



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

**COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024

REGULAR MEETING TO BEGAN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 6:30 PM WORKSHOP MEETING

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT:**

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 – Present  
Councilwoman Cummings – Absent  
Councilman Hohing – Present  
Councilman Mascarenhas – Present  
Councilman Wilkinson – Present  
Council President Miller - Present  
Mayor Miller – Present

Also present: Solicitor, Howard Long – Present  
Administrator, Anne Marie Miller – Present  
Municipal Clerk, Rachel von der Tann, RMC – Present

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of July 11, 2024, regular meeting minutes, Motion; Councilman Mascarenhas Seconded.; Councilman Badolato AIF; All .

Approval of July 11, 2024, workshop meeting minutes, Motion; Councilman Mascarenhas Seconded: Councilman Badolato AIF\_\_\_\_\_.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

- **BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION** - Councilman Badolato and Councilman Mascarenhas
- **PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS** - Councilwoman Cummings and Councilman Wilkinson
- **WATER & SEWER** - Councilwoman Cummings and Councilman Badolato

- **PUBLIC SAFETY** - Councilman Hohing and Councilman Mascarenhas
- **YOUTH ATHLETICS , COMMUNITY EVENTS** - Council President Miller and Councilman Wilkinson
- **FINANCE** - Council President Miller and Councilman Hohing
- **SOLICITOR** -Howard Long
- **MAYOR** - Rick Miller
- **BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION** - Councilman Badolato and Councilman Mascarenhas

Councilman Badolato updates everybody on the Berlin Community School summer band is done with their practices. They were practicing at the dill house the whole month of July. There were 14 students from grades five through nine and the last day, July 31st, they, they gave a concert on the back porch. Camp long a coming has about one more week left and they're probably having the best year they ever had. They have 190 campers and brought in \$51,520 each year. The camp's getting bigger. Councilman Badolato says there were no known complaints about merging the school camp with the summer camp.

Councilman Badolato states the pickleball courts at the Berlin Park, had installed the lights. Councilman Badolato talked to Scott trainer, Camden County Freeholders office, thanking him for the lights.

Councilman Badolato thanks Jonathan Bilella from Boy Scout Troop 48. States he did a great job, and he replaced the train station deck this past weekend with the help of the boy scouts. This project enabled him to obtain a rank of Eagle Scout.

Councilman Badolato mentions the camera system here has been upgraded in the building. We are now compliant with the specs from Jif.

Councilman Mascarenhas states the work is almost completed at Bel Aire Park. Once completed they will start work on the second park.

Councilman Mascarenhas states that, the parks are compliant with the state regulations. The Borough is still still looking at pieces and are also looking into Jake's Place for the Centennial Park.

➤ **PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS** - Councilman Wilkinson and Councilman Cummings

The Department of Public Works (DPW) garage is now staffed with two full-time mechanics. The 2023 road program is complete, while the 2024 and 2025 programs are in various stages of design and planning. The Clement Road sidewalk project has started, with concrete pouring expected to begin soon, weather permitting. The project's lowest quote was \$42,140. Councilman Wilkinson discusses a potential \$7 million project to renovate the DPW building, including offices, bathrooms, and a garage. There were concerns about the high cost and potential tax increases needed to fund the project. Suggestions were made to explore phasing the project, looking at alternative locations, and having further discussions with the CFO to determine what is feasible within the budget constraints.

Councilman Wilkinson thanks the members of the Department of Public Works who assisted with the police for the National Night Out.

➤ **WATER & SEWER** - Councilwoman Cummings and Councilman Badolato

Councilman Badolato read Councilwoman Cummings report.

41 service orders for repair or replacement were completed. 71 utility mark outs were completed the monthly maintenance on both plants were completed on a regular.

Councilman Badolato talks the ground testing at Blases. . He stated they pushed it back a week due to the weather. The Borough completed all routine monthly maintenance at the 10 pump stations, completed all routine monthly maintenance at the 10 emergency backup generators at the sewer pump stations.

**PUBLIC SAFETY** – Councilman Hohing and Councilman Mascarenhas

Councilman Hohing states the Berlin Borough Fire Department had 73 calls for service in July, and the EMS had 259 calls, with most calls coming from Berlin and surrounding areas. Both departments supported the Fourth of July parade. The police department had an increase in calls, summonses, arrests, motor vehicle crashes, and traffic stops compared to the previous month. The canine unit had five deployments resulting in arrests for drug-related offenses. The council is considering upgrading the courtroom equipment, including an 85-inch TV and other state-of-the-art equipment, at an estimated cost of \$34,000.

Chief Mike Schear states the Borough is considering contracting with a crossing guard service company, which would handle hiring, training, insurance, and deployment of crossing guards, potentially saving costs and freeing up police officers.

➤ **YOUTH ATHLETICS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS**- Council President Miller and Councilman Wilkinson

**Youth athletics and downtown revitalization updates**

Councilman Wilkinson discusses use of the fields. States he is talking with John Cole about the upcoming falls sports.

➤ **FINANCE** – Council President Miller-

The finance department provided updates on various revenue collections for July, including permit fees, rental inspections, zoning fees, resale inspection fees, community center fees, tax collections, utility collections, animal license fees, clerk's office fees, and court office fees.

➤ **SOLICITOR** – Mr. Long explains the ordinances that are on this evening's agenda.

➤ **MAYOR Miller-**

The Mayor , along with Council discussed implementing an ordinance to charge fees for outdoor storage containers on private properties, as they can be an eyesore. There had been previous attempts to introduce such an ordinance, but it did not move forward due to issues. The council agreed to revisit the ordinance and potentially put it on the agenda.

The council discussed the color scheme for a water tank, with the possibility of adding the town's name on top. There was an update on the sale of a former bank property in the town center. The council also discussed the status of a local business, Pasta Vino and whether it would be reopening after being closed.

OLD BUSINESS

**SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2024-18**

ORDINANCE CONFIRMING AND AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF LANDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LOCAL LANDS AND BUILDINGS LAW FOR BLOCK 1108, LOT 9, ALSO KNOWN AS 83 SOUTH WHITE HORSE PIKE, IN THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

Meeting open to the public on Ordinance No. 2024-18, Councilman Mascarenhas , Councilman Hohing AIF; All .

Meeting closed to the public on Ordinance No. 2024-18 Council President Miller , Second; Councilman Hohing , AIF All .

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-18 Councilman Mascarenhas , Second.; Councilman Wilkinson, RCV All .

**CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R8-123:2024 to R8-152:2024**

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Mascarenhas Second; Council President Miller AIF: All in favor

Motion to close public portion: Councilman Mascarenhas Second; Councilman Hohing AIF: All in favor

**RES. R8-123-2024,**

Resolution approving the grace period for Berlin Borough trailer licenses until October 1, 2024.

**RES. R8-124-2024**

Resolution approving a Camp Long-a-Coming refund in the amount of \$223.33 to Allyson Schwartz.

**RES. R8-125-2024**

Resolution approving a Camp Long-a-Coming refund in the amount of \$223.33 to Paul Whyano.

**RES. R8-126-2024**

Resolution approving the purchase of four (4) Police Utility Vehicles through New Holland Auto Group in the amount of \$167,476.00.

**RES. R8-127-2024**

Resolution accepting the resignation of Berlin Borough Public Defender, Francis J. Falkenstein effective August 8, 2024.

**RES. R8-128-2024**

Resolution approving the appointment of Berlin Borough Public Defender Philip N. Muldoon Jr. Esquire effective August 8, 2024, until 12/31/2024.

**RES. R8-129-2024**

Resolution approving the purchase of one (1) 2024 Ford F250 Pickup Truck through State Contract #A88726 T210 in the total amount of \$64,007.00.

**RES. R8-130-2024**

Resolution approving the intent to award a contract under the Sourcewell Co-op for the purchase of one (1) 31 Yard ASL Automated Refuse Trash Truck model ACX 64 Class 8 contract #091219-NWY in the amount of \$408,790.00.

**RES. R8-131-2024**

Resolution approving the intent to participate in the Bergen Co. Co-operative Contract #CK04 under award 438-22 for the purchase of one (1) Power Load Power Pro XT in the total amount of \$61,693.44.

**RES. R8-132-2024**

Resolution to amend adopted budget (Chapter 159) for special items of revenue "Recycling Tonnage" in the amount of \$10,643.64.

**RES. R8-133-2024**

Resolution to amend adopted budget (Chapter 159) for special items of revenue "Safe and Secure" in the amount of \$32,400.00.

**RES. R8-134-2024**

Resolution to amend adopted budget (Chapter 159) for special items of revenue '24-25 safe and Secure in the amount of \$45,150.00.

**RES. R8-135-2024**

Resolution extending grace period for payment of third quarter 2024 taxes until August 23,2024.

**RES. R8-136-2024**

Resolution authorizing the refund of \$1810.00 for Block 288 Lots 3 due to payment of water connection.

**RES. R8-137-2024**

Resolution of the Borough of Berlin, County of Camden, State Of New Jersey, authorizing the tax cancellation of \$2,060.04 for third quarter taxes and all future taxes for Block 906 Lot 28 due to 100% Totally Disabled Veteran.

**RES. R8-138-2024**

Resolution authorizing 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2024 utility bill adjustment for account # 12493-0 ,in the adjustment amount of -60,822.60, for property 20 Ridgeview Avenue for a backwards meter.

**RES. R8-139-2024**

Resolution authorizing the proposal for professional services to provide design, contract administration, inspection and construction management services for a new diesel emergency generator and transfer switch to replace the existing emergency generator at Plant 2, from Pennoni Associates in the amount of \$65,000.00.

**RES. R8-140-2024**

Resolution authorizing the proposal for professional services to evaluate the Laurel Woods sanitary sewer pump station to prepare a scope and budget for future rehabilitation, from Pennoni associates, not to exceed fee of \$10,000.00.

**RES. R8-141-2024**

Resolution reappointing Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Robert Murray to move from his current status of SLEO 2 officer to SLEO 3 officer for the duration of the 2024-2025 school year.

**RES. R8-142-2024**

Resolution reappointing Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Shannon Wilson to move from his current status of SLEO 2 officer to SLEO 3 officer for the duration of the 2024-2025 school year.

**RES. R8-143-2024**

Resolution reappointing SLEO 2 Officer Anthony Massi for the duration of the 2024-2025 school year.

**RES. R8-144-2024**

Resolution approving the hiring of Brian Mazziotta to Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) 2 effective upon completion of a successful background investigation , for the duration of the 2024-2025 school year.

**RES. R8-145-2024**

Resolution approving the hiring of Frank Eastwick , from Atco NJ, for the position of Berlin Borough Mechanic in accordance with the salary negotiated between the Borough of Berlin and Communications Workers of America AFL-CIO, effective August 12, 2024.

**RES. R8-146-2024**

Resolution ending the shared service with Cathy Sims, from Laurel Spring, effective July 31, 2024, from her Construction Office Duties.

**RES. R8-147-2024**

Resolution authorizing a grant submission for the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund Public Entity Program through the New Jersey Economic Development Authority and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$76,849.70 for the property located at 71 South White Horse Pike, Berlin NJ.

**RES. R8-148-2024**

Resolution authorizing the release of a performance bond to Dominick L. Dandrea in the amount of \$12,206.75 from for Block 1102 , Lot 3.01.

**RES. R8-149-2024**

Resolution authorizing the proposal for professional services to enhance the Borough’s current GIS infrastructure through the development of a GIS – based dashboard that visualizes its stormwater network and allows for a streamlined regulatory reporting process, from Pennoni Associates in the total amount of \$37,500.00.

**RES. R8-150-2024**

Resolution approving the contract for Charles Marandino,LLC , recommended by Pennoni Associates, to clear trees and install a concrete sidewalk on Clementon Road, in the amount of \$42,140.00.

**RES. R8-151-2024**

Resolution approving the Payment of Bills for the month of August, totaling \$3,063,820.05.

**RES. R8-152-2024**

Resolution of the to amend adopted budget (Chapter 159) for special items of revenue and appropriation N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTIONS R8-123:2024 to R8-152:2024** Council President Miller , Sec.; Councilman Hohing RCV All in favor .

**PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR**

Motion to open the public portion: Councilman Hohing

Seconded: Councilman Badolato                      AIF: All                      Opposed: None

Motion to close the public portion: Councilman Badolato

Seconded: Council President Miller                      AIF: All                      Opposed: None

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion to enter executive session: Councilman Badolato

Seconded: Councilman Hohing                      AIF: All                      Opposed: None

Motion to close executive session: Councilman Badolato

Seconded: Councilman Hohing      AIF: All      Opposed: None

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Mascarenhas

Seconded: Councilman Badolato      AIF: All      Opposed: None

Submitted by:  
Rachel von der Tann  
Municipal Clerk