

BOROUGH OF BERLIN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY JULY 11, 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 & Simone

ABSENT: Mayor Biella, Councilman Buchanan

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

Motion to approve adoption of the minutes; Councilman Rocco

Sec.; Councilman Badolato

All Present were in Favor

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2019

Permit fees	\$ 31,332.00
Zoning fees	\$ 1,025.00
Re-sale inspection fees	\$ 1,350.00
Community Center fees	\$ 1,460.00
Tax collector's report	\$ 709,815.40
Utility report	\$ 322,219.00
Clerks report	\$ 26,550.00
Animal report	\$ 483.00
Court Administrator	\$ 18,107.59

Motion to approve department head reports; Councilman Rocco

Sec.; Councilman Badolato

All Present were in favor

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2019 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 2,025,466.83

Motion to approve payment of the bills; Councilman Rocco
Sec.; Councilman Badolato
All present were in favor

COUNCIL REPORTS:

• **BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION, Chairman Len Badolato**

Meeting at the Community Center- Councilman Buchanan, myself and Chris all met at the Community Center to meet with the residents that are having a problem with the placement of their trashcans. Only a few residents showed up.

Camp Long-A-Coming – The total amount collected in 2018 for Camp Long-A-Coming was \$28,723.00 with a profit of \$11,733.00. The total amount collected in 2019 was \$34,980.00 with a profit of \$16,000.00. The \$4267 overage in profit from one year to another is due to the fact that an extra week was added to the camp schedule and the camp was also open to non-Berlin Borough residents

- Councilman Badolato also mentioned to keep your thoughts and prayers with the McGarvey family as they morn the loss of their son Shane.

• **PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS, Chairman Andrew Simone**

Thanks -Thanks were extended to our Superintendent of Public Works, John Allsebrook & our DPW for doing an outstanding job in preparation and break down of the barriers and placement of trash cans for the 5K Run & 4th of July Parade.

Resolution – On tonight’s agenda, Councilman Simone asked for councils support on Resolution R07-02; 2019 in the hiring of a full-time public works laborer. Christopher Smith has been chosen to fill this vacancy. He comes to us with experience and is very qualified for this position. Councilman Simone also asked for councils support on Resolution, R07-03; 2019, the authorization of the purchase of one sewer vac for the DPW.

• **WATER & SEWER, Chairman Ron Rocco**

2018 vs. 2019 Statistics for the water & sewer departments were given along with the reports on monthly maintenance pumps.

SCADA - The SCADA system has inspected 35% of the sewer system. It is working out perfectly with our computerized water system. It has been updated to include cyber security components.

Chestnut Avenue Water Tank Project – The Chestnut Avenue Water Tank needs to be repainted inside and out. This is the big water project that is being targeted for the upcoming 2020 budget.

Sewer Vac Truck – The CFMO has confirmed that we do have the funds available to purchase the sewer jet vac truck.

Thanks – Thanks were extended to the ICCA for all of their hard work in helping to make the 4th of July parade another wonderful yearly event.

• **PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Jim Pearce**

Statistics – The for the month of June the statistics were read for both the Police Department, Fire Department and EMS

Jr. Police Academy – The Junior Police Academy had a wonderful response. This year was their biggest class ever. Officer Vetterly ran the academy and he was also awarded as Officer of the month.

Police Hire – The police department needs to hire a Class II officer.

Audit – An audit of stolen property was performed. Total amount came to \$8104.00

No Need to Speed Campaign – The streets that will be targeted were given.

Parade – Thanks were extended to all who volunteered to help make our annual 4th of July parade a successful community event.

- **COMMUNICATIONS, Chairman Rick Miller**

Website – The new website is expected to launch within the next few weeks

National Night Out – On August 6th from 6-9pm National Night Out will be celebrated throughout the borough with a pie eating contest at each neighborhood block captains locations.

4th of July Parade – Many thanks were given to all of the volunteers and ICCA committee for a great parade.

Abandon Houses – A new bill is being passed to try and help get vacant & abandon houses restored in municipalities.

FINANCE, Chairman Mike Buchanan (was absent) Solicitor Howard Long presented his Report

Bids – The bids for the Water & Sewer Emergency Contract and the 2019 Road Way Project were advertised and accepted. The awarded contractors will be announced at our next Council Meeting

- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REAL ESTATE, Mayor Jim Bilella** – (absent) no report was given

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

- **2nd READING ORDINANCES**

ORDINANCE NO. 2019-09

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN TO ADD CHAPTER 315, ARTICLE XVI, SCHEDULES, §315-37, SCHEDULE VI: STOP INTERSECTIONS

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON ORDINANCE 2019-09 - No one spoke

HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Motion to Adopt: Councilman Rocco

Sec.; Council President Pearce

All present were in favor

READING RESOLUTIONS R07-01; 2019 THROUGH R07-08; 2019

RESOLUTION R07-01; 2019

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDDING 2019 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTPROGRAM

RESOLUTION R07-02; 2019

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AWARDDING THE PARK AVE WATER MAIN PROJECT

RESOLUTION R07-03; 2019

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN TO RELEASE THE MAINTENANCE BOND TO MOUNT CONSTRUCTION FOR THE KATHERINE AVENUE WATERMAN EXTENTION PROJECT

RESOLUTION R07-04; 2019

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN TO RELEASE THE MAINTENANCE BOND FOR THE 2016 ROADWAY PROGRAM

RESOLUTION R07-05; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING THE ESCROW RELEASE FO \$2095.00 TO DFSB PROPERTIES

RESOLUTION R07-06; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE ONE LIQUOR LICENSE & ONE CLUB LICENSE FOR RENEWAL OF THE YEAR 2019-2020

RESOLUTION R07-07; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING UTILITY BILL ADJUSTMENTS IN THE TAX DEPARTMENT ON TWO PROPERTIES

RESOLUTION R07-08; 2019 A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING CHRISTOPHER SMITH TO BE HIRED AS A FULL TIME LABORER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION R07-09; 2019 - Tabled

RESOLUTION R07-10; 2019 - Tabled

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS R07-01;2019 THROUGH R07- 08;2019 - No one spoke

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Motion to approve Resolutions R07-01; 2019 through R07-08; 2019 - Councilman Badolato

Sec.; Councilman Simone

All present were in favor

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS R07-09;2019 THROUGH R07- 10 ;2019 - No one spoke

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Motion to go into executive session: Councilman Badolato

Sec; Councilman Simone

All present were in favor

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to come out of executive session: Councilman Badolato

Sec; Councilman Simone

All present were in favor

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Peggy Donaldson

30 Glacier Drive

Berlin, NJ 08009

Resident of Lone -A-Coming East

Resident noted that she has been coming to every council meeting since February to try and get the parking situation in her development resolved. Some units have more vehicles then can be put in front of their property. These vehicles are being parked very close to the edge of her driveway and it has become a safety hazard. You can't see beyond these larger vehicles while trying to back out of her driveway. She has confronted the owners of these vehicles with no change.

Councilman Simon – There is an HOA in this development and they would rather work this out without the Borough getting involved. They have sent a letter around to all of the residents to try and address the parking issue.

Donaldson - Suggested that the police address the problem areas and if it can't be done to just address it in front of her house.

Councilman Simon – Suggested the idea of putting in two speed bumps. He said he wants to try and find a way to solve this problem with minor changes instead of the more forceful way with issuing a summons.

Alena Cochran
111 Sequoia Drive
Berlin NJ 08009

Resident in Lone-A-Coming

Ms. Cochran discussed the problem with placements of trash cans that are being mandated. She stated she does not live on an end unit and the only way she could put her trash can in her back yard would be if she dragged it through her house. She is in a middle unit. There is also a problem with the current speed limit in her development

Councilman Badolato – Listened to the resident complaint and wants to have an opportunity to discuss this in the next workshop meeting. Councilman Miller also agreed that nothing could be done to resolve this problem until they had more time to review this matter. They will also review 3 way stop signs at Bryce & Sequoia. There was also discussion about if there was an ordinance addressing how long a dog can bark.

Mr. Long – There was an ordinance passed in 1980 which can be revisited to have a stricter standard imposed.

Motion to go into Executive Session: Councilman Badolato

Sec; Councilman Simone

All present were in favor

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to come out of Executive Session: Councilman Badolato

Sec; Councilman Simone

All present were in favor

GOOD OF THE ORDER – No one spoke

Motion to adjourn; Councilman Miller

Sec., Councilman Simone

All present were in favor

Lois J. Sahina
Registered Municipal Clerk
July 11, 2019