**RE**

**BOROUGH OF BERLIN**

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

59 SOUTH WHITE HORSE PIKE

BERLIN, NJ 08009

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2023

REGULAR MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 6:00 PM WORK MEETING

**MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY Mayor Miller**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS LED BY Mayor Miller**

**STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT:**

Solicitor Long stated that notice of this meeting has been provided to the Courier Post and the Philadelphia Inquirer and is posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board stating the time, date, and the place of the meeting.

**ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Badolato - Absent

Councilwoman Cummings – Absent

Councilman Hohing- Present

Councilman Mascarenhas-Present

Councilman Wilkinson -Present

Council President Miller -Present

Mayor Miller -Present

Also present: Solicitor, Howard Long

 Co-Administrator, Charleen Santora

 Co-Administrator, Bill Behnke

 Deputy Municipal Clerk, Rachel von der Tann, CMR

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular meeting of May 11, 2023

Motion to approve: Councilman Mascarenhas Seconded: Councilman Hohing AIF: All

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

* BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION Councilman Badolato- Absent.
* PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS - Councilman Wilkinson

Councilman Wilkinson discusses the senior programs. He suggests meeting Wednesdays to improve the Boroughs Senior services. He wants to meet with seniors and talk with other towns. Councilman Wilkinson suggests forming a committee.

* WATER & SEWER - Councilwoman Cummings - See attached report.
* PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Hohing - See attached report.
* COMMUNICATION – Councilman Mascarenhas

Councilman Mascarenhas – Discussed the contract for Hit Us Up designs. States that we will be getting the Borough’s website revamped and should be ready in about 3 or 4 weeks.

Councilman Mascarenhas spoke about the condition of the playgrounds in town and suggested that we look into getting a $25,000 grant to fix up old parks. He also mentioned that lighting in the Borough has also been an issue.

Mayor Miller suggested that we treat these issues similarly to how we manage our yearly road programs.

* FINANCE – Council President Miller- See attached report on finance.

Council President Miller inquired about the traffic patterns and speed limits on the White Horse Pike and Franklin Avenue. Mayor Miller stated that the NJ DOT are responsible for traffic patterns and would need to be part of any discussion to modify patterns or speed limits. He added that traffic studies would need to be conducted before any changes could be approved.

* SOLICITOR Mr. Long briefly discussed group homes. How they are purchased and why they are purchased and their negative / positive effects they have on communities.
* MAYOR Miller

Mayor Miller suggested a town hall style meeting be held to discuss the Simone Farm Preserve. He suggested conducting the meeting at the elementary school and giving residents substantial notice. July 11th was suggested as the meeting date, with a start time of 6:00pm.

Mayor Miller stated that he has spoken to Dr. Campisi regarding the parking situation on Presidential Drive and that they will continue to work together on this issue and will keep residents informed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RES. R6-109:2023**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE HIRING OF CONNOR MANSFIELD AS A POLICE OFFICER IN THE BERLIN BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Motion to approve: Councilman Hohing Seconded: Councilman Wilkinson AIF: All

Officer Mansfield was sworn in by Mayor Mill and his mother held the bible as he took his oath.

**RES. R6-110:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL TO RETIRE THE FIRST OFFICIAL POLICE K-9, “RADKO” FROM HIS SERVICES FROM APRIL 2017 TO JUNE 2023 TO THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN.

Officer Palma escorted Radko in front of his fellow officers as he was saluted on his retirement.

Motion to approve: Councilman Mascarenhas Seconded: Councilman Wilkinson AIF: All

**OLD BUSINESS**

**SECOND READING ORDINANCE 2023-06**

AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL AMENDING THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REPEAL CHAPTER 167 FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION; TO ADOPT A NEW CHAPTER 167 FLOOD MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS; TO ADOPT FLOOD HAZARD MAPS; TO DESIGNATE A FLOOD PLAIN ADMINISTRATOR; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Motion to open public comment on Ordinance No 2023-06 Councilman Wilkinson, Second, Councilman Mascarenhas AIF: All

Motion to close public comment on Ordinance No 2023-06 Councilman Wilkinson, Second, Councilman Hohing AIF: All

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-06 Council President Miller Second, Councilman Mascarenhas RCV AIF: All.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCE 2023-07**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SALARY ORDINANCE 2022-11 SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 62 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED “SALARIES”

Motion to open public comment on Ordinance No 2023-07 Council President Miller, Second, Councilman Mascarenhas AIF: All

Motion to close public comment on Ordinance No 2023-07 Councilman Hohing, Second, Councilman Wilkinson, AIF: All

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-07 Councilman President Miller Second, Councilman Hohing, RCV: All

**SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE 2023-08**

BOND ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE COMPLETION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION OF VARIOUS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT IN AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF $3,315,000 THEREFOR; 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 $3,149,250; MAKING CERTAIN DETERMINATIONS AND COVENANTS; AND AUTHORIZING CERTAIN RELATED ACTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING

Motion to open public comment on Ordinance No 2023-08 Councilman Mascarenhas, Second, Councilman Hohing AIF: ALL

Motion to close public comment on Ordinance No 2023-08 Council President Miller, Second, Councilman Mascarenhas, AIF: All

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2023-08 Councilman Hohing Second, Councilman Mascarenhas, RCV: All in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R6-111:2023 to R6-131:2023

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Mascarenhas, Seconded: Councilman Hohing, AIF: All

Motion to close public portion Council President Miller, Seconded: Councilman Hohing, AIF: All

**RES. R6-111:2023**

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION R3-61:2023 THAT AWARDED A OF BID FOR THE SEWER LINING PROJECT TO MOBILE DREDGING & VIDEO PIPE, INC. TO REFLECT THE AMENDED BID AMOUNT TO REFLECT $328,485.00.

**RES. R6-112:2023**

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION R5-98:2023 AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR THE SEWER LINING PROJECT

**RES. R6-113:2023**

A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION R3-62:2023 THAT AWARDED THE BID FOR THE 2022 WATER MAIN UPGRADES PROJECT TO MSP CONSTRUCTION CORP. IN TO REFLECT THE AMENDED BID AMOUNT FOR $321,116.09.

**RES. R6-114:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #2 FOR THE HADDON AVENUE WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT FOR A NET REDUCTION OF $975.00

**RES. R6-115:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR THE WATER METER REPLACEMENT PROJECT, PHASES 2 & 3 FOR A NET REDUCTION OF $1,178.00

**RES. R6-116:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE 2023 WATERMAIN UPGRADES PROJECT FROM PENNONI ASSOCIATES IN THE AMOUNT OF $61,000.00

**RES. R6-117:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FROM PENNONI ASSOCIATES FOR BERLIN BOROUGH GIS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF $25,000.00

**RES. R6-118:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FROM PENNONI ASSOCIATES FOR THE 2023 BERLIN BOROUGH ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF $67,500.00

**RES. R6-119:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FROM PENNONI ASSOCIATES FOR BERLIN BOROUGH NJDOT FY2024 MUNICIPAL AID GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT $2,600.00

**RES. R6-120:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FROM PENNONI ASSOCIATES FOR A TRAFFIC ENGINEERING SERVICES EVALUATION OF SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION AND FOUR-WAY STOP ON JACKSON ROAD (CR 534) IN THE AMOUNT OF $12,875.00

**RES. R6-121:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN BERLIN BOROUGH AND TRIAD ADVISORY SERVICES, INC. (T/A TRIAD ASSOCIATES) FOR THE PURPOSES OF GRANT APPLICATION SERVICES AT AN INITIAL COST NOT TO EXCEED $15,000.00

**RES. R6-122:2023**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN TO AMEND ADOPTED BUDGET

(CHAPTER 159) FOR SPECIAL ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION N.J.S.A.

40A:4-87 IN THE AMOUNT OF $213,490.00 FOR 2023 DOT ROAD PROGRAM GRANT

**RES. R6-123:2023**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN TO AMEND ADOPTED BUDGET

(CHAPTER 159) FOR SPECIAL ITEMS OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION N.J.S.A.

40A:4-87 IN THE AMOUNT OF $18,287.75 FOR THE 2023 CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANT

**RES. R6-124:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF THE 2023-2024 LIQUOR LICENSES FOR 1927 PUB HOUSE, PASTA VINO, LUCIEN’S MANOR, PARIS CATERERS, OLLIE GATORS PUB, CANALS LIQUOR STORE, AND THE BERLIN VFW.

**RES. R6-125:2023**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT FOR WEBSITE DESIGN SERVICES TO HIT US UP DESIGNS, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF $5,500.00 AND AN ADDITIONAL $200.00 MONTHLY FEE FOR MAINTENANCE.

**RES. R6-126:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORING THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN TO ENTER INTO THE NORTH JERSEY WASTEWATER COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM, NJWCPS EFFECTIVE JUNE 12, 2023, AND EXPIRING NOVEMBER 24, 2024 FOR THE PURCHASE OF SEWER DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT

**RES. R6-127:2023**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF RETIRED POLICE K-9 RADKO TO POLICE OFFICER STEVE PALMA FOR A FEE OF $1.00

**RES. R6-128:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH TO REFUND KEY FOB DEPOSIT FEES FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER RENTALS.

**RES. R6-129:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF ESCROW REMAINING IN THE ACCOUNT OF ACI BERLIN, LLC, BLOCK 1800, LOT 9, TO ASSET MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS IN THE AMOUNT OF $2,682.93,

**RES. R6-130:2023**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE DMHAS GRANT FOR THE TERM OF 9/1/23 – 9/30/25 IN THE AMOUNT OF $12, 000.00

(MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT)

**RES. R6-131:2023**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PAYMENT OF BILLS – JUNE 2023 TOTALING $2,172,470.14

**RES. R6-132:2023**

A resolution approving the appointment of Ashley Mikolajczak as code enforcement officer for the Borough of Berlin effective June 8, 2023.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Resolutions R6-111:2023 TO R6-131:2023 Councilman Wilkinson Seconded: Council President Miller, RCV: All in favor.

**PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR**

Motion to open the public portion: Council President Miller

Seconded: Councilman Mascarenhas AIF: All

Motion to close the public portion: Council President Miller

Seconded: Councilman Mascarenhas AIF: All

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ron Schepis

21 Glenview

Mr. Schepis stated that the drainage ditch near his property has not been maintained and as a result, caused major flood damage about 2 or 3 years ago. He questioned the Borough engineer as to why this flooding occurred.

Lauren Tapp

Berlin Borough resident on N. Franklin Ave.

Ms.Tapp stated that there is drainage that flows behind her house and the drain has not been cleaned and is causing damage and flooding.

Mayor Miller stated the Borough will investigate these drainage issues.

Lynne Kupchick,

Leroy Avenue.

Ms. Kupchick voiced her concerns regarding flooding of a nearby stream. She stated that an engineer visited the stream about 8 years ago, the engineer came out to survey the property and look at the flood issues on Leroy.

Ms. Kupchick also voiced her concerns regarding a group home being purchased on her street.

She presented council with a handout based on her research. She expresses concerns over this group home regarding, traffic, parking and that there are no sidewalks on Leroy.

Susan Sinelnik

Gardens Avenue.

Ms. Sinelnik voiced concerns about flooding issues that the Borough has be experiencing. She says Hurricane Irene caused severe damage and that the Borough wouldn’t fix it.

Cathy Rainey

Leroy Avenue voiced concerns regarding the possible group home on Leroy Avenue. She mentions drainage issues and possible excess traffic.

Tammy Porter

Franklin Avenue

Ms. Porter spoke regarding parking issues on her street. Stated that something needs to be done as parking issues have gotten out of hand, and it is a safety issue.

Nick Maccaroni

Gardens Avenue

Mr. Macaroni voiced his concerns over the speeding issues on Gardens Avenue and throughout Berlin Borough.

Guy Johnson

Berlin Borough resident.

Mr. Johnson thanked the Mayor for his support and being proactive about the ongoing parking issues on Presidential Drive.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Hohing

Seconded: Councilman Mascarenhas AIF: All Opposed: None

Submitted by:

Rachel von der Tann, Deputy Municipal Clerk