

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

March 7, 2018

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

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Mayor Keith Hoffman; Solicitor Matthew Battersby; Secretary/Treasurer Darlene McArthur; Phil Keener; and Curt Mathews

Adoption of the Minutes: The meeting minutes of Council's Session on February 14, 2018 were reviewed. *A motion to approve the minutes was made by James LeVan; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.*

Payment of Bills: A summary of bills for March totaling \$14,322.49 was reviewed. Jason Wood questioned the cost to fill a sinkhole behind the Borough building. Secretary McArthur explained that the hole was partially excavated to examine the extent of damage to a storm pipe, but it was determined the damage was minimal and likely caused by groundhogs. Charles Krall inquired if the total cost of electricity in the amount of approximately \$2,000.00 was average. Secretary McArthur stated that the cost is a monthly average and includes street lights, the Borough building, traffic signal, spot light, and the Park pavilion. *Jason Wood motioned to pay the bills for March; seconded by James LeVan. Motion approved unanimously.*

Constituents Addressing Borough Council: Parks and Recreation Chairman Phil Keener addressed Council to explain grant funds available up to \$5,000.00 from the Wal-Mart Corporation, but that municipal authorization is needed for the Commission to apply. *Anne Geiger motioned to authorize the Parks and Recreation Commission as an eligible entity to apply for the grant funds; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with all in favor.*

Mayor's Report: Mayor Hoffman reviewed the police report for February.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Battersby welcomed new Council Members Anne Geiger and David Meixner. Solicitor Battersby reviewed a drainage issue behind Tom Nell's property at 130 W. King Street which must be addressed by the property owner. The drainage must be redirected to avoid damage to ~~North~~ South Avenue and the soil adjacent to the road including the location of a utility pole. Solicitor Battersby suggested that a meeting be set to discuss this with Mr. Nell.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Council reviewed the Previous Year Financial Comparison Report and Summary of Accounts.

Streets/ Maintenance: Council was provided the Maintenance Report for March. Charles Krall discussed the upcoming repaving project on Stoner Avenue and explained that a full depth reclamation technique is unlikely due to the cost involved for such a small area. President Teal reported that Dr. Chad Buohl called the Borough office to thank the maintenance workers for hot patch repairs in the alley beside his office. Mayor Hoffman mentioned a significant bump in the road on W. King Street in front of Dr. Buohl's office. Mr. Krall stated that the Joint Authority would make repairs when the weather permits.

Planning/Zoning: James LeVan reported that a variance hearing is scheduled on March 26th at 4:00 PM for the former Nell's Market building at 421 W. King Street to allow the property to be used for interior storage rental, and requested that Council attend. Mr. LeVan reported that the Personnel Committee met to discuss the appointment of members needed on the Zoning Hearing Board. *James LeVan motioned to appoint Loy Elliott of 213 W. King Street as a Member of the Zoning Hearing Board; seconded by Charles Krall. Motion approved with no dissenting votes. James LeVan motioned to appoint Kathy Bredbenner of 108 Water Street as an Alternate Member of the Zoning Hearing Board; seconded by Jason Wood. Motion approved with no dissenting votes.* Anne Geiger stated that she attended a recent meeting of the Planning Commission where some of those in attendance stated that they would be more agreeable to a variance for the property rather than a Zoning Ordinance Amendment which would apply to the entire Borough Core District. Mrs. Geiger expressed her concern of the inexperience of the new Zoning Hearing Board Members in serving for this hearing. Solicitor Battersby explained that a response must be provided to the applicant, and that Zoning Hearing Board Attorney Victor Neubaum would guide them through the process of rules and laws.

Personnel: James LeVan reported that a Borough Representative is needed to replace Andrew Raymond for our membership in the Adams County Council of Governments (ACCOG). Solicitor Battersby explained the purpose of the ACCOG in sharing information and the common goals of municipalities throughout the County. Anne Geiger volunteered to represent the Borough. James LeVan stated that the Borough also needs a new representative to replace David Richards at the meetings of the Adams County Tax Collection Committee and the York Adams Tax Bureau, and noted that the representative need not be a Council Member. After some discussion, it was suggested to request Borough Tax Collector Debra Tate to fill the role. Secretary McArthur stated that she would inquire of Mrs. Tate.

Parks and Recreation: Anne Geiger reported that the basketball court and walking path project should be complete by mid-April.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: President Teal reviewed Resolution No. 3-2018-3 to allow a handicapped parking space in front of East Berlin Pharmacy as requested by Andrew Altobelli. The Resolution would also remove the handicapped parking space at 200 Harrisburg Street where the resident is now deceased. *Jason Wood motioned to approve Resolution No. 3-2018-3; seconded by Anne Geiger. Per roll call vote; all Members of Council approved the motion.* President Teal stated that Statement of Financial Interest forms are due to the Borough office by May 1st. Charles Krall reported that he spoke with Robert Meminger regarding space needed to store dirt, stone, etc. and that the Joint Authority also needs storage space. They discussed a possible joint location and requested that Solicitor Battersby draft an agreement with the Joint Authority once the details are further determined.

Correspondence:

- East Berlin Library Recognized as Finalist in Statewide Nonprofit Innovation Awards
- Email from Senator Bob Casey Regarding Gun Law Reform in Wake of School Shooting
- Gettysburg Chamber of Commerce March Newsletter
- Adams County Boroughs Association Meeting 3/19 at 6:15 PM, Pike Restaurant, Gettysburg
- Training and Webinars Available

James LeVan motioned to adjourn the meeting of the East Berlin Borough Council at 7:37 PM; seconded by Charles Krall. Motion approved with all voting in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene McArthur
Secretary/Treasurer of Borough Council