

CITY OF BERLIN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2024
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

1. Roll Call: Alderperson Pryzbyl, Durtschi, Boeck, Stobbe, Nighbor, Burgess
2. Virtual Attendees Seated (if necessary) *None.*
3. General Public Comments. Registration card required (located at podium in Council Chambers).
None.
4. Approval of Minutes.
M/S by NigIbor/Durtschi to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Berlin Aquatic Center discussion.
Mayor Bruessel stated that this will be on the November 12 council meeting with a private party to present a proposal. Public Works Superintendent Zabel reported that staff is looking for guidance and directions from the council as to the future of the Berlin Aquatic Center. Zabel identified the following alternatives: 1) Remain status quo and continue to operate the pool under the normal yearly budget knowing that there are no guarantees that it will remain operational for the duration of the season, 2) fix the pool when funds are available and borrow in the future if feasible; or conduct a referendum to determine public support and financial commitment to the facility, or move forward with the planning and design phase outlined in the evaluation that was completed and identify the source of the \$80K cost; and 3) decommission the pool once it is determined that the city can no longer fund the maintenance or repairs and replace with another amenity. General consensus was that this is postponed until the presentation on November 12.
6. 2025 Budget Discussion.
Interim Administrator identified the following items for consideration:
 - a) City Attorney Salaries: change from salary (inferring employee) to professional services, separate general counsel vs. municipal court counsel, reducing expenditures, eliminating separation of conferences, training, and operating supplies.
 - b) Transferring portions of salaries from general fund to tax increment district. This would result in all benefitting taxing bodies sharing in the cost of services to TID.
 - c) Administrator professional services: adding employee compensation study and plan, strategic plan, and comprehensive capital improvement plan. These items were identified as priorities by city council for the new administrator.
 - d) Administrator salaries: adjust administrator salary based on the advertised salary range in the administrator recruitment.
 - e) Sealer of weights and measures: increase from \$6,000 to \$6,900 based on the signed contract.
 - f) Land use planning professional services: increase from \$10K to \$30K for an updated of the city's comprehensive plan.
 - g) Shared revenue from the state: reduce by \$43,857 due to double counting utility aid.
 - h) Possible future revenue sources to reduce deficit:
 - a. Municipal vehicle registration fee
 - b. Transfer recycling and/or garbage from levy to direct bill.

- c. W I D O R Innovation grant
- d. Park impact fee
- e. Stormwater Utility

General consensus was to implement item d, e, f, and g and reflect in draft 2025 budget. Other items to be discussed at future meeting.

7. Ordinance amending code to remove referendum and sunset as to designation of ATV and UTV routes on all city streets and to remove curfew for ATV and UTV operation. M/S Catrina/Terry to recommend to common council recommended changes. Motion carried.
8. Vacation of S. Fox Alley between W Franklin Street and W Ceresco St. Community Development Director Ludolph presented on the vacation of Fox Alley. The proposal is to vacate the alley and become a private drive. The building is currently partially within the right of way of the alley. The general consensus is favorable to proceed with the vacation process. M/S Catrina/Terry to recommend to common council that the city attorney work with the developer for the vacation of South Fox Alley with costs to be reimbursed by the developer.
9. Motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Sec 19.85(1)(c), to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility (*Employee compensation*). M/S by Durtschi/Pryzbyl convene into closed session. Motion carried unanimously. Pryzbyl, Durtschi, Boeck, Nigbor, Burgess, Stobbe.

M/S by Boeck/Durtschi to reconvene into open session. Pryzbyl, Durtschi, Boeck, Nighbor, Burgess, Stobbe. Motion carried unanimously.
10. Adjourn. M/S Boeck/Pryzbyl to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Note: In adherence to the City of Berlin Public Meeting Participation Policy, public participation will be allowed under each agenda item at the discretion of the presiding officer, with the exception of the Consent Agenda. Attendees must register their intention to participate on either a general comments section or a specific agenda item prior to the meeting by filling out a Registration Card, which can be obtained from the Internet, City Clerk's office or in the City Hall Council Chambers at the podium. Registration Cards should be turned in prior to the meeting to either the presiding officer or City Clerk.

Interim City Administrator, Diane Wessell