Minutes not yet approved.

Approval and any edits to be made in succeeding minutes.

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BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

There was a regular meeting of the above reference subcommittee held on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m., via hybrid meeting format with Zoom Webinar virtual platform. The in-person location is in the Town Chamber room at the Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT.

In-Person Attendance: Latonia Tabb, Clerk of Council; Councilor Todd Cooper- Chair; Chief Willie Jones, Blue Hills Fire District; Captain Klomberg, Bloomfield Police Department; Warren Plummer, IT Director; Paula Jones, Chair-Conservation, Energy and Environment Committee (CEEC); Lou Blumenfeld, Chair- EMS Committee

Virtual Attendance: Councilor Michael Oliver, Councilor Suzette DeBeatham-Brown, Chief Peter Barnard, Bloomfield Center Fire District

Absent: Councilor Shamar Mahon, Chief Paul Hammick, Bloomfield Police Department; Aimee Krauss, Health Director - West Hartford Bloomfield Health District

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM

Police Department Update

On behalf of Chief Hammick, Captain Zachary Klomberg introduced the Police Department's newly certified emotional support canine, Luna, and her handler, Officer Moyse. Officer Moyse provided an overview of the emotional support animal program, explaining that K-9 Luna assists with student mental health responses, supports officer wellness, and participates in community outreach events to strengthen engagement between the Police Department and the public.

Captain Zachary Klomberg presented the Police Department's June 2026 report, including crime statistics, personnel updates, traffic enforcement activity, mental health response data, and emergency management initiatives. He provided additional context for reported burglary and robbery incidents, outlined current recruit training and hiring efforts, and reported on traffic enforcement, speed monitoring, and Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance activities, including CPR and Stop the Bleed training, installation of bleeding control kits in Town facilities, and receipt of an Emergency Management Performance Grant.

Councilors discussed expanding CPR and Stop the Bleed training opportunities for residents, increasing Neighborhood Block Watch participation, and recruiting additional CPR instructors. Captain Klomberg confirmed community CPR classes are available for **$75 per participant**, with Stop the Bleed training provided at no additional cost, and stated the department has sufficient resources to expand future training efforts.

Fire Department Updates Center Fire District

Chief Barnard reported that the Center Fire Department responded to 45 calls for service in June, including 17 false alarms, 6 power line incidents, 4 motor vehicle accidents, 3 carbon monoxide calls, 3 hazardous materials calls, 3 open burns, 3 electrical problems, 2 medical assists, and 1 water problem. He also noted the department responded to three mutual aid calls in the Blue Hills Fire District, all of which were canceled prior to arrival.

Chief Barnard further reported completion of annual hose, nozzle, and apparatus pump testing, ongoing station maintenance, participation in several community events, including the department's 100th Anniversary Carnival and Fireworks, the Juneteenth Parade, and Public Safety Day, and thanked the Police Department and Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance for their support. He also highlighted the department's June training activities, including hazardous materials, self-contained breathing apparatus, and routine apparatus maintenance.

Blue Hills Fire District

Chief Willie Jones reported that the Blue Hills Fire Department responded to 44 calls for service in June, totaling 20 hours and 7 minutes of incident time. Calls included two fully involved vehicle fires, motor vehicle accidents, and false smoke and carbon monoxide alarm activations, with no major incidents or injuries reported. He also noted one mutual aid response to the Center Fire District and ongoing volunteer recruitment efforts.

Chief Jones highlighted the department's training activities, including fire critiques and pump operations, and community outreach efforts, including participation in the Juneteenth Celebration, Strawberry Festival, and the joint 100th Anniversary Carnival and Fireworks with the Center Fire Department. He thanked the Bloomfield Police Department, Public Works, and the Town for their continued support of these events.

EMS

Mr. Lou Blumenfeld, Chair- EMS Committee, reported that the EMS Committee did not meet during the past month and had no updates to report.

Councilor Cooper inquired about fundraising efforts for the Bloomfield Volunteer Ambulance. Mr. Blumenfeld explained that fundraising is conducted by the Bloomfield

Volunteer Ambulance Fund, Inc., through annual fund drives and donations, while Captain Klomberg reported that a new ambulance is expected to be placed into service in late summer or early fall. He also noted that fundraising has seen an increase in larger corporate donations, while individual donations continue through the organization's website and QR code campaign.

Conservation, Energy & Environment Committee (CEEC) Updates

Mrs. Paula Jones, Chair-Conservation, Energy and Environment Committee (CEEC), reported that the committee did not meet during the past month but is scheduled to meet the following day. She advised that upcoming discussions will include concerns raised by residents regarding pesticide use and pollinator protection, as well as initiatives to reduce single-use plastics and promote waste reduction.

Mrs. Jones also highlighted the Town's textile recycling program, noting that more than **one ton of textiles** was diverted from the waste stream in May, generating **$137.40** in revenue while reducing disposal costs. She reported that the program, administered by Bay State Textiles, continues to operate successfully at Town Hall, 330 Park Avenue, and Wintonbury Library, with no reported operational issues.

Councilor Oliver expressed support for continuing the Town's textile recycling program, noting that, despite generating modest revenue, the program provides environmental benefits. Mrs. Jones further explained that the program is provided at no cost to the Town, diverts usable textiles from the waste stream through sorting and recycling, and reduces municipal disposal costs, making it beneficial beyond the revenue generated.

West Hartford Bloomfield Health Updates

Councilor Cooper read the report on behalf of Ms. Aimee Krauss, Health Director - West Hartford Bloomfield Health District, regarding public health initiatives, services, and upcoming events:

Vaccinations and Health Services:

- The Health District continues to provide community health support through outreach and wellness services.
- The public health nurse meets weekly with residents at the Community Center to conduct wellness screenings and provide public health guidance.
- Residents may submit ticks found attached to humans through the Health District for testing by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.

Ongoing Community Outreach:

- Health District staff continue biweekly visits to the Bloomfield Food Pantry to provide residents with public health information and resource materials.
- Outreach efforts continue at community events and locations to promote health education and available services.

June Highlights and Past Events:

- June 3: Story Time with McMahon-Wintonbury Library focused on handwashing and germs for children.
- June 4: Fat Attack Program with the Community Health Network.
- June 8: Healthy Lifestyle Workshop at the Senior Center.
- June 20: Community outreach at the Bloomfield Farmers Market and Juneteenth Celebration.
- June 23: Community outreach at the Bloomfield Food Pantry.

June infectious disease trends:

- No additional infectious disease trends or updates were reported during this presentation.

Upcoming Initiatives:

- July 13: Healthy Lifestyle Workshop at the Senior Center.
- July 21: Cancer and Chronic Disease Prevention Fair at the Senior Center.
- July 30: Wellness screenings at the West Indian Celebration.
- Residents are encouraged to participate in Health District wellness screenings and community health programs.

OTHER PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERNS

Councilor Cooper reported that the committee was scheduled to receive an update on the Maple Avenue traffic project, including progress, challenges, and bidding information; however, the update was not available due to recent staff transitions. He advised that the committee will hold a meeting on Wednesday, August 12 at 6:00 PM to review Maple Avenue updates and receive additional information regarding potential data center developments in Bloomfield.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Brad Huskinson, 45 Burr Road, - an ally of the Conservation, Energy and Environment Committee (CEEC) and representative of the nonprofit environmental group Beyond Plastics, discussed concerns regarding plastic pollution and the environmental and public

health impacts associated with microplastics. He encouraged the Town to consider adopting a local "Skip the Stuff" ordinance requiring food service establishments to provide disposable utensils, condiments, and straws only upon customer request. Mr. Huskinson stated his intent to work with CEEC and staff to develop a proposed ordinance for review and consideration by the Town Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Councilor DeBeatham-Brown, seconded by Councilor Oliver and voted unanimously to approve the minutes from June 10, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councilor DeBeatham-Brown, second by Councilor Oliver, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:51 p.m.