

BOROUGH OF BERLIN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY AUGUST 15, 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: Councilman Miller, Badolato and Rocco

PRESENT ALSO: Solicitor John Moustakas, Administrator, Bill Behnke, and Municipal Clerk Lois Sahina

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2019

Monthly Rental	\$ 200.00
Permit fees	\$ 14,410.00
Zoning fees	\$ 850.00
Re-sale inspection fees	\$ 2,200.00
Community Center fees	\$ 625.00
Tax collector's report	\$ 175,804.59
Utility report	\$ 136,910.81
Clerks report	\$ 10,247.00
Animal report	\$ 204.20
Court Administrator	\$ 27,905.48

Motion to approve department head reports; Councilman Buchanan

Sec.; Council President Pearce

All present were in favor

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2019 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,057,458.88

Motion to approve payment of the bills; Councilman Buchanan

Sec.; Council President Pearce

All present were in favor

COUNCIL REPORTS:

- **BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION, Chairman Len Badolato** (absent) no report was given
- **PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS, Chairman Andrew Simone**
DPW– Thanks were extended to the Public Works Department for all of their help and clean up after this past storm
2019 Road Program – Pennoni Associates has named South State Contractors as the lowest most reliable bidder for the 2019 Streets and Roads Program. Resolution R08-02: 2019 is on the agenda tonight, Councilman Simone asked for the governing bodies support in passing this resolution.
- **WATER & SEWER, Chairman Ron Rocco** (absent) Councilman Buchanan gave Councilman Rocco’s Water & Sewer report for the month of July.
New Jersey Quality Accountability Act – The municipality is required to send the state mandated reports regarding the boroughs water quality standards. They were done one month early and submitted to the state.
Emergency Repair Contract – The Emergency Road Contract was awarded to R.D. Zeuli Inc.
Park Avenue Water Main Project – DSC Construction was awarded this contract
SCADA System – The SCADA System is being worked on to update and input cyber security features.
Chestnut Avenue Water Tank – Additional avenues of funding are being looked into to help offset the cost of the next large water project slated for 2020. This project encompasses the painting inside and outside of the tank.
Truck – Funds have been certified and the purchase of the high-pressure sewer vac truck has been made.
Pump Station – The pump station on Cross Keys Road is being evaluated to see if it can be used in the future.
Royal Farms – The new Royal Farms that is being constructed at the corner of Rt. 30 and Cross Keys Road contacted the Borough in regards to pumping a large amount of water into our sewer system. This request has been reviewed by the borough, our borough engineer and the CCMUA and all agreed to issue the permission to pump this water as requested. There is an amount that Royal Farms will be required to pay to use our services.
- **PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Jim Pearce**
OEM Office – Our OEM office, managed by Rushi Pandya, assisted Virtua Hospital during this last heat wave
EMS – Our EMS helped assist with the 4th of July parade along with the summer “Tour to Shore” Bike event. They also helped with the nursing homes in Voorhees. A total of 274 calls were answered.
Berlin Fire Department – A total of 99 Calls were made in the month of July. Duty crews meet every Monday and Friday. They also were of great help during this past year 4th of July parade.

Police of the Month of July – Lieutenant Varrano was named as the police of the month for July.

Police Stats – The stats for the month of July for the police department were given. Among some of the stats listed were 133 investigations, 7 DWI Arrests and 27 accidents.

“No Need to Speed” Campaign – The streets included for the month of July were listed including Jones Lane.

National Night Out – August 6th the borough participated in the “National Night Out” event. Our fire, police and EMS departments, were all a part of helping this event a success.

Rt 30 & Franklin Avenue – This intersection continues to be one of the most dangerous intersection in the state. John McCleary from the NJDOT has assured us that although this project will take some time, it is going to be addressed. One of the changes will be adding a dedicated left-hand lane road turn.

- **COMMUNICATIONS, Chairman Rick Miller** (absent no report was given)

- **FINANCE, Chairman Mike Buchanan**
 - AFSCME** – The union contract is still being discussed with no terms met at this time.
 - Recycling** - The Berlin Sun just published an article about how expensive it has become nationwide to dispose of our trash and recyclables. Residents need to be retrained in what is recyclable and what isn't. Glass, plastic, card board and aluminum all can be recycled. Rule of thumb, when in doubt, throw it out, don't put it in the recycle cart. Last year our tonnage fees were up \$63,000 from last year. We must make our residents compliant to these recycling rules.
 - Auditor** – Our auditor gave the borough an exit interview for our audit year of 2018
 - Executive session** – We will need to go into an executive session portion of our meeting tonight to discuss union contract matters.

- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REAL ESTATE, Mayor Jim Bilella**
 - Petition** – Enclosed in the Councils folders is a copy of a trash can petition signed by the residents in Lone-A-Coming
 - Executive Session** – We will need to go into executive session tonight to discuss legal matters

- **SOLICITOR, John Moustakas** – No report was given

READING RESOLUTIONS R08-01; 2019 THROUGH R08-12; 2019

RESOLUTION R08-01; 2019

A RESOLUTION THAT THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AWARD THE PARK AVENUE WATER MAIN PROJECT TO THE LOWEST MOST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER DSC CONSTRUCTION INC. FROM BAYVILLE, NJ

RESOLUTION R08-02; 2019

A RESOLUTION AWARDDING SOUTH STATE INC. OF BRIDGETON, NJ AS THE LOWEST MOST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER FOR THE 2019 ROAD PROGRAM

RESOLUTION R08-03; 2019

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN TO APPROVE THE AMENDED SHELTER SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH VOORHEES ANIMAL ORPHANAGE FROM 7/25/19 TO MARCH 30, 2020

RESOLUTION R08-04; 2019

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN TO ENTER INTO THE GRANT SUBMISSION FOR THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE WITH GIBBSBORO AND VOORHEES TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION R08-05; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE DUE DATE FOR TAX BILLS TO BE EXTENDED TO AUGUST 27, 2019.

RESOLUTION R08-06; 2019

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES IN AMOUNT OF \$10,768.91 FOR BLOCK 2100 LOT 2.03 DUE TO 100% TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN.

RESOLUTION R08-07; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAXES IN AMOUNT OF \$7,183.73 FOR BLOCK 102 LOT 14 DUE TO 100% TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN.

RESOLUTION R08-08; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE CAMDEN COUNTY MUNICIPAL JONT INSURANCE FUND

RESOLUTION R08-09; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF ESCROW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$558.00 TO RICHARD AND BRENDA MILLER

RESOLUTION R08-10; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF MUNICIPAL COURT PUBLIC DEFENDER KRISTINE M. BRYANT

RESOLUTION R08-11; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING GLEN J. LEARY AS MUNICIPAL COURT PUBLIC DEFENDER

RESOLUTION R08-12; 2019

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, TO AUTHORIZE THE REDUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL PERFORMANCE BOND FOR THE WATER SERVICES FOR SECTION # 6 MONTEBELLO, IN BERLIN TOWNSHIP

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS R08-01;2019 THROUGH R08-12; 2019 – No one spoke

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Motion to approve Resolutions R08-01; 2019 thru R08-12; 2019 – Council President Pearce
Sec.; Councilman Buchanan
All present were in favor

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Peggy Donaldson
30 Glacier Drive
Berlin, NJ 08009

Ms. Donaldson expressed her concerns about the parking situation in her townhouse development, Lone-A-Coming East. She would like a “No Parking around Curve” resolution created. Their HOA does not have anything written in their bylaws restricting parking in this area. They said a parking issue is the boroughs responsibility not theirs. Councilman Simone gave a progress report on the parking proposal.

Cynthia Jennings
26 Glacier Drive
Berlin, NJ 08009

Ms. Jennings was happy with Councilman Simon’s proposal. She wanted to know when these no parking signs will be installed. She stated that she has been to three meetings about this same topic, sent pictures and also talked to the HOA about the people parking right up to her driveway apron. She stated she cannot see anything coming when backing out of her driveway. The HOA said they were going to send a letter out to all residents regarding this issue.

Council President Pearce and governing body members Buchanan, and Simon discussed taking a look at Title 39 to see what the borough could do to fix this problem and also what the HOA could do to help resolve this issue. There is also a problem with where people are putting their trash cans.

Motion to go into executive session: Councilman Buchanan

Sec; Council President Pearce

All present were in favor

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to come out of executive session: Council President Pearce

Sec; Council President Simone

All present were in favor

GOOD OF THE ORDER Councilman Buchanan stated that he thought the trash can ordinance should be amended to state where residents can and can't put their trash and recycling carts.

Motion to adjourn; Council President Pearce

Sec., Councilman Buchanan

All present were in favor

Lois J. Sahina
Registered Municipal Clerk
August 15, 2019