

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

June 25, 2014 – Work Session

The second monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held June 25, 2014, 7:00 PM at the East Berlin Borough Hall.

**Members Present:** President Charles Krall; James LeVan; Roberta Teal; Donald Dixon; Andrew Raymond; and Catherine Lockey

**Members Absent:** Jason Wood

**Also Present:** Mayor Keith Hoffman; Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; Melvin Riser; Loy Elliott; and John Schlaline

**Constituents Addressing Borough Council:** Melvin Riser addressed Council to introduce himself as an applicant for membership on the Planning Commission. Mr. Riser noted that he has been employed by Conewago Enterprises for twenty (20) years.

President Krall inquired if John Schlaline or Loy Elliott had any comments for Council and noted that this evening's public comment hearing on the proposed Zoning Ordinance began at 6:30 PM and has concluded. Since Mr. Schlaline and Mr. Elliott are members of the Planning Commission and assisted in drafting the proposed Zoning Ordinance, President Krall explained some of the comments received during the public hearing. It was noted that the number of members on the Zoning Hearing Board stated in the proposed Zoning Ordinance will require correction. President Krall stated that the performance standards in Section 511 of the current Zoning Ordinance were not included in the proposed Zoning Ordinance because it was decided that they are unenforceable. Mr. Schlaline stated that he is comfortable with what was accomplished by those involved in drafting the proposed Zoning Ordinance.

**Topics of Discussion:**

- Regarding the Branch Circle Culvert Repair Project, President Krall discussed Council's previous decision to utilize PennDOT MS944 forms for the bid process if Secretary McArthur was comfortable with entering the necessary data. After researching the requirements, Secretary McArthur stated that the Culvert Repair Project is sizeable and would require additional forms due to the threshold of advertised bids. In an effort to accomplish the repairs in a timely manner, Ms. McArthur proposed to have the Borough Engineer produce formal bid documents. Council concurred with the option to utilize formal bid documents for the project.
- Melvin Riser, who owns property in the vicinity of the Branch Circle Culvert Repair Project, stated that the outlet pipe to the creek is too small with three (3) pipes the same size flowing into it. President Krall mentioned the problem of debris in the culvert, and noted that he, Robert Meminger, and Rusty Ryan of the Adams County Conservation District met to examine the swale in this area which is named as a wetland on the development plan. President Krall noted that the property owners are responsible to maintain the swale and may remove the sediment to allow the water to flow, but may not alter the configuration of the swale. Proper vegetative growth is preferred to avoid storm water runoff. President Krall noted that the origin of the runoff appears to be in the area behind the proposed Dollar General south of the Borough in Hamilton Township. Adequate plans must be in place to avoid additional runoff. There was some discussion of the necessity to clear debris from the bars covering the entrance and exit of the culvert.

- President Krall reported that a surplus refund was received for employee health insurance from Benecon in the amount of \$14,204.97. Secretary McArthur explained the arrangement with Benecon to provide refunds based on the group's performance. The group includes East Berlin Borough, four (4) other municipalities, and Eastern Adams Regional Police. The refund will basically cover three (3) months of premiums and is approximately double the amount received last year.
- President Krall discussed a letter received from Trinity Church announcing the installation of a basketball court on their property available to the public, and commended them for their efforts.
- President Krall reminded Council that training and webinars are available.
- Regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) requested from Bermudian Youth Baseball, a letter was issued advising them not to proceed with any further expansion until the issue is resolved. President Krall stated that he recently met a member of the group who was unaware of the request and would address the matter with the Board.
- President Krall reported that Karen Wire and Wade Keach from the East Berlin Area Community Center (EBACC) spoke with Secretary McArthur regarding a proposed roof project at EBACC. They mentioned that they wish to apply for a grant, but the property is owned by the Borough so they are asking for assistance. The Borough has owned the property since 1990. The roof project cost estimate was stated as between \$60,000.00 and \$150,000.00. Mrs. Wire and Mr. Keach are seeking support from the Borough with the grant application or any other possible assistance. President Krall noted that there is no agreement in place between the Borough and EBACC regarding responsibility of maintenance, etc. of the property. Council discussed the possibility of transferring ownership of the property to EBACC, but this would include the cost of property insurance now covered by the Borough. President Krall suggested that Mr. Keach and Mrs. Wire be contacted to meet and discuss options with Secretary McArthur and himself.
- Andrew Raymond mentioned the upcoming Cruise Night at the VFW from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM on July 9, 2014, and the 5K Walk/Run event at EBACC on July 19, 2014. Mr. Raymond reported that the VFW will be making a donation to Liberty Fire Company to assist in the cost of their newly purchased vehicle.
- Donald Dixon inquired of the progress on the proposed Traffic Signal Video Detection System. Secretary McArthur stated that she submitted a grant application to PennDOT for the project, but we would be moving ahead regardless of grant funds. Mr. Dixon also inquired of the monthly Fire Company financial reports not received. Mike Thomas, President of the Board at Liberty Fire Company stated that he was informed that the reports were being provided and would bring up the matter at the next meeting of the Fire Company Board.

The meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene McArthur  
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council