police department policies, and researching the new legislation that goes in affect in June.

Todd Sweazy asked for an update on the grant for body armor. Chief Whitworth said we have been approved for the body armor grant, and waiting for the equipment grant to open.

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Water Department Report:

Public Works Superintendent Derrick Hagan shared on the following topics:

- The Pickleball and multi-purpose court project at the park is going well.
- The maintenance department is busy handling the day-to-day operations.

John Hammond asked Derrick if there were issues with the recent flooding. Derrick said, he was impressed with the work that had been done to the creek. The city really didn't have any issues with the flooding.

Laura Barnett shared the citizens on Riverside Drive was very complimentary and had no flooding issues.

Park Updates:

Mayor Dudgeon reported on the following items pertaining to the park:

- Tennis Technology is been working on the pickle ball court and the multi-purpose court. Part of the multi-purpose court was for tennis. Once out at the park the tennis court was going to require a lot more space. After Mayor Dudgeon talk to John Hammond, he reached back out to Tennis Technology and said just do the basket ball court. Tennis Technology said removing the tennis court would reduce the cost, but we are going to need to add more rock. Tennis Technology submitted a change order to increase the cost and additional \$5,570 dollars. The original estimate was \$126,890 dollars; the new estimate is \$132,460 dollars. Mayor Dudgeon asked council to approve the change order. John Hamond made the motion to approve the change order for the additional \$5,570 dollars. Ken Lemoine second it. Motion carried unanimously.
- Mayor Dudgeon told council once Tennis Technology is done with their work. Roby Excavating will start their part for the playground equipment.
- Mayor Dudgeon said we made a list of the old playground equipment. He thought it would be better to list the items out piece by piece in case somebody wanted to purchase one item or they could purchase multiple items. Mayor Dudgeon went on to say the sand digger is broken and will we throw it away. Mayor asked council to surplus the property, advertise in the paper for two (2) weeks and allow people to submit seal bids.
Todd Sweazy made the motion to designate the list of items to be surplus property and to be disposed by seal bids and advertised in the newspaper.
John Hammond second. Motion carried unanimously.

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Public Comments:

Jenica Greenwell asked where the city was with getting ordinances posted on city website. Toni said she is hopeful to get the website up and going this week, but not sure how quick the ordinances will be posted on there. Jenica thanked Toni.

Jenica asked Mayor Dudgeon if he had a chance to look into the situation with bulk pickup. Jenica said the list of things Waste Management will not pick up is far lengthier than the things they will pick up. Mayor Dudgeon said he will check with Waste Management and talk with Judge Executive Tim Hutchins. Jenica then asked if any decisions had been made pertaining to the parking lot across from the bank. Mayor Dudgeon said at this time nothing has been decided.

Angie Keeling said she wanted to talk about the Public Comments. She said last month Public Comments was at the beginning of the meeting, and you have been doing them at the end of the meetings. Now there in the middle of the meeting. Angie went on to say last month somebody wanted to speak but did not sign up and you (mayor) would not allow them to speak. However, in past you (mayor) allowed people to go ahead and speak. Angie asked if the mayor is changing public comments in his favor and to fit his agenda for whatever that meeting is that day, and if public comments could be place in one location on the agenda.

Mayor Dudgeon said, that last month he moved public comments to the beginning of the meeting because you (Angie) had put the Curfew ordinance on Facebook and had people commenting on it. Mayor Dudgeon said he was trying to give the opportunity for people to speak on the curfew ordinance before council took any action. Mayor said otherwise public comments would have been at the end of the meeting.

Angie asked Mayor Dudgeon again if he had an explanation on why public comment keeps getting moved around. City Attorney Audrey said, public comment is not required to be on the agenda. The Open Meetings Act does not require public comments. The Open Meetings Act requires the public to come in and hear the business of the city, but does not give you the right to be heard.

Leslie Snow thanked Toni for posting the agenda on the city's Facebook page. Toni replied Chris posted and that she does not have access to the city's social media page.

Leslie mentioned things that were being said during discussion and not put in the meeting minutes and said minutes are not being done accurately. Then Leslie started talking in the past there were only 2 employees that worked for the water company. Then Scott had asked to hire a 3rd person to reduce contract labor. Now we have 3 fulltime employees plus contract labor and were going to hire an intern. Leslie said make that make sense. Leslie went on to say Derrick has made things more affiant which makes even less sense. Leslie then turns to Eddie and asked questions about the break-in at Blazers. Eddie explains what happened.

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Mayor's Report:

Mayor Dudgeon said he had nothing to report at this time.

Council Members Report:

Laura Barnett asked Eddie about the guy who broke in and stole lottery tickets and if he was the guy was caught with the help of the Flock cameras.

Scott Stevenson suggested getting some stuff to spruce up the signs coming into town. Derrick said he is not good with flowers, but if somebody wanted to come up with an idea, he would welcome the ideas. Mayor Dudgeon said we can look at the budget and we have a group of kids coming from Thomas Nelson to participate in the Community Serve Day. This would be a good project for them.

Scott asked Audrey if she had an opportunity to research the curfew ordinance? If so, what did you find out? Audrey said she reached out to the Nelson County attorney and assistant attorney; neither of them have been involved with a juvenile case pertaining to curfew issue. Eddie and Audrey shared the county has a curfew ordinance in place now, and that ordinance can be enforced in Bloomfield.

Ken Lemoine asked for an update on the railing and the clock by Barts and the church. Derrick said he just got off the phone with the fence company before coming to the meeting. There is some concrete work that must be done before replacing the railing. Derrick went on to say as for the clock the electric to Bart's must be shut off to take the clock a part. Derrick said he is working getting a switch so Barts can keep there electric and kill the power to the clock.

John Hammond said he thought the kids coming from Thomas Nelson would be able to come beautify the signs.


Todd Sweazy thanked Derrick and Eddie for all their hard work. Todd went on to say he has attended several KLC training and strongly encouraged the other council members to attend. These trainings teach about the inner working of municipal government; and allows you to network with other city officials.

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Adjourn:

Laura Barnett made the motion to adjourn. Second by Ken Lemoine.
Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting minutes approved on May 19, 2025



Christopher Dudgeon, Mayor



Toni Burton, City Clerk