

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

March 4, 2015

The first monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held March 4, 2015, at the East Berlin Borough Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM.

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

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Solicitor Matthew Battersby; Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; Christina Simpson, Candidate for Adams County Judge; Jim Martin, Adams County Commissioner for Re-election; Greg Green; Louise Harrington; and Fran Dudek

Adoption of the Minutes: The meeting minutes of Council's Session on February 18, 2015, were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Roberta Teal; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved with all in favor.*

Payment of Bills: A summary of bills for the beginning of March totaling \$23,984.23 was reviewed. *Jason Wood motioned to pay the bills for the beginning of March; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

Constituents Addressing Borough Council: Christina Simpson introduced herself to Council as a candidate for Judge with the Adams County Court of Common Pleas and noted her experience as an attorney in Adams County for eighteen (18) years. Ms. Simpson explained her history of cases, background, and experience as a trained moderator. Ms. Simpson stated that she is proud to be running as the first woman judge in Adams County and asked that those present vote for her on May 19th. Donald Dixon inquired how many candidates are running for Judge. Ms. Simpson responded that there are three (3) candidates for two (2) positions and thanked Council for the opportunity to speak at this evening's meeting.

Planning Commission Member Louise Harrington addressed Council to discuss a shortage of members on the Commission and stated that it is desirable to have seven (7) active members. President Krall stated that Council is aware of the issue and will be addressing it in the near future.

Adams County Commissioner Jim Martin addressed Council to announce that he is running for re-election as a Republican candidate and reviewed the accomplishments of the Commission during his first term. Andrew Raymond commented on the effective assistance of Robert Thaeler of the Adams County Office of Planning and Development in updating the Borough's Zoning Ordinance and noted the cost savings to the Borough. President Krall stated that Mr. Thaeler's familiarity with the Borough as its Zoning Officer resulted in a well-tailored, beneficial Zoning Ordinance. Commissioner Martin thanked Council for allowing his presentation.

Mayor's Report: In the Mayor's absence, Council was provided the police report for February.

Fire Company Report: President Krall reported that the January financial and fire/ambulance reports were received from Liberty Fire Company.

Engineer's Report: President Krall discussed a quote received from Borough Engineer Eric Mains for \$350.00 to provide a digital template of truck turning radius at the square, and noted that similar information can be found on the internet. Truck turning radius information may be utilized to determine the possibility of readjusting the location of stop bars. President Krall urged that this issue should not be overanalyzed in the short term and that traffic issues at the square will require a long term project.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby reported that he provided information on the Borough's legal matters as requested for the Borough's 2014 municipal audit.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Council reviewed the Previous Year Financial Comparison Report and Summary of Accounts. President Krall explained certain differences in revenue and expense accounts between 2014 and 2015 year-to-date figures and noted that the Borough's current financial standing has improved over the past year.

Streets/Public Safety and Maintenance: Andrew Raymond reported that Robert Meminger attended a storm water management class reviewing PennDOT policies and MS4 regulations and concerns. Efforts have been made to address six (6) snow and ice events since the last Council meeting. New chairs for the Council meeting room have been inspected and assembled. A monthly workshop was held with Borough Engineer Eric Mains to discuss the pending traffic signal upgrade project and traffic issues at the square. Options are being reviewed to address the traffic issues. The street sweeper will require new gutter brushes this spring at a cost of approximately \$270.00 and the plow blade edge on the F750 will have to be replaced before next winter. Regarding Mr. Meminger's attendance at the storm water management class, President Krall noted that all municipalities will be required to meet MS4 compliance in the future.

Planning/Zoning: President Krall stated that issues with the diminishing membership of the Planning Commission will need to be addressed by Council.

Personnel: James LeVan reported that the Personnel Committee met with Officer Grim and Mayor Hoffiman to discuss transition plans for Officer Grim's retirement in 2016. A proposal was made to advertise this summer for a part time temporary officer to work with Officer Grim with the possibility of a full time position later. On the matter of proper procedures to hire a police officer, Commissioner Jim Martin explained policies available from the County such as assessment testing that may be helpful. There was some discussion of the benefit of a probationary period. Mr. LeVan reported that Jason Wood is willing to serve another three-year term on the Parks and Recreation Commission for a term ended January 31, 2015, and that there are no other applicants for this position. *James LeVan motioned to reappoint Jason Wood to the Parks and Recreation Commission; seconded by Catherine Lockey. Per roll call vote, all Members of Council except Mr. Wood (abstaining) approved the motion.*

Park and Recreation: None.

Unfinished Business: President Krall presented Resolution No. 3-2015-3 regarding on-street handicapped parking at 309 Locust Street as discussed at the previous meeting of Council. Solicitor Battersby noted that the handicapped parking spot would be available to anyone with a handicapped placard, and not just the resident of 309 Locust Street. President Krall stated that the requesting resident

is aware of this stipulation. *Roberta Teal motioned to adopt Resolution No. 3-2015-3; seconded by Catherine Lockey. Per roll call vote, all Members of Council approved the motion.*

President Krall presented Ordinance No. 2015-1 to reinstate the compensation of Council Members and the Mayor to \$1,000.00 per year. It was noted that this Ordinance could only be applied to newly elected or re-elected Council Members or Mayor, and that the Ordinance was properly advertised. President Krall discussed the positive finances of the Borough over recent years allowing for this reinstatement. *James LeVan motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-1; seconded by Jason Wood. Per roll call vote, all Members of Council approved the motion.*

President Krall proposed to table the request from Abbottstown Borough for street sweeping.

New Business: None.

Correspondence:

Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce March Newsletter
Adams County Boroughs Association Meeting, 3/16, 6:15 PM, Pike Restaurant, Gettysburg
PACOG Winter Newsletter
Training and Webinars Available

President Krall reported that a letter was received from David Richards regarding the requirement of carbon monoxide detectors, and noted that this is handled by the Borough's Building Inspector.

Andrew Raymond reported his attendance at the meeting of the Adams County Council of Governments meeting on February 26, 2015, and provided booklets from the Land Conservancy of Adams County.

Donald Dixon motioned to adjourn the meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 8:13 PM; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with all voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McArthur
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council