DRAFT

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

There was a special meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held on Monday, March 23, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in a hybrid meeting style. The in-person meeting location was Bloomfield Town Hall – Council Chambers, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT, and the virtual location was via Zoom.

Councilors present were: *In-Person*—Mayor Anthony Harrington; Councilors Michael Oliver, Joseph Merritt, and Elizabeth Waterhouse; and *via Zoom*—Deputy Mayor Cindi Lloyd; Councilors Todd Cooper, Suzette DeBeatham-Brown, Darrell Goodwin, and Shamar Mahon (joined at 6:06 p.m.)

Councilors absent were: None

Also present were: *In-Person*—Alvin D. Schwapp, Jr., Town Manager; Latonia Tabb, Clerk of Council

The meeting was called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Old Business

2026-41: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Schedule – FY2027 Budget Meetings (REVISED)

Councilor Merritt moved to adopt the FY2027 Budget Meeting schedule as revised. Councilor Waterhouse seconded.

Councilor DeBeatham-Brown shared her concerns with being out of town and likely not having access to participate in the first day of deliberations. She also shared concern with the shorter budget schedule. She requested information as to if the Town was in compliance with Section 903 of the Town Charter, which requires the Town Manager to present the budget to the Town Council no later than 90 days before the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Schwapp confirmed that the Town is within the guidelines of the Town Charter requirements.

There was a brief discussion regarding whether the video for Councilors attending remotely needed to be turned on when they are speaking.

Councilor Mahon inquired as to the reason the budget was delayed. Mr. Schwapp noted the challenges facing the Town, including finishing the FY24 audit and working on the FY25 audit, in addition to developing the budget. He reiterated that the Town is within the Town Charter, and noted that he wanted to deliver a complete budget. Councilor Mahon highlighted the importance of meeting deadlines. The difference between the Town Manager's Proposed Budget and the Town Council Adopted Budget was briefly discussed.

Councilor Merritt called the question. There was no second.

Councilor Cooper called the question. Deputy Mayor Lloyd seconded.

VOTE: AYE: T. Cooper, M. Oliver, J. Merritt, E. Waterhouse, D. Goodwin, C. Lloyd, A. Harrington

NAY: S. DeBeatham-Brown, S. Mahon
ABSTAIN: None

The motion to call the question passed 7-2-0.

There was some confusion as to what the vote was for, and it was verified that it was to call the question. Councilor DeBeatham-Brown noted that she would like to vote yes to call the question. With this change, the motion to call the question passed 8-1-0.

The original motion, to adopt the FY2027 Budget Meeting schedule as revised, was stated.

VOTE: AYE: T. Cooper, M. Oliver, J. Merritt, E. Waterhouse, C. Lloyd, A. Harrington
NAY: S. DeBeatham-Brown, S. Mahon
ABSTAIN: D. Goodwin

The motion passed 6-2-1.

2026-43: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Resolution for the Town of Bloomfield's Membership in the Connecticut Municipal Development Authority (CMDA)

It was moved by Councilor DeBeatham-Brown and seconded by Councilor Oliver to join membership in the Connecticut Municipal Development Authority (CMDA).

Councilor DeBeatham-Brown expressed her appreciation for CMDA staff attending the meeting and answering Councilor comments. She noted that the community will have input in CMDA projects, that the Town will not have to pay anything out of pocket, and that CMDA can help with funding.

Mayor Harrington stated that he felt working with CMDA would be a win-win, and noted that CMDA has $90 million to distribute. He reported briefly on a few other funding opportunities.

Councilor Cooper echoed his support, and thanked Mr. Colman for bringing forward this opportunity.

Councilor Oliver called the question, Councilor Cooper seconded, and the motion to call the question passed unanimously.

The original motion, adoption of resolution for the Town of Bloomfield's membership in the Connecticut Municipal Development Authority, was restated, and a roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

It was moved by Councilor Merritt, seconded by Councilor Waterhouse, and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Lynn Weisel, Recording Secretary, based on the YouTube Video Recording.