



BOROUGH OF BERLIN
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
59 SOUTH WHITE HORSE PIKE
BERLIN, NJ 08009

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2020 - 7:00 pm.

Mayor Rick Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He stated that adequate notice of this meeting had 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 the said meeting.

After the Salute to the Flag, the following roll call was taken:

Present: Councilmembers: Cummings, Badolato, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce, and Mayor Miller
Absent: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

August 13th, 2020 – Workshop Meeting
August 13th, 2020 – Regular Meeting

Moved by: Councilman Pearce; **Seconded by** Councilman Hohing

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 5; Abstain =1).

Yes: Councilmember Badolato, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

No: None

Abstain: Councilwoman Cummings

Absent: None

COUNCIL REPORTS:

- **BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION** - Chairman Len Badolato reported that for outside of Borough Hall, the caps were ordered and should be done this week. They are going to look like what we have over there across the street at the Royal Farms. Hopefully in about 2 weeks they will start working on that. He has not heard back yet from DOT for the plans for traffic coming on the Pike. He tried to reach Greg Fusco today and we just have just been crossing emails.
- **PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS** - Chairman Andrew Simone reported there was nothing new in the Public Works Department, everything is operating and moving full steam ahead. There are no issues with the streets and roads projects. Over last four to five months we had the County in town working on the County roads and on the County Park Project. That included improvements on New Freedom Rd and at North Park Drive and White Horse Pike, across from Twin Plaza. We do have new playgrounds at the County park. They are still being constructed and installed. The contractor along the way found some storm water issues and the

County's contractor was in and repaired those lines. The contractor has left the playground installation and the bike trail. The contractor is currently working on another job but will be back in town within the next couple of weeks and we should conclude that project by mid-October. He noted that last year, the Borough's planner commented on the circulation element of the Master Plan. Berlin got a low rating related to when pedestrian mobility throughout town. One recommendation was to improve white trails and walk ability around town. We are now in the preliminary stages of coming up with a plan that can get you from one side of town North to South, East to West. Resolution 121 is awarding a contract to have drawings put together, on paper to move this effort forward.

- WATER & SEWER – Chairwoman Patricia Cummings for the Water Department, all the inside meter appointments continued to be suspended due to COVID-19. The monthly maintenance at plants one and two were completed. The flow meter for well nine is failing and a new meter has been ordered. There were 83 utility mark out requests that were completed. On October 1st we will be starting our full fire hydrant flushing and it will be ongoing for the entire month. For the Sewer Department, we completed all routine, monthly maintenance at our ten pump stations.
- PUBLIC SAFETY - Chairman Jim Pearce gave the monthly Police statistics for August 2020 in which there were a total of 1277 calls handled. The Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic [DDACT] focused on route 30 and Franklin Ave, route 30 and Cross Keys, route 30 and Jackson, West Taunton, Thakara and Taunton. The No Need to Speed campaign for the month of August 2020 focused on Franklin Ave. He reported that the Police Department has transitioned from Pro Phoenix to Info Share for their technology and they attended various trainings for that month. He reported the officer of the month Behind the Badge was awarded to officer Pohlig who was instrumental in the arresting of two suspects in a stolen vehicle, with various drugs and weapons.

He reported on the statistics for the Berlin Fire Department for the month of August. The Berlin Fire Department responded to 79 calls for service. They were able to staff their regular duty crew as well as staff the weekly, Safer Grant duty crews, which we were able to get paid through the grant. He reported that the EMS Department for the month of August handled 107 calls for service, with 83 of them in Berlin Twp.

He reported that our Office of Emergency Management is still working with their partners in the County and the state to provide PPE for first responders. He noted they have a large stock of the items and if any of the agencies within our town need them to please contact Rushi. Last week OEM had all the department heads meet with Dr. Campisi, Superintendent of the Berlin Community School to do a safety walkthrough. They completed a full tour of the school and were impressed with the level of preparedness due to COVID-19. Rushi also wanted to thank the DPW supervisor John Allsbrooke and his staff for all the assistance during the tropical storm. OEM has also been working with the Treasurer trying to secure reimbursement under the Cares Act. He noted that tomorrow is September 11th and thanked all the first responders for everything they do and gave assurance that we still do not forget that day.

- COMMUNICATION – Chairman Keith Hohing had nothing major to report. He did mention his plan to attend the monthly, Public Safety meeting which is tomorrow. He noted the Borough is in the process of looking at the final review for the credit card payment services which should be brought up for resolution, hopefully next month.

- FINANCE - Chairman Jake Miller reported on the revenues collected by the Borough for August, totaling \$4,494,141.21. The Finance Committee had an Audit Exit Conference with the Auditor, who had all positive reports with nothing out of the ordinary. Everything is status quo.
- SOLICITOR - Howard Long had no reports.
- MAYOR'S REPORT – the Mayor gave a brief report on some flooding issues, especially on Harker Ave. There are different theories on why it is suddenly there, but maybe there is something we can investigate. Our Clerk and the head of DPW and some others walked the stream that runs through town because there are many complaints from residents about the flooding. He recognizes that it was a massive storm with a large amount of water in a short period, but they were looking at the stream to see if they could get some debris out of there and clean it up. He did speak to the County who mentioned there might be some Storm Water Management funds that they could contribute. He, too, acknowledges tomorrow being September 11th. He is hopeful that the fire department is still going to put the flag up. If you had not had a chance, in the morning, drive by and see the flag. It takes your breath away. It's a nice honor to those who lost their lives on September 11th, and we're lucky in this town that we have a Volunteer Fire Department that is just as good as the paid professionals. He then asked the Clerk to give an update on the elections in November.
- CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR – Dwayne Harris commented on the November elections being done solely through mail-in ballots. He also reported the County would be installing dedicated mailboxes to receive ballots over the next couple of weeks. If anybody does not desire to vote by a mail-in vote, they do have the ability to come into a polling place, but they will vote by Provisional ballot; there will be no machine voting.

Motion to accept reports:

Moved by: Councilman Pearce; **Seconded by** Councilman Badolato

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6;)

Yes: Councilmembers Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

NEW BUSINESS: RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES

The Clerk read the following Resolution titles into the record:

2020-112 - ASSIGNMENT OF ADDITIONAL DUTIES TO DANA MCGARVEY AS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

2020-113 – AUTHORIZING BOROUGH ENGINEER, PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC., TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE LAUREL HILL COURT WATER MAIN UPGRADES PROJECT

2020-114 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH APPROVED NATIONAL COOPERATIVE CONTRACT VENDOR [VCI] PURSUANT TO NJSA 52:34-6.2 and P.L.2011, c139

2020-115 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT WITH APPROVED NATIONAL COOPERATIVE CONTRACT VENDOR [McNeilus] PURSUANT TO NJSA 52:34-6.2 and P.L.2011, c139

2020-116 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF OUTSTANDING CHECKS FROM VARIOUS ACCOUNTS

2020-117 – AWARDING CONTRACT TO COMPLETE CONTROL SERVICES INC. FOR SCADA SYSTEM MAINTENANCE AND SERVICES

2020-118 - AUTHORIZING THE WAIVER OF WATER INTEREST IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5.11 DUE TO PROCESSING ERROR FOR 181 W. WHITE HORSE PIKE

2020-119 - AUTHORIZING THE WAIVER OF WATER INTEREST FOR 1308/9 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10.09 DUE TO COVID 19 RELATED ISSUES.

2020-120 - RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT TO PENNONI ASSOCIATES, INC. TO PERFORM ELEVATED CLEARWELL WATER TANK INSPECTIONS

2020-121 - RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT TO CME ASSOCIATES, INC. TO PERFORM ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO THE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM PEDESTRIAN & BIKING TRAIL

2020-122 - RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, AUTHORIZING REFUND OF ESCROW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21.25

2020-123 - RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING REFUND OF ESCROW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$266.00

2020-124 - 3rd QUARTER 2020 UTILITY BILL ADJUSTMENTS

2020-125 - AUTHORIZING THE TAX REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,500.00 DUE TO MORTGAGE COMPANY OVERPAYMENT.

2020-126 - RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO R. D. ZEULI TO DEMOLISH THE BOROUGH OWNED PROPERTY AT 89. SOUTH WHITE HORSE PIKE AS A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT

2020-127 - RESOLUTION APPROVING CHANGE ORDER #2 AND FINAL FOR THE 2019 BERLIN BOROUGH ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

2020-128- RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO ELITE HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING INC. TO INSTALL A NEW HVAC SYSTEM AT THE BERLIN POST OFFICE AS A NON-FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT

2020-129 - RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING REFUND OF \$199 RENTAL FEE TO LIFELINE SCREENING

2020-130 - 2020 BERLIN BOROUGH ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – {This Resolution was withdrawn from consideration}

2020-131 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BOROUGH ENGINEER, PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC., TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE WATER STUDY

2020-132 - RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A LICENSE, HOLD HARMLESS, AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT BY THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AND CERTAIN PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN

2020-133 - AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH JACKRABBIT MOBILE PAYMENT SOLUTIONS AND CARD CONNECT TO ESTABLISH CREDIT CARD ACCEPTANCE MECHANISMS FOR THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN {This Resolution was withdrawn from consideration}

2020-134 - AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF MISAPPLIED TAX PAYMENT & DELINQUENT INTEREST TOTALING \$2,715.80 FOR BLOCK 1001 LOT 4.12

2020-135 - AUTHORIZING THE PROPERTY CLEANUP OF 4 THOMAS AVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$700.00

2020-136 - AUTHORIZING THE PROPERTY CLEANUP OF 14 TAUNTON AVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$700.00

2020-137 - RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSES FOR THE 2020-2021 TERM

2020-138 – PAYMENT OF BILLS - \$2,305,030.97

2020-139 – RATIFYING CWA UNION CONTRACT

Mayor Miller asked for comments from the public on the above resolutions. No one from the public appeared to speak. He requested that unless a member of the Council would like to consider any of the items separately, they would pass resolutions 112- 136 and 138 under a consent agenda.

Motion to adopt Resolutions 2020-112 - 2020-136 and 2020-138 as a Consent Agenda:

Moved by: Councilman Hohing; **Seconded by** Councilman Cummings

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Councilmembers Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Mayor Miller called for the passage of Resolution 2020-137 - RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSES FOR THE 2020-2021 TERM.

Moved by: Councilman Hohing; **Seconded by** Councilwoman Cummings

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 5; Abstain=1).

Yes: Councilmembers Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Simone, Pearce

No: None

September 10, 2020

Abstain: Councilman Miller

Absent: None

Mayor Miller called for the passage of Resolution 2020-139 – RATIFYING CWA UNION CONTRACT

Moved by: Councilman Hohing; **Seconded by** Councilwoman Cummings

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).

Yes: Councilmembers Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Mayor Miller asked for the Ordinances to be read by title for their introduction.

ORDINANCE 2020-10 – PROHIBITING THE PLANTING OF BAMBOO OR INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES

Introduction:

Moved by: Councilwoman Cummings; **Seconded by** Councilman Simone

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6).

Yes: Councilmembers: Badolato, Cummings Simone, Hohing, Miller, Pearce

No: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Having been properly introduced, this Ordinance will have a second reading, public hearing, and possible adoption on October 8th, 2020.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

No one stepped forward to speak

GOOD OF THE ORDER – No comments.

There being no further business before the body:

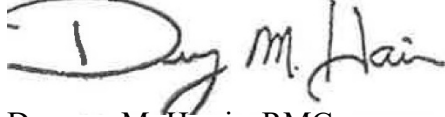
Motion to adjourn [7:40 pm]

Moved by: Council President Simone; **Seconded by** Councilman Hohing

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous consent.

I, Dwayne M. Harris, Administrator/ Clerk of the Borough of Berlin, in the County of Camden, State of New Jersey, hereby certify these Minutes were approved by the Governing Body, at its Regular Meeting, held October 8, 2020.

WITNESS my hand this 9th day of October 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dwayne M. Harris". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D".

Dwayne M. Harris, RMC
Administrator/Clerk