

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, June 15, 2020

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:46 p.m. via Zoom, pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, Section 8 and Emergency Order #12, Section 3.

Public Hearing

Mayor Grenier opened the Public Hearing at 7:46 pm for Resolution 2020-13 Adopting the FY2021 Budget. There were no public comments. Mayor Grenier closed the Public Hearing at 7:47 pm.

Regular Meeting

a. Pledge of Allegiance

b. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Grenier, Councilors Remillard, Otis, Eastman, Higbee, Rozek, Berthiaume and Theberge

Absent: Councilor Morgan

Also present: James Wheeler, Susan Tremblay, Pamela Laflamme, Shelli Fortin, James Watkins, Julie King, Marion Moore, Ben Hall, Ann Brungot, Maryanne Aldrich, Richard Laflamme, and Barbara Tetreault, Berlin Daily Sun.

c. Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to accept the minutes of the June 1, 2020 Regular Meeting and Work Session, and the June 8, 2020 Work Session. So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume- yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier - yes

Disbursements:

Disbursement Summary Draft #1865 start date 05/30/2020 end date 06/15/2020 for a total cash disbursement of \$693,361.62. Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to accept the disbursement summary and pay all bills as recommended by the Committee on Accounts/Claims. So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier - yes

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Council Committee Reports

There were no Council Committee Reports.

2. Resolution 2020-13 Adopting the FY2021 Budget (tabled 6/1/2020)

A RESOLUTION adopting a budget in the amount of Forty-Three Million, Four Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand, Eight Hundred Sixty-Nine and Fifty-Four Cents (\$43,433,869.54) and appropriating such to defray the expenses of Berlin's City Government for the fiscal year 2021

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as Follows:

That the following budget be adopted and accordingly, the sum of Forty-Three Million, Four Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand, Eight Hundred Sixty-Nine and Fifty-Four Cents (\$43,433,869.54) be appropriated to defray the expenses of Berlin's City Government for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, less expected revenues, with the balance to be raised by taxation on real estate of the municipality.

Account Number	Description	FY 20 BUDGET	FY21 COUNCIL BUDGET
01-401	MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL Total	\$ 71,658.00	\$ 71,408.00
01-402	ADMINISTRATION Total	\$ 996,483.00	\$ 1,048,494.32
01-403	ELECTIONS Total	\$ 16,385.50	\$ 16,385.50
01-404	CITY HALL AND OTHER BUILDINGS Total	\$ 55,474.00	\$ 56,986.00
01-405	SPECIAL FUNDS Total	\$ 275.00	\$ 310.00
01-406	PROPERTY AND LIABILITY INS Total	\$ 79,605.00	\$ 76,573.00
01-408	CENTRAL SERVICES Total	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
01-409	DISCOUNTS/ ABATEMENTS/DEEDED P Total	\$ -	\$ -
01-410	PERSONNEL BENEFITS Total	\$ 355,452.00	\$ 419,446.77
01-411	CONTINGENCY Total	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 9,600.00
01-412	OUTSIDE AGENCIES Total	\$ 78,029.00	\$ 76,179.00
01-413	CEMETERY Total	\$ 18,415.00	\$ 21,814.00
01-416	IT DEPARTMENT Total	\$ 147,900.00	\$ 186,900.00
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 1,854,276.50	\$ 2,009,096.59
01-420	POLICE DEPARTMENT Total	\$ 3,285,302.00	\$ 3,344,940.00
01-421	FIRE DEPARTMENT Total	\$ 2,234,530.95	\$ 2,382,868.97
01-422	STREET LIGHTING Total	\$ 99,000.00	\$ 118,500.00
01-423	AMBULANCE SERVICE Total	\$ 359,004.00	\$ 359,004.00
01-424	SPECIAL PUBLIC SAFETY Total	\$ 172,410.00	\$ 167,430.00
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	\$ 6,150,246.95	\$ 6,372,742.97
01-425	HOUSING DIVISION Total	\$ 87,036.08	\$ 64,211.37
	TOTAL HOUSING DIVISION	\$ 87,036.08	\$ 64,211.37
01-426	CODE ENFORCEMENT Total	\$ 117,700.19	\$ 127,018.65
	TOTAL CODE DIVISION	\$ 117,700.19	\$ 127,018.65

01-430	PUBLIC WORKS Total	\$ 2,158,813.73	\$ 2,196,676.65
01-436	SOLID /PW Total	\$ 874,732.00	\$ 829,475.36
	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 3,033,545.73	\$ 3,026,152.01
01-441	WELFARE Total	\$ 105,178.50	\$ 116,041.75
01-449	PARKS Total	\$ 272,162.47	\$ 281,944.21
01-450	RECREATION DEPARTMENT Total	\$ 166,960.00	\$ 167,681.00
01-451	LIBRARY Total	\$ 203,501.13	\$ 201,764.08
	TOTAL COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$ 747,802.10	\$ 767,431.04
01-470	DEBT SERVICE Total	\$ 768,085.61	\$ 765,076.46
01-480	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS Total	\$ 1,097,306.44	\$ 1,299,230.09
	TOTAL CITY DEBT AND CIP	\$ 1,865,392.05	\$ 2,064,306.55
01-460	SCHOOL OPERATING BUDGET Total	\$ 18,216,967.14	\$ 18,850,507.14
01-461	SCHOOL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS Total	\$ -	\$ 425,500.00
	TOTAL SCHOOL GENERAL FUND	\$ 18,216,967.14	\$ 19,276,007.14
01-407	COUNTY TAX Total	\$ 1,780,000.00	\$ 2,065,000.00
01-414	TRANSFER OUT Total	\$ 39,753.67	\$ 34,171.00
	TOTAL CITY GENERAL FUND	\$ 33,892,720.41	\$ 35,806,137.32
	OTHER CITY FUNDS		
FUND 10	SCHOOL EDUCATION GRANTS Total	\$ 3,568,716.00	\$ 2,515,716.00
11-464	SCHOOL FOOD SERVICES Total	\$ 680,000.00	\$ 747,243.99
19-438	RECREATION ACTIVITY FUND Total	\$ 43,700.00	\$ 40,000.00
21-402	BERLIN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT Total	\$ 241,184.00	\$ 370,184.00
FUND 30	GRANT FUND Total	\$ 142,900.00	\$ 325,100.00
60-432	SEWER FUND TOTAL w/ Capital and Debt Service	\$ 3,458,196.45	\$ 3,432,442.23
63-437	CATES HILL LANDFILL Total	\$ 6,075.00	\$ 6,075.00
65-490	BERLIN AIRPORT Total w/ Capital	\$ 210,636.67	\$ 190,971.00
	Total Other Funds	\$ 8,351,408.12	\$ 7,627,732.22
	TOTAL CITY BUDGETS - ALL FUNDS	\$ 42,244,128.53	\$ 43,433,869.54

This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after passage.

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to remove this item from the table. So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier – yes

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to amend Resolution 2020-13, to read 01-480 Capital Improvement Projects Total \$1,299,230.09, Total City Debt and CIP \$2,064,306.55, 01-461 School Capital Improvements Total \$425,500.00, Total School General Fund \$19,276,007.14, Total City General Fund \$35,806,137.32, Total City Budgets- All Funds \$43,433,869.54. So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier – yes

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to read Resolution 2020-13 R1 by short title for a second time. So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier - yes

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Otis, to read Resolution 2020-13 R1 by short title for a third time. So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier - yes

Councilor Remillard moved, with a second by Councilor Higbee, that Resolution 2020-13 R1 be passed as amended. So moved, the motion passed by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier - yes

NEW BUSINESS

3. Resolution 2020-14 Library Grant \$10,000 (1st read)

Councilor Higbee moved, with a second by Councilor Remillard to table the Resolution and schedule a public hearing for July 6, 2020. So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier – yes

4. City Manager's Report

1. We received bids for local delivery propane. The low bid was \$1.049 per gallon which is a savings from last year's price of \$1.289 per gallon. We also accepted bids for Boiler Services and for Electrical Services. Those went to Mechanical Services and Vaillancourt Electric respectively.
2. Chris Dubey reports that BEMS is gradually returning to business as usual. BEMS has installed, tested, and is operating a new phone system, which greatly expands capabilities for the future, part of that being mobile integrated healthcare. This program, (MIH) aims to change the way that emergency medical services interacts with the public. It appears to be designed to cut down on non-essential transports and emergency room misuse. It is also, optimistically, going to provide, essentially, mobile house calls for important, but non-emergency medical issues. Berlin EMS is actively exploring this possibility, and the corresponding investment required to bring this progressive service to Berlin. Chris says he can provide more information, or explain it better to anyone that is interested
3. A bid for mobile radios for the Fire Dept. were received on May 21, 2020. The bids require an initial down payment and financing over 5 years. The total 5 years costs are as follows:

Tac-2 -		\$68,039.00 (successful bidder)
Motorola Solutions -	\$70,836.42	
Ossipee Mountain Electronics 1 -	\$84,959.05	
Ossipee Mountain Electronics 2 -	\$129,316.50	
4. The search for a new Finance Director continues. In the interim, I have reached out to Municipal Resources, Inc. for interim services. Tomorrow, Rita Donaldson, CPA from MRI will be here to learn about our finance processes. Rita will work both on site and remotely while we continue our search.
5. At the June 10, 2020 Chlor-Alkali Public Informational meeting the public was updated on the ongoing work on the Superfund Site. Through extensive research, it is now believed that the ultimate cost of clean-up will be much less than originally estimated and will be on the order of \$5M. This reduction makes it more cost effective for mercury waste to be removed from the site and deposited at another location rather than interned on-site as thought earlier. EPA is accepting public comments on the clean-up plan through July 3, 2020.
6. A Fire Department incident report for the month of May is attached.

Councilor Rozek moved, with a second from Councilor Higbee, to accept the City Manager's Report and place it on file.

Councilor Rozek asked Chief Watkins if the bids received for the radios were for the model he wanted. Chief Watkins advised they were.

So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier – yes

4. Mayor's Report

a. Re-appointment to Trustees of Trust Funds

Mayor Paul Grenier,

I David Martin am requesting re-appointment of Trustees of Trust Funds for a term end of 6/30/2023.

David Martin

Councilor Rozek moved, with a second by Councilor Theberge, to accept the Mayor's re-nomination of David Martin as a Trustee of Trust Funds with a term to expire June 30, 2023. So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier – yes

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Richard Laflamme of 128 Jasper Street asked the Council what they were going to do about \$5 garbage bags with multi-unit apartment buildings, how you would know what is theirs. Laflamme also mentioned that he has a swimming pool that he does not empty into the sewer, but pays outrageous sewer charges. Laflamme also mentioned that out-of-state garbage trucks are dumping here and ruining our roads while paying low tipping fees.

Mayor Grenier advised Mr. Laflamme that the Council was not entertaining instituting a pay-as-you-throw system at this time. The Council is looking at options for how to handle solid waste, and listened to a presentation on this system.

7. Council Comments

Councilor Rozek asked that the Council discuss the urban compact on Route 110 at a future meeting.

Councilor Remillard thanked the Mayor, City Manager, and Finance Director for the time they have spent working on the budget and stated she is pleased with the reduction in taxes.

Councilor Eastman thanked everyone for their hard work this year. Councilor Eastman also agreed that they need to discuss Route 110, along with extending the water and sewer in that area. Councilor Eastman advised the state will fix the culverts and resurface the road under the 10-year plan.

Councilor Rozek thanked the Mayor and Council for the hours they have spent on the FY2021 Budget, listening to the needs of the municipality and the citizens.

8. Adjournment

At approximately 8:21 p.m. Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Theberge to enter non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II(d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community. So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier – yes

On a motion by Councilor Rozek, seconded by Councilor Eastman, the Council voted to come out of non-public session. So moved, the motion carried by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier – yes

On a motion by Councilor Rozek, seconded by Councilor Eastman, the Council voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 pm. So moved, the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Higbee- yes, Rozek – yes, Berthiaume – yes, Theberge – yes, Remillard – yes, Otis – yes, Eastman – yes, Grenier – yes

A True Record, Attest:

Shelli Fortin
City Clerk

Note: Minutes are unofficial until they have been accepted by the Council by motion.