

CITY OF BERLIN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023 AT 7:00 pm
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BERLIN CITY HALL, 2ND FLOOR

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, Roll Call resulted in 5 present (Boeck, Burgess, Erdmann, Nigbor and Stobbe) 1 absent (Dretske) Staff in attendance: Rutkowski, Chier, Seaman and Ludolph.

Burgess made a motion to seat Dretske who attended virtually, Nigbor seconded the motion which passed on voice vote.

The Mayor stated there were 4 persons in attendance who filled out comment cards. He stated the group would be allowed to speak but also noted it was a Park and Recreation Commission meeting where they should direct their concerns. Micky Miller, Justin Miller, Gary Prellwitz and Kayla Reeves. All four individuals spoke as representatives of the Berlin Youth Baseball and Softball program (BYBS). All speakers had different subject ranging from Maintenance of Fields and safety of fields and structures to enabling the group to be able to sell concessions to donation of a shed and previously being denied sponsorship signs for the fencing to be able to contribute to the upkeep of the fields. The Mayor thanked the group for attending and again reminded them to speak at a Park and Recreation Commission 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 for the City Clerk, Treasurer and Building Inspector; 6) Approve the minutes from January 10, 2023 Common Council meeting and 7) Receive and place on file the 3rd quarter Shared Tax Report 8) Receive and Place on File the 3rd Quarter Weights & Measures Report 9) Approve the bills list for payment 10) Accept the recommendation from Committee of the Whole to approve Staff applying for site closure of Safeguard property and 11) Accept the recommendation from Committee of the Whole to place Handicap Parking Stall on Southeast Corner of North Pearl Street. Erdmann Made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Nigbor seconded the motion. Roll Call vote resulted in Six (6) Ayes and zero (0) Nays

Next was resolution #23-02 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of a \$518,000 General Obligation Promissory Note. Erdmann made a motion to approve Resolution #23-02 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of a \$518,000 General Obligation Promissory Note and authorize as well, extra staff signatures. The motion was seconded by Stobbe and passed on a roll call vote of Six (6) Ayes and zero (0) Nays.

Next was the TID Building Improvement & Façade Improvement Application from Tbird Aircraft, LLC Owner Matt Schubat, 217 Broadway. Seeking grant applications to put in new windows and a new HVAC system on the second-floor apartments. Erdmann made a motion to approve the applications for \$5,000 for the Façade and \$8,439 for the Building Improvement. Nigbor seconded the motion which carried on a voice vote.

Item #14 was a presentation on 107 W. Huron St. Ludolph came to the podium and stated we are on the same trajectory as before. Waiting for conditions to improve in weather in order to move forward.

Next on the agenda was item #15 Ordinance #01-23 Uncontrolled Intersections. Rutkowski indicated the public will be informed in a few different formats before the signs actually go up. Nigbor made a

motion to approve Ordinance #01-23 to Install Stop Signs at Various currently Uncontrolled or Partially Controlled Intersections. Burgess seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in six (6) aye and zero (0) nays.

Item 16 on the Agenda is a discussion Dretske asked to open up regarding the N. Industrial park potential for further development, mainly housing as stated by the Vierbicher Associates finding on the Economic Development plan recently passed by Council. Rutkowski gave a list of items to be cognizant of when making decisions on this property, mainly future needs of the Waste Water Treatment Facility, a potential Lessee interested in putting up a solar farm with potential give the city revenue for 20 or more years while reducing Energy bills for residents. Erdmann added items to think about, mainly topography and limitations due to flood plains and being on the River. Dretske stated he sees it being great potential for the much-needed housing problem in Berlin and Chier also weighed in with things to be mindful of, mainly zoning, surrounding towns, possibly BCDC, and Restrictive Covenants. Dretske asked that this be on the Monthly Agenda for regular discussions and moving forward with research and step by step action.

#17 on the Agenda was Communication bids for Levy Referendum. Rutkowski included in the Agenda packet, the bid results of the three companies responding. Rutkowski spoke favorable of the Mueller Communication firm bid. At this time, Dretske joined the Council meeting in person. Burgess made a motion to seat Dretske which was seconded by Erdmann and passed on a voice vote and continued with item #17. Boeck made a motion to go with Mueller Communication but cap the amount of their service to the City at \$10,000.00 and have staff do as much of the work as possible. The motion was seconded by Stobbe and passed on a voice vote. The only member opposed was Dretske.

New Business – Boeck asked for the Council to continue reviewing and discussing the downtown parking issues, 24-hour parking, two-hour parking and parking as a whole. Rutkowski asked that staff has time to prepare and then bring it forward. Burgess asked if we could discuss the BYBS concerns but was told they need to go to the Park & Rec Commission meeting.

Boeck made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Nigbor and passed on a voice vote. Meeting Adjourned at 8:20pm.