

**BOROUGH OF BERLIN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011
7:00 PM**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR ARMANO.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG LED BY THE MAYOR.

SUNSHINE NOTICE: Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice has been advertised in the Courier Post and Philadelphia Inquirer noting the date, place and time of said meeting.

ROLL CALL: Mayor John Armano, Council President Scott Scelso, Council members Maccaroni, Bilella, Kupchik and Pearce were present. Councilman Chance was absent.

Mayor Armano stated that Councilman Chance could not make the meeting due to being snowed in where he was. Mayor asked all to please contact him or the Administrator if and when they do not plan on attending a council meeting.

PRESENT ALSO: Solicitor George Botcheos

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council meeting minutes of December 28, 2010. Motion made by Scelso seconded by Pearce. All were in favor.

Re-Organization Meeting of January 7, 2011. Motion made by Scelso seconded by Maccaroni. All were in favor.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2010;

· Tax Collector's Report:	\$394,789.42
· Utility Report:	579,928.67
· Clerk's Report:	3910.00
· Construction Report:	7533.00
· Court Report:	8372.29

Motion to approve reports for the month of December, 2010 made by Maccaroni seconded by Scelso. All were in favor.

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR:

Michael Iuliucci, 191 Clementon Road is again asking the borough council to consider vacating Vermont Avenue that is now a paper street or blacktopping it. He said the property in that area is in poor condition. The mayor will ask the property maintenance official to investigate.

- MAYOR JOHN ARMANO Reports that the Blackwood Animal Shelter has come back to borough dropping the initial fees they were going to charge for sheltering animals that are picked up in Berlin, however, the new shelter we signed on with, Cumberland County Animal Shelter will not charge the borough one penny for the month of January due to no animals being picked up. He feels the borough still has no choice but to remain with Cumberland County due to the excessive cost savings. /In regards to the properties in the borough that have not paid taxes in over two years and have not been purchased any lien holders. He asked the council at the caucus meeting to decide for this meeting if they wanted to foreclose on these properties. After some discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Scelso to move forward with directing the Solicitor to do the necessary paperwork to foreclose seconded by Councilman Pearce. All were in favor.

Mayor Armano informed the council that he is asking the Solicitor to amend the existing ordinance that somewhat states that property owners are responsible to clear their walkways for safety issues to being more clearer in regards to the shoveling of snow. There was discussion on how the residents would get this information before they would be warned and even sited if they did not comply with the new ordinance. Mayor stated that the borough has already sent out fliers in certain areas reminding residents of this. We will put this online and also look into advertising in the newspaper.

- BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, Chairman Scott Scelso reports that the pump had to be repaired at the Municipal Building for heat. Fuses are now being stored for future problems. /All inspection items were repaired at the V & I Building. /Electrical outlets were fixed in the squad room at the Municipal Building. Mats will be put down to make it easier for the chairs to slide. /He met with Mayor Armano in regards to 16 Haines Avenue for ideas to fix up. Councilwoman Kupchik suggests it be made a sub-station for the County. Mayor Armano stated the County does not have any firm plans as of yet for possible shared policing. He does have the support of five other mayors in regards to this scenario. He stated that Architect Alan Blair did a small study of 16 Haines last year. He suggests that Councilman Scelso continue his investigation regarding this facility before any other avenues are explored.

- STREETS & ROADS, Chairman James Bilella. Department of Transportation has approved a grant for Arlington Avenue in the amount of \$160,000. /He is seeking information for the replacement of lamps on traffic signals./There are new sign requirements on the size of letters on street signs that will come into place in 2013-14 and feels that if we have to comply with these regulations should we start complying as of now. Mayor Armano feels that this regulation is not going into effect. Superintendent Mark Mauger is checking out all signs. Reflectivity has to be looked into and sign panels are being looked at. Councilman Maccaroni stated that at one time all the old vertical signs were working. /CDBG cuts in the amount of 25% are coming in the near future and possibly more if the census is spread wider.

- WATER & SEWER, Chairman Lynn Kupchik. Will be meeting with Pennoni Associates water and sewer update. No issues with water meters in the borough for the past month.
- HEALTH & RECREATION, Chairman Jim Pearce. Looking into the placing of bleachers at the community center in the gym area noting that there is some room around the courts and possible room if and when bifold doors are installed./ Will be meeting with Camp Coordinator Eileen Johnson in regards to this years camp and any of her needs./Berlin Rotary is donating \$2000. to the community center that he states will be accepting check at their next function.
- PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Dennis Chance was absent.
- FINANCE, Chairman Nick Maccaroni thanks everyone who attended the Bowman budget seminar.
- SOLICITOR, George Botcheos did not have any report for this meeting.
- ADMINISTRATOR, Charleen Santora asks the council if they would approve two mercantile licenses that did not make the caucus meeting due to the back log at the police department contingent upon approval from all other departments. One is Unleash Performance Car Care for car repairs located at 146 W. White Horse Pike, Berlin and the other is Favieri's Bakery located at 159 W. White Horse Pike for the sale specialty wedding cakes. Motion made by Pearce seconded by Bilella. All were in favor.

ORDINANCES;

INTRODUCTION:

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-01, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 306 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED, "TOWING".

Motion to introduce Ordinance 2011-01 made by Scelso seconded by Bilella. All were in favor.

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-02, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 287 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN ENTITLED "STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND CURBS.

Motion to introduce made by Maccaroni seconded by Scelso. All were in favor.

RESOLUTIONS:

Meeting open to the public on Resolutions R2-1 through R2-11; 2011.

Motion to close public hearing made by Kupchik seconded by Bilella. All were in favor.

RESOLUTION R2-1;2011, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FIVE (5) MONTH UTILITY PAYMENT PLAN FOR 224 CLEMENTON ROAD, BLOCK 703, LOT 3, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$742.75.

RESOLUTION R2-2;2011, A RESOLUTION APPOINTING TERRY STAGLIANO, CTA, TAX ASSESSOR, THE AUTHORIZED AGENT TO REPRESENT THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN FOR TAX APPEALS FOR THE YEAR 2011.

RESOLUTION R2-3; 2011, A RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM YEAR 33 (2011-2012) NAMED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION THAT THE APPROXIMATE FUNDING OF \$28,672.00 BE USED FOR SENIOR BUS TRANSPORTATION.

RESOLUTION R2-4;2011, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS TO DENIS QUINN AND LYNDA STRAUB OF BERLIN BOROUGH FOR KEY FOB REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20.00 EACH.

RESOLUTION R2-5;2011, APPROVAL FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL TO WAIVE PERMIT FEES FOR THE VFW OF BERLIN FOR THE REPLACING OF A NEW ROOF AND THE MOVING OF A GAS LINE AT THE VFW FACILITY, 34 CHESTNUT AVENUE.

RESOLUTION R2-6; 2011, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF A RECYCLING TONNAGE REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2010 TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

RESOLUTION R2-7; 2011, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE BOROUGH SECTION 125 CAFETERIA PLAN.

RESOLUTION R2-8; 2011, AUTHORIZATION FROM COUNCIL TO APPROVE BIRDSALL ENGINEERING'S PROPOSAL TO UPDATE THE DRUG FREE ZONE TAX MAP FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500.00.

RESOLUTION R2-9; 2011, AUTHORIZATION FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL TO HAVE PENNONI ASSOCIATES COMPLETE THE WELL # 10 PROJECT.

RESOLUTION R2-10;2011, APPROVAL FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL TO HAVE CFO CHANGE FROM TD BANK OF BERLIN, NJ TO SUSQUEHANNA BANK OF ATCO, NJ DUE TO RECENT BIDDING AND SUSQUEHANNA'S RESPONSE TO PROPOSAL.

RESOLUTIONS R-2-11;2011, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REFUNDING OF ESCROW FEES FOR BLOCK 2007, LOT 13 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$131.25, BLOCK 2204, LOT 8 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$312.50 AND BLOCK 2400, LOT 28.1 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$552.45 DUE TO ALL ACCOUNTS BEING CLOSED.

Motion to adopt Resolutions R2-1; 2011 through R2-11; 2011 made by Bilella seconded by Pearce. All were in favor.

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2011 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,643,324.76. Motion Maccaroni seconded by Bilella. All were in favor.

Motion to adjourn Kupchik seconded by Scelso. All were in favor.

Charleen Santora, RMC

Date: _____