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**BOROUGH OF BERLIN**

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

59 SOUTH WHITE HORSE PIKE

BERLIN, NJ 08009

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023

REGULAR MEETING BEGAN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 6:30 PM WORKSHOP MEETING

**CALLED MEETING TO ORDER – Mayor Miller**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**STATEMENT OF ADVERTISEMENT:**

Notice of this meeting has been provided to the Courier Post and the Philadelphia Inquirer and is posted on the Borough Hall Bulletin Board stating the time, date, and the place of the meeting.

**ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Badolato - Present

Councilwoman Cummings - Absent

Councilman Hohing- Present

Councilman Mascarenhas – Present

Councilman Wilkinson – Present

Council President Miller – Present

Mayor Miller – Present

Also present: Solicitor, Howard Long – Present

Co-Administrator, Charleen Santora – Present

Co-Administrator, Bill Behnke – Present

Deputy Municipal Clerk, Rachel von der Tann, CMR – Present

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regular meeting minutes of July 13, 2023

Motion to approve: Councilman Badolato Seconded: Council President Miller AIF: All

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

* BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION Councilman Badolato
* PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS - Councilman Wilkinson
* WATER & SEWER - Councilwoman Cummings
* PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Hohing
* COMMUNICATION – Councilman Mascarenhas
* FINANCE – Council President Miller
* SOLICITOR Howard Long
* MAYOR Miller

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

* BUILDINGS, PARKS, & RECREATION Councilman Badolato

Councilman Badolato greeted the members of the public. He stated he has met with representatives from Camden County regarding cleaning up brush in streams and rivers. He added that the Dill house wants programs at Camden County College on Route 70 in Cherry Hill and stated that they want to offer programs such as computer, history, and arts.

Councilman Badolato addressed the parking issue on Presidential Drive. Mentioned teacher parking, no parking and prohibiting parking during certain hours.

* PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS - Councilman Wilkinson

Councilman Wilkinson thanked everyone for coming out and thanked Police Chief Scheer for his help with the National Night Out event.

Councilman Wilkinson announced that the 2022 Road Improvement Project bid submissions were reviewed and that Borough Engineer Pennoni recommended Arawak Paving Co. be awarded the project. He added that they submitted a bid in the amount of $249,300.00 to complete the project, which will include improvement to Tansgate Blvd, Summit Avenue, and Dover Avenue. He stated that he would like to see additional roads improved and that the borough is working on the 2023 Road Improvement Program to be bid next year.

Councilman Wilkinson stated that the borough purchased an automated trash truck and a Baler to be used by the Department of Public Works through a cooperative pricing program.

* WATER & SEWER - Councilwoman Cummings – Absent from meeting.
* PUBLIC SAFETY – Councilman Hohing - See attached report.

Councilman Hohing thanked everyone who came out for National Night Out.

* COMMUNICATION – Councilman Mascarenhas

Councilman Mascarenhas stated that the new borough website will soon be live and added that he would like to update the Berlin Borough Facebook page as well.

Councilman Mascarenhas stated plans for improvement to the Simone Farm will be put on hold until improvements are complete on other Berlin Borough parks. He requested to have all equipment removed from the Simone Farm and would like to have DPW take over the property upkeep and grass cutting.

* FINANCE – Council President Miller- See attached report on finance.

Council President Miller thanked everyone for coming out tonight. He spoke briefly about the DPW contract and thanked the DPW employees and stated that they are a great group. He added that negotiations went very well and that the contract is on tonight’s agenda for approval.

* SOLICITOR – Mr. Long stated that there are will soon be openings in the police department.
* MAYOR Miller- Announced that Terry Meyers will now be taking over the Community Center scheduling duties. He thanked outgoing Tax Collector Leigha Bogdanowitz for her services and wished her luck in her new endeavor.

The mayor spoke about the ongoing parking issue on Franklin Avenue and Presidential Drive.

Mr. Long suggested introducing a no parking ordinance during the hours of 7am – 9am and 2pm -3pm Monday through Friday.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**FIRST READING ORDINANCE 2023-07**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN CHAPTER 315, ARTICLE XVI, §315-33 SCHEDULE II: NO STOPPING OR STANDING TO ADD PRESIDENTIAL DRIVE, BOTH SIDES, ENTIRE LENGTH, WEEKDAYS 7:00 A.M. THROUGH 9:00 A.M. AND 2:00 P.M. THROUGH 3:00 P.M. IN THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

Motion: Councilman Wilkinson Second: Councilman Badolato RCV: All in favor

CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R8-145:2023 to R8-172:2023

Motion to open to the public: Council President Miller Seconded: Councilman Hohing AIF: All

Motion to close public portion: Councilman Mascarenhas Seconded: Council President Miller AIF: All

**RES. R8-145:2023**

Resolution memorializing an executive session from July 13, 2023

**RES. R8-146:2023**

Resolution authorizing a 1-year extension of the contract for the annual on call emergency services contract to R.D. Zeuli, Inc. of West Berlin, N. J.

**RES. R8-147:2023**

Resolution authorizing the award of a contract through the North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Pricing System for the supply and installation of one new Fairbanks Morse Pump at the Jackson Road Pump Station in the amount of $26,320.00

**RES. R8-148:2023**

Resolution authorizing the award of a contract through the Sourcewell National Cooperative Pricing System for a vertical baler under contract #040621-WQI in the amount of $15,412.97

**RES. R8-149:2023**

Resolution amending resolution R7-142:2023 that authorized the refund of $150.00 to Matthew Quinn to reflect the corrected amount of $195.00

**RES. R8-150:2023**

Resolution appointing Anne Marie Miller to the position of Deputy Registrar effective August 10, 2023

**RES. R8-151:2023**

Resolution awarding 2022 Roadway Improvement Project plus alternate to the lowest responsible bidder Arawak Paving Co., Inc of Hammonton, N. J. in the amount of $249,300.00. (CAF attached from CFO)

**RES. R8-152:2023**

Resolution authorizing the sale of equipment and other various items through Gov Deals no longer in use in the Public Works Department

**RES. R8-153:2023**

Resolution authorizing the approval from Pennoni Associates for the TWA (Treatment Works Approval) and BWSE applications for Carriage Place Townhomes

**RES. R8-154:2023**

Resolution authorizing the contract for the Chestnut Tank Painting Project to the lowest responsible bidder Dynamic Sandblasting and Painting of Eatontown, NJ in the amount of $1,599,000.00 (CAF attached from CFO)

Tabled resolution

Motion to table: Councilman Mascarenhas Seconded: Councilman Hohing AIF: All

**RES. R8-155:2023**

Resolution appointing Maggie Miller of Laurel Springs, NJ. Certified Tax Collector #T 8686 from the NJ Department of Community Affairs to the Position of Certified Tax Collector for the Borough of Berlin Effective August 14, 2023

**RES. R8-156:2023**

Resolution extending the grace period for payment on third quarter taxes to August 29, 2023

**RES. R8-157:2023**

Resolution authorizing the tax cancelation of $1,321.31 for third quarter taxes and all future taxes for Block 1407 Lot 9, due to 100% Totally Disabled Veteran

**RES. R8-158:2023**

Resolution authorizing Phase II Investigation and ESA Report from Pennoni Associates for the former Blaese’s Tire Property at 71 S. White Horse Pike, Berlin NJ. in the amount of $15,000.00

**RES. R8-159:2023**

Resolution authorizing the Borough of Berlin to enter into an agreement with the health insurance fund known as the HIF effective November 1, 2023, allowing a 60-day notice to the SHBP terminating that contract

**RES. R8-160:2023**

Resolution authorizing membership into the Southern New Jersey Regional Employee Benefits Fund

**RES. R8-161:2023**

Resolution to appoint a Fund Commissioner and an Alternate Fund Commissioner to the South Jersey Health Insurance Regional Benefits Fund

**RES. R8-162:2023.**

Resolution approving the hiring of Deborah Difilipo of Berlin, NJ to the position of Crossing Guard at the rate of $17.00 per hour effective September 2023

**RES. R8-163:2023**

Resolution approving the hiring of Coleen Miller of Berlin, NJ to the position of Crossing Guard effective September 2023

**RES. R8-164:2023**

Resolution approving former Tax Collector Lisa Eggert to assist in the transition in the Tax Office with the new hire Maggie Miller on an add needed basis

**RES. R8-165:2023**

Authorizing the award of a Non-fair and Open contract for Administrative Agent Services for Affordable Housing Matters to Triad Advisory Services, Inc.

**RES. R8-166:2023**

Resolution approving the resignation of Tax Collector Leigha Bogdanowicz effective August 18, 2023

**RES. R8-167:2023**

Resolution authorizing the award of a contract through the Sourcewell National Cooperative Pricing Agreement for an ASL 31-yard automated refuse truck contract #091219-NWY in the amount of $408,790.00

**RES. R8-168:2023**

Resolution approving the payment of bills – August 2023 totaling $2,857,979.71

**RES. R8-169:2023**

Resolution authorizing Borough Council to approve the CWA Contract for a four-year term effective January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2027

**RES. R8-170:2023**

Resolution authorizing amendment to Professional Services Contract

**RES. R8-171:2023**

Resolution approving and authorizing the payment of an amount not to exceed $20,000.00 for library HVAC replacement/repairs

**RES. R8-172:2023**

Resolution authorizing Atlantic City Electric to erect 54 streetlights at the Carriage Stop Development at a cost of $2,000.00 per light. (CFO has certified the funds)

(See special meeting minutes from 8/14/2023 for this memorialization.)

**PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR**

Motion to open the public portion: Councilman Badolato

Seconded: Councilman Hohing AIF: All Opposed: None

Motion to close the public portion: Councilman Badolato

Seconded: Councilman Hohing AIF: All Opposed: None

**Public Comment**

Tammy Porter, Berlin Borough resident,

Ms. Porter voiced her concerns over the parking issues on Franklin Avenue and Presidential Drive.

Roxanne Quinn, Berlin Borough resident,

Stated that Borough Council has a lot of good ideas. Voiced her concern over the parking ordinance. Stated she is not in favor and asked if other solutions could be explored.

Councilman Badolato stated that Borough Council is trying to come up with a solution. He

suggested that residents go to a school board meeting to voice their concerns because the school will have more authority on these parking issues.

Sue Johnson, Berlin Borough resident,

Voiced concerns over parking on Presidential Drive. Would like to have met with the Berlin Borough Superintendent over these issues. She added that the no parking signs are too small for anyone to see.

Kathy Healy, Berlin Borough resident,

Thanked Councilman Badolato with all his help and communication with the residents. She

added that she has concerns over parking issues and would like it noted that she is not in favor of opening the gate at the end of Franklin Avenue.

Jeff Greenberg, Berlin Borough Resident

Voiced concerns about the stop sign at Coleman Avenue that meets Jones Lane, in the Belair neighborhood and requested that more efforts be made to enforce the sign as he observes that drivers do not stop at the intersection.

Krstine Simone, Berlin Borough resident,

Ms. Simone voiced concern over the sidewalk along Blackwood Clementon Road and stated that it does not run the length to Franklin Ave. She added that weeds are grass are growing in the sections where there isn’t sidewalk and, making walking to school difficult.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Badolato

Seconded: Councilman Hohing AIF: All Opposed: None

Submitted by:

Rachel von der Tann

Deputy Municipal Clerk