A close up of a sign

Description automatically generated**BOROUGH OF BERLIN**

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

59 SOUTH WHITE HORSE PIKE

BERLIN, NJ 08009

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022 – 6:30 PM

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT:**

Notice of this meeting has been provided to the Courier Post and the Philadelphia Inquirer is posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board stating the time and the place of the meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Councilman Len Badolato, Councilman Keith Hohing, Councilman Jake Miller,

Councilman Andrew Simone - Present

Council President Jim Pearce - Present

Councilwoman Patricia Cummings - Absent

Mayor Rick Miller - Absent

Also present: Solicitor, Howard Long

Co-Administrator, Bill Behnke

Deputy Municipal Clerk, Rachel von der Tann, CMR

Voorhees Municipal Clerk, Dee Ober, RMC

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

September 8, 2022

September 21, 2022

September 29, 2022

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES: COUNCILMAN MILLER

SECONDED: COUNCILMAN HOHING

AYES: ALL PRESENT

NAYS: NONE

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION CHAIRMAN LEN BADOLATO

PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS, & ROADS CHAIRMAN ANDREW SIMONE

WATER & SEWER CHAIRWOMAN PATRICIA CUMMINGS

PUBLIC SAFETY CHAIRMAN JIM PEARCE

COMMUNICATION CHAIRMAN KEITH HOHING

FINANCE CHAIRMAN JAKE MILLER

SOLICITOR SOLICITOR HOWARD LONG

MAYOR’S REPORT MAYOR RICK MILLER

Councilman Badolato stated that work will begin on Thursday, October 27th ???

He added that

MOTION TO APPROVE REPORTS: COUNCILMAN SIMONE

SECONDED: COUNCILMAN HOHING

AYES: ALL PRESENT

NAYS: NONE

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

2nd READING ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-10, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING CODE TO CHANGE VERBIAGE FROM MINIMUM TO MAXIMUM ON FLOOR AREA RATIO REQUIREMENTS IN THE C2, PC2, C3 AND PC3 DISTRICTS.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEARCE OPENED THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION TO CLOSE

PUBLIC PORTION: COUNCILMAN BADOLATO AYES: ALL PRESENT

SECONDED: COUNCILMAN MILLER NAYS: NONE

ROLL CALL: COUNCILMAN BADOLATO - YES COUNCILWOMAN CUMMINGS - ABSENT

COUNCILMAN HOHING - YES COUNCILMAN MILLER - YES

COUNCILMAN SIMONE - YES COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEARCE - YES

2ND READING ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-11, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE 2019-01 SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 62 OF THE OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED “SALARIES”

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEARCE OPENED THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION TO CLOSE

PUBLIC PORTION: COUNCILMAN HOHING AYES: ALL PRESENT

SECONDED: COUNCILMAN BADOLATO NAYS: NONE

ROLL CALL: COUNCILMAN BADOLATO - YES COUNCILWOMAN CUMMINGS - ABSENT

COUNCILMAN HOHING - YES COUNCILMAN MILLER - YES

COUNCILMAN SIMONE - YES COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEARCE - YES

2ND READING ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-12, AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AMENDING CHAPTER 28-7, ENTINTLED DESIGNATION OF HISTORIC LANDMARKS

COUNCILMAN BADOLATO SUGGESTED THAT THIS ORDINANCE BE CARRIED TO THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 10TH. COUNCIL WOLD LIKE TO MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATON REGARDING THIS ORDINANCE.

RESOLUTIONS 2022-156 THROUGH 2022-168

**PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION TO CLOSE

PUBLIC PORTION: COUNCILMAN SIMONE AYES: ALL PRESENT

SECONDED: COUNCILMAN HOHING NAYS: NONE

MOTION TO APPROVE

CONSENT AGENDA: COUNCILMAN HOHING AYES: ALL PRESENT

SECONDED: COUNCILMAN MILLER NAYS: NONE

ROLL CALL: COUNCILMAN BADOLATO - YES COUNCILWOMAN CUMMINGS - ABSENT

COUNCILMAN HOHING - YES COUNCILMAN MILLER - YES

COUNCILMAN SIMONE - YES COUNCIL PRESIDENT PEARCE - YES

RES. 2022-156 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, MEMORIALIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

RES. 2022-157 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, MEMORIALIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

RES. 2022-158 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX CANCELLATION OF FUTURE TAXES AND THE TAX REFUND OF $605.94 FOR BLOCK 609, LOT 8, DUE TO 100% TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

RES. 2022-159 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX CANCELLATION OF $2,228.36 FOR THIRD QUARTER TAXES AND ALL FUTURE TAXES FOR BLOCK 2400, LOT 27.10, DUE TO 100% TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

RES. 2022-160 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE TAX CANCELLATION OF $2,343.38 FOR THIRD QUARTER TAXES AND ALL FUTURE TAXES FOR BLOCK 2400, LOT 27.10, DUE TO 100% TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN

RES. 2022-161 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING A REFUND TO TRINITY SOLAR

RES. 2022-162 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING A CHANGE ORDER TO THINK PAVERS HARDSCAPING, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF $16,269.00

RES. 2022-163 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF TINA HOFFMAN FROM THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

RES. 2022- 164 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, DESIGNATING THE HOURS OF TRICK OR TREATING AND SETTING A CURFEW FOR THE NIGHT BEFORE HALLOWEEN

RES. 2022-165 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR OCTOBER

RES. 2022-166 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING WILLIAM BEHNKE AS CO-BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR

RES. 2022-167 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPOINTING CHARLEEN SANTORA AS CO-BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR

RES. 2022-168 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE ANMAC POST 6253 LIQUOR LICENSE FOR 2022-2023

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

MOTION TO OPEN

PUBLIC PORTION: COUNCILMAN MILLER AYES: ALL PRESENT

SECONDED: COUNCILMAN HOHING NAYS: NONE

CHRISTINA HOFFMAN

55 SUMMIT AVENUE

MRS. HOFFMAN ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON THE MOTION TO CARRY THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION ORDINANCE.

SOLICITOR LONG STATED THAT COUNCIL RESPECTS THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING BOARD, HOWEVER, WOULD REQIRE MORE INPUT FROM THE COMMISSION BEFORE A DECISION CAN BE MADE. COUNCILMAN BADOLATO SUGGESTED A MEETING BE SCHEDULED BY ALL PARTIES TO DISCUSS FURTHER.

COUNCILMAN SIMONE STATED THAT THE BOROUGH IS GROWING AND TO ADD RESTRICTIONS TO THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING MAY PREVENT FUTURE EXPANSION.

JOE HOFFMAN

55 SUMMIT AVENUE

MR. HOFFMAN SUGGESTED THAT CHAPTER 28 BE REVIEWED AS IT DOES NOT STATE THAT THE PLANNING BOARD SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN THE DECISIONS REGARDING HISTORICAL PROPERTIES.

LISA BECHER

11 ROOSEVELT BOULEVARD

MS. ADDRESSED COUNCIL WITH CONCERNS REGARDING HER HOMEOWNERS’ ASSOCIATION AND THE BOROUGH CODE ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT. HER CONCERN REGARDING THE HOMEOWNERS’ ASSOCIATION ARE REGARDING DUES THAT SHE PAYS, HOWEVER, DOES NOT RECEIVE NOTICE OF MEETINGS OR ELECTIONS. HER CONCERNS REGARDING CODE ENFORCEMENT ARE RELATED TO RECEIVING VISITS IN CONNECTION WITH A VIOLATION CALLED IN BY THE HOMEOWNERS’ ASSOCIATION.

COUNCILMAN SIMONE STATED THAT THE BOROUGH HAS NO JURISDICTION OVER HOMEOWNERS’ ASSOCIATIONS. HE ADDED THAT HE WILL LOOK INTO WHETHER OR NOT A COPY OF THE BY-LAWS ARE ON FILE IN THE BOROUGH FOR REVIEW.

BRENDA ROWAN

39 JOANS LANE

MS. ROWAN SPOKE REGARDING THE SEPTEMBER 29TH MEETING AT THE LACK OF COMMUNICATION BY THE BOROUGH TO ANNOUNCE THE MEETING.

IT WAS STATED THAT THE MEETING WAS ADVERTISED IN BOTH THE COURIER POST AND INQUIRER NEWSPAPERS AND WAS POSTED ON THE TOWNSHIP BULLETIN BOARD. SHE ASKED HOW LONG ACTING CHIEF SCHEER WOULD BE IN THE POSITION. SOLICITOR LONG STATED THAT WE CAN NOT ANSWER THAT AT THIS TIME.

MS. ROWAN ASKED IF THE BOROUGH WAS PLANNING TO MERGE WITH ANOTHER NEIGHBORING TOWN. COUNCILMAN PRESIDENT PEARCE STATED THAT THERE ARE NO PLANS OR CONVERSATIONS TO MERGE WITH ANOTHER MUNICIPALITY. HE ADDED THAT SOME SHARED SERVICES ARE NECESSARY AND ARE DONE TEMPORARILY.

JOHN

EGG HARBOR ROAD, VOORHEES

MR. ASKED COUNCIL IF THERE HAVE BEEN ANY OTHER DISCUSSIONS REGARDING OPTING INTO ALLOWING CANNABIS SALES.

COUNCILMAN SIMONE STATED THAT COUNCILWOMAN CUMMINGS HAS BEEN HAVING DISCUSSIONS AND THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE TALKS CONTINUE.

MOTION TO CLOSE

PUBLIC PORTION: COUNCILMAN HOHING AYES: ALL PRESENT

SECONDED: COUNCILMAN SIMONE NAYS: NONE

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

MOTION TO ADJOURN: COUNCILMAN HOHING AYES: ALL PRESENT

SECONDED: COUNCILMAN MILLER NAYS: NONE