AMENDED ORGANIZATIONAL COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 16, 2024 – 4:30 p.m.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BERLIN CITY HALL

Mayor Bruessel called the April 16, 2024 Organizational Council Meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Roll call present: Alderpersons Durtschi, Boeck, Nigbor, Dretske, and Burgess.

Mayor Brussell performed the ceremonial swearing in of Alderpersons Nigbor, Boeck, and Dretske.

Next was election of Council President. Boeck nominated Dretske, with a second by Nigbor. Dretske was unanimously elected for Council President.

The following Mayoral appointments were presented for confirmation:

*Council Liaisons:* BCDC - Alderperson Nigbor, Cemetery Board - Alderperson Durtschi, Committee on Aging - Alderperson Nigbor, Community Development Authority - Alderperson Dretske and Alderperson Boeck, Library Board - Alderperson Durtschi, Park & Recreation Commission - Alderperson Burgess, Plan Commission - Alderperson Dretske, Police & Fire Commission - Alderperson Stobbe, and Sewer & Water Commission - Alderperson Boeck

There was discussion on how the Mayor came to his decision on who was on what committee. How does he know who is the right fit for the committee? Dretske pulled up the ordinance which says that the Mayor recommends and the council approves. When asked if they could discuss further, Dretske said that the recommendations must be approved at the organizational meeting.

Burgess made a motion to move Dretske back to the Plan Commission because of his background and move another alderperson to the Cemetery Board. Durtschi agreed and said he would move to the Cemetery Board. That motion was not seconded, and no action was independently taken on that motion.   
The Mayor consented to the suggested change of Dretske moving to the Plan Commission and Durtschi moving to the Cemetery Board and agreed to amend his appointment accordingly.   
Dretske made a motion to accept the amended Mayoral appointments as presented with Dretske moving to the Plan Commission Committee and Durtschi moving to the Cemetery Board. Nigbor seconded the motion which carried by voice vote, 4 ayes, 1 nay.

There was discussion that no Forester was appointed. Alderperson Durtschi was recommended for the position. The Mayor agreed to that appointment and Dretske made a motion to confirm the appointment of Durtschi to the Forester position, Burgess seconded the motion. Motion carried with a voice vote of 5 ayes.

City Attorney Matt Chier stated that the Municipal Court Intergovernmental Agreement needs to be re-approved from last week’s council meeting due to “Lakeside had numerous clerical errors resulting in the need for these amended versions to be readopted. The town of Wilson was called a village, but it was also completely missing in other parts of Agreement, and other Towns were also missing from the preamble”. Dretske made a motion to approve the recommendation to adopt Ordinance 05-24 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, Town of Wilson in Sheboygan County, and the Villages of Brandon, Campbellsport, Eden, Fairwater, North 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. Nigbor seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney Matt Chier stated that the Municipal Court Ordinance needs to be reapproved as well due to “Lakeside had numerous clerical errors resulting in the need for these amended versions to be readopted. The town of Wilson was called a village, but it was also completely missing in other parts of Agreement, and other Towns were also missing from the preamble”. Dretske made a motion to approve the recommendation to adopt Ordinance 05-24 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, Town of Wilson in Sheboygan County, and the Villages of Brandon, Campbellsport, Eden, Fairwater, North 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. Nigbor seconded the Motion. Roll call was done and passed with 5 (five) ayes.

A motion was made by Nigbor, and seconded by Durtschi, 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 (City Attorney contract) This was passed on a Roll Call Vote six (5) ayes, and zero (0) nays. Dretske excused himself from the closed session.

Boeck made a motion to seat Deb Thiel, seconded by Nigbor. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Discussion continued in Closed Session.

Nigbor made a motion to reconvene into open session, seconded by Durtschi. Roll call was taken and passed with 4 (four) ayes.

Burgess made a motion to approve the May 1, 2024-April 30, 2025 City Attorney contract with Matthew Chier as proposed, Boeck seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken and passed with 4 (four) ayes, and 1 (one) abstain.

Nigbor moved to adjourn, Boeck seconded the motion. Motion carried with a voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

*Deb Thiel, Deputy Clerk*