Borough of Berlin
700 North Street
Berlin, PA 15530

Council Meeting of the Whole

August 18, 2022 – 4:00 P.M.

Approved and Official Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Charles Rhodes

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was quoted.

Council Attending:
Charles Rhodes – Present
Michael Lottig – Present
Clifford Horner – Present
John Harding – Absent
Marshal Engleka – Absent
Stephen Custer – Present
Thomas Fisher – Absent
Mayor Joseph Krause - Absent

Others Attending – Cindy Flamm, Treasurer, no residents.

Michael Lottig made the motion to approval of the August 4, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes, seconded by Stephen Custer. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Park and Planning
The clock on the Diamond still has moisture on the inside of glass. Bill @ East Bay Clock gave us the ok to drill a small hole in bottom of glass to release the moisture. Roger Platt has talked to Bill regarding what to do. Roger needs ok to do this. Steve Custer made the motion to have Roger Platt drill the small holes in the bottom of each glass on the clock, seconded by Michael Lottig. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

The playground committee is purchasing rubber mulch, due to new regulations they need to make their mulch areas larger. They are asking for help from the Borough crew to help with the distribution of the mulch and to install the border around the mulch. Council agreed to have the Borough crew help as time permits.

Garbage
The crib/fencing for metal recycling was picked up from Lowe's on Wednesday August 10th by Edward Slifco. Placement of this fencing was decided.

Borough garbage cans have been picked up at Roger Clarke's. Other Borough garbage cans that are still out are located at - Little League Field (2), Block Party Lot (several), Community Grove (several), Suder's apartments (4 or 5). Council discussion was to leave the remainder of the garbage cans where they are for these organizations and Suder's apartments for Borough convenience (a dumpster will not fit here).

Had 3 complaints for 307 Broadway Street in regard to the garbage. As of Friday August 12th, one garbage can has been at the top of the property line all week never moved back to the house and there was garbage bags in can and garbage bags on the ground. Not sure who's garbage can it was either 305 or 307 Broadway Street. Stephen Custer made a motion to direct the Mayor to notify the police to take care of the garbage issue, seconded by Clifford Horner. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Complaint for 209 West Main Steet in regard to the weeds/grass being 3 feet high. Council directed this information be given to the Mayor along with a few others properties to check.

Personnel and Finance

Michael Lottig made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for July 31, 2022, seconded by Clifford Horner. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

We have had minimal interest in the Crossing Guard position for 10th Ave. Council to check with the Fire Department Fire Police.

House

Michael Lottig made the motion to have Roger Clarke replace the stone sign at this Community Building at a cost of $500 for flagstone and his cost of labor & engraving at $1,200, seconded by Clifford Horner. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Fire & Police

Police Coverage hours:

July 31 – August 6 FT hrs = 40, PT hrs = 17.5 (K.Huzsek 11.5, M.Craig 6)
August 7 – August 13 FT hrs = 40, PT hrs = 18.5 (K.Huzsek16, M.Craig 2.5)

Financial Requirement & Minimum Municipal Obligation Budget for 2023 for Police Pension Plan in the amount of $11,161 was presented to Council at this meeting.

Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers

Paving Bids were opened August 4th. Lowest bidder was Keystone Lime Co., at $64,448.50. Michael Lottig made the motion to award the contract to the lowest bidder to Keystone Lime Co., at $64,448.50, seconded by Stephen Custer. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Stephen Custer submitted a request for a variance for his property to place a storage shed. Letters were sent out and posted at the main door here at the Borough Office. No public has opposed the request. Approval on this was tabled until next meeting.

GPS are taking some truck traffic onto Shady Lane to 10th Avenue then to Main St. which is causing an issue with the wall at Larry Ogline's property. Stephen Custer made a motion to have a "No Trucks" sign place at the intersection of Shady Lane and Buelah Road, seconded by Clifford Horner. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Electric & Equipment

Two trees that are in the power lines at Main and Cumberland (737 Main) need removed entirely. Dave Hess from Windy Ridge Tree Care was contacted to have the Borough put on his schedule for the removal of 2 trees and leave stumps. We are waiting for Mr. Hess to contact the Borough with a date.

A Volvo Garbage Truck was ordered thru M&K Truck Centers at a cost of $160,818.72. Ken Defino, of Total Equipment Solution is to order the leach packer at a cost of $107,822.00.

Email from Adam Ward AMP introducing a new program offer called Community Energy Savings: Smart Thermostat Program where participating members are anticipated to see approximately 1-kW of saving for each enrolled thermostat per peak event. $80/thermostat enrollment per year fee. Council has decided not to participate in this program. Not enough of a savings.

Gerry Parry, Emergency Management Coordinator, was in and stated that the County EMS would like to acquire a list of equipment from the boroughs and townships that could be loaned out in case of an emergency in other areas of the county. The Council will not give a list at this time, but if an emergency arises, Council asked the County to call, and we can help at that time.

Also, Ed Slfco was instructed to get pricing on a fork attachment for the backhoe.

A situation came up this week about a landlord wanting a home disconnected where a tenant was living. It was explained by our Attorney Brad Allison that we cannot disconnect electricity, if a landlord asks, while a tenant is living on their property.

Other Information

Council asked to recognize the committee/group of people who planted/taking care of the flowers in the pots on Main Street. So, thank you cards was sent to the committee taking care of the flowers.

Municipal Authority Update

Update: Waterline is about finished. Customer tie-ins are being started.

Executive Session

At 5:01 P.M., Stephen Custer made the motion, seconded by Michael Lottig 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 4, Nays 0., Motion carried.

At 5:09 P.M. Michael Lottig made the motion, seconded by Stephen Custer to have the council reconvened the regular meeting. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Adjournment

At 5:10 P. M. a motion was made by Stephen Custer, seconded by Michael Lottig to adjourn this meeting. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

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Cindy Flamm, Treasurer