

EAST BERLIN BOROUGH COUNCIL
128 Water Street
East Berlin, PA 17316

February 6, 2013

The first monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held February 6, 2013, at the East Berlin Borough Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM.

Members Present: James LeVan; Roberta Teal; Charles Eisenhart; Donald Dixon (7:05 PM); Richard Cashman; and Andrew Raymond

Members Absent: President Charles Krall

Also Present: Mayor Keith Hoffman; Solicitor Matthew Battersby; Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; Mike Thomas of Liberty Fire Company; Donna Kreiser of McNeese, Wallace & Nurick, LLC; and David Richards

In the absence of President Charles Krall, Vice President James LeVan presided over this evening's meeting of Council.

Adoption of the Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of January 2, 2013, were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Roberta Teal; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved with all in favor.* The minutes of the meeting of January 30, 2013, were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Roberta Teal; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved with all in favor.*

Payment of Bills: A summary of bills for the month of February totaling \$31,478.04 was reviewed. *Andrew Raymond motioned to pay the bills for the month of February; seconded by Roberta Teal. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

Constituents Addressing Borough Council: David Richards reported that the meeting of the Adams County Tax Collection Committee scheduled for this evening was cancelled due to lack of business before the Committee.

Borough Guarantee of Pennvest Loan: Donna Kreiser, legal counsel for the East Berlin Area Joint Authority, addressed Council to review Ordinance No. 2013-1 for the Borough's guarantee of a loan for improvements to the Authority's water system. Ms. Kreiser again noted that the \$1,600,000.00 Pennvest loan is self-liquidating and would not count against the Borough's debt statement. Solicitor Battersby explained that the funds would allow the Authority to connect to a well in Hamilton Township that is already developed and approved by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission and the Department of Environmental Protection, and stressed the importance of water as a commodity. There was some discussion of the details of the agreement including the payment schedule. *Roberta Teal motioned to approve Ordinance No. 2013-1; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Per roll call vote, all Council Members approved the motion.*

Mayor's Report: The police report for January was provided to Council. It was noted that the report contained a citation issued per Borough Code for a Jake brake violation that would result in \$300.00 fine monies for the Borough.

Fire Company Report: Mike Thomas of Liberty Fire Company reviewed fire and ambulance reports for November, December, and January. Mr. Thomas reported a total of two hundred twenty-four (224) fire calls and eight hundred fifty-two (852) ambulance responses for 2012.

Engineer's Report: None.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby discussed the upcoming Conditional Use Hearing for Chesapeake Towers to erect a cell phone tower in Kuhn's Woods. Council Members were provided with excerpts from the Borough's Zoning Ordinance detailing the requirements to allow Conditional Use. Regarding a proposed access point to Kuhn's Woods from Park Avenue, Solicitor Battersby reported that the property owner has been contacted to discuss a possible right-of-way.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Nothing to report.

Streets/Public Safety and Maintenance: Roberta Teal reviewed the snow removal statistics for January including fifteen (15) man-hours and six and one half (6½) tons of antiskid material. Application techniques are being explored for the anti-icing brine system in treating road surfaces before snow and ice events. In an update of the traffic light issues, it was noted that the layout of traffic lines and vehicle detection loops do not match the Borough's Traffic Light Permit, which must be resolved with PennDOT before spring. In a meeting with Representative Will Tallman on January 28, 2013, grant programs were discussed for a possible upgrade to a video camera detection system. Regarding the recommendation of PennDOT Publication 191 to reevaluate the operational maintenance of the traffic light every three (3) to five (5) years, Borough Engineer Eric Mains was consulted to possibly address the issues by providing qualified insight of the status of the traffic light, permit, options for the level of performance needed, and advice for negotiating with PennDOT. It was noted that grant funds may be available for engineering advice. Ms. Teal reported that a request was made to PennDOT to replace damaged and stolen pedestrian crossing signs, and that a stop sign was replaced at the intersection of Branch Circle and Aspen Drive. A meeting will be scheduled later this month for Robert Meminger and Roberta Teal to meet with Patricia Young and Nevin Nell to discuss drainage issues on Beaver Street. Andrew Raymond reported that several manhole risers were patched to prevent snow plow contact, and that the plow blade for the F250 will need a new cutting edge before next winter at a cost of approximately one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00).

Planning/Zoning: Comments were received from the Adams County Planning Office and Zoning Officer Robert Thaeler regarding the Land Development Plan submitted by Pennwood Products. The comments were generally favorable and forwarded to the Planning Commission.

Personnel: Regarding a request from Officer Grim to include the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) in the Borough's Uniformed Pension Plan, a revised plan and ordinance for adoption are forthcoming from the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System. Vice President LeVan reported that vacancies exist on the Park and Recreation Commission, the Planning Commission, and the Zoning Hearing Board. It was noted that calls were not returned from Andy Barkley regarding his application to the Park and Recreation Commission. A request for volunteers will be posted on the town bulletin board.

Park and Recreation: None.

Unfinished Business: Vice President LeVan reminded Council of the Zoning Ordinance update meeting scheduled for February 13, 2013, at 10:00 AM, and the Conditional Use Hearing scheduled for February 25, 2013, at 7:00 PM.

New Business: Andrew Raymond requested Council's consideration of his attendance at an upcoming emergency management training session. There was some discussion of the budget amount allowed for training opportunities.

Correspondence:

- The Founder's Day Committee meeting minutes of January 21, 2013, were reviewed by Council. Roberta Teal reported on the Committee's discussion of ghost tours as part of the Borough's 250th Anniversary activities.

Donald Dixon motioned to adjourn the meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 7:55 PM; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved with all voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McArthur
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council