

## **“Unofficial” Notes of Informative Meeting**

An informative meeting was held on March 13, 2019, at 7:00 pm at the New Berlin Borough Community Center located at 318 Vine Street, New Berlin, PA. Present were President Julianne Finkbiner, Councilwoman Meghan Shambach, and Councilwoman Barbara Stamm. Rebecca Witmer, Secretary/Treasurer; Bonnie Hamilton, Mayor; and Wendy Cole, Solicitor were also present. Vice-President Elaine Hopkins, Councilwoman Lisa Decker, Councilwoman Betty Kratzer, Councilwoman Lynda Frederick, and Chief of Police L. Eric Hassenplug were absent from the meeting. Edward Pilko, New Berlin resident, and James Emery, Central Keystone COG, were present as visitors. A quorum of council was not present. The regular meeting of council could not be held.

The meeting was brought to order by President Julianne Finkbiner with The Pledge of Allegiance.

**VISITOR BUSINESS – Edward Pilko, Borough Resident** - Borough resident Edward Pilko, 429 Market Street, was present to inform council that he intends to contact PennDOT to pursue the possibility of stop signs in front and a reduction of speed limit in front of his home along Market Street, State Route 304.

**Jim Emery, Code Enforcement Supervisor at CKCOG - 608 Spangler Street and 407-411 Front Street** – 608 Spangler Street was condemned last fall. The duplex at 407-411 Front Street was condemned a few days ago. The demolition estimates for the 608 Spangler Street Property are coming in anywhere from \$8,000 to \$15,000. The CKCOG is currently seeking demolition estimates for the Front Street Property. The Solicitor is working on petitions to the court. The petition for the Front Street Property will not be able to be filed until mid-April. Both petitions will be submitted to the court at the same time to save on fees. The Secretary/Treasurer is working on collecting costs expended for purposes of property liens. The properties should both be able to be demolished within 60 to 90 days if all goes well. Neighbors will be notified so they can turn off HVAC, close windows, etc. before demolition. CKCOG notified the borough to contact the NB Municipal Authority (NBMA) to terminate water service and cap the sewer at both properties. The Secretary/Treasurer has notified the NBMA. The CKCOG is notifying PPL to turn off the electric

service to the properties.

**Proclamation** – Mayor Bonnie Hamilton made a Proclamation to recognize April 2019 as safe digging month.

**Union County Tax Collection Committee 2019 Meeting** - Mayor Bonnie Hamilton stated she attended a meeting where the Union County Tax Collection Committee affirmed Berkheimer as its tax collector for earned income tax.

**DCNR Grant Phase II – Plum Street Park Walking Trail** – The Secretary/Treasurer stated the DCNR grant project needed to be modified to \$60,000.00. The project will still provide a continuous, ADA accessible loop.