

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

March 18, 2015

The second monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held March 18, 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 (7:10)

Members Absent: None.

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

Adoption of the Minutes: The meeting minutes of Council's Session on March 4, 2015, were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by James LeVan; seconded by Roberta Teal. Motion approved with all in favor.*

Payment of Bills: A summary of bills for the end of March totaling \$10,171.59 was reviewed. Donald Dixon questioned the amount owed to Eastern Adams Regional Police for employee health insurance. Secretary McArthur explained that the policy is for all of the qualified Borough employees and their spouses, not just for Officer Grim. The coverage is obtained through the Eastern Adams Regional Police Group, of which the Borough is a member for insurance. *Donald Dixon motioned to pay the bills for the end of March; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

Constituents Addressing Borough Council: David Richards reminded Council that the Community Center needs an East Berlin Board Representative. President Krall stated that the Council is open to suggestions from the Community Center to fill the position. Regarding the termination of the acting Director at the Community Center, Mr. Richards inquired of the progress of creating a maintenance agreement with the Borough. President Krall stated that he had met once with the former Director to discuss the agreement, but nothing more was accomplished. Mr. Richards discussed the high cost to late taxpayers when a private collector is retained by a municipality, and that the same services of the York Adams Tax Bureau (YATB) are much less burdensome to the taxpayer. It was noted that the Borough retains J.P. Harris, a private collector, for this purpose. Mr. Richards suggested that the Borough consider the services of YATB, and that he would provide a fee schedule. Regarding anti-skid material picked up by the street sweeper, Mr. Richards inquired if the excess material might be provided to the Community Center for use in an area near the Park. President Krall suggested that Mr. Richards contact Robert Meminger with his request.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Catherine Lockey reported that some municipalities, including Hanover Borough, obtain bids for investing funds and suggested that Council consider this option in the future.

Maintenance: Andrew Raymond reported that the snow event on March 5, 2015, took considerable time and effort and that the snow removal equipment would remain on the trucks until April. Mr. Raymond provided an update on the issue of truck damages at Sidney Restaurant including Robert Meminger's communications with Neil and Sarah Annis (the owners), PennDOT, and Robert Gordon of the Adams County Transportation Planning Organization (ACTPO), and noted that preparations are underway for Borough Engineer Eric Mains to meet with PennDOT. The traffic signal Pedestrian pedestal destroyed in the March 5th accident will be replaced by Swam Electric.

The street sweeper is being prepped for spring cleanup and four (4) “no commercial truck parking” signs and one (1) handicapped parking sign will be installed by April 1st.

President Krall noted that Borough Representatives will attend the April 22nd meeting of the ACTPO and a meeting will be scheduled with PennDOT to discuss the issue of truck damages at the square. President Krall reported that a record of damages was received from Sidney Restaurant, but the only definitive truck damages began in 2014, and noted that Robert Meminger has spent considerable time researching the issue and providing reports. In his opinion, President Krall stated that the Borough is not at fault and that the problem lies with the trucking industry’s lack of qualified drivers. President Krall also mentioned the considerable cost to the Borough to research preventative measures and stated that PennDOT should assist with this issue on State roads. There was some discussion of the options to ban truck traffic or prohibit right-hand turns by trucks within the Borough. It was noted that right-hand turns are prohibited throughout Mechanicsburg. Andrew Raymond mentioned the possibility of moving the stop bars further back at the square. Catherine Lockey discussed the recent newspaper article regarding incidents at Sidney’s and stated that she would like to do something to assist. Roberta Teal mentioned Sidney’s refusal to accept the Borough’s suggestions to install a truck curb or bollards for protection, or to level off the corner of the porch receiving the bulk of the damage. President Krall suggested the installation of cameras at Sidney to detect the perpetrators when incidents occur.

Planning/Zoning: James LeVan discussed the future of the Planning Commission noting that it is currently not functioning without leadership. Mr. LeVan offered several options including bringing back former Chairman John Schlaline, seeking other applicants, or eliminating the Commission with duties to be performed by Council’s Planning/Zoning Committee. There was some discussion of recent and future land development projects requiring planning review. Roberta Teal stated her objection to Mr. Schlaline’s failure to work within the scope of the Borough Code, and not in the capacity of an advisory board to Council. President Krall mentioned the option to decrease the membership of the Commission as allowed by the Borough Code stated as three (3) to seven (7) members. David Richards mentioned that the Commission must consist of an odd number of members for voting. Jason Wood mentioned his preference to allow the planning duties to be handled by Council’s Planning/Zoning Committee. President Krall asked that Council consider all of the options for future discussion.

Personnel: James LeVan stated that he has drafted a job description and sample advertisement for the upcoming vacancy of the Borough’s police officer. Mayor Hoffman requested a brief meeting of the Personnel Committee following tonight’s Council meeting to review additional documents.

Park/Recreation: President Krall reviewed a request from the Parks and Recreation Commission for a letter of support from Council in applying for a DCNR grant. A draft of the letter of support was also provided. *Roberta Teal motioned to offer the letter of support as requested; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with all in favor.*

Unfinished Business: Catherine Lockey inquired of the funds owed from the Founder’s Day Account to the Borough’s General Fund for the publication of the Wheels of Time II book. Roberta Teal stated that there is currently between two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) and three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) in the Founder’s Day account toward the nine thousand (\$9,000.00) owed.

President Krall discussed the request from Abbottstown Borough for East Berlin Borough to provide street sweeping services as stated in the agreement from June of 2014. *Roberta Teal motioned to provide*

the street sweeping service to Abbottstown as stated in the 2014 agreement; seconded by Catherine Lockey. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.

New Business: President Krall presented Resolution 3-2015-4 approving the Adams County 2015 Hazard Mitigation Plan, and noted that without this Resolution in place, the Borough would not qualify for FEMA funding in the event of a disaster. *Andrew Raymond motioned to adopt Resolution 3-2015-4; seconded by Jason Wood. Per roll call vote, all Members of Council approved the motion.*

Catherine Lockey presented a letter from Abbottstown Borough reporting that they will be constructing a new municipal building in their park and she congratulated them on the project. Ms. Lockey requested Council's approval to cover her expenses to attend the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs' Annual Conference in Lancaster on April 26, 2015. The cost would include the registration fee of \$250.00 and a one-night stay at the hotel for \$158.00 plus 11% for a total of \$425.38. *Andrew Raymond motioned to approve the cost of expenses in the amount of \$425.38 for Catherine Lockey to attend the Conference; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

Correspondence:

Adams County Boroughs Association March Newsletter
Training and Webinars Available

Donald Dixon motioned to adjourn the meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 8:11 PM; seconded by Catherine Lockey. Motion approved with all voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McArthur
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council