

MINUTES
CITY OF BERLIN
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY MAY 10, 2022 AT 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BERLIN CITY HALL, 2ND FLOOR

Mayor Bruessel called the May 10, 2022 Common Council meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Roll call present: Ald. Boeck, Dretske, Erdmann and Stobbe. Absent: Nigbor and Burgess. Staff present: Sara Rutkowski, Midge Seaman, Tim Ludolph and Atty Matt Chier.

There were no public comments and no virtual attendees.

The following items were listed on the Consent agenda for approval and adoption: 4) Waive the reading of all ordinances and resolutions adopted at this meeting; 5) Receive and place on file the written reports from the City Clerk, Treasurer and Building Inspector; 6) Approve the minutes from the April 12, 2022 Common Council Meeting and April 19, 2022 Organizational Meeting; 7) Approve the list of bills. 8) Accept the Recommendation from Committee of the Whole to approve the Title VI update for shared taxi service. And 9) Accept the Recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to authorize staff to sign comfort letter for Dollar Tree/Family Dollar. The Mayor stated he was removing item #7 the bills list from the consent agenda. Erdmann made a motion to remove Item #6, to Approve the Minutes of April 12th meeting due to a typo from the consent agenda. Erdmann made a motion to approve the Consent agenda as presented with the removal of items 6 and 7. Dretske seconded the motion. A roll call resulted in six (4) ayes, zero (0) nays and two (2) absent. Motion carried.

The Mayor brought forward item #6 from the Consent Agenda, Erdmann stated she wanted to correct the typo under item #4, the paragraph the following items are listed for consent agenda need to remove #4 because it was misprinted. Erdmann made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 12th Common Council meeting except for item #4 under the Consent Agenda item. The Attorney asked if she did not want the bills approved? Rutkowski clarified, it was not on the agenda at all. Boeck seconded the motion. Erdmann then made a motion to approve the minutes from April 12th with correction and also approve the minutes of April 19 Common Council Minutes. Boeck seconded the motion and passed on a voice vote.

The Mayor then brought Item #7 forward looking for a motion to approve the bills list. Erdmann made motion to approve the bills list and Stobbe seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Moving on to item #10 the Presentation of the 2021 Audit. We were joined via zoom by the Senior Auditor, Kevin Behnke of Hawkins/Ash CPA. Behnke provided a booklet of the summary of the Audit and went over the main points of the Audit. Behnke stated the Auditors finding on financial controls were adequate for a City our size. No significant problems identified. There were 15 Journal entries versus 12 last year. Stated Olson and Rutkowski are doing a good job with fiscal responsibility to the City of Berlin. Erdmann made a motion to accept the Audit as presented and thanked Behnke of Hawkins/Ash. Motion was seconded by Dretske.

Erdmann made a motion to seat Burgess who entered the meeting late. Motion was seconded by Stobbe. This passed on a voice vote.

Item #11 was the Oakwood Cemetery Board Appointment of Jane Waalkes. Erdmann made a motion to accept the Mayoral Appointment of Waalkes to the Cemetery Board for a term expiring April 30, 2025. Dretske seconded the motion which carried on a voice vote.

Item #12 was the Sewer & Water Commission Mayoral Appointment of Michael Ottman. Stobbe made a motion to accept the Mayoral Appointment of Ottman to the Water & Sewer Commission for a term expiring October 1, 2027. The motion was seconded by Dretske and passed on a voice vote.

The Mayor brought Item #13 Lead Service Line Removal Bid forward. Rutkowski spoke on the item and stated we put out communication on taking bids to six companies. Egbert Excavating submitted the only bid for the job, however, Egbert combined with one of the other companies we reached out to and they are combining their efforts to do the job together. Stobbe made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Water & Sewer Commission to accept the bid from Egbert Excavating To remove Lead Service Lines Removal for the year 2022. Burgess seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Next, Alley Wendt, the Manager of the Berlin Aquatic Center this summer 2022 joined via zoom. Wendt presented a comparison of fees currently being charged for admission to the BAC and newly proposed fees, she asked the Council to Accept the recommendation from parks & Recreation Commission to increase the pool Admission fees as presented. Erdmann made a motion to accept the Parks & Recreation Fee increase as presented. Motion was seconded by Burgess and Passed on a voice vote.

The Mayor read the Mayoral Proclamation declaring May 10, 2022 as Kindness Day.

Next on the Agenda was a request by the Planning Commission to accept the Rezoning request of the Walker Agency building at 114 N Wisconsin Street. Dretske made a motion to Accept the Recommendation from Planning Commission to rezone Parcel 206-00104-0000 from B-1 to R-2. Stobbe seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

Next the Planning Commission made a Recommendation to accept the rezone from Ripon Award Jackets to rezone parcel 206-00824-0000 from M-2 to M-1. Erdmann made a motion to Accept the Recommendation from Planning Commission to rezone Parcel 206-00824-0000 from M-2 to M-1. Dretske seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

The Mayor moved item #18, 115 W Ceresco St. Raze and Repair Order, to closed Session after hearing Rutkowski's presentation stating the Common Council's deadline of obtaining all permits was not met by the owner of the property. An occupant of the property at 115 W Ceresco, Renae Krohn, stated they did not have the time or money to get the permits, however, they would be doing this soon.

Item # 19 was a presentation by Ludolph on 107 W Huron St. Raze and Repair Order. Ludolph stated ownership transfer of the property had taken place and a timeline by the new owner was discussed. Burgess made a motion to give 107 W Huron St until the next common council meeting to pull the necessary permits as well as give a timeline to Common Council. Dretske seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

Next, a presentation by Rutkowski was given on item #20 271 McKittrick St Raze and Repair order. She stated the Building Inspector's report showed substantial progress on the property in one month. Rutkowski recommended to Council that we give Mr. Newton one month to make even more progress

as he is very close to obtaining an occupancy permit. Stobbe made a motion to suspend the decision to continue with Raze and Repair order on this property until the next Common Council Meeting. Burgess seconded the motion which carried on a voice vote.

Under New Business, Burgess asked to include on the agenda to allow staff to start looking at Wages as compared to other municipalities to get an understanding of where we are in the departments that had not already been previously considered or looked at.

There was no Old Business or Public Appearances.

Erdmann made a motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat §19.85(1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved. (115 W Ceresco Raze & Repair, 107 W. Huron St, 271 McKittrick). Boeck seconded the motion which passed on a Roll Call vote of 5 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent

Stobbe made a motion to seat Ludolph and Rutkowski. Boeck seconded the motion.

Midge Seaman, Deputy Clerk

OPEN SESSION:

Discussion continued in Closed Session.

CLOSED SESSION:

Discussion was held concerning the raze and repair order on 115 W Ceresco.

Motion made by Erdmann at 8:10 pm to move into Open Session, seconded by Dretske. Motion carried via voice vote.

OPEN SESSION:

Motion made by Burgess to direct staff to proceed with raze and repair order on 115 W. Ceresco, with a second by Dretske. Motion carried via voice vote.

Motion to adjourn at 8:11 pm made by Burgess with a second by Boeck. Motion carried via voice vote.

Thank you, Sara Rutkowski, City Clerk