



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

## **Regular Council Meeting**

**March 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 - Present  
James Broderick - Phone  
Brian Black - Present  
Mayor Joseph Krause - Present

Others Attending –Kevin Yoder, Appalachian Engineering Group; Harry Phillips, American Municipal Power; Tanner Walker, by phone and Traci Horning, Executive Borough Secretary.

Kevin Yoder had a discussion with the Borough Council on the Multi-Modal grant that is being used to do the sidewalks from Vine Street to Cumberland Street both sides and from Cumberland Street to North Street on the West side. Plans should be available to approve at the April meeting and advertise for a public meeting in April for the public to review the drawings.

Kevin Yoder left the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Harry Phillips presented to the Borough Council the Power Supply Update as of March 2, 2026. Discussion on peak demand, existing projects, existing power purchase, recommended power purchase and PJM. Bright Mountain Solar, Potomac Energy Center and Gas Hedge.

Harry Phillips left the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

Executive Session after the regular meeting.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Clifford Horner, to approve February 5, 2026, Regular Council Meeting. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Clifford Horner, seconded by Michael Fogle, to approve the Mayor and Police Department's Report for February 2026. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

James Broderick left the meeting by phone at 6:00 p.m.

#### Park and Planning

Somerset County Planning Commission sent a letter to all County Municipalities in regard to a survey that was sent out October 2025 for the County assuming the role of Uniform Construction Code (UCC) permit administration.

#### Garbage

None.

#### Personnel and Finance

Motion by John Harding seconded by Clifford Horner to approve the February 2026 bills. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Michael Fogle, seconded by Stephen Custer to approve the Treasurer's Report for January 2026. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### House

None.

#### Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers

Columbia Gas of PA is starting a gas replacement project set to start March 2026.

Council had a discussion on the multi-modal grant that is being used to do the sidewalks from Vine Street to Cumberland Street both sides and from Cumberland Street to North Street on the West side. Plans should be available to approve at the April meeting and advertise for a public meeting in April for the public to review the drawings.

Council had a discussion regarding parking on Main Street from Meadow Street to Vine Street. Place no parking signs from Meadow Street to Vine Street.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Clifford Horner to approve the placing of no parking signs on Main Street from Meadow Street to Vine Street. Ayes 4, Nays 2. Motion carried.

Tanner Walker was in attendance to the meeting by phone regarding Violet's Vibes Integrative Healing of 409 Broadway Street having requested at the December 4, 2025, meeting and February 5, 2026, 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.

#### Electric & Equipment

A discussion with council to do an AMP thermal scan of the electric system. Last scan was done April 18, 2024. Contact AMP to schedule a time.

American Municipal Power sent a letter with summaries of wholesale power supply costs for 2025. Power rates for 2025 ended higher than forecasted.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Michael Fogle to approve Resolution No. 03052026 The execution of Bright Mountain Solar Schedule with American Municipal Power, Inc. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Reads as follows:

*Pertaining to AMP Contract No. 2027-012331-SCHED*

**BOROUGH OF BERLIN, PA, PENNSYLVANIA  
RESOLUTION NO. 03052026**

**TO APPROVE THE FORM AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF  
BRIGHT MOUNTAIN SOLAR SCHEDULE WITH  
AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER, INC.  
AND TAKING OF OTHER ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Berlin, PA, Pennsylvania (“Municipality”) owns and operates an electric utility system for the sale of electric capacity and associated energy for the benefit of its customers; and

WHEREAS, in order to satisfy the electric capacity and energy requirements of its electric utility system, Municipality has heretofore purchased, or desires to purchase in the future, economical, reliable and environmentally sound capacity and energy and related services from, or arranged by, American Municipal Power, Inc. (“AMP”), of which Municipality is a Member; and

WHEREAS, AMP is a nonprofit corporation, organized to own and operate facilities, or to provide otherwise, for the generation, transmission or distribution of electric capacity and energy, or any combination thereof, and to furnish technical services on a cooperative, nonprofit basis, for the mutual benefit of AMP members (“Members”), such Members, including Municipality, being political subdivisions that operate, or whose members operate, municipal electric utility systems; and

WHEREAS, Municipality, acting individually, and through AMP with other political subdivisions of this and other states that own and operate electric utility systems jointly, endeavors to arrange for reliable, environmentally sound and reasonably priced supplies of electric capacity and energy and related services for ultimate delivery to its customers; and

WHEREAS, it is efficient and economical to act jointly in such regard; and

WHEREAS, Municipality has previously entered into a Master Services Agreement with AMP, AMP Contract No. C-1-2004-3925 (the “MSA”), which contemplates that Municipality may enter into various schedules for the provision of capacity and associated energy and related services from AMP to Municipality; and

WHEREAS, certain Members, including Municipality, have determined that they can utilize additional sources of reliable and economical solar-generated electric capacity and energy on a long-term basis, and have requested that AMP arrange for

the same by acquiring interests through a purchased power agreement (PPA) in certain solar energy facilities; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of this purpose, AMP has entered into a purchase power agreement ("Bright Mountain PPA") with Bright Mountain, LLC (the "Developer") under the terms of which AMP will purchase and Developer will supply and sell up to 80 MWac of capacity and associated energy and environmental attributes from the Bright Mountain generation project located in Perry County, Kentucky for a period of up to twenty-five (25) years; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and desirable for Municipality to enter into a schedule to the MSA to provide for an additional source of capacity, energy and environmental attributes; and

WHEREAS, through approval and execution of the Bright Mountain Solar Schedule authorized below, Members now have the right, but not the obligation, to authorize and request AMP to acquire capacity and energy through the Bright Mountain PPA; and

WHEREAS, prior to the adoption of this Resolution AMP has (i) informed Municipality of the terms of the Bright Mountain Solar Schedule; (ii) provided Municipality the opportunity to review the anticipated form of the Bright Mountain PPA; and (iii) offered representatives of Municipality the opportunity to ask such questions, review data and reports, conduct inspections and otherwise perform such investigations with respect to, as applicable, the acquisition of capacity and energy and the terms and conditions of the Bright Mountain Solar Schedule authorized below as Municipality deems necessary or appropriate in connection herewith; and

WHEREAS, Municipality requests and authorizes AMP to explore an arrangement whereby AMP may prepay all or a portion of AMP's obligations to purchase energy, capacity and environmental attributes at some point during the term of the Bright Mountain PPA and finance the prepayment on behalf of Municipality through the issuance of bonds by AMP in order to achieve additional savings on the capacity, energy and environmental attributes derived from the Bright Mountain PPA that AMP can pass through to Municipality ("Prepay Agreement") subject to the additional requirements set forth in the Bright Mountain Solar Schedule.

WHEREAS, after due consideration, Municipality has determined it is reasonable and in its best interests to proceed as authorized herein below and requests and authorizes AMP to acquire capacity and energy from the Developer upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Bright Mountain PPA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, PA, PENNSYLVANIA:

SECTION 1. That the Bright Mountain Solar Schedule between Municipality and AMP, substantially in the form attached hereto or on file with the Clerk, including Exhibits thereto, is approved, and the Authorized Representative of Municipality, identified below, is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the Bright Mountain Solar Schedule with such changes as the Authorized Representative may approve as neither

inconsistent with this Resolution nor materially detrimental to the Municipality, his or her execution of the Bright Mountain Solar Schedule to be conclusive evidence of such approval. For purposes of this Resolution, Municipality's Authorized Representative is: Michael Lottig.

SECTION 2. That the Authorized Representative is hereby authorized to (i) acquire under the Bright Mountain Solar Schedule, authorized above, a Contract Amount as defined in that Schedule of up to **1 MW**, without bid, and (ii) make any determinations and approvals required thereunder, if any, as the Authorized Representative shall deem necessary and advisable.

SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, paragraph, clause or provision or any part thereof of this Resolution shall be finally adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the remainder of this Resolution shall be unaffected by such adjudication and all the remaining provisions of this Resolution shall remain in full force and effect as though such section, subsection, paragraph, clause or provision or any part thereof so adjudicated to be invalid had not, to the extent of such invalidity, been included herein.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution shall take effect at the earliest date allowed by law.

SECTION 5. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in conformance with applicable open meetings laws and that all deliberations of this Council and of any committees that resulted in those formal actions were in compliance with all legal requirements including any applicable open meetings requirements.

**[PA ONLY]** SECTION 6. Pursuant to 53 P.S. § 47402-A and 53. P.S. § 47505-A, competitive bidding is not required for Municipality's purchase of capacity and associated energy and environmental attributes through the Bright Mountain Solar Schedule.

4882-3687-7711, v. 1

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

ATTEST

BERLIN BOROUGH

\_\_\_\_\_  
Traci Horning, Executive Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Lottig, President

APPROVED BY THE BERLIN BOROUGH MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Krause

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Michael Fogle to approve Resolution No. 03052026-1 The execution of The Potomac Energy Center Schedule with American Municipal Power, Inc. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Reads as follows:

*Pertaining to AMP Contract No. 2026-012538-SCHED*

**BOROUGH OF BERLIN, PA, PENNSYLVANIA  
RESOLUTION NO. 03052026-1**

**TO APPROVE THE FORM AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTION OF  
THE POTOMAC ENERGY CENTER SCHEDULE WITH  
AMERICAN MUNICIPAL POWER, INC.  
AND TAKING OF OTHER ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Berlin, PA, Pennsylvania ("Municipality") owns and operates an electric utility system for the sale of electric capacity and associated energy for the benefit of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, in order to satisfy the electric capacity and energy requirements of its electric utility system, Municipality has heretofore purchased, or desires to purchase in the future, economical, reliable and environmentally sound capacity and energy and related services from, or arranged by, American Municipal Power, Inc. ("AMP"), of which Municipality is a Member; and

WHEREAS, AMP is a nonprofit corporation, organized to own and operate facilities, or to provide otherwise, for the generation, transmission or distribution of electric capacity and energy, or any combination thereof, and to furnish technical services on a cooperative, nonprofit basis, for the mutual benefit of AMP members ("Members"), such Members, including Municipality, being political subdivisions that operate, or whose members operate, municipal electric utility systems; and

WHEREAS, Municipality, acting individually, and through AMP with other political subdivisions of this and other states that own and operate electric utility systems jointly, endeavors to arrange for reliable, environmentally sound and reasonably priced supplies of electric capacity and energy and related services for ultimate delivery to its customers; and

WHEREAS, it is efficient and economical to act jointly in such regard; and

WHEREAS, Municipality has previously entered into a Master Services Agreement with AMP, AMP Contract No. C-1-2004-3925 (Master Agreement): Master Service Agreement ("MSA"), which contemplates that Municipality may enter into various schedules for the provision of capacity and associated energy and related services from AMP to Municipality; and

WHEREAS, certain Members, including Municipality, have determined that they can utilize additional sources of reliable and economical electric capacity and energy on a long-term basis, and have requested that AMP arrange for the same by acquiring interests through a purchased power agreement ("PPA"); and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of this purpose, AMP has entered into a purchase power agreement ("Potomac Energy Center PPA") with Potomac Energy Center, LLC (the "Seller") under the terms of which AMP will purchase and Seller will supply and sell up to approximately 268 MW of base capacity as well as an additional share of the 32 MW of duct firing on a pro-rata basis and associated energy from a combined cycle, gas-fired electric power plant located in Loudoun County, Virginia, for a period of fifteen (15) years; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and desirable for Municipality to enter into a schedule to the MSA to provide for an additional source of capacity and energy; and

WHEREAS, through approval and execution of the Potomac Energy Center Schedule authorized below, Members now have the right, but not the obligation, to authorize and request AMP to acquire capacity and energy through the Potomac Energy Center PPA; and

WHEREAS, prior to the adoption of this Resolution AMP has (i) informed Municipality of the terms of the Potomac Energy Center Schedule; (ii) provided Municipality the opportunity to review the anticipated form of the Potomac Energy Center PPA; and (iii) offered representatives of Municipality the opportunity to ask such questions, review data and reports, conduct inspections and otherwise perform such investigations with respect to, as applicable, the acquisition of capacity and energy and the terms and conditions of the Potomac Energy Center Schedule authorized below as Municipality deems necessary or appropriate in connection herewith; and

WHEREAS, Municipality requests and authorizes AMP to explore an arrangement whereby AMP may prepay all or a portion of AMP's obligations to purchase energy and capacity at some point during the term of the Potomac Energy Center PPA and finance the prepayment on behalf of Municipality through the issuance of bonds by AMP in order to achieve additional savings on the capacity and energy derived from the Potomac Energy Center PPA that AMP can pass through to Municipality ("Prepay Agreement") subject to the additional requirements set forth in the Potomac Energy Center Schedule.

WHEREAS, after due consideration, Municipality has determined it is reasonable and in its best interests to proceed as authorized herein below and requests and authorizes AMP to acquire capacity and energy from the Seller upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Potomac Energy Center PPA.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, PA, PENNSYLVANIA:**

SECTION 1. That the Potomac Energy Center Schedule between Municipality and AMP, substantially in the form attached hereto or on file with the Clerk, including Exhibits thereto and related agreements, if necessary, is approved, and the Authorized Representative of Municipality, identified below, is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the Potomac Energy Center Schedule with such changes as the Authorized Representative may approve as neither inconsistent with this Resolution nor materially detrimental to the Municipality, his or her execution of the Potomac Energy Center

Schedule to be conclusive evidence of such approval. For purposes of this Resolution, Municipality's Authorized Representative is: Michael Lottig.

SECTION 2. That the Authorized Representative is hereby authorized to (i) acquire under the Potomac Energy Center Schedule, authorized above, a Contract Amount as defined in that Schedule of up to 300 kW, without bid, and (ii) make any determinations and approvals required thereunder, if any, as the Authorized Representative shall deem necessary and advisable.

SECTION 3. If any section, subsection, paragraph, clause or provision or any part thereof of this Resolution shall be finally adjudicated by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the remainder of this Resolution shall be unaffected by such adjudication and all the remaining provisions of this Resolution shall remain in full force and effect as though such section, subsection, paragraph, clause or provision or any part thereof so adjudicated to be invalid had not, to the extent of such invalidity, been included herein.

SECTION 4. That this Resolution shall take effect at the earliest date allowed by law.

SECTION 5. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were taken in conformance with applicable open meetings laws and that all deliberations of this Council and of any committees that resulted in those formal actions were in compliance with all legal requirements including any applicable open meetings requirements.

[PA ONLY] SECTION 6. Pursuant to 53 P.S. § 47402-A and 53. P.S. § 47505-A, competitive bidding is not required for Municipality's purchase of capacity and associated energy through the Potomac Energy Center Schedule.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

ATTEST

BERLIN BOROUGH

\_\_\_\_\_  
Traci Horning, Executive Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Lottig, President

APPROVED BY THE BERLIN BOROUGH MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Krause

Motion by Clifford Horner, seconded by Michael Fogle to approve in staying in the long-term gas hedge. Fuel Hedging, Reserves of Gas pre-pays (one year or longer). Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

AMP's partner organizations, Beneficial Electrification League (BEL), is currently supporting Appalachian communities through an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) ARISE grant to help municipally owned utilities strengthen and modernize their electric grid infrastructure. They will help with the grant writing if wanting to apply.

Allegheny Electric Cooperative Inc is proposing a rate increase plan for the next six (6) years. Rates have been unchanged since 2014. First rate increase is proposed for April 1, 2026.

Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association the Live Wire Newsletter was handed out to the council members to read.

### Fire & Police

Police Coverage hours:

February 1 – February 7

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

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

February 8 - February 14

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

PT hrs = 4 (M. Logsdon 4, T. Collins 0)

February 15 – February 21

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

PT hrs = 7 (M. Logsdon 7, T. Collins 0)

February 22 – February 28

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

PT hrs = 5 (M. Logsdon 5, T. Collins 0)

Witmer Public Safety Group, Inc of 101 Independence Way, Coatesville, PA 19320 for a quote for 2026 ammunition in the amount of \$844.00 was presented to council. Proceed with the order.

### Other Information

Cambria Somerset Association of Realtors sent a letter about hosting lunch March 12, 2026, to discuss community projects for 2026 and discuss about grants available.

Somerset County Planning Commission approval of a boundary line change to tax parcels #S05-020-0126-00 and S05-020-0127-00 has been approved.

The Somerset County Boroughs Association Dinner Meeting is Thursday March 19, 2026, at Somerset County Club, Somerset, PA.

Somerset County Historical & Genealogical Society will be providing a county wide passport program. Program will highlight several historic locations throughout the county during the months of April through October 2026. Berlin Borough has been asked to participate with historical sites.

### Municipal Authority Update

Nothing current.

### Executive Session

At 6:52 P.M., Clifford Horner made the motion, seconded by John Harding 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 7:04 P.M. John Harding made the motion, seconded by Clifford Horner, to have the council reconvened the regular meeting. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Stephen Custer to approve the hiring of Lucas Coughanour of Berlin, PA as Part-Time summer outside Labor at an hourly rate of \$17.00, effective March 5, 2026, upon completion of all pre-employment testing and requirements. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

### Adjournment

At 7:07 P.M. a motion was made by Stephen Custer, seconded by Michael Fogle, to adjourn this meeting. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Traci Horning

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Submitted By: Traci Horning, Executive Secretary