

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

December 7, 2016

The first monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held December 7, 2016, at the East Berlin Borough Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM.

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

Members Absent: Catherine Lockey

Also Present: Mayor Keith Hoffman; Solicitor Matthew Battersby; Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; and Jack Krenitsky

Adoption of the Minutes: The meeting minutes of Council's Session on November 16, 2016, were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Donald Dixon; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

Payment of Bills: A summary of bills for the beginning of December totaling \$18,387.25 was reviewed. Donald Dixon inquired about the billing for the 2015/2016 holiday lighting from Met Ed. Secretary McArthur stated that the invoice is normally issued early in the year but was only just received. *Charles Krall motioned to pay the bills for the beginning of December; seconded by James LeVan. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

Constituents Addressing Borough Council: None.

Mayor's Report: Council reviewed the police report for November.

Solicitor's Report: Nothing to report.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Council reviewed the Previous Year Financial Comparison Report and Summary of Accounts.

Streets/ Maintenance: Andrew Raymond reported that the F250 is equipped for snow removal and is filled with antiskid. Hoffman Surveying is scheduled to begin the survey and design work for the proposed South, Zinn, and Stoner Avenues repaving projects. The traffic sign inventory is being updated to have all the signs compliant with PennDOT specifications.

Planning/Zoning: James LeVan reported that the Planning Commission is scheduled to meet tomorrow evening rather than December 22nd due to the upcoming holiday.

Personnel: James LeVan stated that the Personnel Committee will schedule a meeting to review expiring membership terms on the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Planning Commission, the Zoning Hearing Board, and the Joint Authority Board. An application for membership was received from Borough resident Darrin Youker. *James LeVan motioned to reappoint Phil Keener as a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission to a three-year term ending December 31, 2019; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with all in favor.*

Park and Recreation: Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business: President Teal presented the proposed 2017 Budget for adoption. *Charles Krall motioned to adopt the 2017 Budget; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Per roll call vote, all Members of Council approved the motion.* Regarding the petition to reduce the Council membership from seven (7) to five (5) members, President Teal reported that copies were placed at both the Community Center and

the Library, but apparently are not being seen by eligible Borough residents. There was some discussion of utilizing the list of registered voters provided by the County to contact the eligible residents who may wish to sign the petition. Charles Krall suggested that President Teal place a copy at her place of business, the East Berlin Beverage Distributor.

New Business: President Teal stated that the 2017 Budget and meeting schedule will be advertised as required. In a discussion of revising the meeting schedule of the Borough Council, James LeVan stated that in the interest of efficiency, he proposes to reduce the number of meetings from two (2) per month to one (1) per month. It was also noted that if a special meeting is needed, it could be advertised with twenty-four (24) hours notice. *Andrew Raymond motioned that the 2017 Council meeting schedule will be the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM; seconded by James LeVan. Per roll call, Council voted as follows: James LeVan, yes; Jason Wood, yes; Andrew Raymond, yes; Charles Krall, yes; Donald Dixon, no; and Roberta Teal, yes. The motion is approved by a vote of five (5) to one (1).*

Council reviewed a quote for electricity from APG&E for \$0.0450 per kWh versus our rate with Met Ed at \$0.06957 per kWh. The quote was provided by APPI Energy, an energy consulting firm endorsed by the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB). Ben Etherton of APPI Energy urged that Council sign a contract for a sixty (60) month term to lock in the rate with APG&E, but would need the signed contract by tomorrow at noon. President Teal stated that she was concerned that this decision must be made so quickly. Charles Krall stated his concerns with the five-year contract term and the possibility of hidden fees in the billing, and questioned how the energy consulting firm is paid. Secretary McArthur stated that she would contact Mr. Etherton to relay these concerns and request a copy of a sample billing. President Teal stated that the matter would be addressed at the next meeting of Council on December 21st.

Regarding the EBACC Roof Project, Jack Krenitsky addressed Council to discuss the quote received from Donald B. Smith Roofing for \$146,000.00 and noted that the EBACC Board is ready to finalize the project for next spring and looking at financing. Mr. Krenitsky inquired of assistance from the Borough in financing the project. President Teal proposed that the Borough would make a \$25,000.00 donation and provide a \$50,000.00 loan to EBACC. Charles Krall inquired of the status of the requests to the other municipalities to assist with financing. Mr. Krenitsky stated that Abbottstown Borough and Washington Township will not assist, and Reading, Hamilton, and Paradise Townships will not provide any clear amount guaranteed for the project. Mr. Krall suggested that a letter be sent to the municipalities requesting a commitment. Mr. Krenitsky discussed other upcoming expenses at EBACC and inquired if the Borough might loan \$70,000.00. President Teal stated that the amounts as quoted are all that is available. Regarding the status of the building inspection for the purpose of drawing a lease of the EBACC property from the Borough, Mr. Krenitsky stated that they have spoken to some commercial inspectors. Solicitor Battersby offered his assistance in finding a commercial inspector. There was some discussion of Lake Meade area residents' use of the EBACC facility, and that they should be included in a request for assistance. *Charles Krall motioned to table the discussion of the donation and loan for the EBACC roof project to the next meeting of Council; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved.*

Correspondence:

- Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce December Newsletter
- Training and Webinars Available

Donald Dixon motioned to adjourn the meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 7:55 PM; seconded by Charles Krall. Motion approved with all voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McArthur
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council