

CITY OF BERLIN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, April 9th 2024 AT 7:00 pm
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BERLIN CITY HALL, seconded FLOOR

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm, Roll Call resulted in six (6) present; Boeck, Dretske, Nigbor, Burgess, Durtschi and Stobbe. Staff in attendance: Tim Ludolph, Deb Thiel, Scott Zabel and Attorney Chier.

No Virtual Attendees.

Public Comments:

Victoria Hill of 142 N. Wisconsin Street wanted to discuss item #9. Berlin Aquatic Center, and encourage council to accept the recommendation from Committee of the Whole to approve hiring an engineer for the Berlin Aquatic Center using \$50,000 of APRA funds. Victoria is very much in favor of doing anything to save the Pool and would like to see this move forward. The Park and Recreation Committee cannot move forward without the engineering plan, and full support is needed to pass the agenda. Mayor Brussels thanked Victoria for her comments.

The following items were listed on the Consent Agenda for approval and adoption: 4) Waive the reading of ordinances and resolutions. RECOMMENDATION: Waive the reading of all ordinances and resolutions adopted at this meeting. 5) Written reports from the City Clerk, Treasurer, and Building Inspector. RECOMMENDATION: Receive and place on file the written reports from the City Clerk, Treasurer, and Building Inspector. 6) Minutes from the March 15, 2024 Common Council Meeting. RECOMMENDATION: Approve the minutes from March Common Council Meeting. 7) Bills List. RECOMMENDATION: Approve the list of bills for payment. 8) Motorcycle Parade for Veterans. RECOMMENDATION: Accept recommendation from Committee of the Whole to approve Motorcycle Parade for Veterans on June 8, 2024. 9) Berlin Aquatic Center. RECOMMENDATION: Accept recommendation from Committee of the Whole to approve hiring an engineer for the Berlin Aquatic Center using \$50,000 of APRA funds. 10) Rezoning Request. RECOMMENDATION: Accept recommendation from Planning Commission to adopt Ordinance 02-24 An Ordinance Rezoning a Parcel of Land from A-1 (Agricultural) to R-1 (Residential) City of Berlin. Parcel #206-01073-0200. 11) Rezoning Request. RECOMMENDATION: Accept recommendation from Planning commission to adopt Ordinance 03-24 An Ordinance Rezoning a Parcel of Land from R-1 (Residential) to R-3 (Residential) City of Berlin. Parcel #206-01802-0200.

Dretske made a motion to remove Item #9 from the consent agenda at this time. Motion passed with six (6) ayes. Dretske stated he has received emails to use all ARPA funds for the pool, and it won't put a dent in the cost. A referendum may be the best option, leave it up to the public if the pool stays or goes. We already have a \$250,000 deficit and there is no room in the budget at this time. Boeck stated that other businesses want to support this project and we need to move forward with the community. What's the plan and then look at funding. Motion made by Boeck to accept Item #9 and hire the engineering firm at a cost of up to \$50,000 using ARPA funds for their input. Nigbor seconded the motion. Discussion followed by asking Scott Zabel if he had any information from the consultants at this time regarding cost and he said that one consultant came in at between \$20,000 to \$25,000 to assess the pool, a second

assessor wants to approach it in phases with phase one costing \$5,000 to assess what meets code, what to keep open. This does not include engineering costs. The motion passed with a voice vote.

Item 12 recommendation to approve the Supplemental Questionnaire Alcohol Beverage License Application to change the CEO and LLC Manager for Dolgencorp LLC, to Zachary J. Brining. Dretske made a motion to approve, Burgess seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Item 13 recommendation to listen to presentation regarding 107 W. Huron St. Raze and Repair property with discussion available in closed session and action as appropriate. Tim Ludolph presented: Expectations with the building inspector will be done by the deadline. Dretske asked Ludolph what the deadline is and Ludolph responded with June 19, 2024. The roofing could possibly be extended but it has already been extended once before. Burgess asked if all permits have been paid for? Work that was expected to be done – is it done? The roof is completed to the best of their knowledge, windows and subflooring. Ludolph again stated that they have been working closely with the building inspector. Mayor Bruessel said the permit runs out on June 19 and can be put on the agenda for the next meeting. No action is required.

Item 14 recommendation to accept the Mayoral appointment of Amy Reese to the Park & Recreation Commission term expiring May 1, 2025. Burgess stated she is appreciative of Amy's grant writing skills. Amy will fill one of two positions that are open. Boeck made a motion to accept the recommendation, Dretske seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Item 15 recommendation to approve Carleen Ashbacker, unaffiliated, as an election poll worker term ending 2025. Burgess made a motion to accept the recommendation, Nigbor seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Item 16 recommendation from Department of Public Works to purchase leaf and stump debris machine. This is the last of capital purchases needed for the department this year. Scott Zabel went over the options and what he recommended. Boeck asked if this money was already in the fund he currently has and yes, it is. They are getting two machines with the money in the budget, one being a used one from the Sewer & Water department. Boeck made a motion to accept Scott's recommendation, Nigbor seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Item 17 recommendation to listen to a TID 15 Building Improvement application from Sandy Henning at 110 W. Huron Street. Henning asked for help paying for the roof. Burgess asked when it was going to be done and Henning stated they need \$15,000 down to start, which is half the cost of the roof. Nigbor made a motion to approve \$15,000 of TID funds go to Henning for the roof, Burgess seconded the motion. Boeck stated that is why the funds are there, to help keep the downtown looking nice, so never be afraid to ask. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Item 18 recommendation to waive the Committee of the Whole discussion on the Municipal Court Intergovernmental Agreement. Boeck made a motion to waive the Committee of the Whole, Nigbor seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote. Matt Chier stated this needed to be done to add Eden and that anyone can pull out at any time with no expiration, otherwise there is a May 1, 2024 expiration time to be added. Dretske made a motion to approve the recommendation, Burgess seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Item 19 recommendation to waive the Committee of the Whole discussion on the Municipal Court Ordinance. Dretske made a motion to waive the Committee of the Whole discussion, Burgess seconded the motion. Motion passed with a voice vote. Dretske made a motion to accept the recommendation to adopt Ordinance 04-24, Burgess seconded the motion. Motion passed with six (6) ayes.

Item 20 recommendation to discuss No Mow May, 2024. The only complaint regarding this in 2023 was that people did not like having to pay for the signs for their yards. The signs were so those yards weren't fined for not cutting their grass. Durtschi recommended not charging for the signs, if they want to put up a sign it should be at no cost. This is more of an education so the sign should be voluntary and they shouldn't have to sign up for it. Recommended to let Scott Zabel know that he not send out any fines for the Month of May, however all lawns must be cut by the first week-end in June or they will be fined. This information will be put on the city website. Durtschi made a motion to advise public works in the spirit of No Mow May not to fine anyone in May for long grass, and signs are available if anyone would like them, Nigbor seconded this motion. Motion passed with a voice vote of 5 ayes and 1 nay. This will be put on the June agenda to see about adding an ordinance.

Item 21 - Old Business – Burgess would like to circle back regarding the ARPA funds. It was recommended by Mayor Brussels to wait for the City Administrator to come back from leave.

Item 22 - New Business – Organizational meeting @4:30pm on April16th.

A motion was made by Dretske, and seconded by Burgess, to move into closed session pursuant to Wis Stat §19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating 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 (107 W Huron Raze or Repair) This was passed on a Roll Call Vote six (6) ayes, and zero (0) nays.

Discussion continued in Closed Session.

Dretske made a motion to reconvene into open session, Burgess seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in six (6) ayes, and zero (0) nays.

Burgess made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08pm, Dretske seconded the motion. Motion carried with a voice vote of six (6) ayes.

Deb Thiel, Deputy Clerk