

BOROUGH OF BERLIN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 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, Chief Financial Officer Michael T. Kwasizur and Municipal Clerk, Lois Sahina

ABSENT: Councilman MacDonnell, CFO Michael Kwasizur

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

7/24/18 - Work Session Minutes

8/09/18 - Council Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve adoption of the minutes; Council President Miller

Sec.; Councilman Buchanan

All Present were in Favor

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2018

Permit fees	\$ 4,562.00
Zoning fees	\$ 750.00
Re-sale inspection fees	\$ 1,250.00
Rental Inspections	\$ 16,800.00
Community Center fees	\$ 200.00
Tax collector's report	\$ 5,460,720.27
Utility report	\$ 37,453.02
Clerks report	\$ 3,689.15
Animal report	\$ 143.00
Court Administrator	\$ 44,928.49

Motion to approve department head reports; Council President Miller

Sec.; Councilman Buchanan

All Present were in favor

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2018 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,014,703.14

Motion to approve payment of the bills; Councilman Buchanan

Sec.; Councilman Rocco

All present were in favor

COUNCIL REPORTS:

- **BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION, Chairman Len Badolato**
 - The Ballfield Drainage Project at Berlin Community School is complete
 - There is a resolution on tonight's agenda awarding the lowest most reasonable quote for the painting of the Berlin Hotel part of the library
 - The painting of the cupola will be put on the back burner until next year. We will have to get new quotes for this job.
 - I need to go through the borough parking lot with Maser and discuss what we need to do to have it become compliant with ADA laws.
 - We are rebuilding the original windows of the Dill House. These are the ones facing Washington Ave.

- **PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS, Chairman Dan MacDonnell – Absent - Report given by Mayor Jim Bilella**
 - The 2018 Road Improvement Program is complete
 - We have a resolution on tonight's agenda to approve the application and submission of the 2019 Road Improvement Program.
 - We are having a traffic study done of our downtown area to see what can be done to address this issue.

- **WATER & SEWER, Chairman Ron Rocco**
 - Sewer and Water Department Income Reports were given 2017 vs. 2018.
 - All Sewer and Water Department updates for the month of August were read including maintenance reports on all pump stations and wells.
 - There were no water complaints for the month of August
 - The GPS coordinates were taken with our new SCADA System which were collected to digital mapping on all fire hydrants and valves.
 - We are up to date and compliant with the state Water Act requirements
 - The 2019-2021 Contract for Supervisor John Allsebrook was agreed upon by both parties.

- **PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Jim Pearce**
 - All police & fire reports were given for the month of August which included the number of arrests, accidents, DUI's, and number of calls for each department.

- Radko, our K9 officer, was entered into the K9 Trials which were held in Glen Mills, PA. Radko obtained his Regional Certification and won 1st place in Novice Overall Dog, Obedience, and Criminal Apprehension categories. He also was awarded 2nd place in Agility category. These outstanding rankings qualified him to attend the National K9 Trials in Alabama in late September.
- **COMMUNICATIONS, Chairman Rick Miller**
 - I am looking into an app that can be downloaded for free to remind residents of Borough schedules. For example: What days trash pickup and leaf pickups are scheduled.
 - I am also looking into two different companies to redesign our website to present it in a more user-friendly format.
- **FINANCE, Chairman Mike Buchanan**
 - Bond Issuance benefits were discussed
 - 8/29/18 we received a complete certificate of capital projects which would include paving roads, water & sewer up grades.
 - The Borough has an AA rating in regards to its permanent debt. We were able to lower our interest rate from 4% to 3.23% on the rate financed saving the Borough \$775,000 in interest. Our bond issuance is a great success.
- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REAL ESTATE, Mayor Jim Bilella**
 - Last month we replaced the Economic Development Committee with the newly formed Business Advisory Committee. This new committee will give the local borough businesses the ability to present their ideas on how to make our borough more business friendly. I would add a resolution to tonight's agenda approving Michael McGowan as a Class B regular citizen on the committee
 - On 9/27/18 I will be meeting with Owens Corning to discuss their environmental plans to clean up over 40 acres. This area also has 100 acres of undeveloped property which could be used in the future to develop.
 - Fire Marshal, Bill Behnke will be informing us of his recommendation of a new fire inspector.
 - We will also be adding a resolution to tonight's agenda to approve the Annual State funded Drug and Alcoholism Tri- Municipality Grant with Voorhees Township and Gibbsboro.
- **SOLICITOR, Howard Long - No report given**
- **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, Michael T. Kwasizur - Absent - No report given**

RESOLUTION R09-02; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT PROMOTING OFFICER ALFRED HESS FROM SLEO II TO PATROLMAN

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTION R09-02; 2018

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION R09-02; 2018 - Councilman Pearce

Sec.; Council President Miller

All present were in favor

SWEARING IN OF SLEO II OFFICER ALFRED HESS AND SLEO II OFFICER ROBERT DUGAN

Officer Alfred Hess is sworn in as full time Patrolman by Mayor Bilella. Officer Hess's father held the Bible.

Officer Robert Dugan is sworn in as full time Patrolman by Mayor Bilella. Officer Dugan's mother held the Bible while his father stood by his side.

READING RESOLUTIONS R09-03; 2018 THROUGH R09-17; 2018

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS R09-03; 2018 THROUGH R09-17; 2018

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

RESOLUTION R09-03; 2018

A RESOLUTION IMPLEMENTING AND RATIFYING THE HEARING OFFICER'S DECISION IN THE DISCIPLINARY MATTER OF POLICE OFFICER JASON MILLER

RESOLUTION R09-04; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF CFO, MICHAEL T. KWASIZUR

RESOLUTION R09-05; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT FOR DANA MCGARVEY TO BE THE SENIOR COORDINATOR AT AN ANNUAL SALARY OF \$1,020.00

RESOLUTION R09-06; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT WITH DPW SUPERINTENDENT JOHN ALLSEBROOK EFFECTIVE DURING THE PERIOD STARTING JANUARY 1, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021.

RESOLUTION R09-07; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING AN ESCROW REFUND TO WYNDAM RD. LLC FOR WYNDAM RD. SITE PLAN REVIEW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$608.85

RESOLUTION R09-08; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING AN ESCROW REFUND TO WYNDAM RD. LLC FOR WYNDAM RD MINOR SUBDIVISION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,849.25

RESOLUTION R09-09; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING AN ESCROW REFUND TO BRUCE MEISENZAHN OF ANDES HALL SUBDIVISION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,995.29

RESOLUTION R09-10; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING A TAX REFUND FOR BLOCKS AND LOTS LISTED BELOW DUE TO MORTGAGE COMPANY OVERPAYMENT

RESOLUTION R09-11; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING A TAX PAYMENT PLAN FOR BLOCK 611, LOT 12 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,656.83

RESOLUTION R09-12; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING A BUDGET INSERTION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$126,839.00

RESOLUTION R09-13; 2018

A RESOLUTION AWARDED ELITE PAINTING SERVICES, LLC OF CHERRY HILL, NJ THE MARIE FLECHE MEMORIAL LIBRARY PAINTING PROJECT WHO WAS THE LOWEST NEGOTIATED RESPONSIBLE BIDDER AFTER TWO PRIOR FAILED BIDS

RESOLUTION R09-14; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR THE 2019 NJDOT ROAD GRANT

RESOLUTION R09-15; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING THE REDUCTION OF A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE BOND FOR WATER SERVICE FOR SECTION 5 MONTEBELLO TO 30% OF ITS ORIGINAL AMOUNT, REDUCING THE BOND FROM THE ORIGINAL \$160,000.00 TO \$48,060.00

RESOLUTION R09-16; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN APPOINTING MICHAEL MCGOWEN TO THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION R09-17; 2018

A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING GRANT SUBMISSION FOR THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

Motion to approve Resolutions R09-03; 2018 through R09-17; 2018 - Councilman Rocco
Sec.; Councilman Pearce

All present were in favor

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Nicole Albanese
31 Taunton Avenue
Berlin, NJ 08009

Ms. Albanese made Mayor and Council aware of the high volume of traffic that travels on Taunton Ave. She said there is a bus stop on the opposite side of the street where the children have to cross over Taunton to get to the other side. She inquired if the bus route could be changed so the children do not have to cross over Taunton Ave. She was told that the school would have to be contacted about this issue, because the bus route is set up by the school board. She said she is very concerned because this is very dangerous situation and is an accident just waiting to happen. She recommended a four way stop sign be placed on one of the inter-sections on Taunton Ave. She also suggested that the “No Need to Speed Campaign” focus on Taunton. She also suggested the installation of speed bumps be placed along Taunton Ave.

Councilman Pearce suggested that our flashing sign be placed on Taunton Ave and that Taunton Ave be put on the list of streets to monitor and focus the “No Need to Speed Campaign” on Taunton Ave and the surrounding area streets. He also said he would speak to Councilman MacDonnell about having a traffic study done in this area to measure the volume of vehicles that use this road.

Motion to go into Executive session; Councilman Pearce

Sec; Councilman Buchanan
All present were in favor

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to come out of Executive Session; Councilman Badolato

Sec; Councilman Rocco
All present were in favor

GOOD OF THE ORDER – No one spoke

Motion to adjourn; Councilman Buchanan

Sec., Councilman Pearce
All present were in favor

Lois J. Sahina
Registered Municipal Clerk
September 13, 2018