



BOROUGH OF BERLIN
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
59 SOUTH WHITE HORSE PIKE
BERLIN, NJ 08009

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021 – 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Rick Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SUNSHINE NOTICE

Mayor Miller stated that adequate notice of this meeting had 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 said meeting's date, place, and time.

ROLL CALL

Councilman Len Badolato – PRESENT
Councilwoman Patricia Cummings – PRESENT
Councilman Keith Hohing – PRESENT
Councilman Jake Miller – PRESENT
Councilman Andrew Simone – PRESENT
Council President Jim Pearce – PRESENT
Mayor Rick Miller – PRESENT

Also, Present: Howard Long, Solicitor
Michaela Bosler, Deputy Clerk
Debra DiMattia, CFO

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

May 13, 2021	Workshop Meeting
May 13, 2021	Regular Meeting
May 13, 2021	Executive Session
May 20, 2021	Special Meeting
May 20, 2021	Executive Session

Badolato abstained from the Workshop Meeting, Regular Meeting, and Executive Session of May 13, 2021.

Hohing motioned to approve the minutes. Simone seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

COUNCIL REPORTS

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- BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION – Councilman Len Badolato reported that the DVRC had the Strawberry Festival. Thanked DPW for helping set up for the event. Light fixture out on the front lawn has been replaced. DPW will be painting the light posts on the Borough Hall complex. Reported that he is working with Atlantic City Electric to get the light posts fixed. Reported that traffic calming plan along the White Horse Pike with NJDOT has been submitted and a meeting has been set up.
- WATER & SEWER - Councilwoman Patricia Cummings reported that phase 1 of meter replacement project is continuing with approximately 1200 meters replaced. For water department, 87 utility mark out request completed and routine monthly maintenance at water plant were completed. Water plant #2 is back online. Hydrant flushing is complete. For sewer department, completed all routine monthly maintenance at 10 pumping stations and the emergency backup generators at the pumping stations. Sewer pump SCADIS system is ongoing. Lake Worth Pump Station had a failed pump, and new pump has been installed. New fence at Lake Worth Pump Station has been installed.
- PUBLIC SAFETY – Council President Pearce reported that the Fire Department received 62 calls for service and continued to receive training on Tuesday nights. Berlin Ambulance responded to 239 calls; 87 were within Berlin Borough. OEM is continuing to receive PPE through the Camden County OEM. For Police Department, the department responded to 1,681 calls. The Data-Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety (D.D.A.C.T.S.) focused on Route 30 and Franklin, Rt. 30 and Cross Keys, Rt. 30 and Jackson, Jackson and Taunton, and Thackara and Taunton. No need to speed campaign focused on Stockton Ave and Washington Ave.
- COMMUNICATION – Councilman Keith Hohing reported that he attended various committee meetings. Attended budget meetings and upkept social media and website maintenance.
- FINANCE – Chairman Jake Miller reported the revenues collected during the month.
- MAYOR – Mayor Rick Miller commented that the Memorial Day ceremony had a great turn out and it was nice to honor the fallen heroes. Commented that Eastern High Schools graduation is on June 17th and Berlin Community Schools graduation is on June 21st. Joans Lane Park improvements are underway. Thanked the Deputy Clerk for stepping in. Thanked the DPW Committee and Solicitor for their work on the DPW contract.
- PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS - Councilman Andrew Simone reported that construction has commenced on the White Horse Pike for the NJDOT to upgrades to the ADA compliant curbs and pedestrian ramps. 2020 NJDOT Berlin Roadway program will begin on June 28th. Resurfacing will be E. Broad Ave., Jefferson Ave., Rondon Ave., Pineview Ave., Briar Hill Rd., and Westville Ln.

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Pearce motioned to approve the monthly reports. Miller seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ORD. 2021-07 BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$1,023,000 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENT AND THE COMPLETION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE WATER UTILITY SYSTEM IN AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$1,023,000

Hohing motioned to open the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-07. Cummings seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

There were no comments from the public.

Pearce motioned to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-07. Simone seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

Simone motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021-07. Hohing seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- ORD. 2021-08 BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$1,606,000 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND THE COMPLETION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO \$1,525,700

Pearce motioned to open the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-08. Cummings seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

There were no comments from the public.

Pearce motioned to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-08. Cummings seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

Hohing motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021-08. Badolato seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

- ORD. 2021-09 ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, CHAPTER 335 AND CHAPTER 345 TO PROHIBIT THE OPERATION OF ANY CLASS OF CANNABIS BUSINESSES WITHIN ITS GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES

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Miller motioned to open the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-09. Pearce seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

- Charlene Galiano – 265 S. White Horse Pike – requested that Council reconsider this ordinance and expressed concerns with opting out.

Hohing motioned to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-09. Pearce seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

Badolato motioned to adopt Ordinance 2021-09. Cummings seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- ORD. 2021-10 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN PART II, GENERAL REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 309-1, ENTITLED TRAILERS AND CAMP CARDS, DEFINITIONS, IN THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

The Clerk stated this is the first reading and introduction; the public hearing for Ordinance 2021-10 will be on July 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

Hohing motioned to introduce Ordinance 2021-10. Simone seconded the motion with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

The Deputy Clerk stated the following resolutions are to be approved as a consent agenda. Council can at this time request to remove any of the resolutions from the consent agenda and they can be voted on separately. No resolutions were removed from the consent agenda.

- RES. 2021:066 AUTHORIZING THE TAX CANCELLATION OF FUTURE TAXES AND THE TAX REFUND OF \$1,811.43 FOR BLOCK 1900 LOT 38 DUE TO 100% TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN
- RES. 2021:067 AUTHORIZING THE TAX CANCELLATION OF FUTURE TAXES AND THE TAX REFUND OF \$508.80 FOR BLOCK 1003 LOT 15 DUE TO 100% TOTALLY DISABLED VETERAN
- RES. 2021:068 AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE ABC LICENSE FOR PARIS CATERERS LLC
- RES. 2021:069 AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE ABC LICENSE FOR LUCCH LLC
- RES. 2021:070 AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE ABC LICENSE FOR RENAISSANCE BEVERAGES II LLC
- RES. 2021:071 APPROVE NON-CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYEES TO RECEIVE A 2% COST OF

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LIVING INCREASE TO BASE SALARIES EFFECTIVE (OR RETROACTIVE TO)
1/1/2021

- RES. 2021:072 APPOINTING MICHAELA BOSLER AS THE REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS
- RES. 2021:073 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ACTING BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 40A:9-136 AND BERLIN BORUGH ADMINISTRATIVE CODE SECTION 46-12 ET SEQ.
- RES. 2021:074 AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE ABC LICENSE FOR TREAHH INC
- RES. 2021:075 AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE ABC LICENSE FOR WOODBRIAR CORP
- RES. 2021:076 AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE ABC LICENSE FOR EVINOS CORPORATION INC
- RES. 2021:077 AUTHORIZE RENEWAL OF THE ABC LICENSE FOR ANMAC VFW POST 6253 INC
- RES. 2021:078 A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF KEITH RAVELING AS A PART-TIME BUILDING INSPECTOR AND PLUMBING INSPECTOR
- RES. 2021:079 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND ACCEPTANCE OF A MUTUAL GENERAL RELEASE AND SEPARATION AGREEMENT AND ACCEPTING A RESIGNATION
- RES. 2021:080 PAYMENT OF BILLS - \$1,723,139.81
- RES. 2021:081 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL AND RATIFICATION OF A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AND THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA
- RES. 2021:082 APPROVING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT APPLICATIONS
- RES. 2021:083 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN PLANNING BOARD TO UNDERTAKE A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PROPOSED STUDY AREA WHICH INCLUDES BLOCK 1502, LOTS 1, 2 AND 3 ARE TO BE DELINEATED AS AN AREA IN NEED OF NON-CONDEMNATION REDEVELOPMENT PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW (N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 ET SEQ.)

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- RES. 2021:084 APPROVING REQUEST FROM THE BERLIN BOROUGH FIRE COMPANY #1, STATION 211 TO CONDUCT A COIN DROP ON RT 30 AND WASHINGTON AVENUE ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

Badolato motioned to open the meeting for public comment on the resolutions. Cummings seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote. There were no comments from the public.

Miller motioned to close the meeting for public comment on the resolutions. Simone seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

Councilman Miller abstained from voting on Resolution 2021:076.

Pearce motioned to approve the consent agenda. Badolato seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Roll Call Vote.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Badolato motioned to open the meeting to the public for privilege of the floor. Pearce seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

- Jennifer Adair-Lafontaine – 711 Columbia Ave. – invited Mayor and Council to attend a Freedom Walk occurring at the same time and place that the Fourth of July parade is traditionally held. Asked Council to consider authorizing expenditures for an activity to celebrate the holiday.
- Sam Qualman – 24 Montclair Ave. – on behalf of the residents of New Freedom Village expressed concerns about a group of young teenagers trespassing into their club house and harassing the residents on bicycles, as well as dirt bikes and ATVs riding on the streets.
- Charlene Galiano – 265 S. White Horse Pike – questioned the use of Simone Farm and if she is permitted to host an art exhibit on the land.
- Joe Theurer – 21 Coleman Rd. – expressed concerns about the speeding vehicles along Coleman Road.
- Brenda Rowand – 39 Joans Lane – expressed concerns about speeding vehicles along Joans Lane. Suggested the Borough offer residents to purchase signs that state “we support our police” for fundraising for the K-9 Unit.

Pearce motioned to close the meeting to the public for privilege of the floor. Hohing seconded the motion, which passed with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Council President Pearce stated that there is one item for Executive session he would like to discuss tonight relating to contracts.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

- RES. 2021:085 EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item: Collective bargaining agreements – Contracts and salaries

Badolato motioned to close the meeting to the public at 7:54 PM. Cummings seconded the motion with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

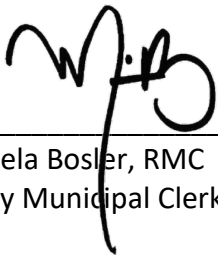
Badolato motioned to open the meeting to the public at 8:03 PM. Cummings seconded the motion with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

No action was taken in executive session. All members that were present before the executive session were present upon return to open session.

ADJOURN

Pearce motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM. Cummings seconded the motion with all members present voting in favor in a Voice Vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:



Michaela Bosler, RMC
Deputy Municipal Clerk