

CITY OF BERLIN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY OCTOBER 11, 2022 AT 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BERLIN CITY HALL, 2ND FLOOR

Mayor Bruessel called the October 11, 2022 Common Council meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Roll call present: Ald. Boeck, Burgess, Dretske, Erdmann, Nigbor and Stobbe. Staff present: Sara Rutkowski, Gary Podoll, Chris Kalupa, Rebecca Bays, Tim Ludolph, Brian Pulvermacher, Scott Zabel and Midge Seaman

There were no virtual attendees. One Public Comment card – Individual not present for meeting

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 September 13, 2022 Common Council Meeting 7) Approve the list of bills. 8) Accept the Recommendation from Committee of the Whole to Approve Ordinance #02-22 Amending section 1-19 of the code of City of Berlin Establishing a Municipal Court for the Cities of Fond du Lac and Ripon, Towns of Auburn, Calumet, Empire, Fond du Lac, Friendship, Oakfield, Osceola, Ripon and Taycheedah in Fond du Lac County and Wilson in Sheboygan County, and the Villages of Brandon, Campbellsport, Fairwater, N. Fond du Lac, Oakfield and St. Cloud, in Fond du Lac County and the City of Berlin in Green Lake and Waushara Counties , the Cities of Green Lake, Markesan and Princeton in Green Lake County. 9) Accept the Recommendation from Committee of the Whole to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for North Fond du Lac to Provide Municipal Court Services to the Cities of Fond du Lac and Ripon, Towns of Auburn, Calumet, Empire, Fond du Lac, Friendship, Oakfield, Osceola, Ripon and Taycheedah in Fond du Lac County and Wilson in Sheboygan County, and the Villages of Brandon, Campbellsport, Fairwater, N. Fond du Lac, Oakfield and St. Cloud, in Fond du Lac County, and the City of Berlin in Green Lake and Waushara Counties, the Cities of Green Lake, Markesan and Princeton in Green Lake County to commence on December 1st, 2022 and authorize the required signatures. 10) Accept the Committee of the Whole Recommendation 10) Accept the recommendation from Committee of the Whole to authorize signatures on Completion of Work Agreement for Virtual Equipment. 11) Accept the recommendation from Committee of the Whole to approve Resolution #22-07 resolution for Inclusion under the Income Continuation Insurance Plan and Authorize staff to sign all necessary documents and 12) Accept the recommendation from Committee of the Whole to accept the bid from Hunter Security for the purchase of security cameras using ARPA funds totaling \$65,484.46. Stobbe asked for #11 to be removed from the consent agenda. Boeck made a motion to accept the consent agenda with #11 removed. Nigbor seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in 6 Ayes 0 Opposed.

The Mayor brought back item # 11 that was removed from consent agenda, the State of Wisconsin Income Continuation Insurance. Stobbe requested a roll call vote. Burgess made a motion to accept the Recommendation from Committee of the Whole to approve Resolution #22-07 Resolution for Inclusion under the Income Continuation Insurance Plan and authorize staff to sign all necessary documents. Burgess seconded the motion. A Roll Call Vote resulted in 5 (five) Ayes and 1 (one) Abstain (Stobbe) the motion passed.

Item 13 on the Agenda was the TID Building Improvement Program Application from Riverside Coffee Company. Benjamin Cloyd owner of Riverside Coffee, residing at N619 24th Avenue, Neshkoro, Wisconsin 54960, requested funds to fix his roof damage caused by wind damage and not repairable but

to be replaced all together. Nigbor made a motion to approve the application for Riverside Coffee Company as presented. Burgess seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

Item 14 was a TID Building Improvement Program & Façade Improvement Application from Bijak's Culinary Café. Nicholas Bijak, reside at 567 E Marquette St in Berlin, the business is the business previously known as Knutson's Flooring. Bijak gave a background on the hardship he has been enduring to turn a flooring store into a restaurant during a pandemic. Funds will be used for signing and HVAC work and plumbing work. Burgess made a motion to approve both the interior and Façade improvement applications for a combined total of \$20K. Dretske seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

Item 15 is an adjusted TID Building Improvement Program application from the Pet Puddle. Rutkowski explained we approved this at a previous meeting but their contractor did not show. They sought out a new contractor which requires an adjust amount of \$4750.00, original \$4485.00. Erdmann made a motion to accept the adjusted estimate and amount for the Pet Puddle. Motion was seconded by Boeck and passed on a voice vote.

Nigbor exited the meeting momentarily due to his business TID request coming up on the agenda next.

The Mayor brought forward item #16 on the agenda which was a TID Building Improvement Program & Façade Improvement Application from Idlewild Holdings LLC. Presenting as agent for the business was Scott Schweigert, of 498 E Marquette St in Berlin. Schweigert stated they are seeking funds for the building formerly known as the Masonic Lodge on the SW corner of E. Huron and S. Adams Ave. He stated they had a leaking roof and new air conditioning unit. The total amount is \$34,200.00. Looking at a \$15K matching grant. Stobbe stated she is having a problem handing out large sums of money to business that are not open yet and do not have a date of opening scheduled. Stobbe made a motion to approve the \$15K for the TID application with the stipulation they are not open within a year, they are liable to pay back the City. Dretske seconded for the sake of discussion. Burgess asked follow up questions. Discussion ensued. Erdmann made a statement that we approved the Biak's Culinary Café and he is not yet open and even though he gave a date, it does not mean he is going to open on that date, but no stipulations were discussed or made for him. Dretske did not agree with the comparison of Bijak's and Idlewild therefore, he moved to amend the original motion to only include half the cost for the roof to \$12,100.00 and remove the stipulation of having an opening. Burgess seconded the motion. The amended motion moved to a roll call vote. The vote Resulted in three (3) Ayes and 2 (two) Nays (Boeck, Burgess), amended motion passed. The Mayor then brought forward the original item forward but removing the air conditioning. There were 4 (four) ayes and 1 (one) nay, motion passed.

Dretske made a motion to seat Nigbor back into the meeting. Boeck seconded the motion. Passed on a voice vote.

The Mayor brought forward Item #17 which was staff Budget Presentations. Each Staff member came to the podium and gave a brief presentation with the exception of the director of Ambulance. Sara gave an update on the Ambulance service. A reoccurring item being brought forward by staff members was the health care increase for either new or existing employees opting in for health insurance.

The Mayor brought forward #18, asking for a motion to bypass Committee of the Whole discussion on Resolution #22-08 Budget Adjustment. Erdmann made the recommendation to bypass Committee of the Whole discussion and Nigbor seconded the motion, which passed on a voice vote. Then the Mayor

asked for an approval on Resolution #22-08 authorizing 2022 Budget Adjustment for legal expenses exceeding city attorney retainer for contract year 2021-22. This motion was made by Stobbe. Erdmann seconded the motion which passed on a roll call vote of 6 (six) Ayes and 0 (zero) Nays.

Item 19, Ludolph gave a presentation on the status of the Raze and Repair Order for 107 W Huron St. The Building Inspector has a date to allow him to enter the property to do an inspection. The owner stated to Ludolph that progress has been made and necessary items were staged to do the work on items needing to be complete before winter.

Rutkowski handed out a letter that Inspector Lust put together on the house located at 164 Jefferson St. Lust recommended this property be added on the Raze and Repair list. The owner is a company out of California. Rutkowski also shared photos with the members of Council. The city officials believe the property is currently unoccupied. Stobbe motioned to have the City Attorney go forward with a Raze and Repair notification to the owner for 164 Jefferson St. Nigbor seconded the motion. Motion carries on a voice vote.

The next item was a 2023 Budget discussion & Revenue Options. Rutkowski gave examples and showed council how there is nothing left to cut away from the budget due to the cuts made in previous years. Rutkowski went over many scenarios with the Common Council as well as actual budget lines. All other major adjustments were already discussed by department heads. She explained this is a living document currently. Next Rutkowski covered ways we are able to bring in more revenue to offset budget shortfalls. She stated, obviously if I did not feel this is something that we have to do to survive going forward, I would not be suggesting or even talking about putting this burden on our residents. If this is not something you want to do, then we can look at cutting services. To which Burgess asked, What services would we then cut? Rutkowski responded that would be a very difficult discussion. In closing this portion of the discussion, Rutkowski stated the only thing we could do to affect the 2023 budget would be a wheel tax. The other three options would not be able to be accomplished in 2023 but suggested we do one or more going forward. Rutkowski asked the Council Members to decide on what if any road projects they would like to move forward on. Stobbe made a motion to move forward with Lafayette Street Project for 2023 subject to borrowing. Nigbor seconded the motion which carried on a voice vote.

Dretske made a motion to wave the formal bidding process for the City Hall Roof and move to approve ARPA to replace the City Hall Roof. Stobbe seconded the motion which passed on a voice vote.

Dretske made a statement that he is not opposed to making cuts for budget and he will be making motions to that in a month or so.

Under Old Business, Burgess asked for a status update on the ATV/UTV ordinance next month.

At 9:12pm Burgess made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nigbor seconded the motion which carried on a voice vote.

Midge Seaman, Deputy Clerk