

BOROUGH OF BERLIN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2019
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
59 SOUTH WHITE HORSE PIKE
BERLIN, NJ 08009
7:00 P.M.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

FLAG SALUTE:

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 posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board showing the date, place and time of said meeting.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Bilella, Council President Pearce, Council Members Miller, Badolato, Rocco, Buchanan & MacDonnell.

PRESENT ALSO: Solicitor Howard Long, Administrator, Bill Behnke, CFMO Debra DiMattia and Municipal Clerk Lois Sahina

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1-05-19 Re-Organization Meeting Minutes
1-17-19 Council Meeting Minutes
1-30-19 Special Re-Organization Meeting Minutes
2-13-19 Council Meeting Minutes
2-13-19 Council Meeting Closed Session Minutes

Motion to approve adoption of the minutes; Council President Pearce

Sec.; Councilman Badolato

All present were in Favor;

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2019

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Permit fees | \$ 130,172.00 |
| Zoning fees | \$ 250.00 |
| Re-sale inspection fees | \$ 1,250.00 |
| Rental Inspections | \$ 200.00 |
| Community Center fees | \$ 5,400.00 |
| Tax collector's report | \$ 3,644,838.98 |
| Utility report | \$ 47,852.30 |
| Clerks report | \$ 4,103.00 |
| Animal report | \$ 912.00 |
| Court Administrator | \$ 26,384.01 |

Motion to approve department head reports; Councilman MacDonnell

Sec.; Councilman Miller

All present were in favor

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2019 IN THE AMOUNT OF - \$2,105,698.28

Motion to approve payment of the bills; Council President Pearce

Sec.; Councilman Buchanan

All present were in favor

COUNCIL REPORTS:

- **BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION, Chairman Len Badolato**
 - **ADA Compliance** - Councilman Badolato is working on having the Borough parking updated to meet ADA compliance guidelines
 - **Copula** - The copula is in need of painting. Councilman Badolato has been inquiring with different contractors about the pricing and timing that this could be done.

- **PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS, Chairman Dan MacDonnell**
 - **Acknowledgments** - Councilman MacDonnell acknowledged Councilman Rocco's hard work in having our water department infrastructure and compliance regulations all met by the State. He also extended his Congratulations to our new Chief of Police, Millard Wilkinson and to our new Lieutenant, Mike Scheer.
 - **Road Study** – ERI has conducted a study of all Borough owned streets. This study provides which roads are the worst and should be addressed first, once the funding from the state is awarded. This study is a forecast for the next five years.

- **WATER & SEWER, Chairman Ron Rocco**
 - **Reports** - Councilman Rocco gave the water and sewer reports for February. All regular maintenance checks have been completed on all pump stations and wells.
 - **SCADA** - The SCADA system is being successfully used to identify any cracks, breaks or problems. No problems have been detected at this time.
 - **Congratulations** - Congratulations were in order and extended to our new, Chief Millard Wilkinson and new Lieutenant Mike Scheer
 - **Budget for 2019** - Before we can move forward with any sewer and water projects, the budget must be approved. Councilman Rocco is looking forward to moving ahead and many thanks were extended to our CFMO, Debra DiMattia.

- **PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Jim Pearce**
 - **Reports** - Councilman Pearce gave the Police Department statistics for the month of February, which included arrests, warrants, accidents and tickets.
 - **“NO NEED TO SPEED CAMPAIGN”** – The “No Need to Speed” campaign for the month of March will focus on Rt 73. Westbury and Jackson Roads

- **Fire Department** - The Berlin Fire Company has added another duty crew night. They will now be meeting both Monday and Friday nights.
- **Generator** - Progress is being made on the new generator. The pad will be laid once the weather gets warmer

- **COMMUNICATIONS**, Chairman Rick Miller
 - **Website** - Councilman Miller has been working with a Website company called Revize, based out of Michigan. There are other municipalities in the area that are now using their services. Our website is currently not ADA compliant and this would update and provide accommodations to those residents and public who need these services.

- **FINANCE**, Chairman Mike Buchanan
 - **Budget Meeting** - There was a Special Budget Meeting held on March 6, 2019. Councilman Buchanan expressed that financially the Borough is in a very strong position and has a rating of AA.
 - **Introduction of the Budget** -The Introduction of the 2019 Budget is on the agenda tonight for a first reading and approval.
 - **Rabies Clinic** - The annual Free Rabies Clinic will be held at the DPW Garage on Saturday, April 6th from 10:00 am to 12 Noon

- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REAL ESTATE**, Mayor Jim Bilella
 - **New Business** -There will be a Grand Opening on March 31st 2019 for “Joseph’s Infants”. They are relocating from the Berlin Market to the strip store on Berlin Clementon Road.
 - **Congratulations** - Mayor Biella extended his Congratulations to our new Police Chief, Millard Wilkinson and new Lieutenant Mike Scheer.

- **SOLICITOR**, Howard Long - No report was given

PRESENTATION TO RETIRING CHIEF, MICHAEL MILLER - Mayor Bilella acknowledged Chief Miller’s many accomplishments over the past 25 years as a police officer, detective, sergeant, SWAT team member and Chief of the Berlin Police Department. Mayor Bilella and Council President Pearce presented him with a plaque from the Borough.

RESOLUTION R03-01;2019

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, COUNCIL CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR’S APPOINTMENT OF LIEUTENANT MILLIARD WILKINSON AS CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN

Motion to Confirm Appointment Resolutions R03-01 - Council President Pearce
Sec.; Councilman MacDonnell
 All present were in favor

RESOLUTIONS R03-02; 2019

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, COUNCIL CONFORMATION MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF DETECTIVE SERGEANT MICHAEL SCHEER AS LIEUTENANT FOR THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Motion to Confirm Appointment through Resolutions R03-02 - Council President Pearce
Sec.; Councilman Miller
All present were in favor

SWEARING IN OF POLICE CHIEF

The swearing in of Lieutenant Millard Wilkinson as the new Police Chief in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:60-5(g) and §52-3 of the Code of the Borough of Berlin. Lieutenant Millard Wilkinson was sworn in by Mayor Bilella as the new Chief of Police of the Borough of Berlin Police Department. His wife Jamie and their two children were by his side.

SWEARING IN OF POLICE LIEUTENANT:

The swearing in of Detective Sergeant Michael Scheer as the new Lieutenant of the Borough of Berlin Police Department. Mayor Bilella swore in Michael Scheer as the new Lieutenant of the Borough of Berlin Police Department. His wife and three children were by his side.

1st READING ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-02

AN ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK IN ACCORDANCE WITH (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)

Motion to Introduce: Councilman Buchanan
Sec.; Councilman MacDonnell
All present were in favor

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-03

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY ENTITLED ROAD OPENING PERMITS

Motion to Introduce: Councilman MacDonnell
Sec.; Council President Pearce
All present were in favor

READING RESOLUTIONS R03-03; 2019 THROUGH R03-12; 2019

MOTION TO OPEN THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS R-03-03; 2019 THROUGH R-03-12; 2019 - No one spoke

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION R03-03; 2019

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION'S

RESOLUTION R03-04; 2019

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE LOCAL EXAMINATION OF THE 2019 BUDGET

RESOLUTION R03-05; 2019

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2019

RESOLUTION R03-06; 2019

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,237.00 TO KENT KOUNG

RESOLUTION R03-07; 2019

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE CHARGE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50.00 FOR A MISSED UTILITY SERVICE APPOINTMENT

RESOLUTION R03-08; 2019

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING UTILITY BILL ADJUSTMENTS FOR STATED LIST OF PROPERTIES

RESOLUTION R03-09; 2019

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION ON OUTSTANDING COURT OFFICE CHECKS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$362.99 THAT ARE MORE THAN 6 MONTHS OLD

RESOLUTION R03-10; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING DANIEL VIERICK AS A FULL TIME EMPLOYEE FOR DPW DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION R03-11; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING CHARLIE ZEITSINGER AS A PART TIME EMPLOYEE FOR DPW DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION R03-12; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE \$3.00 YARD SALE FEE TO BE WAIVED FOR SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019 DUE TO THE COMMUNITY YARD SALE SPONSORED BY THE CELEBRATION COMMITTEE OF BERLIN BOROUGH

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS R03-03; 2019 THUR R03-12; 2019 - No one spoke

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Motion to approve Resolutions R03-03; 2019 through R03-12; 2019 - Council President Pearce
Sec.; Councilman MacDonnell
All present were in favor

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Don Sturgis
3 2nd Ave
Berlin NJ 08009

Mr. Sturgis addressed Mayor and Council and wanted to know how he could be connected with the county sewage system. After discussing this matter, the Governing Body determined his property was not located in Berlin Borough. He would need to address this to the West Berlin Township Mayor and Council.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Council President Pearce noted that one of their officers had resigned and the Police Department will now be down one officer. We will need to look into replacing him with another officer.
- March 22, 2019 there will be two JIF/MEL classes conducted in our court room. The first class is about "Employee Conduct and Violence in the Work Place". The second class will focus on Asepsis and Lead along with Silica overview. On April 5th two more classes will be conducted. The first class is about "Leaf Collection Safety" and the second focuses on "Hazard ID and Making your Observations Count".

Motion to adjourn; Council President Pearce
Sec., Councilman MacDonnell
All Present were in favor

Lois J. Sahina
Registered Municipal Clerk
March 14, 2019