



**Borough of Berlin
700 North Street
Berlin, PA 15530**

Regular Meeting

July 7, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.

Official and Approved Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Charles Rhodes. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was quoted.

Council members attending were Charles Rhodes, Michael Lottig, Clifford Horner, Marshal Engleka, Thomas Fisher, Stephen Custer, John Harding and Mayor Joseph Krause.

Others Attending - Kevin Yoder, AEG; Resident Brian Coughenour; Resident Tom Smith

Kevin Yoder will be here in the Borough the week of July 11th, to layout the TASA sidewalk project.

There was discussion about the sidewalks installed by CriLon Corporation, in front of the school. There are some cracks, the blacktop is settling along the curbing and it needs reseeded and mulched again. Kevin Yoder is to take a look at this.

A motion by Thomas Fisher, seconded by Stephen Custer, to pay the invoice 4532 to M&B Services, LLC in the amount of \$15,288.17. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried. This invoice is for the sidewalk tie-ins to the new sidewalks.

A motion by Michael Lottig, seconded by Clifford Horner, to approve the June 16, 2022 Council of the Whole meeting minutes. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

A motion by Thomas Fisher, seconded by John Harding, to approve the Police Report for June 2022. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

Garbage

Council needs to consider putting a monthly time limit on the garbage service.

John Harding made a motion, seconded by Thomas Fisher, to make a policy that customers setting up an account, to bring into town dumpsters, be for a minimum of six

months. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

James Snyder of JWS Enterprises, has 2-3 dumpsters to be repaired and there are 2 more at our shop to be repaired.

Personnel and Finance

Marshal Engleka made a motion, seconded by Michael Lottig, to approve the Treasurer's Report for June 2022. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

Michael Lottig made a motion, seconded by Clifford Horner, to approve the June 2022 bills. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

The time spent on four Right to Knows was three hours for June. All Right to Know requests were from entities outside the Borough.

Jay Whipkey has provided his resignation as crossing guard effective June 6, 2022. Steve Custer made the motion, seconded by John Harding to except Mr. Whipkey's resignation. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

New signature cards and resolution are needed at Somerset Trust Company. Motion made by Michael Lottig, seconded by Marshal Engleka, to adopt Resolution 07072022-01 regarding signatures of certificates of deposit, money market accounts, and establishment of savings accounts, checking accounts and payroll accounts at Somerset Trust Company effective July 7, 2022. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

Resolution Number 07072022-01

**Berlin Borough
700 North Street
Berlin, PA 15530**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SIGNERS LISTED BELOW ON THE FOLLOWING: CHECKING ACCOUNTS, PAYROLL ACCOUNT, CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT, MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS AND SAVINGS ACCOUNTS AT SOMERSET TRUST COMPANY.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Berlin Borough Council of the Borough of Berlin, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, authorizes and ratifies the investment of funds in certificates of deposit, money market accounts, savings accounts and the authorized signers of checking accounts and the payroll account at the Somerset Trust Company effective July 7, 2022;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Berlin Borough Council of the Borough of Berlin, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, authorizes Borough Council President Charles E. Rhodes, Borough Council Vice-President Michael Lottig, Borough Council Member Stephen Custer, Executive Borough Secretary Traci A. Horning, and Borough Treasurer Cindy L. Flamm (any three of these five) to execute such documents as may be necessary to effect investments and transact business via certificate of deposit, money market accounts, savings accounts, checking accounts, and the payroll account; and futhermore, only one signature (any one of the five above) is required to transfer Berlin Borough Funds from one Berlin Borough account to another Berlin Borough account at the Somerset Trust Company.

Motion made by Michael Lottig and seconded by Marshal Engleka to adopt Resolution No. 07072022-01 regarding signatures of certificates of deposit, money market accounts, and establishment of savings accounts, checking accounts and payroll accounts at Somerset Trust Company effective July 7, 2022.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Certification of adoption. The undersigned certifies that the above Resolution was adopted at a public meeting on July 7, 2022.

Executive Borough Secretary

Stephen Custer made a motion, seconded by Marshal Engleka, to order business cards for Ed Slifco and Traci Horning. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

House

Clifford Horner made a motion, seconded by Michael Lottig to have Ronald Bowers paint the entry doors of the community building at a cost of \$1,600.00. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

The Borough emails need moved to a new hosting service. Jordan at George and Bob's suggested google mail or IONOS. They can support either. Google: The cost is \$30.00 per month per email. This is with limited space. We have six emails minimum now \$180.00 per month. IONOS: \$2.00/month for 25 emails 2GB per email. Stephen Custer made the motion, seconded by Marshal Engleka to switch the Borough hosting service to IONOS at a cost of \$24.00 per year. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

Property, fire and Liability insurances (EMC Insurance) with Agent April Ressler at Teeter Group Insurance are due to renew on August 1st. No action was taken on this at this time to approve the new policy.

FWF Insurance Agency is willing to give a quote on our property, fire and liability insurances. Council suggested to get other quotes as well for the next meeting.

Workers Compensation insurances (Amtrust) is due to renew on August 1st thru Mosholder insurance. April Ressler (Teeter Group) asked if we want to move agents on this insurance. The carrier would still be Amtrust, cost would still be the same. We would report all claims to her office instead of Amtrust. No action was taken on this at this time.

The Fire Department hosted Farm Safety Days upstairs on June 4th(?). due to the temperatures and rain. They normally have it at the Grove. Since the Fire Dept. hosted this event, should they pay for the room. (4 hours \$90) The Fire Department has free access to the community room for Fire Department sponsored events, there is no charge.

Thomas Fisher asked if the council would want to sell the three acres down along Station Hill? Council does not want to sell this property at this time.

Fire & Police

Police Coverage hours:

June 12 – June 18 FT hrs = 40, PT hrs = 5 (K. Huzsek 0, M. Craig 5)
June 19 – June 25 FT hrs = 40, PT hrs = 6 (K. Huzsek 0, M. Craig 6)
June 26 – July 2 FT hrs = 40, PT hrs = 16 (K. Huzsek 5, M. Craig 11)

John Harding made a motion, seconded by Marshal Engleka, to advertisement for a full-time Police Officer. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried. The Mayor, Joseph Krause and William Gonzalez would like to sit in on the interviews.

John Harding made a motion, seconded by Thomas Fisher to reduce the probation period for police officers to 60 days. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried. A memorandum of

understanding will be presented to the FOP. Full-time Officers would be eligible for healthcare after the 60 days.

2009 Chev Impala is the oldest police car. Mayor Joseph Krause will research the value of the car and report back to council.

Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers

The paving plan for 2022 was reviewed by George Spinelli of Penn Dot. Michael Lottig made a motion, seconded by Clifford Horner, to advertise the paving of the Borough streets per George Spinelli using motor fuels funds to pay for the project. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

Marshal Engleka mentioned that the sidewalks along Main Street between Vine Street and the upper diamond look old and spotted. It was mentioned to get quotes on power washing that section.

Discussion about the shale on the sidewalks in front of homeowners needs to be removed. Foxes Pizza was mentioned.

A resolution to transfer the grantee to the Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County for the TASA grant if the council wishes to make this change. This grant money (\$1,000,000) is for the sidewalk project from North to Hay Street. – A motion was made by Thomas Fisher, seconded by Stephen Custer, to adopt Resolution 07072022-02 to transfer grantee to the Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

Borough of Berlin

Resolution 07072022-02

Resolution of the Borough of Berlin (hereinafter referred to as “Berlin”).

WHEREAS, the Borough of Berlin (hereinafter referred to as “Berlin”) had applied for, and received an award of PennDOT Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside funding in an amount of \$1,000,000 (one million dollars) to undertake streetscape improvements along Main Street; and

WHEREAS, said award letter is attached; and

WHEREAS, Berlin is desiring to transfer said award to the Redevelopment Authority of Somerset County (hereinafter referred to as “Authority”); and

WHEREAS, the Authority has the administrative and fiscal capacity to carry-out the responsibilities and duties of the award and thus accept said award from Berlin.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Secretary of Berlin is hereby authorized and directed to execute all documents and agreements to facilitate this transfer.

We do hereby certify and attest that the above resolution was duly passed at an advertised regular meeting of the Berlin Council, held July 7, 2022, at which a quorum was present.

Electric & Equipment

We have 12 A-Base meters in the Borough. Some of them are slowly dying or the individual numbers are not moving. Council asked that letters be sent to each homeowner with an A Base electric meter giving them six months to upgrade their electric service.

Sam Wolfe, of American Municipal Power, sent info on ordinance and policy of solar connection. He has also offered to help us to develop an ordinance and policy from this information.

Generators being paid off in the 10 years is on track.

There are 2 trees at Main Street and Cumberland Street that need cut down. Need estimates.

Brian Wiedenhoft suggests that we should have a decorative lamp on hand as a replacement in the event one is damaged. American Gas Lamp Company price is \$924.50 plus shipping. There was no interest in purchasing one for stock at this time.

Frank Croyle at M&B Truck sent pricing for a Volvo truck \$160,818.72, two packer prices 112,952.00 or \$122,653.00. Council would like to get a price for a leach packer.

Other Information

A resolution is needed to extend the life of the Municipal Authority 50 years. Update: a resolution will be presented at the next meeting.

Darryl Maust, 821 Diamond Street, would like to have the alley vacated next to his properties. Charles Rhodes would like more time to look into this matter.

Municipal Authority Info

Kukurin Construction is near the school bus parking area with the new waterline.

Motion to adjourn to executive session was made by Michael Lottig, seconded by Clifford Horner. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

Executive Session

At 8:47 P.M., 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 and 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 to adjourn to regular session was made by John Harding, seconded by Marshal Engleka. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

At 8:58 P.M. the council reconvened the regular meeting.

Motion at 8:59 P.M. to adjourn this meeting was made by Stephen Custer, seconded by Michael Lottig. Ayes 7, Nays 0, motion carried.

And

Cindy Flamm, Temporary Executive Secretary