

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

December 21, 2016

Members Present: President Roberta Teal; James LeVan; Charles Krall; and Donald Dixon

Members Absent: Catherine Lockey; Andrew Raymond; and Jason Wood

Also Present: Mayor Keith Hoffman; Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; Stacey Gautsch; and Steven Gautsch

The second monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held December 21, 2016, at the East Berlin Borough Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM.

Adoption of the Minutes: The meeting minutes of Council's Session on December 7, 2016, were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by James LeVan; seconded by Charles Krall. Motion approved with all in favor.*

Payment of Bills: A summary of bills for the end of December totaling \$15,405.35 was reviewed. *Charles Krall motioned to pay the bills for the end of December; seconded by Donald Dixon. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

Constituents Addressing Borough Council: Steven Gautsch of 129 Twig Terrace addressed Council to explain that as a member of the Boy Scouts, he must attend a public meeting to obtain his Communications Merit Badge. He further stated that he will be attending the Merit Badge College in January to fill the remaining requirements. Stacey Gautsch, Steven's mother, stated that she is very involved with scheduling activities for the Boy Scouts and inquired how they might do some plantings at the Borough Park. President Teal suggested that Mrs. Gautsch attend a meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss the matter. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Nothing to report.

Maintenance: President Teal reported that Robert Meminger and Donald Myers worked from 4:00 AM to 6:00 AM on December 17th to treat the roads with salt and antiskid mix during the sleet and freezing rain event. President Teal stated that David Hoffman from Hoffman Surveying will be meeting with Mr. Meminger on Friday morning at 9:00 AM with updates on the surveying project for South, Zinn, and Stoner Avenues. Charles Krall stated that he will also attend the meeting. Mr. Krall reported that the Traffic Sign Inventory process continues to ensure that the signs meet the size, height, and reflectivity requirements per PennDOT regulations. Donald Dixon inquired if the dip in the road on W. King Street will be addressed. Mr. Krall responded that he passed this on to the Joint Authority for repairs, but it will likely be completed in the spring due to the cold temperature's effect on asphalt.

Planning/Zoning: James LeVan reported that the Planning Commission met on December 15th, but he was not informed of the meeting date change from December 8th, so he was unable to attend.

Personnel: James LeVan stated that the Personnel Committee must schedule a meeting to address multiple membership terms expiring on various Boards and Commissions, and suggested to meet on December 28th at 3:30 PM. Charles Krall stated that he will attend. Mr. LeVan will inform Jason Wood.

Park/Recreation: President Teal reported that a grant in the amount of \$16,000.00 has been awarded to the Park from Adams County for the construction of a restroom facility, and a grant in the amount of \$40,000.00 has been awarded from DCNR toward paving the entire walking path and the installation of a basketball court.

Unfinished Business: Regarding the EBACC Roof Project, President Teal requested input from Council for the provision of a loan in the amount of \$50,000.00, and noted that a donation in the amount of \$25,000.00 was approved in the 2017 budget. Charles Krall suggested that more information is needed from Solicitor Battersby, and that more members of Council should be present in making this decision. *Charles Krall motioned to table the loan discussion; seconded by Donald Dixon. Motion approved.*

President Teal presented a quote for the provision of electricity at 0.04494 per kWh for a term of five (5) years, and noted that this would save the Borough approximately \$2,000.00 per year over the current rate of 0.06547 per kWh. Charles Krall voiced his concern of the length of the contract and the cost of a cancellation fee should the Borough withdraw from the contract. There was some discussion of the Pennsylvania State Association of Borough's endorsement of APPI Energy as an energy consultant and procurement provider in assisting Boroughs to obtain low cost electricity. *Charles Krall motioned to accept the quote as presented and to authorize Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur to sign the necessary contract documents; seconded by Donald Dixon. Per roll call vote, all Members of Council present approved the motion.* Mr. Krall requested that Secretary McArthur inquire of the penalty for early withdraw from the contract and provide the information to Council in email. Secretary McArthur agreed.

New Business: Donald Dixon suggested that a letter be sent to the Lions Club stating the Borough's appreciation of the decorative copper lanterns that they provide every holiday season. Secretary McArthur agreed to draft the letter.

Charles Krall reviewed the status of the Joint Authority's attempt to provide sewer service to Laughman's Bottom and Conewago Park in Reading Township, and noted that a draft agreement was given to Reading Township. The Department of Environmental Protection is surprised that this is not already in place and is applying pressure to move forward with the agreement. Mr. Krall stated that servicing these areas would create an additional one hundred sixty (160) hookups to the system.

Correspondence:

Training and Webinars Available

Donald Dixon motioned to adjourn the meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 7:45 PM; seconded by Charles Krall. Motion approved with all voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McArthur
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council