

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

December 5, 2018

The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held December 5, 2018 at the East Berlin Borough Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM.

**Members Present:** Vice President James LeVan (chaired this evening's meeting); President Roberta Teal; Charles Krall; Donald Dixon; Anne Geiger; and David Meixner

**Members Absent:** Jason Wood

**Also Present:** Mayor Keith Hoffman; Solicitor Matthew Battersby; Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; David Scotty Bolton and Raymond Gouker from Community Media

**Adoption of the Minutes:** The meeting minutes of Council's Session on November 7, 2018, were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Charles Krall; seconded by Anne Geiger. Motion approved with all in favor.*

**Payment of Bills:** A summary of bills for December totaling \$21,975.31 was reviewed. Anne Geiger questioned a service bill from Leas Garage to repair an oil leak for the F250 in the amount of \$3,022.60, and whether the Borough still has the need for this truck after purchasing the F350. Charles Krall noted that the F250 is outfitted to spread brine and plow for snow events. *Donald Dixon motioned to pay the bills for December; seconded by Anne Geiger. Motion approved unanimously.*

**Constituents Addressing Borough Council:** Raymond Gouker, the Founder of Community Media, along with David Bolton addressed Council to discuss the need for municipal support since Comcast no longer provides the ten (10) cents per subscriber to support Community Media. Mr. Gouker noted that the cable franchise fee paid to municipalities is to be used in part for community information. A PowerPoint presentation was shown to Council to showcase the services provided by Community Media through PEG (Public, Education, Government) channels on Comcast Cable. Mr. Gouker urged that a portion of the franchise fee, currently at three percent (3%) and could be increased to five percent (5%), should be donated in support of Community Media. Mr. Bolton discussed the willingness of other municipalities to provide support. In response to Anne Geiger's question of the volume of the viewership, Mr. Gouker stated that the broadcast is available to forty thousand households and is also available on their website. Vice President LeVan thanked Mr. Gouker and Mr. Bolton for their presentation.

**Mayor's Report:** Council reviewed the November police report. Mayor Hoffman reported that the Lions Club put up the holiday lanterns and that everything went well, and that there was a great turnout for the electronic recycling event at the Park on December 1st. Mayor Hoffman stated that the event is scheduled quarterly as part of our contract with Waste Connections and will be held once in each of the four (4) municipalities in the contract.

**Solicitor's Report:** Regarding drainage system repairs needed on Branch Circle, Solicitor Battersby reported that a portion of the system at the outfall appears to be in Hamilton Township which will require two separate easements to address the issue, with one (1) from Hamilton Township.

**Committee Reports:**

**Finance:** Council reviewed the Financial Comparison Report and Summary of Accounts. Vice President LeVan presented the proposed 2019 Budget and asked if there are any comments, suggestions, or questions. *Charles Krall motioned to approve the 2019 Budget; seconded by Roberta Teal. Per roll call vote; all Members of Council approved the motion.*

**Streets/ Maintenance:** Council was provided the Maintenance Report for their review. Council discussed an exchange of services agreement from Brian Tucker, owner of 224 E. King Street, to allow the Borough to store totes of brine on the property in exchange for pre-treating one half (1/2) mile of surface area at that location prior to snow/ice events. A similar agreement was in place with GVM before they moved from 224 E. King Street. *Roberta Teal motioned to accept the agreement; seconded by David Meixner. Motion approved unanimously.* Charles Krall discussed the PennDOT Connects Program including the need for a fifteen (15) to twenty (20) year comprehensive plan. Mr. Krall suggested that the Planning Commission should be involved and that Robert Meminger would attend their meeting to explain the Program. There was some discussion of the possible need of temporary contracted help for plowing if the Borough is shorthanded, and that quotes could be obtained for contractors with CDL license with and without their own equipment.

**Planning/Zoning:** Council was provided the meeting minutes of October 25th. The next meeting of the Commission will be on December 20th due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**Personnel:** Vice President LeVan reported that he will not renew his membership on the Planning Commission after December 31st and suggested that another Member of Council fill the role to keep an open line of communication. David Meixner stated that he is interested in filling this role. Charles Krall stated that a member is needed on the Board of the Joint Authority after December 31st and that this should be addressed at Council's next meeting on January 2, 2019.

**Parks and Recreation:** Council reviewed the meeting minutes of November 8th. Anne Geiger reported skate boarders have requested permission to install two (2) new obstacles in the skate park and the flagpole project is complete. The Commission discussed the need to clear some invasive undergrowth in Kuhn's Woods. Solicitor Battersby suggested utilizing community service workers for this task. Mrs. Geiger reported that Commission Member Andrea Everhart discussed her proposed project of a Feast Berlin Fund Raising Event for the Park.

**Communications:** Anne Geiger discussed the proposed Social Media Policy. Suggestions from Council should be made to Solicitor Battersby. Ms. Geiger stated that a signature is needed to update the Borough's website for a primary and secondary contact.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:** Donald Dixon suggested that a thank you letter should be sent to the Lions Club for the holiday lanterns.

**Correspondence:**

- Adams County Meeting to Discuss Chesapeake Bay Watershed 12/13, 2 - 4 PM, Gettysburg
- Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce November Newsletter
- Training and Webinars Available

*Charles Krall motioned to adjourn the meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 8:20 PM; seconded by Donald Dixon. Motion approved with all voting in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Darlene McArthur, Secretary