

MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
CITY OF BERLIN
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Chairperson Boeck called the July 7, 2020, Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call present: Ald Boeck, Lehr, Nigbor, Erdmann, Bruessel and Harke. Mayor Schramer was present via Zoom. Staff present: Jodie Olson, Lindsey Kemnitz, Scott Zabel, JD Lind, Matt Chier and Susan Thom.

Victoria Hill, 142 N Wisconsin St, Berlin, spoke regarding the importance of supporting the Berlin Police Department.

Luke Dretske, 551 Center St, Berlin, introduce himself as a candidate running for Representative to the Assembly District 41. Dretske spoke in support of the Berlin Police department and thanked them for their dedication.

Ron Harke, 5th Ward Alderperson requested that the Council send Jack Wahlers a sympathy card for all the hours for volunteering for the City of Berlin.

Erdmann made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting. Bruessel seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote.

Next was COV-19 Update for Green Lake County Health Department. Kathy Munsey from Green Lake County Health department was not able to attend but provided a handout of information.

Next was discussion on Creation of Travel & Tourism Commission. Kemnitz reviewed that per state statute 66.0615 the city is required to forward the funds to a tourism entity or commission which has been the Berlin Chamber of Commerce. Kemnitz researched other communities to see what other options are available. Kemnitz stated the City can create a commission consisting of 4 to 6 members of which one shall represent the Wisconsin hotel and motel industry. The members would be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by majority vote of the Common Council. Commissioners shall serve for a one-year term and may be reappointed. The Commission would report annually to the municipality. Erdmann made a motion to postpone any decision until the next Committee of the Whole meeting. Lehr seconded the motion, which carried by voiced vote.

Discussion on Issues with Municipal Parking Lot Loitering was removed from the agenda.

Next was Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinance Related to Alcohol Beverage Licensing to Reflect Recent State Law Changes. Olson reviewed Act 166 is a law change that allows a municipal governing body to pass an ordinance to authorize a designated municipal official to issue operator's licenses in lieu of requiring Common Council approval. All of the requirements and PD approvals would still need to occur. Olson reviewed Act 6 was passed in 2019 which removes the 4 liter restriction on sale of intoxicating liquor in the original package or container to be consumed off the premises where sold by "Class B" licensed establishment. Lehr made a motion to recommend to Common Council approval and adoption of Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinance Related to Alcohol Beverage Licensing to Reflect Recent State Law Changes. Nigbor seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote.

Next was 130 W Berlin Street Raze or Repair Order. Kemnitz reviewed that the House was demolished, the garage and garbage removed. Bruessel made a motion to remove the raze order from 130 W Berlin Street. Erdmann seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote. Boeck abstained.

Next was Sidewalk Café Permits. Kemnitz reviewed that communities in Wisconsin have approved an accelerated approval process for sidewalk café permits, temporary outdoor seating areas and expansion of licensed premises for businesses. Kemnitz that with the current ordinance some of the business do not qualify for sidewalk café as their gross receipts consist of more than 50% alcohol sales. The council discussed if the City should allow temporary use permit to allow all types of businesses to expand their premise for a couple of months for 2020. Discussion on if retailers would be allowed to sell and display products in the right of way, to use sidewalk and parking stall in front of their business. Council would give Olson the authority to approve the temporary sidewalk use permit. Erdmann made a motion to direct staff to bring information to recommend to the Common Council a Temporary sidewalk use permit for the City of Berlin. Bruessel seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote.

Next was discussion on Virtual Meetings. Olson reviewed that in order to be able to accommodate virtual and in person meeting the equipment would need to be upgraded. Bruessel made a motion to recommend to the Common Council to form a TASK FORCE to investigate an upgrade of the equipment for possible virtual meetings which will be appointed by the Common Council. Harke seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote. Lehr voted nay. Discussion continued to how the partial virtual meeting would work and the procedure on when they would be allowed. Bruessel made a motion to direct Atty Chier to write a resolution to allow partial virtual meeting thru December that would be approved prior to be called to order. Erdmann seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote. Lehr voted nay.

At 8:18 pm, Erdmann made a motion to convene into closed session pursuant to WI §19.85 (e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session (*Discussion on negotiations relating to Student Resource Officer contract with Berlin Area School District*). Lehr seconded the motion. Motion carried. Erdmann made a motion to seat JD Lind, Mayor Schramer and Jodie Olson. Nigbor seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote.

Discussion continued in closed session.

At 8:44 pm Erdmann made a motion to reconvene into open session. Lehr seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote. No action was taken as a result of closed session discussion.

Harke made a motion to adjourn. Bruessel seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote.

Susan Thom, Deputy Clerk