

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

December 18, 2013 – Work Session

The second monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held December 18, 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; Roberta Teal; Donald Dixon; Richard Cashman; and Andrew Raymond

Members Absent: Charles Eisenhart

Also Present: Mayor Keith Hoffman (7:07 PM); Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; David Richards; and Rita Linebaugh

Constituents Addressing Borough Council: David Richards addressed Council regarding its actions in a comparative reference to a previous Council. Mr. Richards' concerns involve the adoption specific ordinances, the utilization of working sessions, and the manner in which the payment of electricity for holiday lighting is recorded. President Krall thanked Mr. Richards for his comments.

Topics of Discussion:

- Council reviewed a request from the Founder's Day Committee to allow campfires at the Borough Park during next year's Civil War reenactment to commemorate the Borough's 250th Anniversary. Roberta Teal, Chairperson of the Committee, noted that the allowance of campfires would enhance the authenticity of the event. In response to Donald Dixon's inquiry regarding the campfires to be at least fifty feet (50') from any structure, Ms. Teal stated that would not include the tents, only the pavilion. There was also some discussion of notification to the Fire Company for the event. Mr. Dixon inquired of the method for detaining those "arrested" by the Confederate actors. Ms. Teal explained that a temporary jailhouse would be built for the event.
- Council discussed a meeting schedule for 2014. It was noted that the current schedule would conflict with the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Eve holidays. *Donald Dixon motioned to continue with meetings on the first and last Wednesday of each month except the second meeting in November would be one (1) week early and the second meeting in December would two (2) weeks early; seconded by Roberta Teal. Motion approved with all in favor.* Secretary McArthur stated that the meeting schedule would be advertised.
- Council was provided the Founder's Day Committee meeting minutes of November 25, 2013, and December 2, 2013.
- Council reviewed the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting minutes of November 14, 2013.
- The Planning Commission meeting minutes of October 24, 2013, were provided to Council. President Krall reported that the last Zoning Ordinance update meeting was held with Zoning Officer Robert Thaeler on December 11, 2013. The Planning Commission has been instructed to schedule a public meeting to review the proposed revised Zoning Ordinance. Once the public meeting is held, the proposed Ordinance would come before Council for adoption.
- Council reviewed a letter from President Bob Gordon of the Adams County Council of Governments. It was noted that Mr. Gordon will not continue in the position of President for 2014.
- Andrew Raymond discussed the Borough's right-of-way at Zinn Avenue on the west side of Abbottstown Street, and requested that the Borough plow this section of roadway. Roberta Teal reported that Robert Meminger would have plowed the area, but a vehicle was obstructing the right-of-way. President Krall stated that the area will be plowed if the vehicle is moved.

- Regarding several upcoming Board and Commission member terms ending, James LeVan stated that the Personnel Committee would take action when the terms end.
- Donald Dixon reported that he was addressed by a school bus driver at Bermudian Springs High School with concerns of snow-covered, slippery roads in the Borough. Roberta Teal stated that the roads were plowed and anti-skid was applied. It was noted that anti-skid has been applied several times during recent inclement weather events, and that excessive anti-skid accumulations can also cause vehicles to slide. President Krall suggested that tire chains be utilized by the school bus driver if needed.
- Regarding the proposed traffic signal video detection system, President Krall reported that Borough Engineer Eric Mains contacted the Borough to report that PennDOT offered the availability of radar detection technology. There was some discussion of the capabilities of radar detection, but that it would be costly and unnecessary for the Borough's needs.
- Roberta Teal raised the issue of Liberty Fire Company's failure to post a notice in the newspaper to correct misinformation regarding the Borough's 2012 donation. Ms. Teal reported that she has drafted a notice for publication if Liberty will not address the issue as agreed. President Krall stated that Liberty would be contacted on the matter, and that if they do not place the notice, Council would review Ms. Teal's notice for publication.
- David Richards commented on a proposed Dollar General Store to be constructed just south of the Borough in Hamilton Township and its possible effects on the cost of sewer and additional traffic. Mr. Richards proposed additional signage on Beaver Street advising no through traffic. At President Krall's request, Andrew Raymond agreed to follow up with Hamilton Township on these concerns. Roberta Teal agreed to attend a zoning hearing in Hamilton Township to gather more information on the proposed Dollar General Store.

The meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene McArthur
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council