



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

## **Regular Council Meeting**

**January 2, 2025 – 4:30 P.M.**

### **Approved and Official Minutes**

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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 - Absent

Others Attending –Bret Horning and Traci Horning, Executive Borough Secretary

Motion by Stephen Custer seconded by Thomas Fisher, to approve the December 5, 2024, Regular Council Meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

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

#### Park and Planning

Michael Fogle gave an update to the park where the clock is. Planning to contact the hospital to get the ok to make improvements to the park and start the bid packet.

#### Garbage

A letter was prepared to be sent to all Borough of Berlin Utility Customers regarding the 2025 rate increase for the garbage, water and sewer. Council to approve letter for the garbage rate increase.

Motion by Michael Fogle, seconded by John Harding, to approve the letter to be sent to all Borough of Berlin Utility Customers regarding the 2025 rate increase for the garbage effective February 2025 billing cycle. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Clean up day is scheduled for Thursday May 15, 2025.

Electronic recycling day with JVS is scheduled for Saturday June 14, 2025, from 10 am to 2 pm at the Borough Building upper parking lot.

Virginia and Brandon Rhoads have requested to purchase a 4-yard dumpster from the borough.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Thomas Fisher, to approve the request of Virginia and Brandon Rhoads of 722 Roundhill Road, Berlin, PA to purchase a 4-yard dumpster from the Borough for \$820. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Michael Fogle, seconded by John Harding to approve Resolution 01022025 Residential Garbage Collection Rates. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

As of the Berlin Borough Council Meeting on January 2, 2025.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 01022025**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Berlin, Somerset County Pennsylvania owns and operates a Municipal Refuse Collection System by authority of Berlin Borough Ordinance No. 156; and WHEREAS, additional revenue is needed to offset increased operational expenses of the Municipal Refuse Collection System; and WHEREAS, Berlin Borough Ordinance No. 156, Section 1 1 (dated July 6, 1959) provides the authority for periodic rate changes through resolution;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Berlin Borough Council, Borough of Berlin, Somerset County, Pennsylvania that this resolution supersedes Resolution No. 5-14B dated May 1,2014; Resolution No. 111 dated October 1,1986; Resolution No. 116 dated December 3, 1987; Resolution No. 119 dated December 7, 1989; Resolution No. 124 dated December 7, 1989; Resolution No. 213 dated April 7, 2005; Resolution No. 11-09; Resolution 01032022-02 dated January 3, 2022; Resolution 03022023-01 dated March 3, 2023 and any other garbage collection rates previously established; and the following rate changes for collection of garbage and ashes by the Municipal Refuse Collection system are effective January 2, 2025 and **made effective with the February 2025 billing** and continuing until changed by the Berlin Borough Council:

## **Residential Garbage Collection Rates**

1. Garbage and rubbish from all Borough residences collected weekly at the curb: \$23.00 per month.
2. Garbage and rubbish from all rural residences collected weekly at the curb: \$33.00 per month.
3. Non-curb collection for the elderly or physical infirmity: \$23.00 per month.
4. Small Commercial garbage rates will be \$28.00.
5. There is a 6-bag limit. (up to 30-gallon bags not to exceed 35 lbs. per bag.)
6. \$3.00 fee for every bag over the six (6) bag limit.

- 7. Large/miscellaneous items \$20.00 per item.
- 8. Tires and hazardous items will NOT be accepted.

Other rates for residential pick-up are as follows:

Ash collection for Borough or rural residences where service is available:  
\$35.00 per year billed at a rate of \$2.92 per month.

***Motion by Michael Fogle and seconded by John Harding to revise the Berlin Municipal Refuse Collection Rates in response to the increased costs as specified by Resolution 01022025.***

***Ayes: 7***

***Nays: 0***

***Motion: Carried***

As of the Berlin Borough Council Meeting on January 2, 2025.

**RESOLUTION NO. 01022025-01**

## **Commercial Garbage Collection Rates**

Customers utilizing Borough-provided metal "dumpster" style containers will be charged for the collection of garbage and rubbish per the following schedule:

### **Dumpster Collection - Monthly Charges**

<b>P/U # Per Week</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
4 cubic yd	150.00	270.00	380.00	490.00	595.00
6 cubic yd	210.00	360.00	515.00	665.00	815.00
8 cubic yd	270.00	450.00	630.00	820.00	1,000.00

- 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 fee (anyone that has one of our dumpsters pays this monthly fee):

- 4 Yard - \$20
- 6 Yard - \$25
- 8 Yard - \$30

All garbage in dumpster needs to be level with the top of the dumpster.  
All lids will have to be kept cleaned off (NO snow, ice and garbage)

Dumpster lids with locks will need to be unlocked day of pick-up

Commercial ash collection, where required, will be charged on a time (labor) and equipment used basis at prevailing Borough rates, and will be in addition to the above charges for garbage and rubbish collection.

All fees and charges will be paid on a monthly basis and will be billed and collected along with the billings for other Borough and Municipal Authority operated utility services, if applicable.

***Motion by Michael Fogle and seconded by John Harding to revise the Berlin Municipal Commercial Refuse Collection Rates in response to the increased costs as specified by Resolution 01022025-01.***

***Ayes: 7***

***Nays: 0***

***Motion: Carried***

#### Personnel and Finance

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the December 2024 bills. Ayes 7 Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve the Treasurer's Report for November 2024. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report for December 2024 will be presented at the February 2025, meeting.

The 2023 Municipal Audit and Financial Report prepared by Beer Ream Co; Certified Public Accountants was presented to the council.

An Ordinance Providing For The Prevention And Control Of Air Pollution In The Borough Of Berlin needs to approved to advertised in the newspaper to be approved for the February 2025 meeting.

Motion by Michael Fogle, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the advertisement of the An Ordinance Providing For The Prevention And Control Of Air Pollution In The Borough Of Berlin in the newspaper to be approved for the February 2025 meeting. Ayes 7 Nays 0. Motion carried.

The council had a discussion on the Real Estate Tax Rate for the Borough.

#### House

The borough community building roof has been started but has been put on hold to finish till warmer temperatures.

### Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers

Pennsylvania Association of Boroughs is honoring Borough's hometown heroes at their upcoming 2025 Annual Conference by digitally displaying a picture of the banner that is hanging in the borough.

### Electric & Equipment

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the purchase of a Buyers #92420SSA stainless-steel hydraulic drive under gate spreader with a 6" auger, 18" Polly spinner and 7 gpm motor and installed from Super City MFG, Inc., of 174 Samuels Road, Somerset, PA in the amount of \$6,200. Ayes 6 Nays 1. Motion carried.

### Fire & Police

Police Coverage hours:

December 1 – December 7

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

December 8 - December 14

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

December 15 – December 21

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

December 22– December 28

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

Motion by Michael Fogle, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the quote from Twombly Plumbing and Heating of 7738 Glades Pike, Berlin, PA to replace gas boiler a Burnham 204 80% at the Police Department which includes parts and labor, new flu pipe, circulating pump, pump isolation flanges, air scoop, expansion tank, pressure reducing valve in the amount of \$4,928.28. Ayes 7 Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Michael Fogle, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the quote from Twombly Plumbing and Heating of 7738 Glades Pike, Berlin, PA to replace the 40-gallon gas water heater at the Police Department which includes new flu pipe and fittings needed to reconnect to the water line in the amount of \$893.71. Ayes 7 Nays 0. Motion carried.

### Other Information

Municipal Monthly Report/Permits Issued and Inspection was handed out to review.

### Municipal Authority Update

None.

### Adjournment

At 5:50 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

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Submitted By: Traci Horning, Executive Secretary