



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

Regular Council Meeting

April 3, 2025 – 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 –Matthew Will, Patrick Broderick, Jim Broderick, Ira Harding, William Gonzalez and Traci Horning, Executive Borough Secretary

Executive Session

At 4:31 P.M., Stephen Custer 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.

William Gonzalez left the meeting at 5:00 pm.

At 5:36 P.M. Marshal Engleka made the motion, seconded by John Harding to have the council reconvened the regular meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Matthew Will, Patrick Broderick, Jim Broderick, Ira Harding came back into the meeting at 5:37 pm.

Ira Harding voiced his concern with the sidewalk in front of his home at 1004 Main Street. During the winter the snow melts and then refreezes causing the sidewalk to be icy. States

it due to the slope of the sidewalk in front of his house and the neighbor. Just wanted to let the council know about the issue.



Motion by John Harding seconded by Stephen Custer, to approve March 6, 2025, 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 March 2025. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Park and Planning

UPMC has agreed to donate the park area lot at the Lower Diamond to the Borough. Will be applying for DCNR grant up to \$170,000. Waiting for Kevin Yoder, Engineer for the drawing for the park. The total project cost is \$153,534 with a request of DCNR grant money in the amount of \$91,767 and a match from Berlin Borough in the amount of \$61,767. A resolution will need to be passed in a motion.

Motion by Clifford Horner, seconded by Marshal Engleka, to approve Resolution 04032025 Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for project Berlin Borough Community Pocket Park located at the lower diamond at the intersection of Main Street and Diamond Street. Ayes 6, Nays 1. Motion carried.

 Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	RESOLUTION PAGE	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania https://apps.dcnr.pa.gov/grants
DCNR-C2P2		
Applicant Information (* indicates required information)		
Applicant/Grantee Legal Name: BOROUGH OF BERLIN		Web Application ID: 2012097
Project Title: Berlin Borough Community Pocket Park		
<p>WHEREAS, BOROUGH OF BERLIN ("Applicant") desires to undertake the project, "Berlin Borough Community Pocket Park" ("Project Title"); and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the applicant desires to receive from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources ("Department") a grant for the purpose of carrying out this project; and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the application package includes a document entitled "Terms and Conditions of Grant" and</p> <p>WHEREAS, the applicant understands that the contents of the document entitled "Terms and Conditions of Grant," including appendices referred to therein, will become the terms and conditions of a Grant Agreement between the applicant and the Department if the applicant is awarded a grant; and</p> <p>NOW THEREFORE, it is resolved that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The grant application may be electronically signed on behalf of the applicant by "Michael Lottig" who, at the time of signing, has a TITLE of "President" and the email address of "lottigmike@yahoo.com" ("Official"). 2. If this Official signed the Grant Application Electronic Authorization prior to the passage of this Resolution, this grant of authority applies retroactively to the date of signing. 3. If the applicant is awarded a grant, the Grant Application Electronic Authorization, signed by the above Official, will become the applicant/grantee's executed signature page for the Grant Agreement, and the applicant/grantee will be bound by the Grant Agreement. 4. Any amendment to the Grant Agreement may be signed on behalf of the grantee by the Official who, at the time of signing of the amendment, has the "TITLE" specified in paragraph 1 and the grantee will be bound by the amendment. <p>I hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Borough Council</u></p> <small>(Identify the governing body of the applicant, e.g. city council, borough council, board of supervisors, board of directors)</small> <p>of this applicant, this <u>3rd</u> day of <u>April</u>, <u>2025</u>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <small>(signature of the governing body - cannot be the person with the same title as specified in paragraph 1)</small> <p style="text-align: center;">CLIFFORD HORNER</p> <small>(printed name)</small> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>VICE PRESIDENT</u></p> <small>(title)</small>		

Garbage

All Green Services gave a quote of \$400 per month to rent a 10 yard roll off for recycling and \$50 per pull and dump. Council would like the garbage committee to have a phone call conversation with them to discuss so the recycling program with them.

Community Grove has an 8-yard dumpster at the grove for the summer. Discussion about if going to charge to have the garbage picked up. Going to the table for now.

Personnel and Finance

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Stephen Custer to approve the March 2025 bills. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Clifford Horner, seconded by John Harding to approve the Treasurer's Report for February 2025. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

An Ordinance Defining and Regulating Private Property Maintenance; Prohibiting Certain Activities Involving Buildings, Structures, Yards, Open Lots and Parking Areas; Prevention and Correction of Vermin Infestation; Prohibiting Public Nuisances; Determining The Responsibilities of Owners and Occupants; Authorizing Inspections, Compliance Notices and Appeal Hearings; And Prescribing Remedies and Penalties for Violation was discussed if there were any changes. A few changes were suggested so we need to have solicitor make changes and present them to council for the next meeting on May 1, 2025.

Discussion on the property taxes for 2026.

The Amendment To Declaration Of Easement and Maintenance Agreement between UPMC Somerset and Borough of Berlin. Borough of Berlin will need to add to the insurance a \$5 million Umbrella/Excess Liability per occurrence and aggregate.

Motion by Clifford Horner, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the The Amendment To Declaration Of Easement and Maintenance Agreement between UPMC Somerset and Borough of Berlin to add to the insurance a \$5 million Umbrella/Excess Liability per occurrence and aggregate in the amount of \$1,486 until the end of the policy term. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

For January 2026 to December 31, 2029, term there are four (4) seats that are a four (4) year term and one (1) seat for a two (2) year term.

House

Westmoreland Commercial roofing has completed putting the roof and snow guards on. The total cost of the roof was \$84,800, snow guards were \$30,871.55 with a total cost of \$115,671.55. The Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary gave a check in the amount of \$10,000 to help with the cost of the roof and snow guards.

Parts have been ordered to fix the fire whistle on the upper diamond. The estimate ship date is April 25 or sooner. Bearcom to notify us when parts have arrived.

The borough office has received two quotes for placing a split unit air conditioner in the main office area.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve the quote from Twombly Plumbing and Heating of 7738 Glades Pike Berlin PA for the installation of an air temp 30,000 btu heat pump condensing unit and a 24,000 and 12,000 btu 25 seer indoor unit in the amount of \$10,146.53 which includes parts, labor and installation. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers

None.

Electric & Equipment

The 2023 John Deere 310 P-Tier Backhoe with cab has been having issues with multiple things. Working with Foster Wineland Inc with the issues. May need to contact John Deere and seeing what options we have with the issues.

Fire & Police

Police Coverage hours:

March 2 – March 8

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

March 9 - March 15

FT hrs = 91 (W. Gonzalez 51, R. Norman 40)

March 16 – March 22

FT hrs = 86 (W. Gonzalez 46, R. Norman 40)

March 23 – March 29

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

Other Information

None.

Municipal Authority Update

Municipal Authority did interviews for the position open. One candidate was picked and asked to come to the next Authority Meeting on April 9, 2025, to be introduced to the other members.

Matthew Will, Jim Broderick, Patrick Broderick left the meeting at 6:44 pm.

Executive Session

At 6:44 P.M., John Harding 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 6:58 P.M. Marshal Engleka made the motion, seconded by John Harding to have the council reconvened the regular meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the purchase of Lot 11 and Lot 98 in the Evergreen Subdivision which are located between Stewart Street and Swallow Street for the sale price/offering price of \$20,000 per lot with a total of \$40,000 from the Estate of Roland Dee Fogle 604 Diamond Street, Berlin PA 15530 and Jeanne M. Johnson, Executrix. Ayes 6, Nays 0, Abstain 1 (Michael Fogle). Motion carried.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve the suspension of Officer Rodney Norman till after the internal investigation has been completed without pay and to turn in all keys into the Berlin Borough office to the Executive Secretary Traci Horning effective April 3, 2025, at 7:03 P.M.

Adjournment

At 7:05 P.M. a motion was made by Stephen Custer, seconded by Clifford Horner, to adjourn this meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Traci Horning

Submitted By: Traci Horning, Executive Secretary