



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

## **Regular Council Meeting**

**March 6, 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 – Absent

Stephen Custer – Present

Thomas Fisher – Present

Michael Fogle - Present

Mayor Joseph Krause - Present

Others Attending –Matthew Will, Patrick Broderick and Traci Horning, Executive Borough Secretary

Motion by John Harding seconded by Stephen Custer, to approve February 6, 2025, Regular Council Meeting. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Thomas Fisher, to approve the Mayor and Police Department's Report for February 2025. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Park and Planning

UPMC has agreed to donate the park area ;ot to the Borough at the Lower Diamond. Will be applying for DCNR grant up to \$170,000. Waiting on Kevin Yoder, Engineer for the drawing for the park.

Garbage

None.

Personnel and Finance

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve the February 2025 bills. Ayes 6 Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Clifford Horner, seconded by John Harding to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2025. Ayes 6, 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 presented to council to review before the next meeting on April 3, 2025.

Nancy Engbert is not rerunning for the next term 2026 to 2029. A discussion among the council to what options there are if there is an empty seat for the tax collector.

### House

Westmoreland Commercial roofing gave a quote for snow guards to put on the Borough Building roof. Front side (Fire Department) and three (3 rear doors) on parking lot side \$21,475.55. Full snow guard system 328 ft the whole building roof \$30,871.55.

The house committee had a meeting with the Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary on Thursday February 27, 2025, at 6 pm. Fire whistle parts are ordered. Another table rack is being made for the tables. Talk about a warming station at the Community Building. Air condition for the Community Building. The house committee talked about snow guards if willing to help Borough pay to have placed on roof.

The fire department gave a list of all the fire calls that were responded to in 2024. A breakdown of the worker's compensation coverage and other insurance coverage for the Berlin Volunteer Fire Department for the policy year ending August 1, 2024 was looked over by the council.

### Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers

A permit was received to fix the ADA ramp at 534 Main Street. Need to call contractors to see who is willing to do the job.

On February 24, 2025, Carl Metzgar and Pat Stefano announced more than \$1 million dollars in Somerset County grants. Berlin Borough received \$842,510 to finish phase 3 of the sidewalk project. This money has secured enough to finish the sidewalk from Vine Street to Cumberland Street on both sides and from Cumberland Street to North Street on the South Side.

705 Meadow Street has water from a sump pump that was installed discharging into the yard and running onto Meadow Street and causing water flooding and icing on the road. Will need to have the water ditched to the drain at Wilson Street.

Somerset County Planning Commission sent a memo to inform of the 2029-2031 PennDOT Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) update.

John Harding left the meeting at 5:30 pm.

A complaint was filed regarding how the streets are being plowed in the borough. Discussion among council members regarding this complaint. No further action is needed.

### Electric & Equipment

When Wiedenhoft Electric is called out to look at a resident for an electrical issue and the borough is not at fault for the issue the homeowner will be charged for the call if it is not an emergency, or it is an emergency call effective March 7, 2024. 12/12/2024 a resident called for Wiedenhoft to come and look at about doing electrical service to a barn. The resident will need to be billed for this call.

Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association/PA Public Power information on PJM agrees to lower cap for capacity auctions.

### Fire & Police

Police Coverage hours:

February 2 – February 8

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

February 9 - February 15

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

February 16 – February 22

FT hrs = 90.5 (W. Gonzalez 50.5, R. Norman 40)

February 23 – March 1

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

### Other Information

Camp Cadet of Somerset County 2025 Donation Commitment Form. Not currently doing a donation.

Berlin Youth Baseball & Softball League asking for sponsors. The council did a fence sign advertisement.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve the sponsor of a fence sign advertisement for the Berlin Youth Baseball & Softball League in the amount of \$150.00. Ayes 3, Nays 1. Motion carried. (5 council members are present to vote).

Matthew Will left the meeting at 5:45 pm.

Municipal Monthly Report/Inspections were given to the council.

Municipal Monthly Report/Permits was given to the council.

Patrick Broderick left the meeting at 5:50 pm.

### Municipal Authority Update

None.

### Executive Session

At 5:54 P.M., Michael Fogle 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 5, Nays 0, Motion carried.

At 6:15 P.M. Clifford Horner made the motion, seconded by Stephen Custer to have the council reconvened the regular meeting. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Adjournment

At 6:15 P.M. a motion was made by Stephen Custer, seconded by Clifford Horner, to adjourn this meeting. Ayes 5, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Traci Horning

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Submitted By: Traci Horning, Executive Secretary