

BOROUGH OF BERLIN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2014
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
59 SO. WHITE HORSE PIKE
BERLIN NJ
7:00 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR ARMANO.

FLAG SALUTE LED BY MAYOR ARMANO.

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.

ROLL CALL: Mayor John Armano, Council President James Bilella, Council members Maccaroni, Scelso, Kupchik, Pearce and Knight.

PRESENT ALSO: Solicitor George Botcheos, Administrator Charleen Santora, Tax Assessor Terry Stagliano and Emergency Management Coordinator Richard Crain.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Caucus meeting May 27, 2014
- Council meeting June 2, 2014
- Caucus meeting of July 1, 2014
- Council meeting of July 7, 2014
- Closed session July 7, 2014

Motion to approve made by Councilman Pearce with the amendment to May 27th minutes, Seconded by Council President Bilella. All members present were in favor.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2014:

Tax Collector's report	\$344,219.56
Utility report	475,432.25
Court administrator's report	21,309.87
Municipal clerk's report	17,695.00
Permit fees	8,969.00
Zoning fees	605.00
Community Center fees	4675.00

Motion to approve made by Councilman Maccaroni, seconded by Councilman Scelso. All members present were in favor.

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR:

There was no public comment.

COUNCIL AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

TAX ASSESSOR, Terry Stagliano spoke reported that there were 40 county board appeals filed this year. There are 2,896 taxable ratables for 2014. There were 40 filed appeals with the Camden County Board of Taxation. The total 2014 net valuation was \$752,681,606 and the total assessment appealed was \$10,826,800. Terry also reported that had each property owner successfully received the reduction they requested, the borough would have lost \$3,601,600 in ratables, or \$105,238.00 tax dollars. The borough was able to defend the majority of the assessments for an actual loss of \$1,397,100 or \$40,823. She also discussed some other items such as farmland applications and inspections. A full report is attached to these minutes.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR, Richard Crain provided a report on the 4th of July festivities. He talked about suggestions that are recommended for the ICCA for next year's festivities to ensure a safe and secure atmosphere for everyone involved. Attached to these minutes is a full report.

MAYOR, John Armano discussed letter that was received from Raymond Mauger who lives at 30 Ridgeview Avenue in Berlin. Mr. Mauger's home is located on Block 2010, Lot 4 and he is requesting to purchase a portion of the unused and undeveloped road adjacent to his home. He has been maintaining the land for the last 50 years. In order to move forward, Solicitor George Botcheos will have to prepare an ordinance. Mayor Armano also spoke about resolutions on the agenda; R8-6;2014 and R8-13;2014. The governing body will be going into closed session tonight to discuss Nexus litigation. Thanked Charleen for getting in touch with Eastern High School; they will televise the council meetings at no cost.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, Chairman Gary Knight reported that the front steps at the municipal building are going to be getting repaired this Thursday. HVAC work has been done at the municipal building and the hotel. Also, he was just made aware that the elevator in the municipal building broke and a part needs to be ordered.

STREETS & ROADS, Chairman Jim Bilella discussed the resolution on the agenda relating to the awarding of the road program for Malan Avenue (R8-3;2014) and he also spoke about the ordinance on the agenda in regard to the potential funding. Council President Bilella reported on change orders reduced about anywhere from \$10,000 to \$15,000. There is a construction meeting tomorrow in borough hall at 8:00 am.

WATER & SEWER, Chairman Lynn Kupchik spoke about Ordinance 2014-14 which is on the agenda for introduction tonight. Right now there are two plants operating; there have not been any shut offs and a couple of meters have recently been replaced.

HEALTH & RECREATION, Chairman Jim Pearce reported that Camp-Long-A-Coming is over. There were a lot of younger children who were signed up for camp this year. Overall, there was nothing but very positive feedback about the camp this year. The direction for the camp for the future will be discussed sometime in the winter. Councilman Pearce thanked the police department for participating in a dodge ball game with the camp. Also, there was emergency cleaning that had to be done at the community center and he thanked DPW for bringing over the barricades. Berlin AA will temporarily have to walk their trash over to the school's dumpsters.

PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Scott Scelso provided a report for the police department for the month of June 2014. The department handled 1,799 calls for service; 270 summonses were issued along with 16 arrests, 1 DWI arrests, 14 warrant arrests and 8 drug arrests. 9,024 miles were put on the police vehicles during patrol and other duties. 35 motor vehicle accidents were reported with 2 resulting in injuries. A full report is attached to these minutes. The ambulance had 196 calls for service and 96 of those calls were for Berlin Borough. The fire department had 53 calls for the month of June and 70 calls for the month of July.

FINANCE, Chairman Nick Maccaroni reported that another page has been added to the website which provides information about the branches of government. Also, gasoline prices are stabilizing and the price of gas is actually coming down.

SOLICITOR, George Botcheos did not have anything to report.

ADMINISTRATOR, Charleen Santora spoke about various items on the agenda and provided explanations for each. She also discussed mercantile license renewals. There are about 210 mercantile's on file for this year and the office has collected \$23,010.00 in fees. There was some discussion about whether or not to start registering businesses that are licensed by the state. Other towns do charge lawyers, doctors, etc for a business registration. Solicitor Botcheos will look into this and get more information for council to review.

ORDINANCES 2ND READING:

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-09, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 256 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED, "RENTAL PROPERTIES"

Meeting open to the public on Ordinance No. 2014-09.

Meeting closed to the public.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-09 made by Council President Bilella, seconded by Councilwoman Kupchik. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-10, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 150, ENTITLED, "DISTURBING THE PEACE"

Meeting open to the public on Ordinance No. 2014-10.

Meeting closed to the public.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-10 made by Councilman Maccaroni, seconded by Council President Bilella. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-11, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 8 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED, "COMMUNITY CENTER, USE OF"

Meeting open to the public on Ordinance No. 2014-11.

Meeting closed to the public.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-11 made by Councilman Maccaroni, seconded by Council President Bilella. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted in favor.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CAPITAL BUDGET

RESOLUTION R8-1A; 2014

A RESOLUTION FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE 2014 CAPITAL BUDGET

Motion to approve made Councilman Maccaroni, seconded by Council President Bilella. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted in favor.

BOND ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-12, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, IN THE COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED EXPENSES IN AND FOR THE BOROUGH AND APPROPRIATING \$300,000 FOR SAID PURPOSES; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$285,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SAID OBLIGATIONS OF THE BOROUGH TO FINANCE SAID PURPOSES; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO

Motion to introduce Bond Ordinance No. 2014-12 made Councilman Maccaroni, seconded by Council President Bilella. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-13, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 67 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED, "WATER DEPARTMENT"

Motion to introduce made by Councilwoman Kupchik, seconded by Councilman Knight. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-14, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 256 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED, "RENTAL PROPERTIES"

Motion to introduce made by Councilman Scelso, seconded by Council President Bilella. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted in favor.

RESOLUTIONS:

Meeting open to the public on Resolutions R8-1 through R8-15; 2014.

Meeting closed to the public.

RESOLUTION R8-1;2014, A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION R6-9;2014 AUTHORIZING EMPLOYEES FOR THIS YEAR'S CAMP LONG A COMING TO REFLECT THE CORRECT SALARY ORDINANCE THAT RESOLUTION READ 21.25 PER HOUR TO 21.00 PER HOUR FOR TWO CERTIFIED CAMP COUNSELORS

RESOLUTION R8-2; 2014, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SECURITY DEPOSIT REFUND OF \$331.00 FOR HYDRANT METER RENTAL TO MARK PERLMAN OF MILLSTONE TWP., NJ

RESOLUTION R8-3;2014, AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE MALAN AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT TO DAUNORAS CONSTRUCTION CO, INC. OF CEDAR BROOK N J FOR THE BASE BIDS PLUS ADD ALTERNATE NO. 2, THE LOWEST BIDDER FOR THE LOW BID AMOUNT OF \$353,283.00 (CFO HAS CERTIFIED THE FUNDS)

RESOLUTION R8-4;2014, MERCANTILE LICENSE APPROVAL FOR SUN WONG AND JUSTIN PRICE, T/A SHOESTER'S SHOES FOR AN ORTHOPEDIC SHOE RETAIL STORE LOCATED AT 69 CLEMENTON ROAD, SUITE 1, BERLIN

RESOLUTION R8-5;2014, MERCANTILE LICENSE APPROVAL FOR LARRY BONFIGLIO, T/A LARRY'S USED APPLIANCE FOR A USED APPLIANCE RETAIL STORE LOCATED AT 69 CLEMENTON ROAD, SUITE 2, BERLIN

RESOLUTION R8-6;2014, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING OF A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH BERLIN TOWNSHIP, WATERFORD TOWNSHIP AND PINE HILL FOR THE SHARING OF PUBLIC WORKS

PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT IN THE EVENT OF A MAJOR STORM FOR A THREE YEAR TERM

RESOLUTION R8-7;2014, AUTHORIZATION FROM COUNCIL TO GO OUT ON GOV BIDS TO SELL BOROUGH EQUIPMENT AS FOLLOWS;
1994, 1995, 1999 AND 2000 CROWN VICTORIA'S, 2000 STERLING STREET SWEEPER AND 1994 GIANT VAC LEAF MACHINE

RESOLUTION R8-8;2014, APPROVAL FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL TO APPROVE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR YEAR 2014-2015 FOR THE VFW POST 6253 DUE TO ALL QUALIFICATIONS BEING MET BY THE DIVISION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

RESOLUTION R8-9;2014, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER 2014 STATEWIDE CRACKDOWN

RESOLUTION R8-10;2014, APPROVAL FOR A CHANGE ORDER FOR RUSSELL REID WASTE HAULING AND DISPOSAL FOR THE PIPELINE AND TELEVISIONING PROJECT FOR A DEDUCT OF \$217.87 FROM ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$26,998.50

RESOLUTION R8-11;2014, APPROVAL FROM COUNCIL TO AWARD THE BID FOR A 25 CY TRAILER MOUNTED LEAF VACUUM TO THE ONLY BIDDER, ODB, (OLD DOMINION BRUSH COMPANY) OF RICHMOND, VA. FOR THE LOADER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$36,741.00 AND FOR THE ONE OPTION OF A JOHN DEERE TURBO DIESEL ENGINE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1070.00, MAKING THE TOTAL AWARD \$37,811.00 FUNDS COMING FROM ORDINANCE NO. 2014-02. (CFO TO CERTIFY THE FUNDS)

RESOLUTION R8-12;2014, AUTHORIZING SETTLEMENT OF THE CARMART AUTOMOTIVE GROUP, LLC LITIGATION

RESOLUTION R8-13;2014, APPROVAL FROM COUNCIL TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE VIDEOING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS ON A MONTH TO MONTH BASIS WITH CHEWS CREWS AND PRODUCTION, LLC OF EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP NJ FOR A MONTHLY FEE OF \$320.00

RESOLUTION R8-14;2014, APPROVAL FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL TO PROMOTE DETECTIVE MICHAEL A. SCHEER FROM THE BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT TO THE POSITION OF DETECTIVE SERGEANT EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

RESOLUTION R8-15;2014, APPROVAL FROM COUNCIL FOR MERCANTILE LICENSE FOR DAVID HULSE/T/A PC PRO NOW LLC LOCATED AT 104 SO. WHITE HORSE PIKE FOR COMPUTER SERVICES AND SALES

Motion to adopt Resolutions R8-1; 2014 through R8-15; 2014 made by Councilman Pearce, seconded by Councilwoman Kupchik. All members present were in favor.

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR:

There was no public comment.

PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2014 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,275,432.91

Motion to approve made by Councilman Maccaroni, seconded by Councilman Bilella. Under a roll call vote, all members present voted in favor.

Motion to go into closed session to discuss Nexus litigation made by Councilman Pearce, seconded by Councilman Knight. All members present were in favor.

Motion to adjourn to made Councilman Pearce, seconded by Councilman Knight. All members present were in favor.



Charleen Santora, RMC