



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

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024

REGULAR MEETING 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 – Present – arrived at 6:33pm
Councilman Hohing – Absent
Councilman Mascarenhas – Present
Councilman Wilkinson Present – arrived at 7:15pm
Council President Miller – Present
Mayor Miller – Present

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of October 10, 2024, regular meeting minutes, Motion; Council President Miller Seconded; Councilman Mascarena AIF All .

Approval of October 10, 2024, workshop meeting minutes, Motion; Council President Miller Seconded.; Councilman Mascarenhas , AIF All .

Approval of October 10, 2024, executive session meeting minutes, Motion; Council President Miller Seconded; AIF All .

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

Introduction and presentation by Girl Scout Abby Miller

Abby Miller, a senior Girl Scout, proposed her Gold Award project to make the history of Berlin more interactive for younger children by creating period costumes, activities related to historical professions, and portable educational materials. She aims to have the project completed by February and piloted with a 4th grade class, with the materials kept at the Dill House for use in presentations and school visits. The project requires at least 80 hours of work and a final report to the Girl Scout Council to officially receive the Gold Award.

- **BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION** Councilman Badolato and Councilman Mascarenhas

Councilman Badolato reported on park cleanup efforts, including work at Berlin Park by Camden County and volunteer work at the train station. The Berlin Hotel was nominated for the National Register but needs revised paperwork for historic significance criteria instead of architecture. Plans are underway to replace missing gingerbread trim on the Berlin Hotel with assistance from a local company.

Stormwater management program with Rutgers University

Councilman Badolato met with the Pinelands Preservation Alliance about a grant-funded program with Rutgers University to provide guidance on stormwater runoff management for residents and the community center. The program offers webinars, property assessments by experts, recommendations for plantings and landscaping, and rebates up to \$650 for implementation. Representatives will be invited to present the program details at the next council meeting.

Councilman Mascarenhas gives parks updates.

Three parks are up and running, with Centennial Park to be finalized with additional specialized equipment. maintenance, pump replacements, and an upcoming mandate to identify and replace lead service lines by 2031, for which letters will be sent to residents.

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

Councilwoman Cummings gives updates on the tree lighting

WATER & SEWER - Councilwoman Cummings and Councilman Badolato

The water department provided updates on the chestnut tank painting repairs, water conservation advisory, hydrant quick connect installations, new truck delivery, meter repairs and replacements, and routine maintenance. The sewer department reported on pump station maintenance, pump replacements, and an upcoming mandate to identify and replace lead service lines by 2031, for which letters will be sent to residents.

Councilwoman Cummings states residents that are by the chestnut tank may experience some lower water pressure, a slight, decrease temporarily until that is back up and running.

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

3025 total calls per service which is down from September, we have 144 summonses, compared to 322 in September, 31 arrests for October, compared to 18 in September. The Borough had 28 motor vehicle accidents this month. There was 92 traffic stops compared to 189 in September, Tag readers read 757,704 total license plates compared to 631,818 in September.

Councilman Mascarenhas also reported on the fire department's activities, including responding to brush fires in surrounding towns, receiving training, and being overlooked for their hard work.

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

Youth athletics and community events

Mayor Miller mentioned that the Borough had received a wish list of items from Berlin A.A. for maintenance and improvements, and that the CFO had some extra money in the capital budget to address those needs. Participants discussed the possibility of involving the school board in maintaining the youth athletics facilities and the importance of investing in such facilities for the community's youth.

➤ **FINANCE** – Council President Miller-

Council President Miller thanked the residents for their votes in the recent election and expressed their commitment to working hard for the community. Council President Miller made several announcements, including the grand opening of a business, the Rotary Club's plans to put up Christmas lights, and the fire department's tree sales. Council President Miller also mentioned meeting with a representative from the assemblywoman's office to discuss the borough's concerns and needs.

Council President Miller reads the revenue report for October.

Revenues Collected Report for October 2024

Permit fees \$10,903.00

Rental inspection fees \$250.00

Zoning Fees \$250.00

Resale inspection fees \$200.00

Community Center \$2500.00

Tax collector \$1,405,948.57

Utility Collector \$226,642.51

Animal license fee \$43.00

Clerk's Office \$4,425.00

Court Office \$27,961.24

➤ **SOLICITOR** – Mr. Dan Long has nothing to report.

MAYOR MILLER-

Mayor Miller thanks the residents for coming out to vote and congratulates Councilwoman Cummings and Council President Miller on the election.

Mayor Miller states the tax sale is Wednesday November 23,2024 and that it will be held online / virtual.

OLD BUSINESS

SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2024-20

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY THAT PART II, GENERAL LEGISLATION, CHAPTER 164 FIREARMS AND WEAPONS, PROHIBITING CERTAIN ACTS FOR THE CARRYING, USE, POSSESSION OR DISCHARGE OR FIRING OF DANGEROUS OR DEADLY WEAPONS.

Meeting open to the public on Ordinance No. 2024-20, Council President Miller Second.; Councilwoman ,AIF All .

Meeting closed to the public on Ordinance No. 2024-20 Councilwoman Cummings , Second: Councilman Badolato , AIF All .

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-20 Councilman Badolato Second.; Councilwoman Cummings , RCV All in favor. .

SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2024-21

ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT CHAPTER 315, "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC" OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN.

Meeting open to the public on Ordinance No. 2024-21, Councilman Mascarenhas , Second.; Council President Miller, AIF All in favor.

Meeting closed to the public on Ordinance No. 2024-21 Councilman Mascarenhas , Second; Councilwoman Cummings , AIF All in favor.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-21 Council President Miller , Second.; Councilman Badolato , RCV All in favor.

SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2024-22

ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN AMENDING CHAPTER 28-1 AND CHAPTER 335 THE TAX MAP OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN TO ADD CERTAIN PROPERTIES TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN.

Meeting open to the public on Ordinance No. 2024-22, Councilman Badolato , Second; Council President Miller AIF All in favor.

Meeting closed to the public on Ordinance No. 2024-22 Councilwoman Cummings , Second; Councilman Badolato AIF All in favor.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-22 Councilman Badolato , Second.; Councilwoman Cummings , RCV All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R11-173:2024 to R11-180:2024

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Badolato Second; Council President Miller AIF: All

Motion to close public portion Councilman Mascarenhas Second; Council President Miller AIF: All

RES. R11-173:2024,

Resolution of the Borough of Berlin authorizing budget transfers during the last two months of the fiscal year.

RES. R11-174:2024

Resolution approving the release of site work escrow in the amount of \$81,466.42 to the Berlin Multi Family, Nexus (Villages at Berlin), due to the project being completed and the performance bonds being released.

RES. R11-175:2024

Resolution approving change order No. 1 for the Chestnut Tank Painting Project, increasing the total contract amount by \$8,068.00 to address unforeseen deterioration of the overhead garage door and mandoor at the Chestnut Tank.

RES. R11-176:2024

Resolution approving the purchase of 1 (one) 2024 Ford Pickup Truck, (fire quick response vehicle) , from Winner Ford of Cherry Hill, NJ through State of New Jersey , contract , #A88726, T210, in the amount of \$68,293.00 which was appropriated from the Capital

Improvement Fund.

RES. R11-177:2024

Resolution of the Borough of Berlin, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, authorizing the refund of water payments in the amount of \$724.25 For Block 825 Lot 5.01 to Wawa.

RES. R11-178:2024

Resolution of the Borough of Berlin, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, authorizing the tax refund of \$7,231.78 for the block and lots below due to overpayment. (see resolution)

RES. R11-179:2024

Resolution approving November payment of bills in the amount of \$5,268,946.44.

RES. R11-180:2024

Resolution to approve the proposal from Pennoni Associates in the amount of \$41,000.00 , for the bid plans and specifications for the proposed demolition and construction that include 69, 71, 79, and 83 S. White Horse Pike.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTIONS R11-173:2024 to R11-180:2024 Council President Miller , Sec.; Councilman Mascarenhas , RCV All in favor.

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR

Motion to open the public portion: Council President Miller

Seconded: Councilman Mascarenhas AIF: All Opposed: None

Motion to close the public portion: Councilman Badolato

Seconded: Councilwoman Cummings AIF: All Opposed: None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to enter executive session: Council President Miller

Seconded: Councilman Mascarenhas AIF: All Opposed: None

Motion to close executive session: Councilman Badolato

Seconded: Councilman Mascarenhas AIF: All Opposed: None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Wilkinson

Seconded: Councilman Mascarenhas AIF: All Opposed: None

Submitted by:
Rachel von der Tann
Municipal Clerk

