

MAYOR'S REPORT

AUGUST 30, 2012

Labor Day weekend is here and with it comes the beginning of the new school year. PLEASE PLEASE, pay extra attention when driving during the morning and mid afternoon times when kids are walking. Let's avoid tragedy and as parents, we need to remind our children to never assume that a motorist will stop at crosswalks, even if it's the law. The Berlin Police Department will be on full alert for a few weeks to strictly enforce traffic regulations in and around our schools.

Summer is also over for Berlin's City Council. We have been on the two per month meeting schedule since mid-June, but we will be meeting weekly starting September 4th. The premier agenda item for September is finalizing our new solid waste ordinance for an October 1st roll-out. I want to take this moment to emphasize we will be taking this initiative very seriously. There will be punitive sections in the ordinance, though our focus will be compliance. The city has a new batch of recycling buckets, so not having one will not be an excuse. We will be advertising our effort and look to the area papers for info on getting a bucket if you need one. Most folks recycle responsibly, but for those who don't, including their landlords, trash pick up will cost you.

I want to thank all the members of Berlin's Board of Education, Superintendent of Schools Corrine Cascadden, Business Administrator Bryan Lamirande, and all of the school principals and administrators for a fantastic job they did this year. The Berlin schools turned back to the city over \$700,000 in unspent appropriation and excess revenues for FY 2012. The current board and the current city council work very well together as it is difficult trying to manage a moving target. This year's school budget anticipates dozens of new students, many from newly relocated families who will be employed at the federal prison. I want to again welcome all of the folks who moved to Berlin to advance your careers in the federal corrections industry.

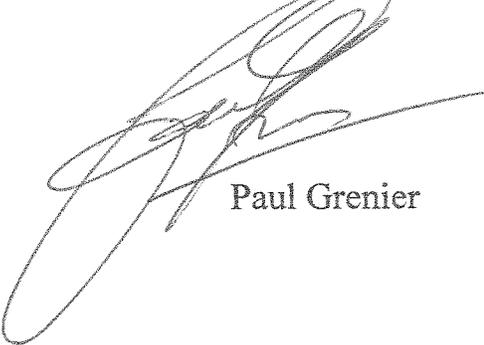
The Route 110 realignment project will take a big step forward in the next 10 to 12 weeks as the rest of the aquired properties will be razed. Berlin is beginning to see daylight as the surplus of rental properties is drying up. Those that remain will be subject to strict enforcement of Berlin's regulations. We have also recently added single family rentals to those enforcement codes as well.

I have received some complaints in recent days about water line insallation

by the Berlin Water Works. The Berlin Water Works story really hasn't been told, so here goes. BWW is it's own construction firm in this capital work. Without the revenue generated by this capital work, Berlin Water Works would not have been able to fulfill their bond obligations. Since the City of Berlin is ultimately on the hook for repayment, Superintendent Roland Viens and the BWW board got creative. As a result, water lines are being replaced and keeping BWW solvent. Much has been written, negatively, about President Obama's stimulus programs, but Berlin really was a huge benefactor. I thank you Mr. President, Senator Shaheen and Congressman Bass for your efforts in securing these funds. BWW will have a very healthy balance sheet in the next three years because of federal monies.

Finally, I want to wish Councillor Dori Ducharme the best of luck in her new career. Councillor Ducharme will be resigning her seat on Tuesday, September 4th as she is relocating to Plaistow. I have found Dori to be extremely sharp in finance issues, and she has a real passion to serve. Her expertise will be sorely missed on the council. Good Luck Mark, Dori and family!!

Until September,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Grenier', written over a horizontal line.

Paul Grenier