

BOROUGH OF BERLIN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2018
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 Jim Bilella, Council President Rick Miller, Council Members Pearce, Badolato, Rocco, Buchanan, & MacDonnell.

PRESENT ALSO: Solicitor Howard Long, RMC Lois Sahina, Assemblyman Ryan Peters

Mayor Bilella - Assemblyman Ryan Peters is here tonight and he would like to say a few words.

Assemblyman Ryan Peters - Assemblymen Peters is a new State Assemblymen in the 8th District. His objective is to visit all municipalities in Camden County. His grassroots movement is to make the State responsible for refunding \$3.4 million dollars to each Municipality for the public utilities they pay each year. He asked Mayor and Council to support this movement through a resolution. Ultimately, all resolutions will be presented to the State, showing the municipalities support. He explained this is our Constitutional Right.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

09-05-18 Work Shop Meeting Minutes

09-05-18 Work Shop Closed Session Minutes

09-13-18 Council Meeting Minutes

09-13-18 Closed Session Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve adoption of the minutes: Councilman Buchanan

Sec.: Councilman Badolato

All present were in favor

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2018

Permit fees	\$ 9,340.00
Zoning fees	\$ 550.00
Re-sale inspection fees	\$ 1,400.00
Rental Inspections	\$ 9500.00
Community Center fees	\$ 1,149.00
Tax collector's report	\$ 297,566.35
Utility report	\$ 933,680.98
Clerks report	\$ 2,396.00
Animal report	\$ 43.00
Court Administrator	\$ 24,939.37

Motion to approve department head reports; Councilman Buchanan

Sec.; Councilman Badolato

All present were in favor

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2018 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,230,720.92

Motion to approve payment of the bills; Councilman Buchanan

Sec.; Councilman MacDonnell

All present were in favor

COUNCIL REPORTS:

- **BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION, Chairman Len Badolato**
 - **Stone Wall** -The stone wall at the Senior Center was hit by a motorist. The police report was obtained and John Allsebrook is in the process of getting an estimate to have it repaired. Edgewood Associates has also been contacted for insurance purposes.
 - **Simone Family Farms Signage** -We need to decide what kind of signage we would like purchase for the Simone Farms property.
 - **Borough Hall Signage** -The signage for inside of the Borough Hall is now finished. Cindy Williams will be contacting DPW to have all of them installed.
 - **Painting of Hotel** - The painting of the hotel has started but due to the recent damp and rainy weather they haven't been able to paint. Once the weather cooperates they will continue with the paint project.
- **PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS, Chairman Dan MacDonnell**
 - **2018 Road Program** - The 2018 Road Program is almost complete.
2019 Road Program Application - The 2019 Road Program Application has been submitted. We received \$468,00.00 for the 2018 Road Improvement Program. We are hoping to receive the same amount in 2019. The Gas Tax made it possible for the increase in funding this year.
 - **2018 Road Program Change Order** - There is a resolution on tonight's agenda asking for authorization of a change order to the 2018 Road Program of \$29,551.00. This is for curbing and ADA compliance ramps at the street corners.
- **WATER & SEWER, Chairman Ron Rocco**
 - **Reports** -The reports for both Sewer and Water were given. All maintenance on pumps and pump stations were completed. We only had one water complaint due to the flushing of the hydrants that took place in September.
 - **Fall Hydrant Flushing** - All of the flushing of hydrants has been completed.
 - **Sewer Video** -The new sewer video camera was used to find and detect a few small issues. They were fixed and completed.
- **PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Jim Pearce**
 - **Coffee with a Cop** -The Berlin Police Department held its "Coffee with a Cop" event on October 3, 2018. It was held at the Dunkin Donuts at 206 W. White Horse Pike in Berlin. This gave the public an opportunity to meet and talk with our officers.

Fire Prevention Night - Our annual “Fire Prevention and Safety Night” was held on October 3, 2018 at the Community Center. It was very well attended and I would like to thank all of our hard-working Fire Department Members, surrounding towns for participating and the residents that came out to support this function.

No Need to Speed Campaign - This past month our No Need to Speed Campaign focused on East Taunton Avenue

- **K-9 Officer Radko** - K-9 Officer Radko and handler Officer Steve Palma attended The Regional Trials in Glen Mills PA. Radko won 1st place in Obedience, Criminal Apprehension, Overall Novice Dog and 2nd place in Agility. He obtained his regional certification and qualified to attend the National K9 Trials in September.

• **COMMUNICATIONS, Chairman Rick Miller**

- **Camden County Park** – The Camden County Berlin “Park Pathway Clean Up” that was planned for this fall has been postponed until the Spring of 2019.

• **FINANCE, Chairman Mike Buchanan**

- **AFSCME** - I have started to review the AFSCME Contract which will be expiring on December 31, 2018
- **Advertising** – An ad seeking a part time CFMO has been placed in the League of Municipalities Job Opening Section. It will run from 9/27/18 to 10/27/18. The cost of the advertising was \$160.00.
- **Shred Event** - Our 2nd annual Shred Event will be held on Saturday, November 3, 2018 in the municipal parking lot from 9:00 am to 11:30 am.

• **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REAL ESTATE, Mayor Jim Bilella**

- **Fall Fest** - The annual Fall Fest sponsored by the Greater Berlin Business and Professional Association will be held Saturday, October 13, 2018 at the end of Broad Street and Berlin Park baseball fields.
 - **Cross Keys Road** - Our engineer, Hugh Dougherty, Councilman MacDonnell and our DPW Supervisor John Allsebrook attended a meeting with the County, in regards to making the stormwater basin at the front of the Centennial Square Development bigger and deeper. There is a current problem with stormwater drainage. They also want to widen Cross Keys Road. Our attendees didn’t see how this was going to benefit us, when they won’t give us approval to install a traffic light on Cross Keys Road. Councilman MacDonnell is against the widening of Cross Keys Road if they don’t plan on giving us this approval. Councilman Miller agreed to widen the road, but make the County pay for a traffic light.
- **SOLICITOR**, Howard Long
- **Executive Session** – All information I need to discuss must be done in executive session.

READING RESOLUTIONS R10-01; 2018 THROUGH R10-02; 2018

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS R10-01; 2018 THROUGH R10-02; 2018 - No one spoke

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

RESOLUTION R10-01; 2018

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, WITH CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF ASHTON POHLIG AS A CLASS II SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICE OFFICER (SLEO)

RESOLUTION R10-02; 2018

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, WITH CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF NICHOLAS LATIGONA AS A CLASS II SPECIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICE OFFICER (SLEO)

Motion to approve Resolutions R10-01; 2018 through R10-02; 2018 – Councilman Pearce

Sec.: Councilman MacDonnell

All present were in favor

SWEARING IN OF ASHTON POHLIG – Mayor Biella swore in Ashton Pohligh while his Mother and girlfriend held the bible. Chief Miller stood by to pin his uniform.

1ST READING ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-21

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 315 SECTION 32 SCHEDULE I: NO PARKING

Motion to Introduce: Councilman MacDonnell

Sec.: Councilman Badolato

All present were in favor

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-22

ORDINANCE OF BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY VACATING PAPER STREET OF VERMONT AVENUE

Motion to Introduce: Councilman MacDonnell

Sec.: Councilman Buchanan

All present were in favor

READING OF RESOLUTIONS R10-03; 2018 – R10-11; 2018

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - No one spoke

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

RESOLUTION R10-03; 2018

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING UTILITY BILL ADJUSTMENTS.

RESOLUTION R10-04; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF VETERAN TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,015.81

RESOLUTION R10-05; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING AN REFUND ESCROW TO CINGULAR WIRELESS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1032.75

RESOLUTION R10-06; 2018 A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN TO AUTHORIZE THE RELEASE OF ESCROW TO JOSEPH SHEEHAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$340.00

RESOLUTION R10-07; 2018 A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF ESCROW TO SCHAEFFER LAND LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1773.48.

RESOLUTION R10-08; 2018 A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE 2018 ROAD PROGRAM CHANGE ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$29,551.00

RESOLUTION R10-09; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE REMOVAL OF THE CURRENT SOCCER SHED AND APPROVE THE REBUILD OF A NEW SOCCER EQUIPMENT SHED AND NEW PLACEMENT THERE OF

RESOLUTION R10-10; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE HIRE OF DANIEL VIERECK AND ANTHONY AGUDELO AS FALL LEAF COLLECTION HELP FOR THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AT THE RATE OF \$10.00 PER HOUR

RESOLUTION R10-11; 2018

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE PAYOUT OF ACCURED VACATION TIME TO MICHAEL KWASIZUR, FORMER CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Motion to approve Resolutions R10-03; 2018 through R10-11; 2018 – Councilman Pearce

Sec.: Councilman MacDonnell

All present were in favor

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Ashley Casseus

122 Clementon Road

Berlin, NJ

- Ms. Casseus addressed the governing body about the new “no parking sign” that was put up on South Brill Avenue. She also wanted to know why it was put there and if any of the Councilmembers lived near this corner?

- Mayor Bilella stated that school buses were having a hard time making that turn onto South Brill. He also said the no parking will only be for one side of South Brill. Ms. Casseus wanted to know the name of the school whose buses can't go down this street and the name of the bus company. She said she has never seen a bus make that turn onto South Brill Avenue.
- Mayor Bilella said he will contact our engineer and have a "Turn Study" done. He also said that this was only a first reading of this Ordinance. It will be another month before adoption. This gives the public time to comment before adoption. He also said that the sign went up prior to the ordinance and until it could be fully adopted, the sign will be removed.

Bridgett Ross
27 Washington Avenue
Berlin, NJ

- Ms. Ross addressed the governing body and questioned, "Why her sidewalks were marked with a big blue X and who did this"? She said her neighbor's sidewalks are worst then hers and they weren't marked. Also, no other sidewalks were marked on the other side of the street.
- Mayor Bilella stated that Property Maintenance had marked the sections of sidewalks that needed to be replaced. He also explained that the marking was not complete and that he will address this issue.

- **Mr. Long** - asked Mayor and Council to go into executive session. He explained that there are eight to ten items of personnel manners that fall under the attorney client privilege list of exceptions, that need to be discussed.

Motion to go into Executive Session - Councilman MacDonnell

Sec.: Council President Miller
 All present were in favor

- **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion to come out of Executive Session – Councilman MacDonnell

Sec.: Councilman Pearce
 All present were in favor

GOOD OF THE ORDER - No one spoke

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Rocco

Sec., Councilman Buchanan
 All present were in favor

Lois J. Sahina
 Registered Municipal Clerk
 October 11, 2018