

ORDINANCE #05-20

A TEMPORARY ORDINANCE RELATING TO ELECTRONIC OR VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE OR CONDUCTING OF MEETINGS OF GOVERNING BODIES

WHEREAS, the Common Council acknowledges that some members of the City's various governing bodies still have legitimate concerns regarding attending meetings in person due to concerns over contracting or spreading the novel strain of the coronavirus now named Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the Common Council accordingly wishes to authorize the electronic or virtual meeting attendance of members of governing bodies and electronic or virtual conducting of meetings of governing bodies for a temporary period, subject to the terms and conditions of this Ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Common Council of the City of Berlin do ordain that, notwithstanding any contrary provision in the Municipal Code of the City Berlin, the City Common Council, Committees, Boards, and/or Commissions may, on a meeting by meeting basis, by majority vote of those present assuming a quorum is present (which vote must be held prior to the participation of any member participating electronically or virtually at a meeting), allow any or all members of such body to attend such meeting electronically or virtually, so long as the meeting is consistent with the requirements of open meetings laws. Further, the City Common Council, Committees, Boards, and/or Commissions may, by majority vote, authorize any specific future meeting of that governing body to be conducted electronically or virtually, or to allow specific members of such governing body to attend such future meeting electronically or virtually, so long as the meeting is consistent with the requirements of open meetings laws.

This ordinance shall take effect the day after publication but shall expire on December 31, 2020 and shall only apply to meetings held prior to such date. This ordinance shall not be codified into the Municipal Code of the City of Berlin because of its temporary effective period.

Passed, approved and adopted this 14 day of July, 2020.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

6 AYES

0 NAYS

0 ABSENT

CITY OF BERLIN

BY Richard D. Schramer  
Richard D. Schramer, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Matthew G. Chier  
Matthew G. Chier  
City Attorney

ATTEST:

Jodie Olson  
Jodie Olson  
City Clerk