

VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGBURG COUNCIL MEETING

August 11, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm
by Tim Bennett, Mayor
With the Pledge of Allegiance

- **Attendance**
 - Present: Christian Bennett, Tonya Fleak, Keith Hall, Melissa Hixon
 - Excused Absence: Gordon O'Grady, Jerry Fleak
 - **Motion:** to excuse the absence of Gordon O'Grady and Jerry Fleak from this council meeting made by Melissa Hixon; seconded by Keith Hall. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Staff: Bob Daugherty - Village Administrator, Melody Reed - Fiscal Officer
- **Minutes of Previous Council Meeting**
 - July 7, 2026
 - **Motion:** to approve the minutes from the July 7, 2026 council meeting made by Keith Hall; seconded by Melissa Hixon. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Passing July Bills and Reports**
 - **Motion:** to pass the bills and financial reports for the month of July made by Keith Hall; seconded by Tonya Fleak. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Visitors**
 - Gayle Brown, Concerned Resident – Hometown Heroes Signage
 - Mike Brown, Resident
 - MaryAnn Smith, Resident
 - Virgil Jones, Representing BPM Fire Department
 - Hometown Heroes Banners – Gayle Brown
 - Officially asking council to consider working with Hometown Heroes for veteran recognition signage in the village
 - She made the contact during the Fayette County Fair. They said representative had reached out years ago asking Bloomingburg to participate and that council declined.
 - Signage is free for communities and signage is displayed from Memorial Day to Veterans Day every year. Signage includes picture, rank, branch and years served of former and current village residents that served in the military
 - Residents provide all of the information and submit to the Fayette County Veteran's Association
 - Melody Reed was asked to find a link the post on the village website where residents can submit and to find paper copies that will be available at Town Hall.
- **Committee Reports**
 - **Cemetery Board – Tonya Fleak**
 - Cemetery Board hired two new groundskeepers; only one started working
 - Work on repairing the fence has been paused due to the weather
 - **Fire Board – Christian Bennett**
 - Minutes from last meeting distributed
 - 6 volunteer firefighters completed the special plane crash training
 - \$1250 was donated for necessary repairs on the grass truck
 - Virgil Jones will begin attending council meetings as a representative of the BPM Fire Department to answer any questions residents may have
 - Two trailers were completely lost to a fire over the weekend. Crews were on site from Washington Court House, Jeffersonville, BPM and New Holland. Box 65 (which is funded through the county) was also on hand to provide relief service to the firefighters. Once fireman from Jeffersonville was injured in the incident.
 - **Community Day – Christian Bennett**
 - No dollar totals yet
 - Invoices are being collected to submit for funding through grant
 - Fewer vendors but many people commented it was a more enjoyable event this year
 - Petit's Grocery enjoyed the economic boost of Community Day. They essentially sold out of all cold drinks on Saturday
 - BPM reported that the breakfast and fish fry both went very well that day, with them selling out of fish

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- **Village Administrator's Report – Bob Daugherty**
 - Bobby is spending a lot of time at the water plant, keeping things running smoothly
 - Still working with the engineering firm to get grant funds dispersed.
 - Bobby will be on vacation at the end of the month. Allen Dawson will continue flushing at the water plant and there are people who will provide backup at the plant if needed
 - Received a quote for paving for \$82,000. Project will take about 3 months to complete
 - Trailer Park
 - Still have had no contact from the owner
 - Council decided it was time to serve the owner with formal legal notice to clean up the property
 - Village will continue assessing any repair work to the owner's taxes.
 - Lots 30 and 32 were the two lost to the fire over the weekend
 - Melody was asked to work with Emerson to have the letter drafted
- **Legislation**
 - **Resolution 26-17** - Emergency Resolution to adjust the pay of Village Fiscal Officer
 - **Motion:** to approve Resolution 26-17 made by Christian Bennet; seconded by Melissa Hixon. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Clerk's Report**
 - Billed: \$37,749.38 Received: \$37,658.42
- **Fiscal Officer's Report**
 - All financial reports distributed and signed
- **Old Business.**
- **New Business**
 - Keith Hall distributed a quote for water bill credit card processing software
 - This is offered through the same billing system we're already using, so the programs will work seamlessly
 - Doug Wallace viewed a demo of the software and thinks it will be a very good solution for all the people who have been requesting this option
 - CC processing fees will be passed on to the bill payer
 - Bobby feels an administrative fee should be added to every resident's bill to support the software usage of the entire billing system
 - A resolution will hopefully be prepared by the next meeting to implement the new processing with the hopes that we will be able to start accepting credit cards in January 2027
 - Keith Hall announced that this will be his last council meeting as he is moving out of the village
 - Keith Hall said he would like to coordinate the final Community Clean Up project and finalize the grant before he leaves.
 - Council discussed and chose the weekend of September 12 to offer dumpsters and tire disposal to village residents
 - Info will be distributed
 - Keith Hall also reminded council that he was the main village contact for all of the EPA grants and completed the training for the grant program that the village has been working to secure.
 - He recommends naming Melody to be the new contact and to complete any necessary training. Melody will reach out to Barb to have this change made.
 - Keith Hall has said he's working with Doug Wallace to transfer administration of the new village website to him.
 - Included in this process will be new village staff email addresses
 - He will also update the billing and ownership of the domain and web service to the village.
 - The website is currently paid through 2/17/29
 - Tim Bennet brought up the issue of the number of stray cats in Bloomingburg
 - He reached out to the Fayette County Humane Society who has said the only real option available to us is their catch and release program
 - Harming stray cats is a criminal offense
 - Humane Society has offered to present the services they offer at a future council meeting
 - Tim Bennet brought up concerns in enforcing the village noise ordinance
 - Recent problems with a derby car being driven through the village late at night. Vehicle is also leaving ruts in the pavement
 - Feels council should remind residents of the noise ordinance
 - Melody was asked to reach out to the Sheriff's Department to find out what can be done to enforce the ordinance and to request a report from them about what they've done during the last two years while the village has been paying for their patrol time.
- **Executive Session**
 - **Motion:** to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel issue made by Christian Bennett; Melissa Hixon seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Executive Session began at 7:07pm

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- **Motion:** to end Executive Session and return to regular meeting made by Melissa Hixon; Christian Bennet seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Executive Session ended at 7:20pm.
- **New Resolution Placeholder**
- **Conclusion**
 - Next regular council meeting: **September 1, 2026 at 6:00pm.**
- **Adjournment**
 - **Motion:** to adjourn council meeting made by Christian Bennett; Keith Hall seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Council Meeting adjourned at 7:22pm.

SEPT. 8, 2026

Date Approved by Council


Fiscal Officer: Melody L. Reed


Mayor: Tim Bennett