



BOROUGH OF BERLIN
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
59 SOUTH WHITE HORSE PIKE
BERLIN, NJ 08009

REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES

SATURDAY JANUARY 2, 2021 - 10:00 A.M.

Mayor Rick Miller called the 2021 Reorganization Meeting to order at 10:00 am. He stated that this meeting's adequate notice was given according to the Open Public Meeting Act, Pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice has been advertised in the Courier-Post and posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board showing the said meeting's date, place, and time.

After the Salute to the Flag, the Oaths of Office were administered.

Len Badolato was sworn in as Councilman by Howard Long. His wife Diana Badalota assisted and held the Bible.

Keith Hohing was sworn in as Councilman by Howard Long. His wife, June Hohing, assisted and held the Bible.

Patricia Cummings was sworn in as Councilman by Howard Long. Her daughter Alexis assisted and held the Bible.

Jake Miller was sworn in as Councilman by Howard Long, his wife Robin, and his son Jake assisted and held the Bible.

The following roll call was taken:

Council Members: Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Pearce, Simone, Mayor Miller

RESOLUTION 2021-001 – Appoint Council President

Motion to appoint Jim Pearce as Council President for the Year 2021.

Moved by Councilmember Cummings; **Seconded by** Councilmember Hohing

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

RESOLUTION 2021-002 - Appointment of Howard C. Long, Jr, Esquire, from the firm Wade, Long, Wood & Long, L.L.C., of Laurel Springs, NJ as Borough of Berlin Solicitor for Berlin Borough through December 31, 2021

Moved by Councilmember Pearce; **Seconded by** Councilmember Badolato

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

Mayor Miller made the following appointments to the Planning board:

NEW APPOINTMENTS

- Michael McGowan Class II 1/1/21 – 12/31/21
- Ken Ryker Class IV 1/1/21 – 12/31/24
- Thomas Dulin Class IV 1/1/21 – 12/31/24
- Harry Earle Alternate #1 1/1/21 – 12/31/22.

He recognized the service of the other Planning Board members:

- Rick Miller Class I 1/1/20 - 12/31/23
- Fran Ballak Class IV 1/1/20 – 12/31/23
- Bradley Cusick Alternate II 1/1/20 – 12/31/21
- Michael Foster Class IV 1/1/19 - 12/31/22
- Jeannine Schumacher Class IV 1/1/18 – 12/31/21
- Dan Pomponio Class IV 1/1/19 – 12/31/22

Appointment of Councilman Andy Simone (Class III) Representative to the Planning Board:

Moved by Councilmember Miller; **Seconded by** Councilmember Badolato

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Buildings, Parks & Recreation | Chairman Len Badolato
Co-Chairs Andy Simone & Patricia Cummings |
| Public Works, Streets & Roads | Chairman Andy Simone
Co-Chairs Patricia Cummings & Len Badolato |
| Water & Sewer | Chairman Patricia Cummings
Co-Chairs Len Badolato & Andy Simone |
| Public Safety | Chairman Jim Pearce
Co-Chairs Keith Hohing & Jake Miller |
| Finance | Chairman Jake Miller
Co-Chairs Jim Pearce & Keith Hohing |
| Communications | Chairman Keith Hohing
Co-Chairs Jake Miller & Jim Pearce |

Moved by Councilmember Simone; **Seconded by** Councilmember Pearce

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH OFFICIALS

• Treasurer	Stacey DiVello	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• Deputy Clerk	Dana McGarvey	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• Borough Historian	Beth Pomponio	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• Fire Official	William Behnke	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• Fire Safety Inspector	Joe Cornforth	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• Fire Safety Inspector	Dennis Rosenbaum	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• Fire Chief	Michael Kernan	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• Zoning Official	Debbie Simone	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• Deputy EMC	Fred Tuttle	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• Deputy EMC	Craig Falstick	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• P.A.C.O.	Dwayne M. Harris	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• Property Maintenance	Joe Lobrano	01/01/2021-12/31/2021

Moved by Councilmember Pearce; **Seconded by** Councilmember Hohing

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

APPOINTMENT OF: Millard Wilkinson, Jr. J.I.F. Fund Commissioner for the Year 2021.

Moved by Councilmember Pearce; **Seconded by** Councilmember Cummings

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

APPOINTMENT OF: Millard V. Wilkinson, Safety Coordinator for the Camden County J.I.F. for the Year 2021

Moved by Councilmember Miller; **Seconded by** Councilmember Hohing

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

APPOINTMENT OF: Community Development Block Grant Representatives

• C.D.B.G. Coordinator	Councilman Andy Simone	01/01/2021-12/31/2021
• C.D.B.G. Alternate	Councilman Len Badolato	01/01/2021-12/31/2021

Moved by Councilmember Cummings; **Seconded by** Councilmember Miller

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

Mayor Miller recognized the following Department Heads, Officials, and Sub-Officials for the service:

• Municipal Clerk/Administrator	Dwayne M. Harris
• CMFO	Debbie DiMattia
• Municipal Registrar	Dana McGarvey
• Chief of Police	Millard V. Wilkinson

- Emergency Mgt. Coordinator Rushi Pandya
- Ambulance Captain Lou DeMarco
- D.P.W. Superintendent John Allsebrook
- Tax Assessor Theresa Stagliano
- Tax Collector Leigha Bogdanowicz
- Construction Official Edward Toussaint
- Fire Sub Code Inspector Ron Snyder
- Housing Inspector Edward Toussaint

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

- Council Liaison Councilman Len Badolato 1 yr. 1/1/21 - 12/31/21
- Luke Evers Class A 1 yr. 1/1/21 – 12/31/21

Moved by Councilmember Simone; **Seconded by** Councilmember Hohing

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

Mayor Miller recognized the Historic Preservation Commission members and Advisors:

- Michelle Secrest Class C 4 yr. 1/1/18 - 12/31/21
- Gail Mottershead Class C 4 yr. 1/1/18 - 12/31/21
- Tina Hoffman Class C 4 yr. 1/1/19 - 12/31/22
- Tracy Salvatore Class C 4 yr. 1/1/20 - 12/31/23
- Lisa Doris Alt 1 2 yr. 1/1/20 - 12/31/21
- Hal Taylor Class C 4 yr. 1/1/20 - 12/31/23
- Jose Hernandez Class C 4 yr. 1/1/20 - 12/31/23
- Millard Wilkerson Jr - Mayor Emeritus
- Dan Pomponio - President, Berlin Borough Historical Society

BOARD OF HEALTH APPOINTMENTS

- Council Liaison Councilman Keith Hohing 1 yr. 1/1/21 - 12/31/21
- Dan Molnar 3 yr. 1/1/21 - 12/31/23
- Christina Miller 3 yr. 1/1/21 - 12/31/23

Moved by Councilmember Pearce; **Seconded by** Councilmember Badolato

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

LIBRARY TRUSTEES APPOINTMENTS

- Robert Foster 5 yr. 1/1/21 - 12/31/25

Moved by Councilmember Cummings; **Seconded by** Councilmember Miller

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

Mayor Miller recognized the Library Trustees that are currently serving:

- Mayor Rick Miller Mayor
- Superintendent Dr. Joseph Campisi Berlin Community School Superintendent
- Nancy Grover 5 yr. 1/1/18 - 12/31/22
- Deanna Schuenemann 5 yr. 1/1/17 - 12/31/21
- Mary K Albertson 5 yr. 1/1/19 - 12/31/23
- Kim Cunningham 5 yr. 1/1/19 - 12/31/23
- Millard Wilkerson Jr. 5 yr. 1/1/20 - 12/31/24
- Tina Hoffmann 5 yr. 1/1/20 - 12/31/24

COURT APPOINTMENTS

- Municipal Prosecutor Richard DeMichele 1 yr. 1/1/21 - 12/31/21
- Municipal Public Defender Francis J. Falkenstein 1 yr. 1/1/21 - 12/31/21
- Court Administrator Kelly Foster 1 yr. 1/1/21 - 12/31/21

Moved by Councilmember Simone; **Seconded by** Councilmember Hohing

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE BOARD APPOINTMENTS

- Council Representative Len Badolato 1/1/21 - 12/31/21
- Planning Board Representative Mike Foster 1/1/21 - 12/31/21
- Zoning Official Debbie Simone 1/1/21 - 12/31/21
- Board of Health Dan Molnar 1/1/21 - 12/31/21
- Community Representative Carrie Alper 1/1/21 - 12/31/21

Moved by Councilmember Miller; **Seconded by** Councilmember Pearce

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

- Keith Hohing Council Liaison 1 yr. 1/1/21 – 12/31/21

Moved by Councilmember Badolato; **Seconded by** Councilmember Cummings

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

Mayor Miller recognized the current members of the Business Advisory Board:

- Michael McGowan Class B 3 yr. 1/1/19 - 12/31/21
- Michelle Primo Class A 3 yr. 1/1/19 - 12/31/21
- Robert Long Class A 3 yr. 1/1/20 - 12/31/22
- Gary Banks Class C 2 yr. 1/1/20 - 12/31/21
- Manuel Brody Class A 3 yr. 1/1/20 - 12/31/22

CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

- Rick Miller Governing Body Liaison 1 yr. 1/1/21 - 12/31/21
- Tracy Salvatore Chairwoman 3 yr. 1/1/19 - 12/31/21
- Christina Miller Vice-Chairwoman 3 yr. 1/1/19 - 12/31/21

Moved by Councilmember Simone; **Seconded by** Councilmember Pearce

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

Mayor Miller read the following Resolutions being presented for passage into the record:

RESOLUTION 2021-003, Appointing Hugh Dougherty, P.E., of Pennoni Associates from Haddon Heights, NJ, as Municipal Engineer for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-004 Appointing Hugh Dougherty, P.E., of Pennoni Associates from Haddon Heights, NJ as Water & Sewer Engineer for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-005, Appointing Daniel M. DiGangi of Bowman & Associates, from Voorhees, NJ, as Auditor for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-006, Appointment of the Law Firm of Parker McCay, PA as Bond Counsel for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-007, Appointing Christopher Dochney of C.M.E. Associates as Municipal Planner for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-008, Appointing Edgewood Associates of Berlin, NJ as Risk Management Consultants for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-009, Appointing Stuart Platt, Esq. of the Law Firm of Platt & Riso, from Stratford, NJ as Special C.O.A.H. Counsel for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021

RESOLUTION 2021-010, Appointing E.R.I., C.M.E. & Maser Consulting as Special Projects Engineers for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-011 Adopting Temporary Budget for the Year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-012, Setting the interest rate to be charged for the delinquencies of taxes, water, sewer, and all other applicable Municipal charges.

RESOLUTION 2021-013, Adopting the Cash Management Plan for the Year 2021

RESOLUTION 2021-014, Designating the Courier-Post of Cherry Hill, NJ and the Philadelphia Inquirer of Philadelphia, PA as official newspapers for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-015, Establishing Meeting Dates and format for the year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-016, Appointing Phoenix Advisors, L.L.C. of Bordentown, NJ. as Independent Registered Municipal Advisor for disclosure agent services.

RESOLUTION 2021-017, Appointing R.H.P. Towing, from Atco, NJ, and Linden Towing, from Lindenwold, NJ to be the authorized towing companies for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021.

RESOLUTION 2021-018, Appointing Karl Hansen as Mechanic in the Department of Public Works with a 90-day extended probationary period.

RESOLUTION 2021-019, Awarding Contract to JHarte Associates of Berlin as the Managed IT. provider for the Borough of Berlin for the Year 2021.

The meeting was opened to the public for comments on the Resolutions. No one from the public offered any comments, and the meeting was closed to the public.

Mayor Miller asked for a motion to approve Resolutions 2021-003 through 2021-019 as a Consent Agenda

Moved by Councilmember Pearce; **Seconded by** Councilmember Badolato

Vote: Motion carried by roll call vote (summary: Yes = 6; Absent = 0).

Yes: Council members Badolato, Cummings, Hohing, Miller, Simone, Pearce

Mayor Miller opened the meeting to Privilege of the Floor. No one took privilege.

Keeping in line with tradition the Mayor asked for remarks from the Governing Body members:

Councilman Len Badolato thanked the Mayor you wished everybody congratulations. He acknowledges that it was a tough year. "I'm sure 2021 will be better. I believe we got through the worst and I just want to wish everybody happy new year and again I want to thank everyone for their support; my wife for helping me and everyone on Council for their advice. Whenever I want to do something I reach out and I appreciate everyone's help."

Councilman Keith Hohing thanked the Mayor. "I would like to congratulate all my fellow Council members for their appointments and say how much it is an honor to be a part of this town and this organization, this team. I was originally appointed last year and was elected this year and am very happy to have had the opportunity to work with everybody both in sort of a trial basis but now as a permanent member of Council for the next term. I look forward to what we can do as a team and what we can do for

the Borough, our residents, and our businesses. As Councilman Badolato indicated, it has been a difficult year that no one can ever deny, the most difficult of everyone's life. At the same time, I think as an organization. As a town, we have really had tremendous support from everyone throughout the Borough, and again I would say I would be very privileged to be part of the organization and support the Borough. I thank everybody who came before us in terms of their roles and positions, which probably led us to where we are today in Berlin and can accomplish in the years ahead as part of the organization. Thank you all. I appreciate the opportunity."

Councilman Jacob Miller thanked the Mayor. "I would like to also thank the residents of Berlin for the opportunity to serve the Council once again. As mentioned, this past year was interesting, to say the least. I do look forward to working with all the council members moving forward. I am personally impressed with the amount of time and effort that each council member has put in two in their dedication to this town. I believe the residents are very fortunate to have every one of you in your respective positions. I texted the Mayor the other day saying the amount of work that he does is just tremendous, and we are fortunate to have you at the helm."

Councilwoman Patricia Cummings thanked the Mayor. "I want to thank everyone as well. It has been a privilege working with every one of you this year. As Councilman Miller has stated, everyone really does a tremendous job pulling together, especially in the difficult time we have had this year. I really look forward to working with all of you again for another year and being able to help my community, and I want to thank every one of you, and I am looking forward to a great 2021."

Councilman Andy Simone. Thanked the Mayor. "My fellow Councilmembers said everything so far. I want to echo what they said and offer congratulations to all the new committee members, chairs, appointees, and professionals, again looking ahead to 2021. I think we are ready to go. Let us continue the Community Action once it opens up, and let us get back on track with what we planned in March of 2020. Congratulations, everybody, and thank you."

Council President Jim Pearce thanked the Mayor. "I want to congratulate everyone for being sworn in today. I also want to take this time, and one of the things I would like to say is, having worked with this group of the residents of Berlin Borough this past year, I know a lot of people, especially if you look out and see things on social media, a lot of people are talking about 2020 being the worst. For 2021, everyone is looking forward to it being better. Obviously, I am looking forward to being better also, but I can tell every resident in this town that it will not matter what happens in 202; if it stays the same if it gets worse, this group of elected officials in this town and everyone that works for this town from our paid employees to our volunteers, everybody we have this. You know, to think of that term "we've got this," this group is amazing. Having gone through one of the most challenging years I have ever seen in the governing body, we can do this you know what we are strong, we cooperate, we communicate; something that is the most important thing in this group is we communicate. We can disagree sometimes maybe even fight but we are here for the people, and we always communicate. Looking to social media, I see many times people will say on social media, unfriend me if you do not agree with me or do not you dare comment. We do not do that in this group. We work for the people of Berlin Borough. Everyone on this governing body takes it seriously. we do not play games like that. If you disagree with me, we want to talk to you even more. We cannot always do everything that everyone in the Borough has asked us, but we try our best, and I can assure the residents of this town that this group listens to each and every person. We might not be able to always do exactly what you ask us, but we like that you reach out to us. we are always open to communication, and I'm very proud to work with this group."

Mayor Miller commented Congressman Norcross reached out wanted to thank Berlin for partnering with him and his team to help Berlin Borough residents. The Congressman is in Washington DC, so he could not jump on, but his office sent a message.

"I want to thank the Council members, Howard, Dwayne, and everybody in the Borough that helped us as we built this "ship in the ocean." It was trying at times, and I am proud of the job everybody has done. I want to thank my wife and family for putting up with all the time that being Mayor takes away from them. I say it all the time they did not sign up for this, and they have to deal with it, whether it is at school or in the communities or getting text messages from people trying to get things done. I agree with everyone else, and I do not think we missed a beat. During the onset of COVID-19, the Borough employees were great. Everyone was offered the opportunity to take as much time as they needed. I thank our employees and, of course, our first responders E.M.S., Police Department, and Fire Department, always on the front lines and always do a great job, and I publicly thank them.

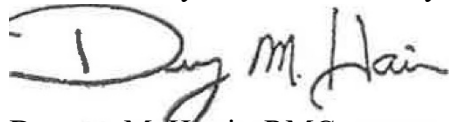
I look forward to working with this gang again this year, and hopefully, we have a more productive 2021. We had a great 2020, all things considering, and look forward to another year under our belt with that experience and I am excited for 2021.

There being no further business before the body, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Badolato; Seconded by Councilmember Pearce, and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

Dwayne Harris, Municipal Clerk
January 2, 2021

I, Dwayne M. Harris, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Berlin, in the County of Camden, State of New Jersey, hereby certify these Minutes were approved by the Governing Body, at its Regular Meeting, held March 11, 2021.

WITNESS my hand this 16th day of March 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dwayne M. Harris". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Dwayne M. Harris, RMC