

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

February 27, 2013 – Work Session

The second monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held February 27, 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; Richard Cashman; Donald Dixon; and Andrew Raymond

Members Absent: President Charles Krall

Also Present: Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; and Borough Engineer Eric Mains

In the absence of President Charles Krall, Vice President James LeVan chaired the meeting.

Constituents Addressing Borough Council: None.

Topics of Discussion:

- Borough Engineer Eric Mains addressed Council to discuss a request from East Berlin Medical Center/Wellspan regarding a proposed project. The original proposal was to include a building addition and additional parking. In consideration of the total cost, the scope of the project was changed to include only the parking lot to be added for staff members on a lower lot. Mr. Mains discussed the requirements for the parking lot stressing the importance of storm water management. The Wellspan facility owners propose to submit a grading and storm water management plan instead of a land development plan if Council permits. Roberta Teal inquired if this should be decided by the Planning Commission. Mr. Mains responded that the Commission may make a recommendation, but the decision lies with Council. It was noted that a zoning review is also a consideration regarding lighting, landscaping, and parking lot layout. Richard Cashman inquired of the effect the decision would have on the cost and the timeframe of the project. Mr. Mains stated that the approval process would likely be half the time of a land development plan, but the effect on cost would not be as significant. Vice President LeVan inquired of the review of the Borough Zoning Officer. It was noted that the project would require a zoning permit requiring a full review by the Zoning Officer. In response to Donald Dixon's inquiry, Mr. Mains stated that the parking lot may be sloped. It was noted that access to the proposed lot would be from Park Road. Mr. Mains stated his concern of additional traffic, but if the intention was for staff parking only, the concern is not significant. A pedestrian walkway would be needed from the lot to the main facility. Vice President LeVan stated that eliminating the requirement of a land development plan would streamline the process for all involved, but requested input from the Zoning Officer. The decision is tabled until the next session of Council.
- Mr. Mains discussed a proposal to perform a traffic signal evaluation and reviewed a checklist to be included in the evaluation to identify discrepancies at the intersection and provide a recommendation for corrective actions. The fee for the service was

quoted as \$2,500.00. There was some discussion of funding options for a video detection system. Mr. Cashman inquired who determines the traffic flow requirements. Mr. Mains stated that the proposed evaluation would encompass the flow of traffic and proper function of the signal. Vice President LeVan proposed to table the evaluation until corrective work is done by PennDOT in the spring.

- Regarding the Pennwood Products project, Mr. Mains stated that a land development plan and storm water management plan were submitted, and that he is awaiting responsive action to the comments he provided. There was some discussion of storm water issues and methods to address them. Mr. Mains stressed the advantage of developing wetlands.
- Vice President LeVan reminded Council that the Statement of Financial Interests forms are due by May 1, 2013. It was noted that the forms are kept on file in the Borough office.
- The Park and Recreation meeting minutes of January 10, 2013 were provided to Council.
- The Founder's Day Committee meeting minutes of February 4, 2013 were provided to Council. There was some discussion of the many events planned for the Borough's upcoming 250th Anniversary.
- Vice President LeVan reminded Council that a meeting of the Adams County Boroughs Association is scheduled for March 18, 2013 at 6:15 PM at Pike Restaurant.
- Andrew Raymond discussed the difficulties of Liberty Fire Company in obtaining adequate funding. Mr. Raymond reported that the Board Members of Liberty Fire Company feel that the Borough does not contribute sufficient funding and a suggestion was made to withhold fire response service to East Berlin Borough if funding is not increased. Regarding a recent donation of \$1,000.00 from the Borough to Liberty Fire Company, Mr. Raymond reported that Fire Chief Lee Byers stated that the Borough should give five hundred (500) more donations of \$1,000.00. Secretary Treasurer McArthur provided Council with documentation of contributions made by the Borough to Liberty Fire Company from 2002 to present noting that all payments are either directly to or on behalf of Liberty Fire Company including contributions, vehicle and workers compensation insurance, and payment of Firemen Relief Fund. The average annual total is over \$20,000.00. The report also shows service usage by East Berlin Borough versus service to surrounding municipalities, with East Berlin Borough utilizing just over seventeen percent (17%), or approximately half that of Paradise or Reading Townships. It was noted that the service to the Borough is similar to that of Washington Township, and although contributions from Washington Township are unknown, they are likely not berated in the same manner as East Berlin Borough. In response to Mr. Raymond's inquiry regarding the Local Services Tax, it was noted that the cost of Officer Grim's services to the Borough far exceed the revenue of this tax. Mr. Raymond stated that he would research donation information from other municipalities in the area, and discussed the need for a new heating system at the Fire Company.

The meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McArthur
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council