Borough of Berlin
700 North Street
Berlin, PA 15530

Council Meeting of the Whole

October 20, 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 – Absent
Clifford Horner – Present
John Harding – Present
Marshal Engleka – Present
Stephen Custer – Present
Thomas Fisher – Present
Mayor Joseph Krause - Present

Others Attending – Traci Horning, Executive Borough Secretary, Kevin Yoder, Appalachian Engineering Group and Tom Smith, resident.

Kevin Yoder, Appalachian Engineering Group presented an update regarding issues that have not been resolved with M&B Services, LLC with the Cumberland Street and Main Street sidewalk project and CriLon Corporation with the Phase 1 Main Street sidewalk and curb project.

Tom Smith, Berlin resident spoke to the council regarding any way to promote Berlin with the bike trail coming through to Flight 93. Tom Fisher, councilman stated there is a kiosk being put in at the lower diamond with a map of Berlin with various places highlighted. Going to have a bike rack installed.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Thomas Fisher, to approve the October 6, 2022, Regular Meeting minutes. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Park and Planning
None.

Garbage
1219 Main Street Will's garage school bus still sitting there and now a wrecked vehicle sitting there. Mayor going to stop and address the issue.

Personnel and Finance
Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by John Harding to approve the 2023 health, dental and eye insurance. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

The 2023 budget is going to be started and requests for 2023 need to be given to Cindy Flamm.

House
Projector for the community hall is currently out of stock waiting for a new shipment.

A request has been made again to silent the fire whistle during the hours of 12:00 AM to 6:00 AM. Council had a discussion and has decided not to have the whistle be made silent during those hours.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the fire whistle to be made silent between the hours of 12:00 AM to 6:00 AM. Ayes 3, Nays 4. Motion failed.

Fire & Police
Police Coverage hours:

October 2 – October 8
FT hrs = 81 (W. Gonzalez 40, B. Barron 41)
PT hrs = 0 (K.Huzsek 0, M.Craig 0)

October 9 – October 15
FT hrs = 80.25 (W. Gonzalez 40.25, B. Barron 40)
PT hrs = 3 (K.Huzsek 0, M.Craig 3)

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by John Harding to tint the windows of the 2009 Chevrolet Impala police car. Ayes 5, Nays 1. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding the traffic speed on Meyers Road to Fairview Road. Two stop signs were placed at the intersection of Fairview Road and High Street. Might want to look into putting one at the intersection of Meyers Road and High Street to slow down the traffic from Meyers Road to Fairview Road.

Motion by Thomas Fisher, seconded by John Harding to place a stop sign at the intersection of Meyers Road and High Street. Ayes 5, Nays 1. Motion carried.

Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers
Street sweeper in repair shop waiting on a part to finish.

Electric & Equipment
Order of transformers is put on hold to get other quotes.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve ordering two truck loads of telephone poles. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Verizon is replacing poles on North Street at no cost to the Borough.

Other Information
Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Clifford Horner to make a $100 donation to the Somerset Human Society. Ayes 5, Nays 1. Motion carried.

Motion by Clifford Horner, seconded by John Harding to approve the Halloween Parade on October 27, 2022, at 6PM and continue with Trick or Treating until 8PM.

Stephen Custer made a request on behalf of The American Legion to ask for Borough employee man hours to be used to help level out the shale to be placed under the armor tank.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Clifford Horner to approve the use of Borough employee man hours to help level out the shale to be placed under the armor tank. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Municipal Authority Update
None.

Executive Session
At 5:13 P.M., John Harding 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 6, Nays 0., Motion carried.

At 5:35 P.M. Clifford Horner made the motion, seconded by John Harding to have the council reconvened the regular meeting. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Personnel and Finance
Motion by John Harding, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the hiring of Daniel Deaner of Berlin, PA as Part-Time outside worker at an hourly rate of $13.50, effective October 20, 2022, upon completion of all pre-employment testing and requirements. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

A request was made to place a phone call out to all residents of Berlin Borough there is a Part-Time outside worker position open.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve of eliminating the FBI background check for the hiring of new employees for the Borough. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Adjournment

At 5:39 P.M. a motion was made by Stephen Custer, seconded by John Harding to adjourn this meeting. Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion carried.

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Submitted By: Traci Horning, Executive Secretary