

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

September 16, 2015

**Members Present:** Vice President James LeVan; Roberta Teal; Jason Wood (7:09); Andrew Raymond; and Donald Dixon (7:40)

**Members Absent:** Charles Krall; Catherine Lockey

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

Vice President LeVan reconvened the Council meeting of September 2, 2015, and noted that the meeting was recessed in the event that bids were received for the Community Center Roof Project. Bids have not yet been received. *Roberta Teal motioned to adjourn the September 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 7:09 PM; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved with all in favor.*

The second monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held September 16, 2015, at the East Berlin Borough Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:10 PM.

**Adoption of the Minutes:** The meeting minutes of Council's Session on September 2, 2015, were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jason Wood; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved with all in favor.*

**Payment of Bills:** A summary of bills for the end of September totaling \$11,557.27 was reviewed. Vice President LeVan mentioned the high cost of placing ads for the police officer position. *Roberta Teal motioned to pay the bills for the end of September; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

**Constituents Addressing Borough Council:** Cory Lease of Liberty Fire Company addressed Council to request additional funding from East Berlin Borough. Andrew Raymond stated that Mr. Lease provided an excellent and professional presentation for the recent public meeting at Liberty Fire Company, but noted that the meeting was not well-attended. Regarding the need for funding, Mr. Lease reported that Liberty operated at a \$20,000.00 deficit in 2014 with expenses totaling \$150,000.00, and explained that having emergency medical technicians (EMTs) on duty 24/7 helps to support the cost of operations. In response to Mr. Raymond's inquiry of a possible merger to lower costs, Mr. Lease stated that a merger is an option, but requires an agreement and viable circumstances. Mr. Lease also mentioned the lack of volunteers due to the requirement of extensive training and time invested in fundraising activities, which have become less profitable. Mr. Lease stated that additional municipal contributions would help to cover lacking fundraisers. There was some discussion of the option of a fire tax and the option to bill insurance companies for calls requiring volunteers and equipment. It was noted that the Borough currently donates approximately \$1,200.00 early each year and approximately \$5,600.00 later in the year. Mr. Lease seemed unaware of these contributions and requested documentation. Secretary McArthur stated that documentation would be provided. Vice President LeVan stated that the Borough's finances are adequate to consider additional funding to Liberty, and thanked Mr. Lease for addressing Council.

David Richards stated that he could provide a Tax Collection Committee (TCC) report to the Borough based on the receipt of taxes if the Borough wishes to have the report. Vice President LeVan stated that with tax receipts shown on the monthly financial report to Council, the additional report is not needed.

Wayne Roller of 400 Abbottstown Street addressed Council to inquire of the existence of a noise ordinance, and stated that he recently spoke with Officer Grim regarding the noise made by the blowers at East Berlin Carwash, 406 Abbottstown Street. Officer Grim informed Mr. Roller that a study was done some time ago showing that the volume of noise from traffic on Abbottstown Street is louder than the blowers at the car wash. Mr. Roller requested a copy of the Borough's noise ordinance and the parameters of noise tolerance, and a copy of any noise studies done for the East Berlin Carwash. Vice President LeVan stated that Mr. Roller's request would be addressed, and thanked him for coming.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Finance:** Roberta Teal reported that the Finance Committee met on September 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss the cost of the new three-year trash contract and proposed an increase in residential service from \$45.00 per quarter to \$48.00 per quarter beginning in 2016. Ms. Teal noted that reserve funds in the refuse account would also be utilized to cover the increased cost over the three-year contract. Jason Wood stated that the cost of residential service has remained at \$45.00 per quarter for the past ten (10) years. Donald Dixon noted that the cost increase is due to weekly recycling now included in the contract. Secretary McArthur stated that recycling was overwhelming supported by a residential survey, and the wheeled automated containers are also popular with the residents keeping the town looking cleaner than multiple random bags and containers. The residential cost increase will be addressed by Resolution before the end of the year.

**Maintenance:** Andrew Raymond reported that pavement markings revisions at the square have been rescheduled for September 22nd, and work to reestablish a drainage ditch along North Avenue at the Park is scheduled for September 24th. Three (3) "no parking" signs were replaced on Third Street and North Avenue, and the requested "handicapped parking" sign was installed at Zeigler Brothers on W. King Street. Support services for Colonial Day were conducted without incident. Swam Electric installed three (3) "no turn on red" signs at the square last week. Upgrades were made to the electrical box located at the square to bring it up to code. The electrical outlet box was replaced and active circuits within the circuit box were marked.

**Planning/Zoning:** Vice President LeVan reported that a Land Development Plan has been received for the Zeigler Brothers' Expansion Project and will go before the Planning Commission on September 24th. Mr. LeVan hopes to have Borough Engineer Eric Mains attend the meeting.

**Personnel:** Vice President LeVan reported that the Personnel Committee met on September 9th to review two (2) applications (Roberta Teal and Harold Lau) for a vacancy on the Board of the East Berlin Area Joint Authority and recommended the appointment of Harold Lau. Vice President LeVan stated that with Council President Krall already a Member of the Board, they wish to limit the number of Council Members to one (1). Ms. Teal inquired if State regulations limit the number of Council Members who may serve on the Board of a Municipal Authority. Vice President LeVan responded that they do not. Ms. Teal reported that she has attended most meetings of the Joint Authority Board and that she never saw Mr. Lau until the most recent meeting. Jason Wood concurred that Ms. Teal actively attends the Board meetings. *James LeVan motioned to appoint Harold Lau to fill a vacancy on the Board of the Joint Authority with a term ending December 31, 2015; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Per roll call vote: Jason Wood, yes; Andrew Raymond, yes; Roberta Teal, no; Donald Dixon, no; James LeVan, yes. Motion approved by a vote of three (3) to two (2).* Andrew Raymond stated that he hopes Mr. Lau will regularly attend the meetings of the Board. Vice President LeVan stated that the Personnel Committee also reviewed six (6) applications received for the position of police officer and will interview four (4) of those on October 6th and October 7th. Vice President LeVan noted that two (2) additional applications have been received and

the Personnel Committee will meet with Solicitor Battersby at 6:00 PM on October 7th to review interview procedures.

**Park/Recreation:** Jason Wood reported that the fundraising golf tournament on September 11th was an outstanding success.

**Unfinished Business:** Vice President LeVan reported that bids will be opened for the Community Center Roof Project on September 30th at 9:00 AM, and awarded at the next regular session of Council on October 7th at 7:00 PM.

**New Business:** None.

**Correspondence:**

Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce September Newsletter  
Adams County Boroughs Association Meeting 9/21, 6:15 PM, Pike Restaurant, Gettysburg  
Training and Webinars Available

Andrew Raymond announced that Pennsylvania State Representatives and Congressmen would be attending the Adams County Council of Governments' Legislative Meeting on October 22nd, and invited Council Members to attend.

*Donald Dixon motioned to adjourn the meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 8:05 PM; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with all voting in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McArthur  
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council