

Public Hearing

The Bloomfield Town Council will conduct public hearing on **Monday, July 14, 2014** for the following reasons:

- 7:35 p.m. to seek public input concerning the proposed transfer of town owned land known as Charter Avenue Right-of-Way, south of 72 Granby Street
- 7:40 p.m. to seek public input concerning the proposed transfer of town owned land at the southeast corner of Coventry Street and East Morningside Avenue (Lot 1014)

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
Monday, July 14, 2014
Council Chambers – 7:30 p.m.

Sydney T. Schulman, Mayor
Joan Gamble, Deputy Mayor
Patrick A. DeLorenzo Wayne Hypolite
Joseph P. Merritt Joel J. Neuwirth
E. Leon Rivers Derrick A. Seldon
Joseph Washington

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call
- III. Announcements and Presentations
 - A. Presentation by Bloomfield High School Class President, Ms. Destiny Davis
 - B. Presentation by Dennis Hubbs
 - C. Recognition of the Filley Park Committee
 - D. Recognition of the School Building Committees
- IV. Citizens' Statements and Petitions
Statements by members of the public may be oral or written and shall start with the speaker's name and address and shall continue for no longer than five (5) minutes, unless permitted by the Mayor or councilor presiding.
- V. Report from Council Subcommittees
 - A. Community Services – Councilor Derrick Seldon
 - B. Administration & Education – Councilor Leon Rivers
 - C. Golf – Councilor Leon Rivers
 - D. Public Safety – Councilor Joe Washington
 - E. Committee on Committees – Councilor Joe Washington
 - F. Finance – Councilor Wayne Hypolite
 - G. Land Use & Economic Development – Deputy Mayor Joan Gamble

VI. Council Business

Old Business:

13/14-69: Consider and Take Action Regarding Town Owned Property on Charter Avenue (following Public Hearing)

13/14-83: Consider and Take Action Regarding Town Owned Property at the Corner of Coventry and East Morningside Streets for Habitat for Humanity Construction (following Public Hearing)

New Business:

14/15/01: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Resolution (State Department of Education – Child Day Care Program)

14/15-02: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Resolution (Retiree Health Savings Trust Fund)

VII. Report from Mayor and Town Manager

VIII. Approval of Minutes

A. June 23, 2014

IX. Council Comments

X. Executive Sessions

A. Discussion Concerning Pending Claims and Litigation

B. Discussion Concerning Personnel Matter Regarding the Town Manager

XI. Adjournment

TO: Town Councilors
FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
DATE: July 11, 2014
RE: FY 13/14-69: TOWN OWNED PROPERTY ON CHARTER AVENUE

As you will recall, this item was referred to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission who on April 24th voted to recommend to the Town Council that the paper street known as Charter Avenue (south of 72 Granby Street) be discontinued.

After Monday's public hearing, should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

Move to discontinue the Charter Avenue right-of-way.

Memorandum

To: Philip Schenck, Town Manager
From: Thomas Hooper, Director of Planning *TH*
Date: 6/20/2014
Re: Bostwick Company Request to Acquire Property on Charter Avenue

At the February meeting of the Land Use and Economic Development Subcommittee, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend to the full Town Council that the Town proceed to discontinue any rights the Town of Bloomfield might have in a paper street known as Charter Avenue in an area south of 72 Granby Street.

Staff has been working with the business located at 78 Granby Street who is interested in acquiring their share of the right of way thereby allowing a possible expansion of their operation. Pursuant to the Town's Policy concerning the disposal of excess property, the Town Council referred the matter to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission for their consideration. At the April 24, 2014 meeting of the TPZ, the Commission voted to recommend to the Town Council that the paper street known as Charter Avenue, south of 72 Granby Street, be discontinued.

To complete the procedural process, the Town Council now needs to conduct a public hearing on the proposed discontinuance of the right-of-way. Upon the completion of the public hearing the Council will need to take final action on discontinuing the Charter Avenue right-of-way.

Per the requirements established by the State, the property was posted with a sign giving the public advance notice of this hearing. I have enclosed a copy of the aerial map of the area showing the right of way in question as well as the businesses abutting the proposed road.



TO: Town Councilors
FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
DATE: July 11, 2014
RE: FY 13/14-83: TOWN OWNED PROPERTY AT THE CORNER OF
COVENTRY AND EAST MORNINGSIDE STREETS

This item was also referred to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission pursuant to Section 8-24 CGS. On May 22nd the TPZ voted to recommend to the Town Council that the property be transferred to Habitat for Humanity to further their work in Bloomfield.

After Monday's public hearing, should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

Move to transfer Lot 1014 (property located at the corner of Coventry and East Morningside Streets) to Habitat for Humanity.

Memorandum

To: Philip Schenck Jr., Town Manager
From: Thomas Hooper, Director of Planning *TH*
Date: 6/20/2014
Re: Release of Town Property for Habitat for Humanity Construction

Over this past winter, I have worked with Habitat for Humanity and the Land Use and Economic Development Subcommittee to identify possible surplus Town properties that could be turned over for the construction of new homes. Earlier in the year I met with Joan's subcommittee to review the site I had come up with. Unfortunately, of the over 100 town-owned sites, I could come up with only a handful of suitable locations. The Subcommittee agreed with the possible sites I had identified and asked that I move the process along.

Very recently, you and I sat with representatives of Habitat to go over the three sites I thought they could use. After reviewing the locations with their team, I was contacted by Habitat and informed that they would like to move forward with the vacant lot on the corner of Coventry Street and East Morningside Avenue.

The Town Council agreed in concept to transfer the property to Habitat and referred the matter to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission for a recommendation pursuant to Section 8-24 CGS. The TPZ voted on May 22, 2014 to recommend to the Town Council that the property be transferred to Habitat to further their fine work in the region. To complete the procedural process, the Town Council now needs to conduct a public hearing on the proposed transfer of the property. Upon the completion of the public hearing the Council will need to take final action on transferring the property known as lot 1014.

I am attaching a plan of the property for inclusion with this request to the Town Council and am available to discuss the matter with them. Per the requirements established by the State, the property was posted with a sign giving the public advance notice of this hearing.



- 2014+ Parcel Sales
- 2013 Parcel Sales
- 2012 Parcel Sales

Town of Bloomfield			
Parcel: 7729 Acres: 0.240014			
Name:	BLOOMFIELD TOWN OF	Land Value	45000
Site:	EAST MORNINGSIDE AVE	Building Value	0
Sale:	0 on 0000-00-00 Reason=U Qual=34	Misc Value	0
Mail:	800 BLOOMFIELD AVE. BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002	Just Value	45000
		Assessed Value	0
		Exempt Value	0
		Taxable Value	0



Town of Bloomfield makes every effort to produce the most accurate information possible. No warranties, expressed or implied, are provided for the data herein, its use or interpretation. The assessment information is from the 2011 tax year. Property Tax Maps are for assessment purposes only. Neither the town nor its employees assume responsibility for errors or omissions. ---THIS IS NOT A SURVEY---
Date printed: 05/08/14 : 09:25:38

TO: Town Councilors
FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
DATE: July 11, 2014
RE: FY 14/15-01: RESOLUTION – STATE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION CHILD CARE PROGRAM

The attached resolution is required for the Town of Bloomfield to continue to participate with the State Department of Education for the Child Day Care program. This will allow us to continue to receive grant money which generally has supported the Bloomfield Early Learning Center. The Town has decided to extend its contractual relationship with the State Department for a two-year term.

Should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

RESOLVED: That the Town Manager, Philip K. Schenck, Jr., is empowered to enter into or amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of the Town of Bloomfield, with the State of Connecticut Department of Education for a Child Day Care program if such an agreement is offered, and to have the corporate seal affixed to all documents required as a part of any offered agreement.

RECERTIFIED MUNICIPAL RESOLUTION

I, Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager of the Town of Bloomfield, a municipality organized under the laws of the State of Connecticut (the "Contractor"), **DO HEREBY** certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council, of the Contractor duly held and convened on Monday, July 14, 2014, at which meeting a duly constituted quorum of the Bloomfield Town Council was present and acting throughout and that such resolution has not been modified, rescinded or revoked and is at present in full force and effect:

RESOLVED: That the Town Manager, Philip K. Schenck, Jr. is empowered to enter into or amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of the Town of Bloomfield, with the State of Connecticut Department of Education for a Child Day Care program if such an agreement is offered, and to have the corporate seal affixed to all documents required as a part of any offered agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have affixed my signature and the municipal seal this ____ day of _____, 20__.

SEAL

Town and City Clerk

TO: Town Councilors
FROM: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager
DATE: July 11, 2014
RE: FY 14/15-02: RESOLUTION – RETIREE HEALTH SAVINGS TRUST
FUND

Please see the attached memorandum and resolution from Finance Director Bill Hogan regarding establishing a Retiree Health Savings Trust Fund. The trust will be used fund current and future healthcare benefits retired employees and their beneficiaries.

Should Council wish to move forward, the following motion would be in order:

Move to refer this matter to the Finance Subcommittee for their review and recommendation.

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Philip K. Schenck, Town Manager
FROM: William J. Hogan, Director of Finance
SUBJECT: Retiree Health Savings Trust Fund
DATE: July 12, 2014

Attached is a resolution for the establishment of a Retiree Health Savings Trust Fund, also known as an Other Post Employment Benefit Trust (OPEB), hereinafter called the "Trust". The purpose of the Trust is to be used for the purpose of funding current and future health care benefits for plan participants and their beneficiaries. The Trust will have the capability of receiving contributions and assets from both the Town as the employer and from the Town's employee contributions, who are currently assessed 1.25% of wages, in order to fund retiree health care costs.

Since 2008, the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB), because of the growing concern over the potential magnitude of government employer obligations for OPEB, has required government employers through its issuance of "GASB 45", to provide information on the actuarial liabilities of these benefits. Each year as part of the Town's annual audit these costs are disclosed, similar to the annual pension reporting requirements.

The cost of these benefits is generally financed on a "pay-as-you-go" basis, a practice the Town of Bloomfield has routinely used, rather than a trust, which is not required by GASB 45. However, a trust can be very beneficial because the investment rate assumption used is higher (7.5%) due to the long term nature of the investment vehicles. This results in a significant reduction to the Unfunded Liability and the Annual Required Contribution (ARC) rather than the "pay as you go" rate of 4.0%. Working with Hooker and Holcombe, the Town actuaries, the impact of this on the Town's liability is significant as illustrated below. The unfunded liability decreases by \$37.0 million and the annual contribution drops by \$3.4 million, the result of \$3.6 million ARC, which, if fully funded, would still put significant stress on the Town's operating budget. We would propose a multi-year financing plan to help smooth the increase to achieve the full contribution.

Description	With Trust	Without Trust	Variance
Investment Rate	7.5%	4.0%	3.5%
Unfunded Liability	\$56,009,000	\$93,092,555	\$(37,083,555)
Annual Required Contribution (ARC)	\$ 3,608,000	\$ 6,996,380	\$ (3,388,380)

From a credit rating perspective, while the current pay- as- you- go funding the Town has utilized has not been a major issue, we believe the credit rating agencies will only view the establishment of the Trust as a positive factor in the analysis of the Town's credit rating going forward.

The Trust would be administered thru the International City Manager's Association's (ICMA) using its Model Trust designed specifically for OPEB purposes. ICMA is the Town's long standing provider of its 401 and 457 defined contribution plans; per the resolution the Town Manager and Town Finance Director would serve as trustees for the Trust. Should the resolution be approved, the next steps would be setting up the accounting framework, sign off on Trust paperwork, and determine an asset allocation strategy with ICMA to meet the 7.5% investment assumption.

RESOLUTION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF
RETIREE HEALTH SAVINGS TRUST FUND

Plan Number: 8 03528

Name of Employer: Town of Bloomfield State: Connecticut

Resolution of the above-named Employer (the "Employer"):

WHEREAS, the Employer has employees rendering valuable services; and

WHEREAS, the Employer has determined that the provision of retiree health benefits for such employees serves the interests of the Employer by enabling it to provide reasonable security regarding such employees' health needs during retirement, by providing increased flexibility in its personnel management system, and by assisting in the attraction and retention of competent personnel; and

WHEREAS, the Employer has determined that the establishment of the retiree health savings plan (the "Plan") serves the above objectives;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Employer hereby adopts the Plan in the form of the ICMA Retirement Corporation's VantageCare RHS Employer Investment Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the assets of the Plan shall be held in trust, with the following entity or individual serving as trustee (Select one):

- the Employer
- the following position within the Employer: _____
(insert title of individual acting as trustee)
- the following group or committee within the Employer: Town Manager and Director of Finance
(insert group or committee acting as trustee)
- the following third-party trustee: _____
(insert name of third-party trustee)

for the exclusive benefit of Plan participants, their survivors and their beneficiaries, and the assets of the Plan shall not be diverted to any other purpose prior to the satisfaction of all liabilities of the Plan. The Employer has executed the Declaration of Trust of the Town of Bloomfield (name of Employer) Integral Part Trust in the form of: (Select one)

- The model trust made available by the ICMA Retirement Corporation
- The trust provided by the Employer (executed copy attached hereto).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Finance (use title of Employer's official, not name) shall be the coordinator and contact for the Plan and shall receive necessary reports, notices, etc.

I, _____, Clerk of the (City, County, etc.) of _____, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, proposed by (Council Member, Trustee, etc.) _____, was duly passed and adopted in the (Council, Board, etc.) _____ of the (City, County, etc.) of _____ at a regular meeting thereof assembled this _____ day of _____, 20____, by the following vote:

AYES:
NAYS:
ABSENT:

(Seal) _____
Clerk of the (City, County, etc.)

DRAFT

BLOOMFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

There was a regular meeting of the Bloomfield Town Council held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 23, 2014 in Council Chambers, Bloomfield Town Hall, 800 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, CT

Present were: Mayor Sydney Schulman Deputy Mayor Joan Gamble, Councilors Derrick Seldon, Joseph Washington, Joel Neuwirth, Patrick DeLorenzo and Leon Rivers.

Absent were: Councilors Wayne Hypolite, Joseph Merritt and Sharron Howe, Assistant to the Town Manager

Also present were: Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager and India M. Rodgers, Clerk of Council.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of Recognition Certificates to Bloomfield High School's Valedictorian Julise Marsh & Salutatorian Erika Porras

Presentation of Recognition Certificates to the Bloomfield Post Office, Cub Scouts Troop 1154 and Bethel A.M.E. Church for their assistance with the 2014 Letter Carriers' Food Drive

Mayor Schulman presented recognition certificates to the following individuals and groups listed above their hard work and dedication representing and serving the Bloomfield community respectively.

CITIZENS STATEMENT & PETITIONS

1. **Robert Berman, 8 Hiram Lane,** expressed concerns regarding the need to have someone from the Town Council to advocate for consistency with donations for the local Food Bank. He also expressed concerns regarding the lack of public information to review organization by-laws, meetings dates, and officers appointed to the Board of Directors for BATV. Mr. Berman requested that Council review services with BATV.

Mayor Schulman informed Mr. Berman that Councilor Wayne Hypolite is the President of the Board of Directors for BATV.

2. **Donna Thompson-Daniel, 265 Lyme Street,** requested that Council review complaints of motor vehicle accidents at Glenwood Avenue and Joyce Street. Mrs. Thompson-Daniel suggested that the residents at 66 Glenwood Avenue should trim back their bushes for plain sight view when passing.

Mayor Schulman referred this item to the Public Safety Subcommittee for further review and discussion.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES

Community Services – Councilor Seldon gave a brief update of Leisure Services summer programs. Concerts on the Town Green are held every Thursday, beginning on June 12, 2014 through July 31, 2014. In addition, the summer camp season began on June 23, 2014. The Bloomfield Pool will be open from June 21, 2014 through August 31, 2014.

Administration/Education – Councilor Rivers stated that the charges of the school building committees have been completed. The committee has received disbandment letters from Carmen Arace Intermediate/Middle schools as well as the Elementary school building committee. However, no correspondence was received from Bloomfield High School as of yet.

Golf – Councilor Rivers gave a brief report of the last meeting held on June 23, 2014. He stated that some language regarding outing play and procedures were clarified. The course is operating in the black and doing exceptionally well. In addition, golf management and the Board of Education are collaborating to begin a Juniors Program for youth in Bloomfield interested in golf.

Land Use & Economic Development – Deputy Mayor Gamble gave a brief report of the last meeting held on June 17, 2014. There was a joint meeting of this committee and Finance to

discuss the Tax Incentive policy for commercial businesses. In regards to Land Use & Economic Development, Deputy Mayor Gamble also reported that there is a real estate proposal for 390-400 rental units to be built at Bloomfield and Jerome Avenue.

Public Safety - Councilor Washington gave a detailed report of the last meeting held of this subcommittee on June 9, 2014.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

FY 13/14-98: Consider and Take Action Regarding Adoption of Resolution (2013 State Homeland Security Grant Program)

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo and voted unanimously to adoption the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Bloomfield may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Philip K. Schenck, Jr., as Town Manager of the Town of Bloomfield, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Bloomfield and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

FY 13/14-99: Consider and Take Action Regarding Authorization to Accept Grant for Hybrid Vehicles

It was moved by Councilor Neuwirth, seconded by Councilor Washington and voted unanimously to authorize acceptance of the funding for three hybrid vehicles.

Councilor DeLorenzo inquired about specific maintenance requirements to service these vehicles.

Mr. Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager stated the \$140,000 grant received with assist with energy efficiency by improving of gas mileage rates. He also stated that the town recently applied for another grant to build an electric charging station to promote effective use of energy.

Councilor Seldon inquired about adequate transportation services with new buses.

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND TOWN MANAGER

Mayor's Report

On June 13, 2014, Mayor Schulman attended a youth scholarship banquet at Rehoboth Church of God located at 1170 Blue Hills Avenue, Bloomfield.

On June 18, 2014, Mayor Schulman, Deputy Mayor Gamble, Councilor Neuwirth and Philip K. Schenck, Jr. attended the Auer Farm Appreciation Breakfast.

On June 19, 2014, Mayor Schulman, Town Manager and several Council members attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at Dutch Point Credit Union.

On June 19, 2014, Mayor Schulman, Deputy Mayor Gamble and Councilor Neuwirth attended the Bloomfield High School graduation at the Bushnell.

On June 24, 2014, a meeting of the Alliance for Bloomfield's Children will be held at First Congregational Church from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

On June 25, 2014, a meeting for Solarize Bloomfield will be held at Prosser Library at 6:30 p.m.

On June 26, 2014, Mayor Schulman will attend a meeting of Chief Elected officials with CCM. He will also be in attendance at the Concert of the Green, musical performance for the evening – Shaded Soul.

On June 28, 2014, Mayor Schulman announced that the Bloomfield Lion's Club will host a fundraiser at Bloomfield Cinemas – "How to Train your Dragon 2".

Also on June 28, 2014, Full Gospel Foundation Building Ministries International will celebrate their 20th Anniversary as well as the 30th Anniversary of Apostle Cheryl Fortson.

On June 29, 2014 at 11:30 a.m., Sacred Heart Church Family Picnic will be held at 26 Wintonbury Avenue, Bloomfield.

Mayor Schulman read a thank you letter of appreciation from Mrs. Yvette Huyghue-Pannell, Director of the Senior Center on their recent Re-Accreditation.

Town Manager's Report

- Tax bills were sent to residents for payment due July 1, 2014.
- The town received payment in the amount \$195,000 from the State of Connecticut for the Lisa Lane Farm purchase.
- Several town employees attended at training hosted by the State of Connecticut – Department of Homeland Security for Hurricane Preparedness.
- Mr. Schenck, Jr. was the guest speaker at the Annual Father's Day Breakfast held at the Bloomfield Senior Center. Approximately, 60 persons were in attendance.
- On June 21, 2014, Mr. Schenck, Jr. attended the Annual Strawberry Festival at Bloomfield United Methodist Church.
- On July 2, 2014, the real estate closing of J.P. Vincent School will take place with CREC.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Washington and to approve the minutes of June 9, 2014.

**VOTE: AYE: S. Schulman, J. Gamble, L. Rivers, D. Seldon, J. Neuwirth
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: P. DeLorenzo, J. Washington**

The motion passes.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor DeLorenzo wished Councilor Merritt a speedy recovery. He also encouraged residents to volunteer and/or donate at Foodshare; they do an amazing job for those in need of food resources in the Greater Hartford region. Councilor DeLorenzo congratulated the Valedictorian, Salutatorian and the entire Bloomfield High School – Class of 2014 on their accomplishments and success.

Councilor Neuwirth was pleased with the progress at the recent Council Retreat held on June 21, 2014. He stated that Councilors are working together to better themselves as a whole.

Deputy Mayor Gamble congratulated the BHS - Class of 2014. Deputy Mayor Gamble stated that the speech recited by Ms. Destiny Davis – Class President of 2014 was astounding work of excellence.

Councilor Washington thanked the cub and boys scouts of Bethel A.M.E. Church for their hard work and dedication in serving the needs of the Bloomfield community. He also inquired about minority contractor participation for the recent real estate proposal of 390-400 rental units.

Councilor Rivers stated that the letter of concern sent to the golf course from residents was discussed and addressed at the last Golf subcommittee meeting held. There are several issues that will be receive follow up by golf management.

Councilor Seldon stated that the meeting held this evening was very positive. He stated that he is proud to see young people leading the way for the community at large. Councilor Seldon concurs with Councilor Washington regarding the goal set to provide employment opportunities to Bloomfield residents and minority contractor participation for the proposed rental units on Bloomfield and Jerome Avenues.

Mayor Schulman stated that town will also do its due diligence in providing equal opportunity for minority contractors and employment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:32 p.m., it was moved by Councilor Washington, seconded by Councilor Seldon to enter into Executive Session A. – Discussion Concerning Personnel Matter Regarding the Town Manager.

At 9:26 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor DeLorenzo to exit Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:27 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Mayor Gamble, seconded by Councilor Neuwirth to adjourn the meeting.