



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

## **Regular Council Meeting**

**February 5, 2026 – 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

Stephen Custer – Present

Michael Fogle - Absent

James Broderick - Present

Brian Black - Present

Mayor Joseph Krause - Absent

Others Attending –Tanner Walker, Chief of Police William Gonzalez, and Traci Horning, Executive Borough Secretary.

Tanner Walker was in attendance regarding Violet's Vibes Integrative Healing of 409 Broadway Street having requested at the December 4, 2025, meeting to have parking on Mulberry Street along the building between the hours of 7am to 8pm for clients. There is no parking signs currently posted. Council wants to leave no parking as it currently is due to safety issues and plowing the street in the winter. The streets, sidewalks, storm sewer committee will look at this again.

Chief of Police William Gonzalez presented to council his concern with parking on Main Street from Meadow Street to 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Executive Session after the regular meeting.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by John Harding, to approve January 5, 2026, Reorganization Meeting. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by John Harding, to approve January 5, 2026, Regular Council Meeting. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by James Broderick, seconded by Clifford Horner, to approve the Mayor and Police Department's Report for January 2026. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### Park and Planning

None.

#### Garbage

Motion by John Harding seconded by Brian Black to approve Thursday May 14, 2026, as clean-up day. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### Personnel and Finance

Motion by Stephen Custer seconded by Clifford Horner to approve the January 2026 bills. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by James Broderick to approve the Treasurer's Report for December 2025. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

2026 PA State Association of Borough 114<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference is May 31 through June 3, 2026, at Hershey Lodge. Information was given to council members.

House Bill 2265 was passed on October 22, 2024, with Act 131 to increase compensation for borough council members and mayors. Act 131 has not been updated since 1995. Act 131 set Borough council members maximum at \$3,145 per year and Mayor maximum at \$4,190 per year. A new ordinance will be presented at a later meeting to be signed and effective date.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Brian Black to approve the Borough official compensation of \$2,510 per year and Mayor compensation of \$3,345 per year. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Resolution 07052018-02 To Amend The Fee The Borough Tax Collector Can Charge For Tax Certifications has been presented to council to review if any changes in the fee for tax collectors to charge for tax certifications.

Motion by James Broderick, seconded by Clifford Horner to approve no change to the current fee for tax collectors to charge for tax certifications on Resolution 07052018-02. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### House

None.

#### Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers

Motion by John Harding and seconded by Clifford Horner to approve Ordinance 369 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, SOMERSET COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, REQUIRING THAT NO STREETS OR ROADS OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN BE OPENED, EXCAVATED OR CUT BY ANY PERSON, FIRM, CORPORATION, OR UTILITY WITHOUT FIRST SECURING A PERMIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS PROMULATED

PURSUANT THERETO; PROVIDING FOR THE RESTORAION OF BOROUGH ROADWAYS WHEN OPENED; PROVIDING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AND MODIFICATION OF DRIVEWAYS ENTERING BOROUGH ROADS; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### Electric & Equipment

Local Share Account Statewide (LSA) grant. Applications will be received from September 1, 2026, to November 30, 2026, for project costs of \$25,000 to \$1,000,000. Going to get quotes to replace the 2016 Ford F-550 dump truck.

American Municipal Power is suggesting two (2) Purchase Power Agreements (PPAs) for Bright Mountain Solar and Potomac Energy Combined Cycle for the Borough to enter into agreements.

American Municipal Power peak shaving update for the 2025-2026 winter.

#### Fire & Police

Police Coverage hours:

December 28 – January 3

FT hrs = 100 (W. Gonzalez 50, C. Fann 50)

PT hrs = 37.25 (M. Logsdon 8.25, T. Collins 29)

January 4 - January 10

FT hrs = 98 (W. Gonzalez 50, C. Fann 48)

PT hrs = 40.5 (M. Logsdon 14.5, T. Collins 26)

January 11 – January 17

FT hrs = 100 (W. Gonzalez 50, C. Fann 50)

PT hrs = 28 (M. Logsdon 0, T. Collins 28)

January 18 – January 24

FT hrs = 100 (W. Gonzalez 50, C. Fann 50)

PT hrs = 30 (M. Logsdon 0, T. Collins 30)

January 25 – January 31

FT hrs = 100 (W. Gonzalez 50, C. Fann 50)

PT hrs = 28 (M. Logsdon 0, T. Collins 28)

#### Other Information

Somerset County Blooms of Hope 2026 order form has been handed out to the council members.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Brian Black to approve the donation of \$500 to the Camp Cadet of Somerset County. Ayes 5, Nays 0, Abstain 1. Motion carried.

Municipal Monthly Report/Inspections were given to the council.

Berlin Area Ambulance Association letter was handed out to the council members regarding the coverage area.

#### Municipal Authority Update

Nothing current.

### Executive Session

At 5:43 P.M., James Broderick made the motion, seconded by Brian Black 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 6, Nays 0, Motion carried.

At 6:36 P.M. John Harding made the motion, seconded by Brian Black, to have the council reconvened the regular meeting. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

### Adjournment

At 6:40 P.M. a motion was made by Stephen Custer, seconded by Brian Black, to adjourn this meeting. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Traci Horning

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Submitted By: Traci Horning, Executive Secretary