

**MAY 10, 2021**

**BI-MONTHLY MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERLIN, CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY AT BERLIN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL HALL May 10, 2021 AT 5:30 P.M.**

**(Meeting was held by telephone due to Coronavirus)**

Mayor Magazzu opened the meeting and stated that pursuant to the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Law, notice of this meeting was advertised in the Courier Post, Record Breeze and posted on the bulletin board.

All in attendance joined in the Salute to the Flag.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present-** Mayor Magazzu, Council President, Morris, Councilman Epifanio, Councilwoman Bodanza, Councilman Sykes

**Also Present-** Solicitor, Stuart Platt, CFO, Alex Davidson, Chief of Police Wayne Bonfiglio, Township Engineer / Public Works Director, Chuck Riebel, Property Maintenance / Animal Control, Josh Shellenberger.

**Public-** Resident, Carolyn Picciotti, Christy Clauss, from Nurture Pet

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**ENGINEER / PUBLIC WORKS**

Township Engineer, Chuck Riebel reported that the Township had advertise and had received a bid for the Sandblasted Single Sided Sign. The Engineer recommend to the Govern Body to reject the bid so that he can and change the scope of the project, advertise to rebid.

**SOLICITOR REPORT**

Township Solicitor, Stuart Platt, stated that he has no new updates since his last report.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Bonfiglio stated that this coming year 2022 will be the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Police Department and he would like to start planning the event.

**RESOLUTION 2021-96 APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING A DISCHARGE OF LIEN AS A RESULT OF PAYMENT SATISFIED OR MUNICIPAL LIEN TRANSFER ON REAL PROPERTY FOR NECESSARY MAINTENANCE WORK PERFORMED.**

**To the Mayor and Council to the Township of Berlin:**

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**WHEREAS**, the property owner or responsible party failed to take appropriate action as required in the Violation Notices; the Code Enforcement Officer placed a work order with outside vendors on the properties and provided an invoice as certification of all costs associated with the work performed pursuant to Chapter 280-6 and pursuant to Chapter 280-7 the monies expended to pay outside vendors to perform the services at these properties have been charged against the property; and pursuant to Chapter 280-8 forthwith became a lien on such lands and was filed with the Tax Office; said lien to be discharged by the Tax Collector upon payment.

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector has confirmed receipt of payment or transfer to an open municipal tax sale lien for the liens against the following properties representing maintenance work performed; the maintenance liens against the following properties have been discharged, as follows:

Special Charge #:	Property:	AMOUNT	DATE PAID
			DATE TRANSFERRED TO MUNICIPAL LIEN
PM19-001	First Ave (615-6)	\$ 621.25	7/11/2019
PM19-004	Haddon Ave/Veteran Ave(625-8.01)	\$ 65.00	7/11/2019
PM19-007	319 Hazel Ave (1815-5)	\$ 90.00	7/11/2019
PM19-009	Haddon Ave/Veteran Ave(625-8.01)	\$ 60.00	8/19/2019
PM19-010	Haddon Ave/Veteran Ave(625-8.01)	\$ 81.00	8/19/2019
PM19-017	319 Hazel Ave (1815-5)	\$ 60.00	8/19/2019
PM19-018	Haddon Ave/Veteran Ave(625-8.01)	\$ 81.00	8/19/2019
PM19-020	Haddon Ave/Veteran Ave(625-8.01)	\$ 75.00	10/10/2019
PM19-021	Haddon Ave/Veteran Ave(625-8.01)	\$ 75.00	10/10/2019
PM19-030	319 Hazel Ave (1815-5)	\$ 70.00	10/10/2019
PM19-032	Haddon Ave/Veteran Ave(625-8.01)	\$ 60.00	10/29/2019
PM19-033	319 Hazel Ave (1815-5)	\$ 55.00	10/29/2019

Submitted for May 10, 2021 Meeting Dana O'Hara, CTC - Tax Collector

By resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Berlin, for the reasons set forth hereinabove, it hereby approves and authorizes said liens against said properties pursuant to Chapter 280-7 of the Code of the Township of Berlin hereby discharged.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

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Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-96. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION 2021-97 LIST OF UNCOLLECTIBLE TAXES.**

**To the Mayor and Council to the Township of Berlin:**

I hereby submit to you a list of taxes, which in my opinion are uncollectible. I give the reasons why I deem them uncollectible, and I request that same be remitted and that I be relieved of the collection thereof as required by Revised Statutes of New Jersey, 1937, Title 54, Chapter 4.

Dated: April 21, 2020  
Dana O'Hara, CTC - Tax Collector

NAME	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	REASON
Stanley Benefield	2021	218-11	250.00	Veteran
John G. Lowden, Jr	2021	1408-16	250.00	Veteran
			\$500.00	Total Uncollectible - November

By resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Berlin, the taxes listed above have been ordered remitted and the Collector relieved thereof.

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-97. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION 2021-98 CONFIRMING UNCOLLECTIBLE TAXES.**

**To the Mayor and Council to the Township of Berlin:**

I hereby submit to you a list of taxes, which in my opinion are uncollectible, cancelled and refundable. I give the reasons why I deem them uncollectible, and I request that same be remitted and that I be relieved of the collection thereof as required by Revised Statutes of New Jersey, 1937, Title 54, Chapter 4.

**Dated April 22, 2021**  
**Dana O'Hara, CTC – Tax Collector**

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<b>NAME</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>REASON</b>
George Haddad	2021	2501-40 (04/06-06/30)	2412.41	100% Disabled Veteran as of 04/06/21 as Per NJSA 54:4-3.30et seq
			<b>\$ 2412.41</b>	<b>Total Uncollectible May 2021</b>

By resolution of the Mayor and Council of the Township of Berlin, the taxes listed above have been ordered remitted and the Collector relieved thereof.

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-98. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION 2021-99 RESOLUTION FOR PLACE TO PLACE TRANSFER,  
EXTENSION OF PREMISES ON LIQUOR LICENSE FOR SAHARA SAM'S  
OASIS LLC.**

**WHEREAS**, an application has been filed for a place- to place transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License 0406-33-007-016, for the purpose of expanding the premises under license wherein the sale, service and storage of alcoholic beverages are authorized: and

**WHEREAS**, the submitted application form is completed in all respects, the transfer fees have been paid, and the license has been properly renewed for the current license term; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Berlin does hereby approve, effective May 10, 2021 the expansion of the aforesaid Plenary Retail Consumption Licensed premises located at 535 North Route 73, West Berlin to place under license the area delineated in the application form and the sketch of the licensed premises attached thereto.

Motion by Councilman Epifanio second by Councilman Sykes to adopt resolution 2021-99. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, four members present voting in the affirmative. Council President Morris recused.

**RESOLUTION 2021-100 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF  
BERLIN TO APPLY, OBTAIN AND ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE NEW  
JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS YEAR 2  
NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION PROGRAM.**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Berlin desires to apply for, obtain and accept a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$125,000 to carry

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out a project to administer and implement a DCA-approved Year 2 Neighborhood Preservation Program Implementation Plan; and

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,**

- 1) That the Township of Berlin does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,
- 2) Recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between
- 3) Authorizes the acceptance of the Year 2 Implementation Plan per the grant rules and regulations the Township of Berlin and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-100. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION 2021-101 RESOLUTION APPROVING SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FOR YEAR 2 - NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION PROGRAM.**

**WHEREAS,** the Township of Berlin desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for \$125,000 to carry out a project to undertake the Year 2 revitalization of the Old West Berlin Neighborhood and the Haddon Avenue Business District through the Neighborhood Preservation Program.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,** that the Township of Berlin does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and upon receipt of the grant agreement from State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of the agreement; and also, upon receipt of the full executed agreement from the Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of said agreement

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between the Township of Berlin and the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the persons whose names, titles and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, the agreement, and any other documents in connection therewith.

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-101. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION 2021-102 RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE APPLICATION FOR THE LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT.**

**WHEREAS**, Governor Murphy has appropriated \$2.5 million in the FY 2021 budget for the Local Recreation Improvement Grant to support urgent improvement and repairs to public recreation facilities during this time of heightened community need; and

**WHEREAS** The Local Recreation Improvement Grant is a competitive grant that supports improvement and repair of public recreation facilities including local parks, municipal recreation centers, and local stadiums; and

**WHEREAS** the Local Recreation Improvement Grant funds will be allocated to grant recipient to help cover costs associated with updating community centers, playgrounds, fields, walking or bicycle trails, multi-sport courts, and recreational facilities; one-time personnel costs directly related to improvements; project development professional services costs; equipment costs including playground and recreation facilities equipment; and environmental remediation costs required to prepare recreation sites for use: and

**WHEREAS** the Mayor and Council desires to submit an application for funding the improvement to **Senior Community Center Building Expansion**: and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Berlin, in the County of Camden, State of New Jersey, formally supports the application for 2021 Local Recreation Improvement Grant for the improvements for **Senior Community Center Building Expansion**; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor of the Township of Berlin is hereby authorized to sign the application and any other respective documents.

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-102. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

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**RESOLUTION 2021-103 RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE ISSUANCE OF A 50/50 OFF PREMISE RAFFLE LICENSES FOR ROTARY CLUB OF BERLIN.**

**WHEREAS**, the Rotary Club of Berlin, has requested the issuances of a 50 /50 off premise raffle license by the Township of Berlin for;

**Date:** September 13, 2021  
**Location:** Palace Diner  
100 North Route 73, West Berlin NJ 08091

**Type Raffle:** Off- Premises Draw Raffle 50/50

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Berlin that it hereby authorizes the issuances of an Off Premise Raffle licenses to Rotary Club of Berlin.

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-103. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION 2021-104 PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR MAY 2021.**

**WHEREAS**, the Code of the Township of Berlin, Chapter 7-1 et seq., provides for the payment of claims after certification by the Treasurer and consideration by Mayor and Council.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Berlin, that the following claims detailed below and attached are hereby approved and the bills to be paid.

**CONFIRMING:**

<b>TO</b>	<b>ACCOUNT</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Flex Claims Week of 04/09-04/15/2021	T-18-56-850-030208	\$20.00
Flex Claims Week of 04/16-04/22/2021	T-18-56-850-030208	\$41.35
Jersey Joes (Covid Vaccination Clinic Lunch 04/24/2021)	1-01-25-252-2105	\$233.00
Flex Claims Week of 04/23-04/29/2021	T-18-56-850-030208	\$40.00
Flex Claims Week of 04/30-05/06/2021	T-18-56-850-030208	\$486.98
Ameriflex (May 2021)	T-18-56-850-030208	\$75.00
State of Jersey Health Benefits – May 2021 (A)	1-01-23-220-2092	\$62,419.92
	1-01-23-220-2092	\$11,387.04
State of Jersey Health Benefits – May 2021 (R)	1-01-23-220-2092	\$35,750.46
Payroll, Current Fund	4/23/2021	\$138,243.17
Payroll, Sewer Operating Fund	4/23/2021	\$7,038.31
Payroll, Open Space	4/23/2021	\$4,212.48

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Payroll, Animal Control	4/23/2021	\$285.56
Payroll, Current Fund	5/7/2021	\$129,914.48
Payroll, Sewer Operating Fund	5/7/2021	\$7,280.75
Payroll, Open Space	5/7/2021	\$4,212.48
Payroll, Animal Control	5/7/2021	\$285.56

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-104. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION 2021-105 RESOLUTION TO RELEASE PERFORMANCE BOND FOR COSMO SALON AND THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE BOND.**

**WHEREAS**, Peomalika Koung has requested the release of their Performance Bond # 72287882 for Cosmo Salon located at 155 Route 73 North, Block 1301, Lot 6 in the amount of \$31,001.20; and

**WHEREAS**, the Engineer has recommended that the Township grant the release of their Performance Bond, conditional upon the posting of a two year Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$2,215.50 for the perimeter buffer only.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Berlin that the request for the release of the Performance Bond # 72287882 in the amount of \$31,001.20 and the posting of Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$2,215.50 for Cosmo Salon located at 155 Route 73 North is hereby granted.

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-105. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION 2021-106 RESOLUTION TO READ THE CY 2021 BUDGET BY TITLE ONLY**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S. 40A:4-8, as amended by L.2015, c. 95 14, 2015, provides that the budget may be read by title only at the time of the public hearing if a resolution is passed by not less than a majority of the full governing body, providing that at least one week prior to the hearing, a complete copy of the budget has been made available for public inspection, and has been available to each person upon request; and

**WHEREAS**, these two conditions have been met;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Berlin, County of Camden, New Jersey, that the budget shall be read by title only.



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Motion by Councilwoman Bodanza second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-106. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CY 2021 BUDGET**

Motion by Councilman Sykes, second by Council President Morris to open the meeting to the public. Motion carried by voice vote, all present voting in favor. Mayor Magazzu opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments regarding the public hearing of the Calendar Year 2021 Budget.

No comments were to be heard

Motion by Council President Morris, second by Councilwoman Bodanza to close the meeting to the public. Motion carried by voice vote, all present voting in favor. Mayor Magazzu closed the meeting to the public for questions or comments regarding the public hearing of the Calendar Year 2021 Budget.

**RESOLUTION 2021-107 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE CY 2021 BUDGET**

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Berlin, County of Camden that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes states of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of:

- a) \$7,871,671.90 (Item 2 below) for municipal purposes, and
- d) \$ 254,462.00 for Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Levy

Current Fund

1. General Revenues		
Surplus Anticipated	08-100	\$1,005,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated	13-099	1,792,362.71
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	15-499	350,000.00
2. Amount Raised by Taxation for Municipal Purposes (Item 6(a), Sheet 11)	07-190	<u>7,871,671.90</u>
Total Revenues	13-299	\$11,019,034.61

5. General Appropriations:

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Within "CAPS"

(a & b) Operations Including Contingent 34-201		\$8,141,381.00
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Excluded from "CAPS"

(a) Operations – Total Operations Excluded	34-305	136,885.71
(c) Capital Improvements	44-999	715,000.00
(d) Municipal Debt Service	45-999	1,001,000.00
(e) Deferred Charges – Municipal	46-999	0.00
(m) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	50-899	<u>1,024,767.90</u>
Total Appropriations	34-499	\$11,019,034.61

Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund

Amount to be Raised by Taxation	54-190	\$254,462.00
Total Revenues	54-299	\$254,462.00
Total Trust Fund Appropriations	54-999	\$254,462.00

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-107. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**RESOLUTION 2021-108 RESOLUTION REJECTING BID RECEIVED FOR FURNISHING SANDBLASTED SINGLE SIDED SIGN /AND THE INSTALLATION OF FULL COLOR LED SIGNS AND THE AUTHORIZATION TO RE-BID**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Berlin has advertised for, and received bids for the furnishing sandblast (non-illuminated) single sided signs and the furnishing and installation of full color LED signs: and

**WHEREAS**, there was one bid received; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recommended by the Engineer that the Governing Body reject the bid and make changes to the scope of the project, and advertise to rebid.

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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Berlin, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, that the bid received is hereby rejected and the Mayor and Council authorize to rebid for this project.

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adopt resolution 2021-108. Resolution adopted by call of the roll, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**Approval of Mercantile Licenses**

**1) Brendan Fernandes, 400 Cooper LLC**, 400 Cooper Road  
Berlin NJ 08091. Wholesale Distributor of Furniture and Clothing.

Motion by Councilman Epifanio second by Council President Morris to approve the mercantile license above. Mercantile license approved, by call of the roll five members present voting in the affirmative.

**2) Alfred Demarco, The Color Source Inc.** 435 Commerce Lane  
West Berlin NJ 08091. Digital printing and Mailing prep. Printing Sales.

Motion by Councilwoman Bodanza second by Councilman Epifanio to approve the mercantile license above. Mercantile license approved, by call of the roll five members present voting in the affirmative.

**3) Arianna Carson, The Print Parlor**, 1044 Industrial Drive West  
Berlin NJ 08091. Printing and production of vinyl decals and banners with  
installation on vehicles.

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to approve the mercantile license above. Mercantile license approved, by call of the roll five members present voting in the affirmative.

**4) John Mezzatesta, Nurture Pet.** 200 Route 73 North, West berlin  
NJ 08091. Pet Supplies, retailer.

Motion by Council President Morris second by Councilwoman Bodanza to table the mercantile license above. Mercantile license tabled, by call of the roll five members present voting in the affirmative.

**Approval of April 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Councilwoman Bodanza second by Councilman Sykes to approve the Meeting Minutes for April 12, 2021. Motion carried by voice vote, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**Approval of the Correspondence Calendar for April 2021**

Motion by Councilwoman Bodanza, second by Councilman Sykes to approve the

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Correspondence Calendar for April 2021. Motion carried by voice vote, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**Consent Agenda for April 2021**

Motion by Councilman Epifanio, second by Councilman Sykes to approve the Consent Agenda for April 2021. Motion carried by voice vote, five members present voting in the affirmative.

**All other Business**

**1) Letter of Resignation from Councilman Samuel Sykes.**

As required by N.J.S.A.40A:16-5 that the appropriate political party of the member vacancy will nominate three candidates to the governing body. As such the Democratic Committee of Berlin Township has conferred and is hereby submitting the following names for consideration by the Governing Body to replace Councilman Sykes.

**Public Portion**

Motion by Council President Morris, second by Councilman Epifanio to open the meeting to the public. Motion carried by voice vote, all present voting in favor. Mayor Magazzu opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments.

No comments were to be heard

Motion by Council President Morris, second by Councilwoman Bodanza to close the meeting to the public. Motion carried by voice vote, all present voting in favor. Mayor Magazzu closed the meeting to the public for questions or comments.

**Adjourn**

Motion by Councilman Epifanio, second by Councilwoman Bodanza to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 pm. Motion carried by voice vote, all members voting in the affirmative. Meeting adjourned 6:10 pm

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**Catherine Underwood  
Berlin Township RMC**

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