

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

July 30, 2014 – Work Session

The second monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held July 30, 2014, 7:00 PM at the East Berlin Borough Hall.

Members Present: President Charles Krall; Jason Wood; Roberta Teal; Donald Dixon; and Andrew Raymond

Members Absent: James LeVan; and Catherine Lockey

Also Present: Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; Jillian Ropp; Michael Eisenhart; and David Richards

Constituents Addressing Borough Council: David Richards reported his attendance at the combined meeting of the Adams County and York County Tax Collection Committees, and the York Adams Tax Bureau (YATB) on July 28, 2014. Mr. Richards reviewed the topics covered in the meetings and announced an open house meeting for elected officials to review the tax collection, data retention, and distribution processes. The meetings will be held in Gettysburg and York on alternate days from August 11th through August 14th. Mr. Richards noted that the open house should prove quite interesting and that YATB is likely the number one model for tax collection agencies in the state. The next regular meeting of the YATB is scheduled for October.

Topics of Discussion:

- President Krall reported that financial reports for the months of March through July were received from Liberty Fire Company. The approximate figures for each month were reported as follows: July income \$5,200.00, expense 11,800.00; June income \$5,100.00, expense 19,500.00; May income \$28,000.00 (includes Paradise Township fire tax \$21,000.00), expense \$18,600.00; April income \$5,500.00, expense \$7,900.00; March income \$5,700.00, expense \$12,100.00; and February income \$5,600.00, expense \$12,300.00. President Krall commented on the lack of detail for the items listed, and questioned how they could remain operational with overwhelming expenses compared to income listed. Regarding Liberty's recent purchase of a \$600,000.00 fire engine, President Krall commented on Reading Township's assumption of payments for Hampton Fire Company's fire engine when they could no longer make the payments, and noted that East Berlin does not have the funds to do the same. President Krall noted that the entire Fire Company is not the problem with Liberty's financial reports, and that the issues are much more singular. Roberta Teal noted that Fire Chief Lee Byers proposed to purchase a used fire engine for \$250,000.00, but was overruled with the purchase of a new one. President Krall stated that there would be further discussion of these issues at the next meeting of Council.
- President Krall reported that bids would be opened for the Branch Circle Culvert Project on August 5th at 9:00 AM, and noted that any Council Member may attend the opening. Action will be taken on the bids at the next meeting of Council on August 6, 2014.
- Regarding a trademark for the Borough's crest, President Krall requested comments from Council. Roberta Teal stated that she would have no objection to allowing East Berlin organizations to use the crest such as was done with the t-shirts for the Community Center 5K Run. Andy Raymond reported that he received a request from Carol Carlson to incorporate the Borough crest into a quilt. David Richards inquired if a copyright might be obtained at little to no expense. Donald Dixon stated that a copyright would expire after twenty-five (25) years, but a trademark is forever. It was noted that with a cost of approximately \$1,000.00 for a trademark, careful consideration should be made as to the actual necessity of protecting the crest. President Krall suggested that Solicitor Battersby's wife, who is very knowledgeable in obtaining trademarks, attend a Council meeting to answer questions.
- President Krall reported that Cindy Burchette had come to the Borough office to discuss a drainage issue at her property on East Lynn Drive, and noted that this issue has been before Council for quite some

time. President Krall discussed the storm water materials that were received from PA Rural Water Association in conjunction with the data collection project, and noted that the map and truck book will assist in dealing with issues such as East Lynn Drive. Both Andrew Raymond and Donald Dixon observed the drainage issue on Ms. Burchette's property. President Krall stated that the issue would be kept on Council's agenda. In a discussion of the swale near Branch Circle, President Krall reported that the PA Borough News Magazine published an article describing new legislation that would require disclosure of a swale on a property and confirm that the swale must be maintained by the property owner. It was noted that storm water requirements have changed considerably in the last five (5) years with focus on retaining water within the municipality.

- President Krall reported that a request was received from the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) for email addresses of public officials. Secretary McArthur explained that the purpose of the request is to inform the officials of upcoming trainings, webinars, and events, but that information is provided with Council's mailboxes and in the PA Borough News Magazine. Ms. McArthur noted that the number of emails received by the Borough from PSAB is considerable, and that she would not provide email addresses without individual authorization.
- Regarding an agreement to address maintenance responsibility and other issues between the Borough and the East Berlin Area Community Center (EBAAC), President Krall reported that EBAAC Director Wade Keech proposes to form a committee to draft the agreement. Mr. Keech provided samples of other Community Center agreements as a basis for discussion, and suggested that the committee be comprised of both representatives of the Borough and EBACC. It was suggested that perhaps the Planning Commission should be involved in the committee. President Krall stated that he would be available, and that the formation of a committee would be discussed further.
- Roberta Teal presented a copy of a Congressional Record honoring East Berlin Borough's 250th Anniversary from Senator Scott Perry. Ms. Teal read the record to Council as it was presented to Congress. Secretary McArthur stated that honorary recognition has been received from the County, the State, and now Congress, and that all three (3) documents would be framed for display at the Borough Hall. Ms. Teal presented a draft of the book cover for the Wheels of Time II, and noted that the book is nearing publication.
- Council was provided the Founder's Day Committee meeting minutes of July 7, 2014, and the Planning Commission meeting minutes of May 22 and June 26, 2014.
- The Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce July newsletter was received, and Council was informed of available training and webinars.
- Dave Richards inquired of the status of inspecting the roof at the Community Center. Secretary McArthur stated that after discussing this with both the Borough Engineer and the Borough Building Inspector, both stated that they are not qualified to assess the condition of a roof and suggested that EBACC request quotes from several roofing contractors to determine the cause of the leaks.
- Andrew Raymond reported that Liberty Fire Company is planning a 5K Run event on September 20, 2014, and noted that the VFW would be supporting the event.
- Jason Wood mentioned the Evening at the Park event this Sunday evening including entertainment, food, silent auction, and other activities.
- President Krall discussed the possibility of changing Council's meeting schedule to two (2) Regular Sessions instead of one (1) Work Session and one (1) Regular Session in an effort to allow Council to act on issues more quickly. Jason Wood suggested that the meetings be scheduled for the first and third Wednesday of the month. President Krall stated that this could be addressed at Council's reorganization meeting for 2015.

The meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene McArthur
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council