

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

Call to Order: The monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at the East Berlin Borough Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM.

Members Present: James LeVan, David Meixner, Charles Krall, Anne Geiger and Jason Wood departed 8:40

Additional Members Present: Donald Dixon arrived 7:07 and departed 8:30, Roberta Teal arrived 7:40

Also Present: Solicitor Matthew Battersby / Secretary -Treasurer Cindy Smith

Guests / Constituents present in person & remotely: Walt Geiger, Chris Warner – Borough Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), Emma Diehl, Jim Hale – Gettysburg Times, Bill Powell, Bev Jodus, Stephanie Haley, Madeline Haley, Keith Strine.

Approval of Agenda: Charles Krall motioned to approve the agenda second by David Meixner. Motion carried.

Solicitor Battersby - Report:

- No updates with regards to EBACC building Transfer of Title.
- More information is needed prior to drafting a Resolution for Borough Administrator vs. Secretary/Treasurer.
- Inter-municipal Agreement (discussed under old business)
- Additional research is needed for completion of the draft “Poultry Ordinance”. David Meixner requested the Ordinance be drafted for 6 birds vs. 4 birds upon Borough Residents request.
- After presentation from the Solicitor, David Meixner motioned to authorize a maximum expenditure of not more than \$4,000.00 to KPI for preparation of an ADA bid package with second from Jason Wood. Motion carried.
- Ratification to accept the Mayor’s Resignation Letter and to declare the position of Mayor vacant effective May 5th, as stated during the advertised “Special Meeting”. By roll call vote 6 yes, 1 absent. Motion carried.

Constituents Address Borough Council –

- Keith Strine, 103 4th Ave, East Berlin, discussed with the Council the need for street sweeping at his address and also inquired what the Borough’s intentions are for the Old Fire House Building in the future. He was advised that no decision has been formally made.
- Stephanie Haley, 205 East King Street, introduced herself as volunteering for the position of Borough Mayor and had completed the resume / affidavit process.
- Chris Warner discussed with Council that he will be doing further research on drafting a Mutual-Aid Agreement between the Borough, surrounding first due Townships and the North East Adams Fire & EMS.
- Chris Warner presented his monthly report to the Council.

Mayor’s Report read by Roberta Teal:

- Reviewed the 21 incidents from the April Police report.
- Roberta Teal mentioned the Thank You card sent from a local business to Chief Seitz for work well done regarding a theft within the Borough.
- Roberta Teal announced the two applications and affidavits for the Mayoral Position. Anne Geiger acknowledged the Borough Council’s appreciation to the two applicants for their willingness to volunteer and serve the community. Subsequent to a lengthy discussion and interview with Stephanie Haley, Mayoral Candidate and review of the application and affidavit submitted by Greg Green, Mayoral Candidate, Jason Wood motioned to appoint Stephanie Haley as Acting Mayor. By roll call vote 3 yes / 4 no. Motion carried.
- Charles Krall motioned to consider Greg Green as Interim Mayor, second by Roberta Teal. Anne Geiger commented that she would like to have had the opportunity to meet Greg Green. James LeVan stated that Greg has served on Borough Council, Parks & Recreation Commission and currently on the East Berlin Area Joint Authority (EBAJA). By roll call vote 4 yes / 3 no. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes:

- The April 14, 2021, meeting minutes were approved as presented by Roberta Teal second by Charles Krall. Motion carried.
- The May 5, 2021, meeting minutes were approved as presented by Donald Dixon, second by Roberta Teal. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Finance: - Roberta Teal

- Council acknowledged the Profit and Loss statement.
- A summary of the bills paid for April totaling **\$ 37,744.09** was reviewed. A motion was made to pay the April bills by Charles Krall, second by Jason Wood. Motion carried.

Streets/ Maintenance:

- David Meixner read and reviewed the Borough Maintenance Report. He commented that May 10, 2021, was Don Myers' last day of employment with the Borough and that he officially retired from assisting with maintenance duties in the Borough. Charles Krall motioned to give Don Myers a bonus in appreciation for his years of service to the Borough second by Roberta Teal. Motion tabled pending further discussion during the June meeting. Motion carried.

Planning/Zoning:

- David Meixner reviewed the meeting minutes from the Planning Commission.

Personnel:

- Subsequent to a lengthy conversation, Solicitor Battersby advised that the Council Members they may privately view the Personnel File of Police Chief Seitz confirming receipt of the Apology letter.
- Solicitor Battersby acknowledged the concerns stated by Jason Wood, Anne Geiger, and David Meixner that the agreed upon two-week suspension had not been served by Police Chief Seitz. Jason Wood motioned for Chief Seitz to serve another week off using either paid vacation or a week without pay, to enforce the December 2, 2020, disciplinary action taken against him by the Council, second by Anne Geiger. By roll call vote 3 yes, 3 no, 1 absent. Motion does not carry.
- James LeVan acknowledged that he will be updating / amending the Personnel Policy to combine sick and vacation into paid-time-off and address carried over time.
- James LeVan updated the Council that he is drafting and advertising the position of part-time maintenance employee due to Don Myers' retirement.

Parks and Recreation:

- Roberta Teal briefly reviewed the Parks & Recreation minutes.
- Roberta Teal updated the Council that the Prom at the Pavilion went well.
- Roberta Teal updated the Council on the restroom project progress.

Communications:

- Work continues on the Codification project. Information was sent to Rob Thaeler for comment.

New Business:

- Poultry Ordinance discussed during the Solicitor's report.

Old Business:

- Anne Geiger motioned to enter into the Inter-Municipal Agreement as presented by Solicitor Battersby, in regards to sharing Personnel Resources between the Borough and the East Berlin Area Joint Authority, second by Jason Wood. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

- EBAJA Meeting Minutes
- EBACC Meeting Minutes
- Fire Department Reports
- Training and Webinars Available

Closure:

- The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 9, 2021, 7:00 PM at the Borough Hall. Charles Krall motioned to adjourn the meeting, second by James LeVan at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Smith, Secretary/Treasurer