



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

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2026

REGULAR MEETING BEGAN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE 6:30 PM WORKSHOP MEETING
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

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:

Council President Badolato – Present
Councilwoman Cummings – Absent
Councilman Hohing – Present
Councilman Mascarenhas – Present
Councilman Miller – Present
Councilman Wilkinson – Present
Mayor Miller – Absent

Also present: Solicitor, Howard Long
Administrator, Anne Marie Miller
Municipal Clerk, Rachel von der Tann, RMC

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of March 12, 2026 , workshop meeting minutes, Motion; Councilman Hohing Seconded.;
Councilman Miller AIF All in favor .

Approval of March 12, 2026 , regular meeting minutes, Motion; Councilman Hohing Seconded.;
Councilman Miller AIF All in favor. .

COUNCIL REPORTS

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

Swearing in new Berlin Borough Police Officer

Councilman Hohing introduced Alexander Purvis, a 23-year-old lifelong Atco resident with a finance degree from West Chester University, who comes from a family with military and law enforcement tradition including a grandfather who was a New Jersey state trooper and Waterford Township police chief. Alexander Burris was sworn in as a new officer for the Berlin Borough Police Department by Councilman Hohing with his mother Gabrielle De Suerte holding the Bible during the ceremony.

➤ **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, PARKS, & RECREATION** – Council President Badolato

Council President Badolato reported on buildings and grounds improvements including cleaning the Borough Hall brick wall, installing key fobs for easier building access, and placing a Superman phone outside to prevent unauthorized building entry. Participant 1 questioned whether Atlantic City Electric, operating temporarily in the county park, would make improvements to the park,

➤ **PUBLIC WORKS, STREETS & ROADS** – Millard Wilkinson

DPW Report for April 2026 Meeting

- 302 tons of trash collected.
- 38 tons of single stream recycling collected.
- 200 pounds of electronic waste collected.
- 3.5 tons of baled cardboard were recycled.
- Spring leaf collection started April 6th and continues through April 17th.

Water and Sewer Report for April 2026 Meeting

Water:

- 10 service orders for meter repair or replacement were completed.
- 5 Meter was replaced.
- 145 utility mark outs were completed.
- Monthly maintenance at both water plants was completed.
- Rehab project at Plant #1 has started. Fabrication and modifications to the clearwell tank are continuing.

SEWER:

- Completed all routine monthly maintenance at our 10 pump stations.
- Completed all routine monthly maintenance on our 10 emergency backup generators at the sewer pump stations.
- Crew cleared a sewer main blockage on Wright Ave and a sewer main blockage on Sequoia Ave.

➤ **PUBLIC SAFETY - Councilman Hohing**

▶ **Statistical Data**

- 3,014 calls for service compared to 2,756 in February
- 207 summonses compared to 127 in February
- 31 arrests compared to 27 in February
- 36 Motor vehicle crashes compared to 22 in February
- 194 Traffic stops compared to 90 in February

▶ **Directed Patrols**

- New Freedom Village/ Enclave for off road vehicles/ Pole camera deployed
- Greenwood Inn & Suites due to influx of housing by department of parole
- Winding Way for improperly parked vehicles, speeding, quality of life issues (radar cart and cameras deployed for assistance)
- Hayes Avenue for stop sign violations

▶ **Tag Reader Cameras**

- 557,457 total license plates read compared to 363,435 in February
- 10 searches for vehicles involved in criminal activity compared to 10 in February
- 17 summonses issued from tag reader hits compared to 9 in February
- 9 traffic stops related to tag reader hits compared to 6 in February

▶ **Community Policing**

- Safety and security seminar held at borough hall for all employees March 6th
- Honor guard detail Hero Scholarship Dinner March 6 at Lucien's Manor
- Honor guard detail March 27 Detectives association banquet at Lucien's Manor
- Sgt. Wolf's squad played Volleyball at BCS with students and Ptl. Santoro bought a painting on Rutgers BLVD from children who were raising money to support childhood cancer.

▶ **K-9 Clyde**

- Attended mandatory in-service training 03/17/2026
- 4 total deployments resulting in 3 arrests for suspected methamphetamine during mv stops and 1 search for a missing person in Berlin Twp.

▶ **Miscellaneous**

- Detective Mark Peiffer named officer of the month for March 2026

- o Berlin Police successfully handled a "No Kings Protest" on March 28th which featured approximately 700 attendees.
- o Press Release / extra patrols and deployment of pole camera in New Freedom Village/ Enclave have had positive effects as it relates to off road vehicle activity. PSEG is assisting with fortifying the area to help deter off road vehicle activity.

➤ **YOUTH ATHLETICS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS** – Councilman Mascarenhas

Councilman Mascarenhas reported that the Easter egg hunt was successful thanks to volunteers and facility preparation, with upcoming movie nights planned for the first Friday of every month starting in May. Councilman Mascarenhas explained that scoreboard issues are being addressed by the manufacturer with a temporary fix in place for opening day, while the girls' softball field was moved to a lit field requiring mound removal and other work. Participant 5 confirmed that Atlantic City Electric will replace asphalt and restore basketball courts after completing their infrastructure work in the area.

.FINANCE – Council President Miller-

Council President Miller goes over revenues collected from Borough Departments.

Revenues Collected Report for March 2026

Permit fees \$9,879.00

Rental inspection fees \$34,050.00

Zoning Fees \$850.00

Resale inspection fees \$950.00

Community- \$345.00

Tax collector \$377,491.98

Utility Collector \$540,498.84

Animal license fee \$602.00

Clerk's Office \$1,148.00

Registration – 11,400.00

Court Office \$18,157.89

SOLICITOR – Mr. Howard Long- has nothing to report.

➤ **MAYOR Miller** – Absent

Anne Marie Miller Administrator

The administrator announced the borough received a JIF award for zero lost time injuries in 2025 and reported that 98% of required personnel completed the first cybersecurity training, with the second part due by May 31st.

OLD BUSINESS

SECOND READING ON ORDINANCE – 2026-05

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 89, ENTITLED “ANIMALS” OF THE CODE BOOK OF THE BOROUGH OF BERLIN, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

Meeting open to the public on Ordinance No. 2026-05, Councilman Miller, Second.; Councilman ,AIF All in favor.

Meeting closed to the public on Ordinance No. 2026-05 Councilman Miller, Second: Councilman Badolato , AIF All in favor.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2026-05 Councilman Miller , Second.; Councilman Hohing, RCV All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

FIRST READING ON ORDINANCE NO. 2026-06

**CALENDAR YEAR 2026 MODEL ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)**

Motion: Councilman Miller Second: Councilman Hohing RCV: All in favor.

RES. R4-70:2026

Governing Body Certification of Compliance with The United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission’s “Enforcement Guidance on the Consideration of Arrest and Conviction Records in Employment Decisions Under Title VII of The Civil Rights Act Of 1964”.

Motion: Councilman Miller Second: Councilman Hohing RCV: All in favor.

RES. R4-71:2026

Resolution introducing the 2026 Municipal Budget for the Borough of Berlin.
(Requires a Majority Vote of Borough Council (4 affirmative votes).

This is the introduction of the 2026 Municipal Budget; public hearing will be on May 14, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

Motion to introduce the 2026 Municipal Budget: Councilman Wilkinson

Seconded: Councilman Mascarenhas RCV: All in favor.

RES. R4-72:2026

Authorizing Local Examination of the 2026 Budget for the Borough of Berlin.

Motion: Councilman Miller Second: Councilman Hohing RCV: All in favor.

RES. R4-73:2026

Authorizing the 2026 Municipal Budget to be Read by Title.

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

CONSENT AGENDA Resolutions R4-74:2026 to R4-85:2026

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Miller Second; Councilman Badolato AIF: All in favor.

Motion to close public portion: Councilman Miller Second; Councilman Hohing AIF: All in favor.

RES. R4-74:2026

Resolution authorizing application for program year 2026 Community Development Block Grant funding for the Berlin Borough Senior Citizen Club Improvement.

RES. R4-75:2026

Resolution authorizing application for program year 2026 Community Development Grant funding for the Berlin Borough Senior Services Program.

RES. R4-76:2026

Resolution amending Resolution R2-54-2026 to Include Block 1108, Lot 5 And Block 1108, Lot 10 In the Study Area for Preliminary Investigation as a Potential Non-Condernation Redevelopment Area Pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 Et Seq.).

RES. R4-77:2026

Resolution supporting the Fourth of July Parade and Coordinating Traffic Control with NJDOT.

RES. R4-78:2026

Resolution approving Camp-Long-A-Coming in the amount of \$350.00 to Surabhi Jain due to camper being unable to attend.

RES. R4-79:2026

Resolution accepting and approving the New Jersey Department of Transportation alternative 3 for the U.S. Route 30 / Franklin Avenue (Cr 692) Maintenance Order Striping Project to Improve Vehicular Traffic Safety.

RES. R4-80:2026

Resolution awarding the contract for a new fob/card access system to the lowest of two quotes to JC Magee Security Solutions, for Borough Hall and the Berlin Police Department.

RES. R4-81:2026

Resolution Authorizing the sale of surplus Fire Department Equipment through GovDeals In Accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 And N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4.

RES. R4-82:2026

Resolution awarded the contract for the Plant 2 Generator Replacement Project, Contract NO. BBWSX 24004, La Manna Electric, Inc of Trenton NJ in the low bid amount of \$430,225.00.

RES. R4-83:2026

A resolution awarding the soil remediation project at 71 South White Horse Pike to the Ambient Group, LLC as the lowest of three quotes in the amount of \$18,000.

RES. R4-84:2026

A resolution rejecting all bids for the Smokey Run Pump Station Rehabilitation Project (BBWSX25005).

RES. R4-85:2026

Resolution approving April payment of bills.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTIONS R4-74:2026 to R4-85:2026 Councilman Miller , Sec.; Councilman Hohing , RCV All in favor .

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR

Motion to open the public portion: Councilman Mascarenhas

Seconded: Councilman Hohing AIF: All in favor Opposed: None

Motion to close the public portion: Councilman Miller

Seconded: Councilman Hohing AIF: All in favor Opposed: None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Wilkinson

Seconded: Councilman Mascarenhas AIF: All in favor Opposed: All in favor.

Submitted by:
Rachel von der Tann
Municipal Clerk

Public Comment

Berlin resident
Stephanie Walls
Gives updates on pop up parks.

Berlin resident
Joe D'Orazio
Thanks Berlin Police department for a job well done in preventing dirt bikes from riding through neighborhoods