

**BOROUGH OF BERLIN
CAUCUS MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2011
59 SO. WHITE HORSE PIKE
BERLIN NJ 08009**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR ARMANO.

FLAG SALUTE LED BY THE MAYOR.

SUNSHINE NOTICE: Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, Pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice has been advertised in the Courier Post and Philadelphia Inquirer showing the date, place and time of said meeting. Read by the clerk.

ROLL CALL: Mayor John Armano, Council President Scott Scelso, Council members Maccaroni, Chance, Bilella, Kupchik and Pearce were all present.

PRESENT ALSO: Solicitor George Botcheos, Police Chief Robert Carrara and Fire Chief Paul Miller.

Mayor Armano recessed the meeting and invited all of the council to move outside to see the two new police vehicles recently purchased through a bidding process saving the borough \$6000. on the base price of each vehicle. Commends Chief Carrara for doing a good job.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS, COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Fire Chief Paul Miller gave a post summary report of Hurricane Irene, 2011 to the council. The council thanked Chief Miller and the fire department for their efforts. Councilman Chance was on hand at the fire department during the storm.

MAYOR ARMANO attended an Advisory Board Meeting for YMCA last week. This year's camp was successful. YMCA has applied for ACA Certification; American Campers Accreditation meaning the State will not inspect them due to this certification. Looking into a program called "Live Where You Work" that will allow borough residents that work and live in the borough to get assistance for closing costs up to \$10,000. Our cost will be \$650.00 to join. Mayor notes that people are moving into Berlin a lot due to the Solid Rock Baptist Church. There are no objections from council for him to move forward. He is working on the renewal of a shared services agreement with the County for the cleaning of drainage ditches in Berlin by us versus our usage of some of their equipment. Two members short on economic redevelopment committee due to Dottie Trate moving and Dan Molnar resigning. He is suggesting Nick Guerra and will appoint him at the council meeting. Dan McDonnell is moving out of Berlin and a replacement is needed as he is on planning board. He is suggesting Mr. Pokotchin him as a second alternate. He has been involved with the County Police talks while on the Mayors Association and notes that there are no cost savings that have been proven or shown as of yet. He is attending a Mayors Executive Board meeting on 9/8 with main topic as to where the Mayor's stand on the County Policing noting he does not agree with the Freeholders program

and he will pass on this feelings at the board meeting. Councilman Chance states the FOP and PBA along with himself is also against this concept. Councilman Maccaroni suggests a letter telling the Freeholders that Berlin Borough is against this concept. He will report back to council after the board meeting on 9/8/2011. The three detective program is working well with the three towns showing savings. He feels one police chief for five towns will save money, thru attrition.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, Chairman Scott Scelso. Met with Chief Miller regarding operations during storm Irene. Also talked with Chief Carrara and EMC Bill Behnke. Library carpet has been installed and money was saved by the borough prepping the floor ourselves. /Bids are being taken for electrical for 131 So. White Horse Pike again now that the walls are down. /AC unit down at borough hall and we are looking at cost estimates to switch to back up unit.

STREETS & ROADS, Chairman Jim Bilella. Bids were received for the 2011 road program that came in within budget allowing us to possibly award the base bid and all alternates. Low bid was \$495,000 and change. Bids were close in price. All within 10%. He is suggesting that the award be made to Arawak at the council meeting on 9/6/2011. Solicitor reviewed the bids and has no objection on the awarding to Arawak as all is in order. He would like to approve engineer to apply for a grant for next year for Washington Avenue and a possible alternate is Ellis Avenue. He states a lot of the work has already been done regarding the information needed to apply for this grant. He will get a proposal for the cost involved and get back to council and get a resolution on agenda for the council meeting. /Working on getting parts and lights needed for the decorative lights on the White Horse Pike. /All money has been received to close out the old grant from a 2006 road project. /

WATER & SEWER, Chairman Lynn Kupchik Well #10 permit is still being sought by ERI.

HEALTH & RECREATION, Chairman Jim Pearce. Spoke with Administrator before the storm. Ordinance on agenda for basketball hoops and padding. /Glory Day Sports, who will be using the community center for volley ball, will supply their own nets for now in exchange for our consideration of a wavier of fee for one night's usage. / Health screening at the center is scheduled for 10/18. Dottie Trate has moved but is staying on a senior advisor. Cannot waive any fees for usage of center for any charity events. /Floor sweeper is running and is being used at the center.

PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Dennis Chance. Thanks all for their participation during Hurricane Irene. He spent the night at the fire house and was out patrolling the borough.

FINANCE, Chairman Nick Maccaroni. Thanks all involved during Hurricane Irene. /He is adamant in resolving the issue at the Car Mart where they are placing more than the allowable amount of vehicles. He notes that when the cars are moving they are being placed behind King of Pizza. He must go to planning board due to the dual use at this location. Our Solicitor will talk to the prosecutor. It is suggested that pictures are taken at this location. Solicitor will also speak to Planner Brian Slauch. He would also like the County to cut trees down on Park Drive as this road is becoming a hazard due to the low trees and limbs. He asks Solicitor to write a letter to the County putting our insurance company on notice about the trees. Lights at the War

Memorial have been replaced and look great./Clock has been fixed to tell correct time, however, the work is still in progress for the clock facade.

SOLICITOR, George Botcheos. PNC bank would like to accept the boroughs officer of \$800 rental per month, however, is asking for a 10 year lease. Council prefers a five year lease. He will talk to PNC and get back to council. Buzby Landfill Litigation moving forward. Judge has ordered mediations to try and resolve. Group is trying to settle with the State. New Coin toss ordinance on agenda and the old one does not comply. Property Ordinance on agenda to charge specific fees when public works employees has to work on private property issues.

Mayor Armano has a conference call scheduled with Governor Christie at 8:30 pm and invites anyone from council to sit in on.

ADMINISTRATOR, Charleen Santora Cleaning person borough had to clean has resigned. Seeking new prices for this job./Had gasoline delivered to the DPW during storm in case the Sunoco stations lost power and could not pump.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-10, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 8 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED, "COMMUNITY CENTER, USE OF".

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-11, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS TO SOLICIT CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE ROADWAY OF A HIGHWAY OTHER THAN INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS OR TOLL ROADS.

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-12, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 89 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED, "ANIMALS".

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-13, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 246 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED PROPERTY MAINTENANCE.

RESOLUTIONS:

R9-1;2011, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF 2011/2012 TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,565.94 FOR BLOCK 1401, LOT 15, DUE TO A PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED VETERANS EXEMPTION.

R9-2;2011, AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE A MERCANTILE LICENSE FOR ROBERT LONG, T/A GOOD TO GO RESTAURANT SELLING FAST FOOD LOCATED AT 4 ROUTE 73, BERLIN.

R9-3;2011, AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE A MERCANTILE LICENSE FOR ANTHONY D'ORTO, T/A NAIL BAR FOR THE SELLING OF NAIL PRODUCTS LOCATED AT 103 SO. WHITE HORSE PIKE, BERLIN.

R9-4; 2011, AUTHORIZING THE TAX REFUND FOR BLOCK 2209, LOT 33, 9 VILLANOVA COURT DUE TO TITLE COMPANY OVERPAYMENT.

R9-5;2011, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AWARD OF CONTRACT (BID A 33) UNDER THE CAMDEN COUNTY COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM, SYSTEM IDENTIFIER # 57 CCCPS BY AND BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF CAMDEN (DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS) AND DEER CARCASS REMOVAL SERVICES FOR PROVISION OF REMOVAL SERVICES FOR A ONE YEAR TERM.

R9-6;2011, APPROVAL FROM COUNCIL FOR MAYOR ARMANO TO SIGN A HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT FOR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL WITH BERLIN TOWNSHIP IN REFERENCE TO THE TRASH TIPPING FEE RATE.

R9-7;2011, APPROVAL FROM COUNCIL TO AWARD A TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROL MONITORING SYSTEM CONTRACT TO AMERICAN TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS (ATS) FROM SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA.

R9-8; 2011, A RESOLUTION FOR BERLIN BOROUGH TO JOIN THE NATIONAL MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE 10TH. ANNIVERSARY OF SEPTEMBER 11.

R9-9;2011, APPROVAL FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL TO AWARD TO SPORT PROS, FROM WYCKOFF, NJ THE CONTRACT TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL FOUR BASKETBALL BACKBOARD SYSTEMS AT THE BERLIN COMMUNITY CENTER AFTER RFQ'S WERE SOUGHT AND SPORTS PRO WAS THE ONLY RESPONSIBLE QUOTE, FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$34,490.00. (CFO HAS CERTIFIED THE FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND)

R9-10; 2011, APPROVAL TO AWARD TO SPORTS PRO OF WYCKOFF, NJ THE CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASING AND INSTALLATION OF COLUMN PADDING AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$6779.00. (CFO HAS CERTIFIED THE FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL CAPITAL FUND)

MOTION TO ADJOURN was made by Scelso seconded by Bilella. All were favor.

Charleen Santora, RMC