

Bloomfield dissolves Parking Authority

Twp. assumes parking enforcement

Bloomfield has replaced its downtown parking authority with a “parking utility” that will oversee both downtown and residential parking. The change was unanimously approved by Town Council at its Sept. 18 conference meeting.

Previously, the Bloomfield Parking Authority, an independent agency, managed downtown meter enforcement while the Bloomfield Police Department enforced parking elsewhere in town. The new centralized

utility, under the authority of the police department, is expected to streamline parking operations and bring \$200,000 a year in taxpayer savings.

“The decision to dissolve the BPA and create a new utility was approved by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs,” said Mayor Michael Venezia. “This is a great outcome for Bloomfield taxpayers and it fits our vision of delivering excellent services while keeping costs under control.”

A town-wide parking study is under way to help police improve existing parking regulations in downtown areas as well as residential neighborhoods where some residents have found difficulty parking close to home.

“The parking authority and the Township were performing overlapping services,” said Township Administrator Matt Watkins. “By combining resources, we will be able to provide more comprehensive parking solutions to the residents, business owners and shoppers who depend on Bloomfield’s parking availability.”

