

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

April 24, 2013 – Work Session

The second monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held April 24, 2013, at the East Berlin Borough Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM.

**Members Present:** President Charles Krall; James LeVan; Charles Eisenhart; Richard Cashman; Donald Dixon; and Andrew Raymond

**Members Absent:** Roberta Teal

**Also Present:** Mayor Keith Hoffman; Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; Mike Thomas; John Jacobs; Cory Lease; and David Richards

**Constituents Addressing Borough Council:** None.

**Topics of Discussion:**

- David Richards reported on his attendance at the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Adams County Tax Collection Committee. Mr. Richards noted that the York Adams Tax Bureau is now providing the municipalities with quarterly reports of distributions. Secretary McArthur stated the Borough receives this report in email. In an effort to address attendance issues, the ACTCC is encouraging its members to appoint a proxy municipality to vote in their absence. Mr. Richards stated that both Hamilton and Reading Townships have offered to serve as proxy for East Berlin Borough, and that a decision is needed by Council to draft an agreement. The next meeting of the ACTCC is scheduled for June 5, 2013.
- Mike Thomas of Liberty Fire Company provided a list of contact personnel at the Fire Company and expressed the desire to keep open lines of communication with the Borough. Mr. Thomas stated that Liberty Fire Company does not wish to discontinue its service to the Borough as rumored, and discussed his concerns of a complaint filed by Andrew Raymond to York Wellspan regarding EMT Neal Doyle, a paid emergency service provider at Liberty. A copy of communications from York Wellspan stating the complaint was provided to Council. In response to receiving the complaint, Wellspan EMS Deputy Chief Christopher Krichten warned of a potential withdrawal of EMT services to Liberty Fire Company. Mr. Thomas stressed the seriousness of losing this service to the community, and requested that such complaints should be addressed to Liberty Fire Company. Andrew Raymond stated that much of the complaint was inaccurately documented and not what he reported. Mr. Raymond discussed the abusive nature of Mr. Doyle toward a resident during emergency transport and Mr. Doyle's overall attitude toward the Borough. Mr. Thomas encouraged Council Members to attend the monthly meetings of the Board at Liberty Fire Company.
- Regarding the building permit fee for Pennwood Products to erect a forty-five thousand (45,000) square foot warehouse, Council discussed the need to determine a reasonable fee due to the size of the project. It was noted that engineering costs to the Borough would be passed directly to Pennwood, and that the Borough should cover any estimated legal or administrative costs in determining the fee. President Krall proposed

to address the amount of the building permit fee at the next Regular Session of Council.

- The Founder's Day Committee meeting minutes of April 1, 2013, were provided to Council.
- President Krall discussed the passage of Act 44 to include workers compensation to cover claims of cancer by anyone having served in the capacity of a volunteer firefighter. It was noted that the Borough's insurance agent informed the Borough that virtually all insurance companies are discontinuing workers compensation coverage for volunteer firefighters due to the anticipated number of potential claims. The Borough's insurance agent would then obtain coverage through the State Workers Insurance Fund at a significantly higher cost.
- Council reviewed and discussed the finalized report on financing fire services provided by the Adams County Council of Governments. The Fire Funding Study contains County-wide municipal and fire company data and maps. Based on the study, the recommended option for fair and equitable funding of the County's fire companies is a municipal fire tax at .25 mills based on property values. Council discussed some concerns including the loss of voluntary donations to Liberty Fire Company, the need for detailed financial reporting, even distribution of the tax revenue, and Liberty's service provided to municipalities in York County not included in the Funding Study. A meeting is scheduled on May 6, 2013 in Gettysburg for municipalities to provide input and discuss their concerns with ACCOG and the Adams County Volunteer Emergency Services Association. President Krall noted that there would likely be many further discussions on this subject.
- President Krall reported that training and webinars are being offered by the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs.
- A Gettysburg Chamber breakfast is scheduled for May 16, 2013 at the Lodges at Gettysburg for \$15.00 per person.
- The April newsletter was received from the Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce.
- Highway Occupancy Permit Training is being offered by PennDOT in York on May 22, 2013. It was noted that Robert Meminger is planning to attend.
- President Krall reported to Council on the current status of his medical issues having made encouraging progress with some minor additional treatment yet remaining. It was also noted that President Krall would eventually regain his voice entirely.

Council entered Executive Session at 7:40 PM and adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McArthur  
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council