

CITY OF BERLIN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 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 six (6) present; Boeck, Burgess, Dretske, Durtschi, Nigbor and Stobbe. Staff in attendance: Sara Rutkowski, Matthew Chier, Tim Ludolph, Rebecca Bays, Scott Zabel, Chris Kalupa and Midge Seaman. There were 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 for the City Clerk, Treasurer and Building Inspector; 6) Approve the minutes from the June 13, 2023; 7) Approve the Bills List; Nigbor made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Dretske seconded the motion and it passed on a roll call vote of six (6) ayes and zero (0) nays.

The next item was the Fire Department Request to sell Beer at the Car show. Doug Dewhurst, officer with the Berlin Fire Department attended to answer any questions. Nigbor made a motion to approve the request, Stobbe seconded the motion which carried on a voice vote.

The next item was the 1999 Special Assessment for Parcel 206-01727-0000 with a recommendation to listen to the presentation with discussion and action as appropriate. Gary Peterson who owns the parcel handed out a note to council members and took the podium to speak. Peterson asked the Council Members to look over his write up. The Council asked clarifying questions of Peterson and stated they would visit this at the closed session. The Mayor asked if the reason Peterson is requesting is to sell the property. Peterson stated he has not been able to sell the property due to the lien. Discussion will continue in closed session.

The following item was Property and Liability Insurance Renewal. Rutkowski stated there were two quotes on the table. Drew Diedrich from the Diedrich agency gave his presentation first, followed by Mike Zagrodnik and Ryan Burns from Baer Insurance and the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Insurance. Discussion will continue in closed session.

Next was a TID Façade and Building Improvement Application from Mike's Bike Shop. Mike Radke of Mike's Bike Shop was present to answer any questions related to his request for funds for roof replacement. Nigbor made a motion to accept the TID Application from Mike's Bike Shop and approve \$15,000 in funds to enable him to put a roof on his building. Burgess seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

Next was Raise and Repair order on 107 W Huron St. Ludolph reported that June was a very eventful month for the owners of the building. Front façade improvements happening, back side improvements are in full swing. Roof has been being worked on as well. No action taken.

Resignation from Board of Review for Walter Rainboth effective immediately. Boeck made a motion to accept the resignation from Walter Rainboth for the Board of Review. Durtschi seconded the motion. Boeck asked for a letter of thanks to be sent to Mr. Rainboth. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Resignation from Board of Appeals from Michael Hopkins effective immediately. Stobbe made a motion to accept Hopkins Resignation from said Board effective immediately. Burgess seconded the motion, which passed on a voice vote.

Mayoral appointment of Nathan Corduan to the Community Development Authority. Corduan asked to speak to the group and approached the podium. Corduan thanked the Council for including his request on the agenda, gave a background on himself and appreciates giving back to the community. Dretske moved to approve Nathan Corduan to the Community Development Authority. Boeck seconded the motion which carried on a voice vote.

ARPA Funds Request were next on the agenda. Department heads present gave updates again about items still on their wish lists. After presentation by Kalupa and Bays, Stobbe suggested she would like to table discussion until after the discussion regarding state aid.

Tid #10 Housing Program was brought forward by the Mayor. Rutkowski outlined the program and asked Council for their feedback and suggestions to tie it all together.

Next was the 2024 Budget Cuts and State Municipal Aid Updates. Rutkowski stated she has asked for direction and action for a few months now on the possibility of ending the Water and sewer fire protection the city has been paying for over the years and put it back on the Water bills to free up approximately \$247,000 in the budget to allocate somewhere else. Durtschi made a motion to direct water and sewer commission to request a water rate study for the purpose of moving fire protection services to the water bills. Burgess seconded the motion. Motion carried via voice vote.

Next the Mayor brought back item #16 which was tabled earlier. Stobbe made a motion to use \$20K of ARPA funds for the Library and up to and not to exceed \$10,086.22 for Hunter surveillance camera work at the Senior Center. Boeck seconded and motion carried via voice vote.

Requesting back to ARPA funds, Stobbe asked what the update is on the advertising signs for the fence at the ball diamond. Becca reported she directed the committee requesting it to bring her the plan for approval and they have not done so yet.

There was no New Business.

At 9:07pm Stobbe made a motion to convene into closed session as listed on the agenda. Durtschi seconded the motion. Which passed on a roll call vote. Six (6) ayes and zero (0) Nays.

Midge Seaman, Deputy Clerk

Stobbe made a motion to seat Rutkowski and Chier in Closed Session. Second by Burgess and motion carried via voice vote. Discussion continued in Closed Session.

Dretske motioned to go into open session, with a second by Nigbor. Motion carried via voice vote.

Burgess made a motion to deny special assessment request by Gary Peterson, with a second by Durtschi. Motion carried via voice vote.

Stobbe made a motion to accept EMC as agent for Property and Liability Insurance for 2023-2024, with a second by Nigbor. Motion carried via voice vote.

Burgess made a motion to adjourn at 9:25 pm, with a second by Dretske, motion carried via voice vote.

Sara Rutkowski, City Clerk