

MINUTES  
CITY OF BERLIN  
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2020 7:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BERLIN CITY HALL, 2ND FLOOR

Ald. Bobbie Erdmann called the August 11, 2020 Common Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call present: Ald. Erdmann, Lehr, Boeck, Nighbor, Bruessel and Harke. Staff present: Scott Zabel, Brian Pulvermacher, Lindsey Kemnitz, Evan Vandenlangenberg, Jodie Olson and Atty. Chier.

Bruessel moved to seat Mayor Schramer as a virtual attendee. Harke seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Atty. Chier reviewed the state mask mandate and what it means at public meetings.

There were no general public comments.

The Consent Agenda was presented next. Ald. Boeck requested item #9 relating to the property issues at 218 S. Grove Street be removed. The remaining Consent Agenda consisted of the following items for approval: 1) Waive the reading of all ordinances and resolutions adopted at this meeting; 2) Receive and place on file the written reports from the City Clerk, Treasurer, and Building Inspector; 3) Approve the minutes from the July 14, 2020 Common Council Meeting; 4) Accept the Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve Resolution #20-13 Authorizing \$2.0M General Obligation Bonds for Street Improvement Projects; 5) Accept the Plan Commission recommendation to approve Ordinance #07-20 Amending Code Relating to Keeping of Chickens in Residential Districts; 6) Accept the Plan Commission recommendation to approve the annexation petition from Bohn Farms Inc. and adopt Ordinance #08-20 Annexing Territory to the City of Berlin, specifically parcels 002-00260-0000, 002-00261-0000, and 002-00264-0000; 7) Accept the Committee of the Whole recommendation to direct the City Attorney to draft ordinance changes regarding changing the number of election officials and establishing split shifts for election officials; 8) Accept the Berlin Community Development Corporation recommendation to subordinate the current CDBG RLF loan with Nelson Name Plate Company for refinancing purposes and approve appropriate signatures on Subordination Agreement and 9) Approve the list of bills for payment. Ald. Lehr moved to approve and adopt the Consent Agenda with the removal of #9 relating to the property issues at 218 S. Grove Street. Ald. Bruessel seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in six (6) ayes, zero (0) nays and zero (0) absent. Motion carried.

Lindsey Kemnitz addressed 218 S. Grove Street informing Council that the property owner did reach out and intends on putting together a plan to fix up the property. He has not yet taken out building permits. Neighboring property owners did reach out to Kemnitz and remain concerned about the follow thru of the owner. The owner had received a citation for the condition of the exterior, but admittedly never opened the mail from the city and failed to appear in court. Ald. Lehr moved to continue with issuing a raze or repair order for 218 S. Grove Street. Bruessel seconded the motion which carried by voice.

Cassie Bornick was present to review the health insurance renewal. The renewal with Arise/WPS came in at 6% initially but was negotiated down to 4%. Boeck moved to approve the October 1, 2020 thru Sept 30, 2021 health insurance renewal with Arise/WPS. Harke seconded the motion.

Ald. Lehr moved to amend the motion to waive the Committee of the Whole discussion on this item which carried by voice vote. A vote on the main motion carried by voice vote.

Asst. Chief Pulvermacher presented a Memorandum of Understanding with Green Lake County Sheriff's Office for LeadsOnline. Ald. Boeck moved to waive Committee of the Whole discussion on this item. Bruessel seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote. Bruessel moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Green Lake County Sheriff's Office and the City of Berlin Police Department for use of and cost sharing of LeadsOnline database/software program. Ald. Lehr seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Discussion was held regarding qualifying expenditures necessary to respond to the public health emergency under the CARES Act Routes to Recovery Program. Jodie Olson presented the list of proposed expenditures and estimated costs in the order that Council members had prioritized them. These included: 1) *Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR) for ambulances (9) \$18,000* REASON: PAPR respirators continuously filter air flow to provide respiratory protection. PAPRs help protect against airborne contaminants; 2) *Touchless Election Machine Tabulator \$6,500-\$7,500* REASON: Current machines are touched and cleaned and get a lot of hands-on activity, while this machine is safer because the voter does not touch the machines, they only touch their own ballot. It is more of a "touchless" voting experience; 3) *Larger Absentee Ballot Box due to increased absentee voting \$250* REASON: With the influx of absentee voting it is necessary to have a larger box for collecting absentee ballots; 4) *Computer equipment/software for virtual meetings. Unknown amount up to \$10k* REASON: With COVID-19 and any future public health emergency, it is necessary to consider virtual meetings so government business can continue safely and the public can continue to be notified and attend meetings. The Virtual Meeting Task Force is currently exploring options for what upgrades to current infrastructure need to be made and will bring cost recommendations forward; 5) *Touchless bathroom fixtures for public areas \$550/sink \$450/toilet or urinal (set aside \$5k to get high public areas switched and then gradually upgrade over time)* REASON: Touchless fixtures are more hygienic as people do not need to touch a handle or knob and users won't be exposed to others germs and bacteria and will create a healthier environment; 6) *Mobile laser UV sanitary light for sanitizing rooms \$10,000 and First Responder Sterilizer \$7,900* REASON: Decontamination. These mobile units can be used for decontamination for rooms. It could be used at the senior center one day and brought in to sanitize the polling place the next; 7) *City Hall entrance touchless switches to existing door system \$1,900* REASON: Touchless public entry to limit exposure to others germs and bacteria to create a healthier environment; 8) *Elevator air purifiers \$3,500* REASON: Decontamination and air purification for library and City Hall elevators and 9) *Stanchions for social distancing at elections/other* REASON: These are needed to help corral queues of people for public events such as elections in order to maintain social distancing. Ald. Bruessel moved that items 1-7 be approved for purchased and deemed necessary for the COVID-19 public health emergency. Ald. Lehr seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Ald. Boeck moved to accept the Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve the creation of a Travel & Tourism Commission and approve and adopt Ordinance #09-20 Creating a Travel & Tourism Commission. Ald. Nighbor seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in six (6) ayes, zero (0) nays and zero (0) absent. Motion carried.

Ald. Lehr moved that on behalf of the Common Council an extension of appreciation to JD Lind for his service as Interim Police Chief for the past 11 months. Harke seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Ald. Lehr moved to accept the Mayoral appointment of Nancy Gimenez to the Oakwood Cemetery

Board for term ending April 30, 2022. Ald. Harke seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Ald. Harke moved to appoint Jim Jodarski and Judy Hall to the Committee on Aging for term expiring April 30, 2023. Ald. Bruessel seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Ald. Harke moved to approve the Class “B” Beer and “Class B” Intoxicating Liquor License amendment of premises for Rendezvous, owner Mark Vandre for 114 N. Capron Street for the remaining license year thru June 30, 2021. Ald. Bruessel seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Ald. Bruessel moved to approve the Class “B” Beer and “Class B” Intoxicating Liquor License and Outdoor Activity Permit for The Triple Belt Corporation, Trade Name “City Inn”, Agent Joyce K. LaBuda for 689 Broadway Street for the remaining license year thru June 30, 2021. Ald. Lehr seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

The Mayor explained he placed a review of Parliamentary Procedure on the agenda because he believed there was confusing relating to a motion at the Committee of the Whole regarding to Call the Question or Close Debate. Atty. Chier explained the motion and the proper format was for an alderperson to be recognized by the Chair, make the motion to call the question, receive a second and then a vote.

Next was discussion on virtual or electronic Common Council meetings through December 31, 2020. Council members discussed virtual vs. in person meetings and the technology issues that we currently face to make them happen. Participating virtually has been difficult.

Ald. Lehr moved to discontinue virtual attendance at Common Council meetings for the duration of the temporary ordinance. Ald. Boeck seconded the motion. Boeck amended the motion to include that Zoom is aired and broadcasted for virtual viewing. Ald. Lehr seconded the amendment. A motion on the amendment resulted in Lehr, Boeck and Erdmann in favor and Nighbor, Bruessel and Harke opposed. The Mayor broke the tie voting no. The amendment failed. A vote on the main motion resulted in another 3-3 tie (Lehr, Boeck and Erdmann in favor and Nighbor, Bruessel and Harke opposed) Mayor Schramer broke the tie by voting no. Motion failed. Ald. Lehr moved to table the item and go onto the next item. Erdmann seconded the motion. A voice vote resulted in two (2) ayes (Lehr and Erdmann) and four (4) nays (Nighbor, Boeck, Bruessel and Harke) Motion to table failed. Bruessel moved to direct staff to have virtual meetings set up from now to the end of the temporary ordinance. Harke seconded the motion. A voice vote resulted in a tie with Nighbor, Bruessel and Harke voting yes and Boeck, Lehr and Erdmann voting no. Mayor Schramer broke the tie by voting yes. Motion carries.

There was no old business.

Under new business Ald. Lehr requested an agenda item be put on the next agenda that all agendas be put together by the person chairing the meeting.

There were no public appearances.

At 8:19 p.m. Ald. Boeck moved 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 (*Student Resource Officer contract with Berlin Area School District and 2) Paramedic Intercept Contract with Southern Green Lake Ambulance Service (if necessary); and 3) Union Contract Amendment regarding lateral transfers and 4) Agreement and Amendment to Union*

*Contract for Student Resource Officer position) and pursuant to WI §19.85 (f) Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories of specific persons, which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. (Bartender License Application Appeals for Patrick Michael Hatton and Felicia Cain) Ald. Harke seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in six (6) ayes, zero (0) nays and zero (0) absent. Motion carried. Ald. Boeck moved to seat Brian Pulvermacher and Evan Vandenlangenberg for the closed session discussion. Ald. Bruessel seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.*

Discussion continued in closed session.

At 8:39 p.m. Ald. Lehr moved to reconvene into open session. Ald. Nighbor seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Ald. Lehr moved to approve the union contract agreement amendment regarding lateral transfers. Harke seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Ald. Harke moved to deny the bartender license appeals of Patrick Michael Hatton and Felicia Cain. Ald. Lehr seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

At 8:41 p.m. Ald. Boeck moved to adjourn. Ald. Nighbor seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

*Jodie Olson, City Clerk*