



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

Regular Council Meeting

December 5, 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 –Brett Custer, Adeline Custer, Elijah Custer and Traci Horning, Executive Borough Secretary

Brett Custer presented to the council his concerns about his dumpster rate at the Valero/Diamond Mini Market. Brett discussed the current refuse rates with the council members and presented a business proposal for the refuse system going forward.

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

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

Park and Planning

None.

Garbage

Discussion among council members about garbage rates for residents, small commercial and out of town.

Motion by Thomas Fisher, seconded by Marshal Engleka, to approve the increase of residential garbage to \$25 per month, out of town pick up \$30 per month, small commercial \$26 per month and have no bag limit. Large/miscellaneous items are \$20 per item. Ayes 3, Nays 4. Motion failed. This motion was NOT approved.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Thomas Fisher, to approve the increase of residential garbage to \$23 per month, out of town pick up \$33 per month, small commercial \$28 per month and have a 6 (six) bag limit (suggest 30-gallon bag – each bag no more than 35 lbs.). \$3 fee for every bag over the 6 (six) bag limit. Large/miscellaneous items are \$20 per item. Ayes 5, Nays 2. Motion carried.

Discussion among council members about dumpster rates.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Stephen Custer, to approve the increase of dumpster rates as follows:

Dumpster	1 P/U	2 P/U	3 P/U	4 P/U	5 P/U
4 Yard	\$150	\$270	\$380	\$490	\$595
6 Yard	\$210	\$360	\$515	\$665	\$815
8 Yard	\$270	\$450	\$630	\$820	\$1,000

- 4 Yard pick up 1 time a month \$60
- 6 Yard pick up 1 time a month \$80
- 4 Yard pick up 2 times a month \$75
- 6 Yard pick up 2 times a month \$105
- 8 Yard pick up 2 times a month \$135

Dumpster monthly rental fees (anyone that has one of our dumpsters pays this monthly fee): 4 Yard-\$20 6 Yard-\$25 8 Yard-\$30

All garbage in the dumpsters need to be level with the top of the dumpster

All dumpsters with lids will have to keep all lids cleaned off (snow, ice, garbage, etc...)

If dumpster has a lock on it, the lock will have to be unlocked the day of garbage pickup by the company/resident for the dumpster to be picked up. (if the lock is not unlocked when there to collect the garbage from the dumpster it will not be dumped)

Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

All the needed resolutions will be presented at the next meeting January 2, 2025, to be passed. All new rates will be effective February 1, 2025.

Dumpster Service Agreement (to rent a dumpster for a project). The council discussed and wanted to leave as is.

A discussion among the council about getting a recycling container in the borough for glass and cardboard. The council would like to try the glass and cardboard recycling containers.

Personnel and Finance

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Clifford Horner to approve the November 2024 bills. Ayes 7 Nays 0. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report for November will be presented at the January 2, 2025, meeting.

Motion by Clifford Horner, seconded by John Harding to approve and adopt the Berlin Borough Budget as presented for 2025. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Stephen Custer to approve the Pollution Liability Insurance Policy with Agent Teeter Group Insurance of 3375 Lynwood Drive, Altoona, PA 16602 in the amount of \$4,362 for the period of January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

An Ordinance Providing For The Prevention And Control Of Air Pollution In The Borough Of Berlin was presented to council to review before the next meeting on January 2, 2025.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Stephen Custer to approve the appointment of Marshal Engleka to the Municipal Authority of the Borough of Berlin for a five-year term January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2029. Ayes 6, Nays 0, Abstain 1. Motion carried.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Clifford Horner to approve the Anniversary Awards as presented and outlined on the sheet. Ayes 4, Nays 0, Abstain 3. Motion carried.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve Christmas Bonuses as presented and outlined on the sheet, FT \$200, PT \$150 and crossing guards \$50. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Executive Session

At 6:25 P.M., Marshal Engleka made the motion, seconded by Thomas Fisher 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 6:39 P.M. John Harding made the motion, seconded by Thomas Fisher to have the council reconvened the regular meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by John Harding to approve the 2025 wages for Administrative, Confidential borough employees as per the sheet submitted to council. Ayes 6, Nays 1. Motion carried.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve the 2025 wages for Part-Time Labor, Seasonal Labor, School Crossing Guard borough employees as per the sheet submitted to council. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

House

Community building roof is on the schedule to be started. Weather is playing a factor now.

The council has requested a meeting with the house committee, fire department and auxiliary. Need to set a date and time to meet.

Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers

Engineers are still working on the surveying of 12th Avenue and Broderick Street.

Electric & Equipment

Wiedenhoft Electric & Mechanical Service invoice #25641 and #25719 were discussed. Services that were not the Boroughs will be billed to the resident.

Power Secure performed the major preventative maintenance services on the generators in November 2024. The technician did not find any issues.

Fire & Police

Police Coverage hours:

November 3 – November 9

FT hrs = 90.5 (W. Gonzalez 50, R. Norman 40.5)

November 10 - November 16

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

November 17 – November 23

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

November 24– November 30

FT hrs = 91 (W. Gonzalez 50, R. Norman 41)

Motion by Clifford Horner, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve Resolution No. 12052024 A resolution Eliminating Police Officers' Contributions to The Police Pension Plan for The Year 2025 as follows. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

BOROUGH OF BERLIN

RESOLUTION No. 12052024

A RESOLUTION ELIMINATING POLICE OFFICERS' CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
POLICE PENSION PLAN FOR THE YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, Act 600 previously provided for the elimination of members' contributions if certain criteria were met, and

WHEREAS, Act 30 amended Act 600 by eliminating certain criteria for the elimination of contributions, and

WHEREAS, the only criteria for the elimination of contributions accordingly to Act 30 are:

Any reduction or elimination of contributions shall be authorized on an annual basis by resolution or ordinance, and

WHEREAS, Berlin Borough has reviewed this amendment and criteria, and unanimously Approves the elimination of members' contributions by the Police Pension Plan members for the Year 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Berlin Borough does hereby ratify and affirm the elimination of members' contributions to the Police Pension Plan by its members for the Year 2025.

BE IT, AND THE SAME IS HEREBY RESOLVED, this _____ day of _____.

BERLIN BOROUGH

BY: _____
Michael Lottig
Council President

ATTEST:

Traci Horning
Executive Borough Secretary

Other Information

J.B Schrock Community Playground sent a thank you letter for the donation the Borough gave.

Municipal Authority Update

Water and sewer rates for 2025 are going up effective with the February 2025 billing.

Adjournment

At 7:10 P.M. a motion was made by John Harding, seconded by Marshal Engleka to adjourn this meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Traci Horning

Submitted By: Traci Horning, Executive Secretary