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

Call to Order: The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council, including all business conducted and public hearings held as part of the meeting agenda, began with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at the East Berlin Borough Hall, with Council President Robert Larson presiding.
Members Present: Robert Larson, Roberta Teal, Heather Gentzler, Anna DeVita, Charles Philips, Judith Salomon, Gregery Green, and Mayor Stephanie Haley.
Members Absent: none
Also Present: Solicitor Matt Battersby, Solicitor Todd King, Administrator/Treasurer Cindy Smith, Chris Warner Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC)
Approval of Agenda: Roberta Teal motioned for approval, seconded by Charles Philips. Motion carried.

Solicitor's Report / Executive Session Summary Statement – Solicitor Battersby

- Council met in Executive Session from 5:30 PM – 5:59 PM to discuss police staffing matters. Solicitor Battersby reported that the Borough anticipated receiving police service proposals for Council's review and consideration. Until contracts are negotiated and finalized, Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) will provide police coverage. A property that has accumulated a large amount of trash was also discussed.
- Solicitor Battersby introduced Todd King of Salzmann & Hughes and noted his 15 years of municipal legal experience. Anna DeVita motioned to appoint Todd King as Assistant Borough Solicitor. He will bill at the same current rate as Solicitor Battersby. Seconded by Charles Philips. Motion carried.
- **Message(s) from Council President Robert Larson:** Council President announced that the Chicken Permit renewal fee will be $50 and the permit assessed to new permit holders would be $100.

Hearing

Chicken Ordinance Hearing: 6:09 -6:20

- Roberta Teal motioned revocation of Chapter 235 Chicken Ordinance No. 2021-02. Seconded by Gregery Green. Motion carried.
- Roberta Teal motioned the Adoption of Chapter 235 Chicken Ordinance No. 2026-01. Seconded by Judith Salomon. Motion carried.
- Judith Salomon motioned approval of the updated chicken permit / application form. Seconded by Roberta Teal. Motion carried.
- Judith Salomon motioned approval of the updated fee schedule which includes the chicken permit fees. Seconded by Roberta Teal. Motion carried.
- Various members of the public spoke out in opposition to the proposed Noise Ordinance language.
- Jan Hoffman spoke out against the order in which the Ordinance Hearing business occurred.
- Kevin Mauro voiced concerns over the permit fee cost and Section 235-22 regarding slaughter language within the Ordinance.

Chris Warner - Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC):

- The Emergency Management Report was reviewed at Council's leisure.
- The Emergency Services Report was reviewed at Council's leisure.
- The Fire Department Financial Reporting was reviewed at Council's leisure.
- The EMC reported that he held a one-hour training session regarding emergency preparedness / Emergency Operation Center.

Administrator's Report:

- Planning Commission draft July Meeting Minutes / August Agenda no information to report.
- Council acknowledged receipt of the Borough Engineer's Report dated August 12, 2026.
    - **Item 1 – Pennwood Products – King Street Westbound Left Turn Lane Arrow:** Anna DeVita motioned to approve the Borough sending a letter to PennDOT indicating the Borough's support of the Westbound Advance Left Turn Phase and awareness of the impacts to the intersection regarding LOS and queue lengths, with the developer recommending restriping of the queue areas to provide additional queue lengths as needed. Seconded by Heather Gentzler. Motion carried.

- **Item 2 – Main Street Matters Grant:**
  Anna DeVita motioned for the Engineer to apply for the grant, seconded by Charles Philips. Motion carried.
- **Item 3 – Water Street Storm Sewer Replacement:**
  Anna DeVita motioned to proceed with the GP-11 permit with an estimated cost of $5000. Seconded by Roberta Teal. Motion carried.
- **Item 4 – General Updates:**
  Robert Larson read the general updates to Council, including stormwater complaints and permitting, the Dog Park survey, grant applications, and the Pennwood Products Traffic Impact Study.

Approval of Minutes:
Anna DeVita motioned to accept the July 8, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Seconded by Charles Philips. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:
Finance:

- Council acknowledged receipt of the Profit & Loss Statement and the Summary of Accounts.
- Roberta Teal motioned to approve payment of the July bills in the amount of $ 37,753.25 from all accounts. Motion seconded by Judith Salomon. Motion carried.

Robert Larson - Personnel: Committee Re-Appointments

- none

Mayor's Reporting:

- The Junior Council members will be sworn in during the September meeting.
- The Mayor shared upcoming events and dates within the Borough and provided clarification regarding the car show date of September 19, 2026.
- The Mayor reviewed the July Police Report and noted that an individual subject to Megan's Law had moved into the Borough during the month.
- The Mayor thanked the Lions Club for sponsoring the 250th Parade on August 1, 2026.
- The Mayor presented Chief Seitz with a retirement thank-you.
- Anna DeVita read a letter from Michael Rebert addressed to the Mayor and Council thanking them for their work on Borough events and community activities.

Constituents / Guests Present:
Robin A. Heyser EBACC, Robert Blandy EBACC, John Krenitsky EBACC, Maria Miranda, Jim LeVan, Jeff Dombach, Jessie Dombach, Jan Hoffman, Sarah Roberson, Jeb S. Anderson, Charles Altland, Robert Benson, Kevin Mauro, Melissa Ann Pero, Emma Diehl, David Woodward.

- Charles Altland complained about air quality due to the Pennwood facility and tractor-trailer traffic on Locust Street.
- Melissa Pero – complained about impending traffic on Beaver Street, involving PennDOT/Pennwood.
- Jan Hoffman attended the Pennwood Zoning hearing and raised questions surrounding the associated sidewalk
- Robin Heyser EBACC – questioned ground settling adjacent the thrift shop around water way pipes / water drainage issues. She requested stormwater guidance concerning a stormwater pipe/drain.
- Maria Miranda – had questions regarding the Pennwood development and concerns related to the land development process in adjoining municipalities.
- Kevin Mauro – raised questions regarding peddler permits, noting there are many peddlers around the Borough; also raised questions regarding Chapter 446 and feels in his opinion the Borough sidewalks are a safety hazard.
- Jim LeVan raised questions regarding solicitation and vendors.

Adjournment: Charles Philips motioned adjournment at 7:35 PM, seconded by Roberta Teal. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Smith
Administrator / Treasurer