Borough of Berlin
700 North Street
Berlin, PA 15530

Regular Meeting

December 1, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.

Approved and Official Minutes

Call to order by President Charles Rhodes

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Others Attending – Traci Horning, Executive Borough Secretary. There were no residents at this meeting.

Motion by Michael Lottig, seconded by Clifford Horner, to approve the November 17, 2022, Council of the Whole Meeting minutes. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Marshal Engleka, seconded by Stephen Custer, to approve the Police Report for November 2022. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Park and Planning
None

Garbage
Discussion among Council with the amount of garbage that is being put into the dumpsters at the maintenance garage. Contractors from out of town who do not pay for garbage are using the dumpsters to dispose their construction materials. Need to change the wording in the garbage ordinance to be able to prosecute anyone that throws their garbage in the dumpster that does not pay the garbage rate. Thomas Fisher to talk with Officer Gonzalez to see about the wording for the garbage ordinance. Garbage committee to set a meeting to discuss an action plan with the garbage concerns.

Personnel and Finance

Motion by Michael Lottig, seconded by John Harding to approve Resolution 12012022-01 Act 57 of 2022 Property Tax Penalty Waiver Provisions. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve the donation of $100 to The Children's Aid Home Programs of Somerset County. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by John Harding, seconded by Clifford Horner to approve the notice to advertise the 2023 budget as presented in the Somerset Daily American, effective December 2, 2022. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Michael Lottig, seconded by Marshal Engleka to approve the Anniversary Awards as presented and outlined on the sheet. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Stephen Custer, seconded by Thomas Fisher to approve Christmas Bonuses as presented and outlined on the sheet, FT $200, PT $150 and crossing guards $50. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion by Michael Lottig, seconded by Clifford Horner to rescind the motion of November 17, 2022, to approve the hiring of Kristi Davis of Berlin, PA as Full-Time Assistant Treasurer at an hourly rate of $15.00, effective November 17, 2022, upon completion of all pre-employment testing and requirements. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Discussion among the Council to repost on Indeed for the Full-Time Assistant Treasurer for two weeks at the rate of $15.00 per hour.

House

Water spouting above the fire department doors is leaking and water is freezing in front of the doors. Contact Dave Bowser to look at the spouting.

Fire & Police

Police Coverage hours:

November 13 – November 19
FT hrs = 85.5 (W. Gonzalez 45, B. Barron 40.5)
PT hrs = 3 (K.Huzsek 0, M.Craig 3)

November 20 – November 26
FT hrs = 90 (W. Gonzalez 50, B. Barron 40)
PT hrs = 3 (K.Huzsek 0, M.Craig 3)

Discussion among Council regarding the Police Officer part-time hours that are not being provided to the borough. Thomas Fisher to reach out to Officer Gonzalez regarding the over time being offered to full-time officers.

Council has concerns with people parking vehicles on the sidewalks throughout the Borough. Will be approaching people with vehicles parked on the sidewalk to have them not to park on sidewalk.

Streets, Sidewalks, Storm Sewers
Marshal Engleka contacted Steve Spochart, Redevelopment Authority to get information on any available money for the bike trail from Station Hill Road to the Lower Diamond and the sidewalks for the rest of Main Street. Mr. Spochart is sending links to look at various resources of money available.

Motion by Michael Lottig, seconded by John Harding to approve the estimate from Dave Hess, Windy Ridge Tree Care in the amount of $1,550 to trim all trees and bushes in the right of way on Mulberry Street from 4th Avenue to Broadway Street. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Electric & Equipment
None

Other Information
None

Municipal Authority Update
None

Executive Session
None

Adjournment
Motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:53 P.M. was made by Michael Lottig, seconded by John Harding. Ayes 7, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Traci Horning

Submitted By: Traci Horning, Executive Secretary