



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

Regular Council Meeting

February 1, 2024 – 4:30 P.M.

Approved and Official Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Michael Lottig

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was quoted.

Council Attending:

Michael Lottig – Present
Clifford Horner – Present
John Harding – Present
Marshal Engleka – Present
Stephen Custer – Present
Thomas Fisher – Present
Michael Fogle - Present
Mayor Joseph Krause - Present

Others Attending –Traci Horning, Executive Borough Secretary

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Stephen Custer, to approve the January 2, 2024, Reorganization Meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Thomas Fisher, to approve the January 2, 2024, Regular Council Meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Clifford Horner, to approve the Mayor and Police Department's Report for January 2024. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Park and Planning

None.

Garbage

Motion by Clifford Horner, seconded by Marshal Engleka, to approve the advertisement in the Daily American to accept sealed bids until March 7, 2024, at 4:30 pm at the Borough of Berlin Office at 700 North Street. Berlin, PA 15530 for the 1994 GMC Autocar garbage truck with a minimum starting bid of \$12,000. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Personnel and Finance

Motion by Thomas Fisher, seconded by Stephen Custer to approve the December 2023 bills. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by John Harding to approve the Treasurer's Report for December 2023. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Clifford Horner to approve the Drug and Alcohol, Abuse Policy and Statement. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Clifford Horner to approve the 2024 Committee Assignments. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Thomas Fisher, seconded by John Harding to approve the hiring of Ronald Fochtman of Berlin, PA as Full-Time Outside Worker at an hourly rate of \$15.50, effective February 1, 2024, upon completion of all pre-employment testing and requirements. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Discussion among council if there were any recommendations for a Borough Auditor. There were two recommendations for auditors. Stephen Custer is going to talk to the two recommendations.

PA State Association of Boroughs is offering Newly Elected Municipal Official Boot Camp for 2024.

Somerset Trust Company is offering Special Certificates of Deposit Rates. Discussion among council to put money into Somerset Trust CD's at fifteen months and 5 ½%.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve the Somerset Trust Special Certifications of Deposit at fifteen months and 5 ½% of six different accounts and a total of two million dollars to be put into Certifications of Deposit. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

House

None.

Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers

Marshal Engleka, President Pro-Temp stated he is on the committee for the Veteran Banners that are being requested to place on the telephone poles throughout the Borough of Berlin. There are currently four or five Berlin banners hanging and asked if they could be taken down. The council agreed to take the banners down. Need to contact PennDOT to get clearance of what the banners need to be on the pole.

Electric & Equipment

American Municipal Power provided a graph from last year's Berlin energy/power supply.

American Municipal Power is offering a Public Power Certification Training at no cost to member community officials.

American Municipal Power is offering each member that is a participant in an AMP generation resource the opportunity to realign its power supply portfolio.

American Municipal Power supplied the Borough of Berlin with summaries of wholesale power supply costs for 2023.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve the 2023 CPPG Power Pool Participant Schedule to American Municipal Power, Inc. and Borough of Berlin Master Agreement (AMP Contract No. C-1-2004-3925) to recognize the joint scheduling, interconnection and operation, and transmission arrangements that AMP Members located in the PENELEC transmission zone. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Quote for a 2024 F-600 4X4 SD was provided from Tri-Star Somerset to replace the 2006 GMC C5500 truck.

Fire & Police

Police Coverage hours:

December 24 – December 30

FT hrs = 98 (W. Gonzalez 48, R. Norman 98)

PT hrs = 0 (M.Craig 0)

December 31 - January 6

FT hrs = 92 (W. Gonzalez 50, R. Norman 42)

PT hrs = 0 (M.Craig 0)

January 7 – January 13

FT hrs = 90 (W. Gonzalez 50, R. Norman 40)

PT hrs = 0 (M.Craig 0)

January 14 – January 20

FT hrs = 92.75 (W. Gonzalez 50, R. Norman 42.75)

PT hrs = 0 (M.Craig 0)

January 21 – January 27

FT hrs = 93 (W. Gonzalez 50, R. Norman 43)

PT hrs = 0 (M.Craig 0)

Other Information

Received a letter from Berlin Lions Club for “A Night at the Races” on Saturday, March 16, 2024, as a fundraiser to benefit the Berlin BackPack Program.

Received a letter from Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania with gas line work being done in the borough.

Received a complaint about stray cats that are in the borough. Would like to see something done about it.

Municipal Authority Update

None.

Executive Session

At 6:11 P.M., Stephen Custer made the motion, seconded by Clifford Horner for 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. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

At 6:46 P.M. Marshal Engleka made the motion, seconded by Clifford Horner to have the council reconvened the regular meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Michael Fogle to approve the separation of employment for Edward Slifco effective February 2, 2024. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Adjournment

At 6:58 P.M. a motion was made by Stephen Custer, seconded by Marshal Engleka to adjourn this meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Traci Horning

Submitted By: Traci Horning, Executive Secretary