

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

January 7, 2015

The first monthly meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council was held January 7, 2015, at the East Berlin Borough Hall. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM.

**Members Present:** President Charles Krall; Roberta Teal; Andrew Raymond; James LeVan; Jason Wood; Donald Dixon; and Catherine Lockey

**Members Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** Solicitor Matthew Battersby; and Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur

President Krall addressed Council to inquire of any requests to make reorganizational changes to the Committees. No requests were made.

**Adoption of the Minutes:** The meeting minutes of Council's Regular Session on December 3, 2014, were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Roberta Teal; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved with all in favor.* The meeting minutes of the Council's Work Session on December 17, 2014, were reviewed. President Krall reminded Council of the decision to hold meetings on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) and third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Wednesday of each month, and that both meetings would be Regular Sessions. The Solicitor would attend the first (1<sup>st</sup>) meeting of the month. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by Jason Wood; seconded by Andrew Raymond. Motion approved with all in favor.*

**Payment of Bills:** A summary of bills for the month of January totaling \$53,637.48 was reviewed. President Krall stated that a payment was made to H & H General Excavating Company in the amount of \$20,913.52 from Liquid Fuels Funds for the Branch Circle Culvert Project. In response to Donald Dixon's inquiry, it was noted that \$1,936.50 was paid from the General Fund for sidewalk and curbing in the Project. Liquid Fuels Funds may not be used for sidewalk and curbing. President Krall reported that a payment to the State Workers Insurance Fund in the amount of \$11,966.00 for workers compensation insurance for volunteer firefighters includes a previous year shortfall amount of \$10,142.00. This amount will be partially reimbursed by the other municipalities served by Liberty Fire Company, with the Borough's portion at approximately \$2,000.00. *James LeVan motioned to pay the bills for the month of January; seconded by Roberta Teal. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

**Constituents Addressing Borough Council:** None.

**Mayor's Report:** Council was provided the police report for December. Mayor Hoffman reported that there have been some break-ins in the Beaver Colony Development area per Officer Grim.

**Fire Company Report:** Andrew Raymond discussed the upcoming Firemen's Appreciation Dinner on January 22, 2015, and noted that a lunch would be scheduled at Sidney Restaurant after the new fire truck is delivered sometime in April. Mr. Raymond noted that Mike Thomas, President of Liberty Fire Company, has been unable to attend Council meetings due to his work schedule.

**Engineer's Report:** President Krall reported that a pre-construction meeting was held this morning with Swam Electric for the Traffic Signal Improvement Project.

**Solicitor's Report:** Solicitor Battersby reviewed a new State law requiring Tax Collector training and certification, and noted that existing Tax Collectors would be granted certification. The law also requires the appointment of a Deputy Tax Collector, but the Surety Company would not approve the appointment

of immediate family members per the findings of the State Ethics Commission. President Krall reported that the Borough's Tax Collector, Debra Tate, submitted a request to appoint Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur as the Deputy Tax Collector. In response to Roberta Teal's inquiry, Ms. McArthur stated that she is confident in accepting the appointment, and that she is already bonded and has passed a background check. *Roberta Teal motioned to approve the appointment of Darlene McArthur as Deputy Tax Collector; seconded by Catherine Lockey. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

Solicitor Battersby stated that he is ready to send a letter to Senator Alloway to meet and discuss RCAP Grant Funding for Park projects, and noted that he would need plans for proposed projects. Jason Wood, also a Member of the Parks and Recreation Commission, will sit in on the meetings to assist.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Finance:** Council reviewed the Previous Year Financial Comparison Report and Summary of Accounts. It was noted that a 2014 profit and loss report of the General Funds shows a net income of \$22,556.53. With 2014 year-end figures available, President Krall asked the Council to consider proposed contributions per the 2015 Budget for discussion at the next meeting of Council.

**Streets/Public Safety and Maintenance:** Andrew Raymond reported that two (2) stop signs and one (1) street sign post were replaced due to damage by drivers during December. The snow event on January 6<sup>th</sup> required eight (8) man hours, two (2) tons of antiskid, six (6) fifty pound bags of salt, and fifty (50) miles of vehicle use. The roads will be monitored and response provided as needed. Painting will begin on the interior rooms of the Borough Hall tomorrow. A meeting was held with the owners of Sidney Restaurant, Neil and Sarah Annis, to provide updates of Council's actions concerning repeated truck damage at the square. President Krall reported that the meeting went well. James LeVan stated that Mr. and Mrs. Annis are very community minded and concerned with the long term integrity of the Borough. They do not wish to have a truck curb or bollard installed diminishing the ambience of the square with the appearance of a truck route. President Krall noted that a response is awaited from PennDOT in dealing with the truck issues at the square. In reviewing camera footage from Rutters, State Police were able to identify the trucking company and driver who caused the latest damage.

**Planning/Zoning:** None.

**Personnel:** James LeVan reported that the Personnel Committee met earlier today to discuss several Board Member terms ending. Mr. LeVan stated that Kathy Kuhn's membership on the Zoning Hearing Board expired on December 31, 2014, and noted that she has served in the position for twelve (12) years. There are no other applicants for this position. *James LeVan motioned to reappointment Kathy Kuhn to the Zoning Hearing Board; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with all in favor.* An application was received from Herbert Walter to represent East Berlin Borough on the Board of the Community Center. Mr. LeVan noted that Mr. Walter serves the Community Center in many volunteer activities. There are no other applications for this position. *James LeVan motioned to appoint Herbert Walter to the Board of the Community Center; seconded by Roberta Teal. Motion approved with all in favor.* Regarding a term expired on December 31, 2014, for Charles Krall on the Board on the Joint Authority, Mr. LeVan reported that the Committee could not make a recommendation at this time. Jason Wood, sitting in for Mr. Krall on the Committee, recused himself due to his wife's application to the Board of the Joint Authority. Mr. LeVan suggested that Donald Dixon stand in for Mr. Wood, and recommends that the applicants attend a meeting to introduce themselves. Mr. LeVan reviewed the other applicants including Gregory Green, and T. Michael Thoman, but noted that the applications were submitted nearly a year ago. It was also noted that a letter was received from the Board of the Joint Authority recommending

the reappointment of Mr. Krall. Roberta Teal stated that none of applicants attend the meetings of Joint Authority Board and suggested that Council address the appointment at this evening's meeting. *Roberta Teal motioned to reappoint Charles Krall to the Board of the Joint Authority; seconded by Andrew Raymond. President Krall requested that Vice President LeVan chair the meeting for a roll call vote on the motion. Per the roll call vote: Donald Dixon, yes; Roberta Teal, yes; Catherine Lockey, no; Andrew Raymond, yes; Jason Wood, no; James LeVan, no; Charles Krall, abstains. With a tie vote of three (3) to three (3), Mayor Hoffman votes yes. Motion approved.* President Krall takes the chair and urges all to attend a meeting of the Joint Authority. In response to Catherine Lockey's inquiry, President Krall explained the activities of the meetings including compliance with the requirements of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, and the lack of service agreements with Reading and Hamilton Townships for a regional facility.

**Park and Recreation:** None.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:** Andrew Raymond reported that the Adams County 911 System infrastructure upgrade will be online by 2016, and noted the system has the very latest technology at no extra cost to tax payers.

President Krall reported that John Schlaline's father passed away and requested that a condolence card be sent from Council. Secretary McArthur stated that a card would be sent.

Regarding an East Berlin Borough Facebook web page, President Krall requested that a disclaimer be posted stating that the site is not maintained by the Borough Council and the Council is not responsible for its content. President Krall noted that the site is very well done, but has some concerns of posting the announcement of home break-ins in the Beaver Colony Development area frightening some of the older residents. Andrew Raymond stated that the intention is to remind residents to lock their doors. President Krall again stated that the site is very well done, but wants the disclaimer posted. Catherine Lockey thanked President Krall and agreed to post the disclaimer.

**Correspondence:**

Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce January Newsletter  
Adams County Borough's Association Meeting, 1/19, 6:15 pm, Pike Restaurant  
Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce Breakfast, 1/29, Fairfield Fire Hall  
Training and Webinars Available

*Andrew Raymond motioned to adjourn the meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 8:40 PM; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with all voting in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McArthur  
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council