

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

November 7, 2018

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held November 7, 2018 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; Donald Dixon; James LeVan; Anne Geiger; David Meixner; and Jason Wood

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Mayor Keith Hoffman; Solicitor Matthew Battersby; Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; Walt Geiger; and David Kann

Adoption of the Minutes: The meeting minutes of Council's Session on October 3, 2018, were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Charles Krall; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with all in favor.*

Payment of Bills: A summary of bills for November totaling \$80,141.78 was reviewed. Anne Geiger questioned the amount shown as the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the employee pension plan. Solicitor Battersby explained that the required funding of employee pension plans is set by the State, and also partially funded by State allocations. Anne Geiger inquired if the employee health insurance plan is brokered along with the Borough's municipal insurance coverage. Secretary McArthur explained that the employee health insurance is with Capital Blue Cross through Webb Insurance and is not part of the municipal coverage with Kunkle Insurance. *Jason Wood motioned to pay the bills for November; seconded by Donald Dixon. Motion approved unanimously.*

Constituents Addressing Borough Council: David Kann addressed Council to introduce himself and his new agricultural consulting business at 104 W. King Street, along with his wife's floral arrangement business in the same building. President Teal thanked Mr. Kann and welcomed him to the Borough.

Mayor's Report: Council reviewed the October police report. Mayor Hoffman reported that Trick or Treat went well with the exception of some smashed pumpkins.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby reported that he has received no additional information regarding a Lease Agreement with EBACC. Regarding the failing drain pipe at Branch Circle, a right-of-way must be established to enter the properties. In a discussion of the outflow point, David Meixner stated that it is approximately twenty five feet (25') from the creek. There was some discussion of the recent State grant awarded to the Library and the Borough's involvement in overseeing the project and administering the funding.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Council reviewed the Financial Comparison Report and Summary of Accounts. President Teal presented the proposed 2019 Draft Budget and discussed an increase in local donations, possible decorative pedestrian crosswalks, and the consideration of installing flashing LED speed signs to slow traffic. Jason Wood inquired about a possible speed bump on Beaver Street to slow traffic. David Meixner urged that it should be a speed hump due to plowing difficulties with speed bumps. President Teal stated that the Draft Budget will be advertised for consideration of adoption at the December meeting.

Streets/ Maintenance: Council was provided the Maintenance Report for their review. Council discussed a report from Robert Meminger reviewing crosswalk and traffic calming issues. It was noted that a request will be made to PennDOT for a speed check study.

Planning/Zoning: James LeVan reported the Planning Commission is awaiting updates on the two (2) proposed bridge closures on Lake Road in Paradise Township, and that the next meeting of the Commission will be on December 20th due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Personnel: James LeVan presented a proposal to amend the Personnel Policy to reflect a change in life insurance coverage if still working full time over the age of sixty-five (65). The amendment would clarify that the life insurance benefit decreases thirty-five percent (35%) after the age of sixty-five (65). To remain at full coverage, the cost of the group policy would double. *James LeVan motioned to approve the amendment to the Personnel Policy; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with all in favor.*

Parks and Recreation: Council reviewed the meeting minutes of September 13th and October 11th. Regarding the upcoming restroom project, Anne Geiger explained the benefits of installing electricity for lighting and hand dryers. Council concurred.

Communications: President Teal reported a request from Community Media for donations to continue their PEG (Public, Education, Government) broadcasting with the loss of funding from Comcast. They are requesting one third (1/3) of the Borough's franchise fee, or \$3,320.00 annually, to continue broadcasting. There was some discussion of the available of any PEG channels in East Berlin. *Donald Dixon motioned to oppose the requested donation; seconded by James LeVan. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

The Communications Committee Members (Anne Geiger, Jason Wood, and David Meixner) presented a proposal to update the Borough's website and a Social Media Policy. Solicitor Battersby stated that it would take him some time to review the extensive Policy. There was some discussion of the hazards of utilizing Social Media to communicate to residents, as well as the function, administration, and content of the Borough's current website. Anne Geiger proposed that the Borough's website be updated by the host web designer at a cost of \$125.00. *Jason Wood motioned to approve the website update; seconded by David Meixner. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: President Teal reported that there will be an electronic recycling event on December 1st from 8:00 to 10:00 AM at the Borough Park as part of our residential trash service with Waste Connections. The event will be quarterly and hosted by each of the four (4) municipalities in Adams County Southeast Group Contract. Donald Dixon reported that East Berlin Borough had a sixty-three percent (63%) voter turnout on Election Day, which was the highest in the County.

Correspondence:

- Adams County Reschedules Emergency Incident Program to 12/11 at 6:30 PM at EOC, Gettysburg
- Adams County Boroughs Association Meeting, 11/19 at 6:15 PM, Pike Restaurant, Gettysburg
- Thank You Letter from CROP Walk Coordinator for Chief Seitz' Services
- Invitation to Join Adams Economic Alliance, \$200.00
- Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce October Newsletter
- Training and Webinars Available

Council entered Executive Session at 8:27 PM to discuss a personnel matter. Council re-entered Regular Session at 8:58 PM

Charles Krall motioned to adjourn the meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 8:58 PM; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with all voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene McArthur, Secretary