

**Official & Approved Minutes**  
**BERLIN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**July 10, 2014 - 7:00 p.m.**

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1. The Vice-President called the meeting to order at 07:00 PM.
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.
3. Brett Custer offered this non-denominational prayer.

Please bow your heads in prayer:

Heavenly Father we ask that you guide us during our meeting, so that we can faithfully serve the citizens of Berlin. Grant us the knowledge, courage, and dedication needed for this duty. In your name we pray.  
Amen

**ROLL CALL**

Kerrie Broderick / President (Absent Vacation)  
Roger Clarke  
Thomas Fisher  
Eric Glotfelty  
Brett Custer (Acting President)  
Barb Zerfoss  
John Harding, Jr.  
Mayor Joseph Krause

Also in attendance were:

Terry Metzgar, Borough Secretary

Members of the public:

See Attached Roster

Citizen Comments:

Cindy Fogle addressed the council regarding technical developments as they relate to the Municipal Authority and water quality.

Residents near Brubaker Street East petitioned the council to close Brubaker Street at the borough line because of safety concerns about traffic entering out of Movilla Court. The council referred this issue to the Street Committee for further study.

Mr. Nathan Kleinert at 1410 Main Street addressed the council regarding his CCIS sidewalk maintenance letter. (Exhibit P6 and P7) Mr. Kleinert stated that he would like to abandon the sidewalk but when the council mentioned that Ordinance 319A does not allow abandonment, he agreed to complete some basic maintenance. The council agreed to coordinate his efforts with curb box repairs at the same site.

- Minutes of the June 5, 2014, Borough Council meeting for review. (Exhibit P14)  
Barb Zerfoss directed the borough secretary to correct June's Minutes to add John Harding as the second on the Liberty and Laurel catch basin repair motion.

*Motion by Eric Glotfelty and seconded by John Harding to approve and accept the minutes of Berlin Borough Council Meeting dated June 5, 2014.*

*Ayes:*

*Nays:*

*Abstain:*

*Motion Passed*

## **President's Report**

### Municipal Authority Activity

Brett Custer briefly discussed Municipal Authority plans to replace the deteriorated 12 inch water pipe between the Filtration Plant and the borough with a possible reduction to eight inch diameter hinging on the ISO pressure ratings.

He also mentioned that the Municipal Authority may start selling 18,000 gallons of water to the Stoltzfus Farm pending an extension of the six inch line on Hay Street.

The Municipal Authority also sent a letter of concern to the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission regarding their Allegheny Tunnel By-Pass Project and its potential impact on the Borough's Whitehorse water source.

Recently Arrived Addendum Items:

(Please note that what follows immediately below was not part of the council member's packet.)

With our shift to Window Eight OS, Tammy's reconditioned laser printer will no longer function when printing cardstock customer bills. As such, would the council approve a new laser printer at a cost not to exceed \$750?

Andrea Smouse presented a request to use the borough parking for a cancer benefit at Club North on 071914.

AMP Regional Power Supply Educational Conferences in Breezewood on 072314

Notice of the Somerset Trust Celebration Event on 071114....no council action required.

*Motion by Roger Clarke and seconded by John Harding to approve the purchase of a replacement laser printer at a cost not to exceed \$750 with the Municipal Authority to pay half of the cost.*

*Ayes: 6*

*Nays: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

*Motion Passed*

*Motion by John Harding and seconded by Roger Clarke to approve the borough secretary and any council member's attendance at the AMP Conference in Breezewood on 072314.*

*Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Motion Passed*

*Motion by Eric Glotfelty and seconded by Tom Fisher to approve the Andrea Smouse request to use borough parking for the cancer benefit event on 071914.*

*Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Motion Passed*

## **Mayor's Report: Mayor Joseph Krause**

Police Report (Exhibit P23)

*Motion by Eric Glotfelty and seconded by John Harding to approve and accept the Police Report as presented.*

*Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Motion Passed*

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Electric & Equipment**

Brett Custer (Chair)

#### **Anticipating the effect of the EPA NPRM titled "Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources."**

How will this affect the Borough of Berlin and what can we do to protect our residents?

With the recently proposed EPA emission regulations, power generation costs are projected to rise by 30% to 50% by 2018. This is the result of reducing relatively inexpensive coal fired generation and substituting cleaner but more expensive alternative sources.

Should those EPA proposals come to fruition, here is how it would impact Berlin residents:

The average residential customer electric bill would jump from \$75 per month to \$113 per month. (Based on an average 789 kWh consumption)

So, our options are:

1. Do nothing and watch our cash cow starve as the increased generation costs cannibalize our system.
2. Raise rates in accordance with the increased generation cost which would take us from our present 0.0955 cents per kWh (which includes the present 0.01 PPA) to a whopping 0.1432 per kWh. And this amount would be just enough to break even.
3. Find a way to anticipate and buffer the increase by "shaving the peak."

In “shaving the peak” perhaps some background information might be helpful.

PJM is the Regional Transmission Organization (RTO) which controls the power grid in our corner of North America. And PJM predicates their pricing on what they call their RPM or Reliability Pricing Model. RPM is a fairly complicated document that might be best summarized by the phrase “Penalize peak power consumption.”

It works something like this:

There is a ratio between peak power consumption and average power consumption. That ratio as it coincides with PJM’s High Five calendar days, is the multiplier that determines 40% of a given bill.

So, if you can find a way to “shave the peak” either through reduced consumption or internal generation, the amount we pay for power can be reduced by 40% or more. The “more” part is related to Demand Response capacity credits from internal generation.

But before we can do any peak shaving, we need to gain a measurement capability for our electric distribution system. As things now stand we have no way to measure our energy consumption other than what we get after the fact in our billing from AMP. And we all remember how inaccurate that can be based on our zero consumption incident back in December of last year.

With that thought in mind, adding a rudimentary SCADA capability to our newly refurbished W-Type Cooper re-closer is merely the first baby step toward anticipating and buffering the increased generation costs that are about to confront us.

GOAB Project

Phase balancing

SCADA / Recloser as it relates to the New EPA NPRM and demand response.

Infrastructure Asset Inventory (Exhibit P7 plus Nathaniel Custer’s Presentation)

*Motion by Tom Fisher and seconded by Roger Clarke to approve the purchase of a rudimentary SCADA capability for the West Circuit Recloser Switch at a cost not to exceed \$6,500.*

*Ayes: 6*

*Nays: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

*Motion Passed*

## **PERSONNEL & FINANCE**

Thomas Fisher (Chair)

Treasurer’s Report and Bills:

*Motion by Roger Clarke and seconded by Eric Glotfelty to approve the bills and Treasurer’s Report as specified on Exhibit P27&P31.*

*Ayes: 6*

*Nays: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

*Motion Passed*

Update of the Berlin Borough Emergency Contact list and the council's appointment of a Public Information Officer (PIO) to provide a single point of contact for the press during an emergency.

*Motion by Roger Clarke and seconded by John Harding to appoint Terry Metzgar as the Council's Emergency contact Public Information Officer as shown on Exhibit P35.*

*Ayes: 6*

*Nays: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

*Motion Passed*

## **FIRE & GARBAGE**

Roger Clarke (Chair)

Hopper bushing repair and tipper relocation (Exhibit P44)

*Motion by Roger Clarke and seconded by John Harding to accept the low bid of \$1500 from Gross Brothers Welding to repair the Refuse Truck Packer bushings and relocate the tipper. (Exhibit P44)*

*Ayes: 6*

*Nays: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

*Motion Passed*

The council also instructed the Borough Secretary to pull the electronic dumpster until such time as the garbage committee can study the full scope of the disposal issue.

## **BUILDING PERMIT & PROPERTY**

John Harding (Chair)

Clem and Nelson are now actively addressing the backlog issues.

Status and list of permits (Exhibits P45 and P47)

## **HOUSE**

Barb Zerfoss (Chair)

One estimate received for the Borough Building HVAC. (Exhibit P50) Other estimates are pending. This works in conjunction with the smoke detector wiring upgrade.

The council directed the Borough Secretary to defer any further HVAC bids due to the cost and budgetary considerations.

The council also instructed to seek separate bids for the smoke detector / heat tape wiring upgrade.

Sign engraving has been deferred as we evaluate the new Loktite marble adhesive.

Request from the Daily American to host senate candidate live interviews at the Berlin Community Building in October at no charge.

*Motion by Barb Zerfoss and seconded by Tom Fisher to allow the Daily American Live senate candidate interviews on 102314 @ 18:30 at the Berlin Community Building as a public service at no charge (written request received 070714)*

*Ayes: 6*

*Nays: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

*Motion Passed*

## **STREETS, STORM SEWERS & SIDEWALKS**

Eric Glotfelty (Chair)

The painted crosswalks are completed and the Pharmacy Crosswalk now has signs.

In order to facilitate the Liquid Fuels paving project, Borough crews replaced and plated the catch basin at Liberty and Laurel in anticipation of paving in order to place to grade.

Equipment agenda:

The camera replacement for our garbage truck is ready to order. See Exhibit PX

We purchased a used pavement bucket for backhoe for \$550.

Refuse truck hopper and tipper repair (Exhibit P44)

Eric Glotfelty mentioned that the water shut-off valve near Barb Zerfoss' property needs raised.

Tom Fisher would like the sidewalk ordinance added to the next newsletter.

The Street Committee will consider additional street crossing signs.

The council directed the borough secretary to seek prices for a replacement snowplow on Truck Four.

## **POLICE**

Brett Custer (Chair)

Damage to police car....claim filed but it is only \$10 over our deductible. Should we withdraw the claim? (Exhibit P54)

The council directed the borough secretary to withdraw the claim.

## **PLANNING & PROJECT**

Barb Zerfoss (Chair)

The Borough's Five Year Plan hinges upon the Asset Inventory Process.

At 09:45 PM the council adjourned to executive session to review and discuss agency business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of information or confidentiality protected by law, including matters related to the initiation and conduct of investigations of possible or certain violations of the law and quasi-judicial deliberations.

***Motion by Eric Glotfelty and seconded by Tom Fisher to adjourn to executive session.***

***Aye: 6***

***Nay: 0***

***Motion Passed***

At 10:03 PM, the council reconvened the regular meeting.

The council directed the borough secretary to schedule janitorial work after hours so that it does not interfere with daily operations.

The council directed the borough secretary to allow Chad Lowery use of the backhoe for a nominal fee.

***Motion by Eric Glotfelty and seconded by John Harding to adjourn this Meeting of the Berlin Borough Council at 10:06 PM.***

***Aye: 6***

***Nay: 0***

***Motion Passed***

Note: The next regular meeting of the Berlin Borough Council is scheduled for August 7, 2014, beginning at 7:00 p.m., at the Berlin Borough Council conference/meeting room, 700 North Street, Berlin, Pennsylvania.



Terry L. Metzgar  
Executive Borough Secretary



# Guest Registry

## Berlin Borough Council Meeting

July 10, 2014

Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Cindy Fogle	527 NORTH ST	(814) 267-5032	
RAY McKenzie	1411 DRUIDKIR ST	267-5470	
Jim McKenzie	1416 BRUBAKER ST	483-9512	
Bob Hoover	1607 BRUBAKER ST	442-7286	
Curt Glatfelter	1416 LAUREL ST	267-5273	
Anthony K. Kuehn	1450 MAIN ST	267-5547	
<del>_____</del>	<del>_____</del>	279 0118	
_____	1506 BRUBAKER ST	267-4261	



Thank You for attending the Berlin Borough Council Meeting.

Your input is both welcomed and appreciated.