

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

November 19, 2014 – Work Session

The second monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held November 19, 2014, 7:00 PM at the East Berlin Borough Hall.

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

**Members Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** Mayor Keith Hoffman; Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; and David Richards

**Constituents Addressing Borough Council:** None.

**Topics of Discussion:**

- David Richards addressed Council to review the November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes of the Adams County Tax Collection Committee (TCC) regarding proposed House and Senate Bills to reduce or eliminate school property tax. The Bills propose to create an “elimination tax” that would basically increase the existing earned income tax to reach this goal. Mr. Richards discussed several flaws in the proposal including that fact that retired persons and businesses do not pay earned income tax therefore increasing the burden on those who work. It was noted that the proposed tax would not affect capital gains or income from stocks and bonds. Suggestions were made at the TCC meeting to amend Mercantile/Business Privilege Taxes and to increase sales tax including a tax on clothing. Mr. Richards stated his intention to write to legislators to voice his objections to the proposed Bills. President Krall thanked Mr. Richards for his review of this topic.
- President Krall reported that he met with Borough Engineer Eric Mains and Robert Meminger to review a report received from Patrick Wright of PennDOT’s Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) program regarding recent truck damage incidents at Sidney Restaurant. The report proposes several possible recommendations to address the issue. Mr. Mains suggested a modification to the corner of the building, and a basic survey of this corner of the square to provide specific data that might also be useful in the future. In response to President Krall’s inquiry of cost for the survey, Mr. Mains stated it would likely be a couple of hundred dollars. President Krall noted that the cost has not yet been confirmed, but will have a quote by the next meeting of Council. Mr. Meminger reported that PennDOT is scheduled to resurface the intersection of Routes 194 and 234 at some point in the future, and would address Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance issues at the square. David Richards commented that the accidents that have damaged Sidney Restaurant appear to be the result of incompetent truck drivers, as he has witnessed trucks making this turn with ease.
- President Krall reported that the official approval letter for the Automated Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) grant has been received for the Traffic Signal Improvement Project. Instructions were also received including the requirement of a Resolution authorizing the execution of the agreement with PennDOT before proceeding with the project. President Krall stated that he has reviewed the agreement and explained that it is a standard format sent to all of the grant recipients whether the project is large or small, and proposes the adoption of Resolution 11-2014-6 to authorize its execution. *Roberta Teal motioned to approve Resolution*

*11-2014-6; seconded by Jason Wood. Per roll call vote, all Members of Council approved the motion.*

- Regarding the proposed 2015 Budget, President Krall reminded Council to review the document and that a final version would be adopted at the next Regular Session of Council on December 3, 2014.
- A letter was received from the East Berlin Community Library announcing a USDA loan for the proposed Expansion Project, and requesting financial support from the Borough.
- A request for financial support was received from the East Berlin Senior Center.
- President Krall reminded Council that training opportunities and webinars are available.
- Andrew Raymond stated that he would be attending the meeting of the Adams County Council of Governments (COG) tomorrow and would report the meeting topics to Council. Mr. Raymond announced that he has agreed to serve as Vice President of the COG for one (1) year as requested. The request was made to Mr. Raymond due to the reported objections of some municipal members of over-representation of Gettysburg officials in the COG. Mr. Raymond will strive to balance the situation.
- Roberta Teal discussed the upcoming Winter Festival on December 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the East Berlin Area Community Center. The Festival will include wagon rides, breakfast with Santa, and games, and will be advertised by radio announcement.

The meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene McArthur  
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council