

BOROUGH OF BERLIN
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 2018
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
59 SOUTH WHITE HORSE PIKE
BERLIN, NJ 08009
7:00 P.M.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

FLAG SALUTE:

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 posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board showing the date, place and time of said meeting.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Jim Bilella, Council President Rick Miller, Council Members Pearce, Badolato, Rocco, Buchanan, & MacDonnell.

PRESENT ALSO: Solicitor Howard Long, Municipal Clerk Lois J. Sahina and

ABSENT: Chief Financial Officer Michael T. Kwasizur

STATEMENT - Made by Mayor Biella

Mayor Biella addressed Council and audience about the present allegations. He said Council, The Public Safety Committee, himself and the Attorney General have all been notified and are aware of the situation. The Attorney General is currently following the guidelines which will relate to confidentiality. We will need to go into executive session and possibly take act tonight. We take allegations like this very seriously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

7/12/18 - Council Meeting Minutes

7/12/18 - Council Meeting Closed Session Minutes

Motion to approve adoption of the minutes; Councilman Badolato

Sec.; Councilman Rocco

All present were in favor

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2018

Permit fees	\$ 12,128.00
Zoning fees	\$ 600.00
Re-sale inspection fees	\$ 950.00
Rental Inspections	\$ 100.00
Community Center fees	\$ 650.00
Tax collector's report	\$ 720,325.08
Utility report	\$ 132,434.79
Clerks report	\$ 51,319.50
Animal report	\$ 81.00
Court Administrator	\$ 20,822.95

Motion to approve department head reports; Councilman Pearce

Sec.; Council President Miller

All present were in favor

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2018 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,477,169.65

Motion to approve payment of the bills; Councilman Buchanan

Sec.; Council President Miller

All present were in favor

COUNCIL REPORTS:

• **BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION, Chairman Len Badolato**

- **Dill House** - I met with Don Gordon from the Arts & Humanities Department of Camden County College. Also present, Cindy Williams & Keith Hoeing. We all met at the Dill House to discuss future uses of this location. Education classes teaching Art or History were discussed.
- **Hotel Painting** – We accepted three quotes for the painting of the Hotel. Elite Painting’s quote was selected to do this job.

• **PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS, Chairman Dan MacDonnell**

- **2017 Road Program** - The 2017 Road Program is almost complete. There are only a few more items on the punch list that need to be completed
- **2018 Road Program** – The pre-construction for the 2018 Road Program is almost complete and is planned to start mid-August. Some of the streets that will be included are Dover, New York, Holly, Glenside, Jones, Rondon and Crest. Handouts will be distributed to communicate with the residents that are affected by the road program.
- **2019 NJDOT Road Program** - We need to submit our application for the 2019 Road Program. We will be using the “Road Study” to determine the streets that need to be addressed first. The road study will give us a five year plan based off of the data collected.

• **WATER & SEWER, Chairman Ron Rocco**

- **Sewer & Water** - The statistics and income for both Sewer & Water Departments were given comparing 2017 vs. 2018.
- **DPW** - There was one water complaint from a resident at 18 South Rose Lane. The problem was resolved the next morning. All regular maintenance and updates were completed at all pump stations and wells
- **Scada System** - Our new “Scada” system is working smoothly. The GPS coordinate and mapping has already helped to locate and open 1,000 valves. This new system will be used to meet the mandates of the “Water Accountability Act” for the State.

- **PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Jim Pearce**

- **Swearing In of** - Robert Dugan, who is currently a SLEO part time employee, will be promoted and sworn into a fulltime patrolman at the September meeting instead of at tonight's meeting.
- **Human Law Enforcement Appointment** - There is a resolution on tonight's agenda appointing Ryan Heron to the position of "Municipal Humane Law Enforcement Officer". The State is mandating that an officer be trained and appointed to this position.
- **Resolutions** R8-10; 2018 LESO to obtain free military equipment for the police and R8-08; 2018 will be to purchase a new ford pick up for the Fire Company to replace the one that was totaled in the accident.
- **Police & Fire Statistics** - For the month of July 2018 were given.
- **No Need to Speed Campaign** - will focus on West Broad, Ellis and Cross Keys Roads

- **COMMUNICATIONS, Chairman Rick Miller**

- **Website** - I am working on getting the website cleaned up. There are a lot of things that don't need to be on there and would like all of Councils input & ideas.

- **FINANCE, Chairman Mike Buchanan**

- **Permanent Debt** - I have been working with our CFO on our permanent debt and capital funds.
- **Tax Bills** - The tax bills for the third quarter were mailed out on 7/26/18 with a due date of 8/20/18.

- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & REAL ESTATE, Mayor Jim Bilella**

- **Energy Audit** -We submitted the application to have an energy audit done on all of the buildings in the Borough that use electric & gas. The Borough in return will utilize the savings to pay for the improvements.
- **Business Advisory Committee** - On tonight's agenda there is a 2nd Reading Ordinance changing the "Economic Development Committee" to the "Business Advisory Committee". We will rely on the Business Owners in town to come to us with their input and ideas, on how to better our business community in town.
- **Royal Farms** -The property located at the corner of Cross Keys Road & White Horse Pike has now been officially closed on. This property has been vacant for over 30 years. Progress is being made and we should see ground breaking this fall.
- **SOLICITOR, Howard Long** - No report was given at this time, but, a report will be given in Executive Session.
- **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, Michael T. Kwasizur** - Absent, no report was given.

2ND READING ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-19

AN ORDINANCE RESCINDING PART 1, CHAPTER 16, §16-1. THROUGH §16-8 AND CREATING A NEW PART 1, CHAPTER 16 ENTITLED "BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE" OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

HEARING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON ORDINANCE 2018-19

HEARING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC - No one spoke

Motion to Adopt: Councilman Pearce

Sec.; Councilman MacDonnell

All present were in favor

READING RESOLUTIONS R08-01; 2018 THROUGH R08-10; 2018

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON RESOLUTIONS R08-01;2018 THROUGH R08-10; 2018 - No one spoke

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

RESOLUTION R08-01; 2018

RESOLUTION FROM THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT PROMOTING POLICE OFFICER ROBERT J. DUGAN III FROM SLEO II TO PATROLMAN

RESOLUTION R08-02; 2018

RESOLUTION FROM THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPOINTING RYAN HERON TO THE POSITION OF MUNICIPAL HUMANE LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION R08-03; 2018

RESOLUTION FROM THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY EXTENDING THE THIRD QUARTER TAX PAYMENT GRACE PERIOD TO AUGUST 20, 2018

RESOLUTION R08-04; 2018

RESOLUTION FROM THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF CERTAIN IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZATION BALANCES

RESOLUTION R08-05; 2018

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING THE CANCELLATION OF FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM FOR BLOCK 2306 LOT 11 DUE TO REMOVAL OF SYSTEM.

RESOLUTION R08-06; 2018

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING BOROUGH ENGINEERS TO BEGIN PHASE I AND PHASE II OF COMPLIANCE FOR THE NJ WATER ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

RESOLUTION R08-07; 2018

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING AN ESCROW REFUND TO THE ARC OF CAMDEN COUNTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$501.43

RESOLUTION R08-08; 2018

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A 2019 FORD F350 4WD PICKUP UNDER STATE CONTRACT # A88758, T2101 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$56,000.00 TO BE USED BY THE BERLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION R08-09; 2018

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF UP TO \$9,523,000 OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2018, OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN; MAKING CERTAIN COVENANTS TO MAINTAIN THE EXEMPTION OF THE INTEREST ON SAID BONDS FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION; AND AUTHORIZING SUCH FURTHER ACTIONS AND MAKING SUCH DETERMINATIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO EFFECTUATE THE ISSUANCE AND

RESOLUTION R8-10; 2018

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN, AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE BERLIN BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT APPLICATION AND PARTICIPATION FOR THE ENROLLMENT IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT OFFICE (LESO) 1033 PROGRAM
SALE OF THE BONDS

Motion to approve Resolutions R08-01 through R08-10; 2018 - Councilman MacDonnell

Sec.; Councilman Rocco

All present were in favor

RESOLUTION R8-11; 2018 (WALK ON)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BERLIN BOROUGH TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION R8-12; 2018 (WALK ON)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT FOR EXTERIOR PAINTING FOR THE HOTEL AT THE MARIE FLECHE MEMORIAL LIBRARY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACTS LAW

Motion to approve Resolutions R08-11; 2018 & R08-12; 2018 – Councilman MacDonnell

Sec.; Councilman Rocco

All present were in favor

Motion to go into Executive Session- Councilman MacDonnell

Sec.; Councilman Badolato

All present were in favor

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to come out of Executive Session – Councilman MacDonnell

Sec: Council President Miller

All present were in favor

RESOLUTION R8-13; 2018

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN RAYMOND HAYDUCKA AND THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, TO PERFORM CERTAIN INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY ATTORNEY GENERAL GUIDELINES ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Motion to approve Resolutions R08-013; 2018 – Councilman Pearce

Sec.: Council President Miller

All present were in favor

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Bill Beasley, Jr.

25 South Arlington Ave.

Berlin, NJ 08009

Mr. Beasley addressed Mayor and Council with problems that he is having with his neighbor who is located on 22 South Arlington Ave. Dr. Picciotti, is also here tonight with the same problem with the same neighbor. He resides at 52 Dover Ave. The grass at 22 South Arlington Ave. is 18” high. Mr. Beasley continued to showed pictures of the vegetation that has grown up and over a riding and regular mover as this address. Mr. Beasley also commented on the fact that his emails to the Property Maintenance Supervisor took two weeks to receive a respond. When the emails were returned by the Property Maintenance Supervisor they were very unprofessional. Mr. Bansch did issue this resident summons, but they have been ignored by this resident.

Mayor Bilella asked to be copied on the emails from the Property Maintenance Supervisor and informed the residents that he was unaware that this has been a long-term problem. We will address this problem with the resident. All residents should be treated with respect. We have ordinances to address and enforce properties that are not maintained.

Wayne Bonfiglio

22 Glacier Drive

Berlin, NJ 08009

Mr. Bonfiglio addressed Mayor and Council and asked about the current allegations that have been made on social media. Are these allegations departmental or criminal? According to the attorney general guidelines is there a need to test for fitness and ability to serve in this position?

Mayor Bilella stated that at this is not a criminal investigation. There will be an internal affairs investigation and there is no need to do any further testing.

Mr. Long stated that at 7:50 pm Mayor and Council will enter into executive session to discuss personnel and employee matters. Executive session will be approximately 30 minutes. They may or may not act after executive session is opened.

Motion made to enter into executive session; Councilman MacDonnell

Sec; Councilman Badolato

All present were in favor

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made to come out of executive session; Councilman MacDonnell

Sec; Council President Miller

All present were in favor

Mr. Long – Resolution R08-13; 2018 will be walked on to tonight's agenda

RESOLUTION R08-13; 2018

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN RAYMOND HAYDUCKA AND THE BOUROUGH OF BERLIN, TO PERFORM CERTAIN INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY ATTORNEY GENERAL GUIDELINES ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Motion to approve; Councilman Pearce

Sec; Council President Miller

All present were in favor

GOOD OF THE ORDER – No one spoke

Motion to adjourn; Councilman MacDonnell

Sec., Councilman Pearce

All present were in favor

Lois J. Sahina

Registered Municipal Clerk

August 9, 2018