

**BOROUGH OF BERLIN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
59 SO. WHITE HORSE PIKE
BERLIN N J 08009
7:00 PM**

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 Philadelphia Inquirer and Courier Post showing the date, place and time of said meeting.

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

PRESENT ALSO: Solicitor Mark Rinaldi sat in for Borough Solicitor George Botcheos due to his absence. Also present was Police Chief Michael DeLorenzo.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Closed session of June 26, 2012

Council meeting of July 2, 2012

Caucus meeting of July 31, 2012

Closed session meeting of July 31, 2012

August 6, 2012 closed session minutes. The minutes from Aug 6 are still being proof read.

Motion to approve made by Chance seconded by Scelso. All were in favor.

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR:

Cynthia Jennings, 26 Glacier Drive, Berlin.

Presented questions from Longaconing home owners asociation. Asked the council if speeding can be controlled through Lonaconing East by the borough. Chief DeLorenzo will look into this. Asked if a no parking sign can be installed on Glacier Drive in certain areas. Mayor states any no parking signs would have to be approved by ordinance. Mayor will have engineer look into. She questions if there is a time limitation on performance bonds and how long it can go on. Questions any update on the widening of Berlin Cross Keys Road. Councilman Scelso suggests that Cynthia advise all of the residents in her area about speeding and they may be ticketed regardless of them living on that street.

Tom Little, 4 Thackara Avenue, Berlin.

He and some residents are requesting speed bumps be put on Thackara Avenue like they were put on Haines Avenue due to speeding. Mayor explained that the speed bumps were put on Haines with the recent road program that was just repaved being the first time this has been done. We will look at bumps in different areas when streets are repaved if necessary. Councilman Maccaroni reiterated that speed bumps were put on Haines with engineering planning to coincide with draining, etc.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS FOR THE MONTY OF JULY, 2012.

Municipal Court June and July	\$17,930.74
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16,804.85

Municipal Clerk	6,121.00
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Animal licenses	840.00
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Construction Dept.	2,076.00
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Rental Property Inspections	1,800.00
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Tax Collectors	374,250.39
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Utilities	148,987.69
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Bureau of Fire Prevention	7,348.25
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Fire rescue calls	61
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Ambulance calls (Berlin Boro) 219

Motion to approve made by Maccaroni seconded by Bilella. All were in favor.

Mayor explains that the public's agenda may not have Resolutions 15 and 16 as they were received late.

COUNCIL/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

CHIEF OF POLICE MICHAEL DELORENZO

Chief DeLorenzo gave his report. Attached to these minutes.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORTS:

MAYOR JOHN J. ARMANO: Capital budget meeting held today in an effort to come up with 2013 purchases including the building of a new police station and a new trash vehicle. According to CFO, revenues are down so far this year. Construction is down and court is up therefore it could possibly offset he reports. /Recycling numbers are up 20% from last year and

tipping fees are down 4% from last year making a savings of approximately \$7000. as of now./Mayor explains the League of Municipalities is supporting Assembly Bill A 2681 for the extensions of the statute of limitations from two years to seven years on law suits to public bodies and the elimination entirely on the actual predator whereas bill no A2405 and Senate Bill 1651 is a bill to have the statute indefinitely. He is asking for this resolution to be put on this agenda making it R9-17; 2012.

Solicitor Rinaldi explains that the supporting of this bill is the right direction the municipalities should take.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, Councilman Scelso met with Superintendent of the Berlin Community School and a figure was agreed on for the lighting detection system. Resolution on agenda R9-14 suggesting the approval of \$3675.00 for the borough's portion. /16 Haines is moving forward. Still waiting for all of the utilities to be shut off or removed. /He will be at the soccer field on Saturday representing the borough for the Berlin Eastern Soccer Association.

WATER & SEWER, Chairman Lynn Kupchik Estimated water bills were sent out due to radio meter reading system still being down./Well # 15 is still being worked on with utilization of it being projected by next spring./She will have water capital need projection within weeks./The 4th annual fall festival will be on 9/29. Forms are in borough hall. Festivities include a trolley tour, dog parade, food vendors, and arts and crafts. VFW will sponsor a table.

STREETS & ROADS, Chairman Jim Bilella. Jim states that speed bumps cost \$6000. each for Haines Avenue and were figured in with the entire road project. Speed bumps would be costly if put throughout the entire borough./Two resolutions on agenda from Birdsall Engineers for the design of Ellis Avenue and for the application of a grant from the DOT for Malan Avenue.

HEALTH & RECREATION, Chairman Jim Pearce checking with the new President of the Berlin Rotary to see if the Rotary would be willing to purchase a defibrillator for the community center. /Berlin soccer would like to purchase a flag pole but are concerned about it needing lighting. /Sign for the community center for the sponsors has been ordered from Walter Signs. /Health screening will be held on 9/8 at the community center.

PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Dennis Chance gave a report for the month of July for the fire department and ambulance all attached to these minutes.

FINANCE, Chairman Nick Maccaroni. Questioned where the court is on the collecting of old fines, etc.

SOLICITOR, George Botcheos was absent.

ADMINISTRATOR, Charleen Santora advised council that there is a meeting scheduled 9/12 in Mays Landing for a possible rate increase for Atlantic City Electric./Asked that anyone needing a badge for the convention to purchase the badge and will be reimbursed right afterwards./Assessor will be at the next council meeting for questions from council./All lighting has been installed in regards to the clean energy program.

ORDINANCES INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-13, SALARY ORDINANCE 2012-13 AMENDS SALARY ORDINANCE NO. 2012-01, SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 62 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED, "SALARIES".

Motion to introduce made by Bilella seconded by Chance. All were in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-14, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 287 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED, STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND CURBS".

Motion to introduce made by Chance seconded by Bilella. All were in favor.

RESOLUTIONS:

Meeting open to the public on Resolutions R9-1 through R9-17; 2012

Meeting closed to the public.

RESOLUTION R9-1; 2012, APPROVAL OF BUDGET INSERTION PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 FOR SAFE AND SECURE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5544.00.

RESOLUTION R9-2;2012, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX REFUND FOR BLOCK 1306 LOT 4 DUE TO MTG. COMPANY OVERPAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$142.51.

RESOLUTION R9-3;2012, A RESOLUTION TO CANCEL GRANT FUND ACCOUNT RECEIVABLE FOR THE SAFE AND SECURE GRANT REDUCED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,560.00.

RESOLUTION R9-4;2012, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF 2012 TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$276.51 FOR BLOCK 1101 LOT 6 NOW OWNED BY THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN DUE TO IN REM FORECLOSURE.

RESOLUTION R9-5; 2012, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX REFUND FOR BLOCK 1405, LOT 12 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00 DUE TO SALE OF PROPERTY.

RESOLUTION R9-6;2012, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX REFUND FOR BLOCK 703 LOT 3 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1624.32 DUE TO TITLE COMPANY OVERPAYMENT.

RESOLUTION R9-7; 2012, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TAX REFUND FOR BLOCK 2401, LOT 32 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2273.00

RESOLUTION R9-8;2012, APPROVAL FROM COUNCIL PER RECOMMENDATION FROM PENNONI ASSOCIATES TO RELEASE MAINTENANCE BOND FOR FILOMENA'S RETAIL STORE IN BERLIN TOWNSHIP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1500. DUE TO WATER CONNECTIONS BEING COMPLETED AS PER AS BUILT PLAN.

RESOLUTION R9-9; 2012, APPROVAL OF MERCANTILE LICENSE FOR JOHN CARLETTI, T/A ETA WORLDWIDE LIMOUSINE FOR THE BUSINESS OF LIMO SERVICE LOCATED AT 37 CLEMENTON ROAD, BERLIN.

RESOLUTION R9-10;2012, APPROVAL OF MERCANTILE LICENSE FOR STEPHEN PASQUINI, T/A STEVE AND COMPANY PRODUCTIONS INC. FOR THE BUSINESS OF A DISC JOCKEY LOCATED AT 37 CLEMENTON ROAD, BERLIN, NJ.

RESOLUTION R9-11;2012, AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE A MERCANTILE LICENSE FOR TONY SBARRA, TA/ SOUTH JERSEY SPORTS CARDS AND COLLECTIBLES, LLC. FOR THE SALE OF SPORTS MEMORABILIA LOCATED AT 120 S. WHITE HORSE PIKE, BERLIN.

RESOLUTION R9-12; 2012, APPROVAL FOR JOSHUA F. SMITH TO BE APPOINTED CLASS I OFFICER TO WORK IN AND FOR THE BERLIN BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT AT A RATE OF \$13.00 EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

RESOLUTION R9-13;2012, AUTHORIZATION FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER # 1 FROM BIRDSALL SERVICES FOR THE 2012 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR HAINES AVENUE, PHASE II IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1876.08.

RESOLUTION R9-14;2012, AUTHORIZATION TO SHARE THE EXPENSE WITH BERLIN COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR A NEW LIGHTNING DETECTION SYSTEM AT THE BERLIN BALL FIELDS AND SCHOOL FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$3675.00 OR 50% OF \$7350.00.

RESOLUTION R9-15;2012, AUTHORIZATION FOR BIRDSALL ENGINEERS TO APPLY TO THE NJDOT FOR A 2013 ROAD PROGRAM GRANT FOR MALAN AVENUE APPLICATION NOT TO EXCEED \$1000.

RESOLUTION R9-16;2012, AUTHORIZATION FROM COUNCIL FOR BIRDSALL ENGINEERS TO PROCEED WITH THE THIS PROPOSAL TO THAT ENCOMPASSES SURVEY AND ENGINEERING FOR ELLIS AVENUE AND CREST AVENUE TO CLEMENTON BERLIN ROAD FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$21,800.

RESOLUTION R9-17; 2012, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 2681 AND OPPOSING ASSEMBLY BILL 2404/S-1651.

Motion to adopt Resolutions R9-1 through R9-17; 2012 made by Pearce seconded by Bilella. All were in favor.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2012 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,919,343.76. Motion made by Maccaroni seconded by Chance. All were in favor.

Motion to adjourn made by Pearce seconded by Chance. All were in favor.

Meeting ended at 8:16 pm.

Charleen Santora, RMC

