

Regular Meeting
April 8, 2025
7:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the Meyersdale Borough Council was called to order by President Irwin, April 8, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.

Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Baer, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Gnagey, Mr. Irwin, Mr. Smith, Solicitor Valentine, and Mayor Smith were present. Mrs. Knieriem and Olivia Baker (Junior Council Member) were absent. Brion Reiber – Street Foreman, was present. There was no police officer present.

MINUTES:

Mr. Baer made the motion to approve the March 11, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes with a correction to Page 7, Goals for 2024 should be Goals for **2025**. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT/ BILLS:

Mr. Baker made the motion to accept the financial report and pay the bills as presented. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

Mrs. Gnagey thought that the cost of auditing was high and suggested that Council consider bidding out these services.

GUESTS:

- A.) Mr. Robert Talmadge was present to introduce himself as the new owner of the former Morgun Toole Company building. Mr. Talmadge gave an over view of his plans for the building which will consist of a Farm to Table type business. Some of the food items will be grown in the building and he will utilize local food producers as much as possible. The building will also be used to host seminars and classes and in the warmer months renting rooms to bicycle travelers. He wanted to dispel the rumors that the business is a marijuana dispensary.
- B.) Tara Holliday from Mosholder Insurance was present to give an overview of the insurance policy renewal. Mr. Smith made the motion to accept the policy renewal effective 5/1/2025 – 5/1/2026. Mr. Baer seconded. Motion passed.
- C.) Mr. Keith Hay was present to request Council to consider finding an alternate site for citizens to dump brush, tree limbs and yard waste.
- D.) Matt & Kayla Brodwater were present to request that an alternate access road to Sunset Lane be opened. They are having an issue with a neighbor putting up barriers at the current access to their property from Sunset Lane. Solicitor Valentine was asked to research and report back at the May 13, 2025 Regular Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Brian Berkebile was present to report that he had recently received an outpouring of support from the community when his vendor tent was destroyed by high winds. He is proud of the community. In the near future he will be giving free sandwiches as a thank you.

Mrs. Gnagey reported that the annual Cross Walk will be held on April 18, 2025 at 11 AM and will begin at the Grace Brethren Church.

Mrs. Gnagey reported that a new barber shop has opened.

Mrs. Gnagey also reported that the Somerset County Commissioners are looking for another member for the Somerset County Recreation Board.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

No report was given.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Accept police officer resignations
Mr. Ackerman made the motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Kevin Huzsek effective March 11, 2025; Mr. Nicholas McKenzie effective March 12, 2025 and Lieutenant Timmy Pritts effective March 14, 2025. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.
- Appoint Officer in Charge
Mr. Ackerman made the motion to affirm the decision of Mayor Smith to promote Mr. Mark Craig as Officer In Charge. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.
Mr. Ackerman asked if there was a pay rate for the OIC. The Secretary pointed out that the Lieutenant received 50 cents more per hour than the Patrol Officers.
Solicitor Valentine reported that there was not a pay rate for the OIC.
No action was taken to grant any type of increase to OIC Craig.

Mayor Smith did not have a fine report.

JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER:

A report of activities at the school was provided by Mrs. Patti Shaulis in the absence of Junior Council Member Olivia Baker.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:

Mr. Kevin Broadwater was present to report that the Emergency Action Plan needed to be signed. President Irwin signed the document during the meeting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

No report was given.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Valentine reported on the following:

- The Judge signed over the rights to the 326 Salisbury St. property.
- The Vietnam/Korean Memorial deeds have been finalized. The deed has been given to the committee.
- The Little League field deeds have been finalized. The property now belongs to the Meyersdale Municipal Authority
- The Darr Construction proposal has not been finalized.

- Senator Stefano is looking into the Grant St. stone wall matter.
- The Non uniform union has agreed to defer discussion on job descriptions until contract negotiation have begun.
- Council has agreed to extend the Refuse Contract with Harbaugh Trucking for another three years at the same monthly rate.
- A report on the Zoom meeting with the Army Corp of Engineers was summarized. There are two projects that are not connected. The Borough project for the rip rap is a 25% Borough match. The Army Corp of Engineers is a 20% match to be taken care of by DEP. The two projects and funding cannot be combined.
- A revised Social Media Policy was given to Council for review.
- The mapping for the ATV signage was sent out. Mr. Reiber was instructed to get the signage installed as soon as possible.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

No report was given.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Municipal Authority

- Appointments to fill vacancies on the Meyersdale Municipal Authority Board

1st Appointment

Mr. Smith made the motion to appoint Mr. Roger Miller to fill the vacancy to expire December 31, 2026. Mr. Baer seconded. Motion passed.

2nd Appointment

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to appoint Mrs. Sarah Jones to fill the vacancy to expire December 31, 2027. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Street Foreman

Mr. Reiber reported on the following:

- Donegal Construction was in to sweep the streets and could only give 4 hours due to an equipment breakdown. The main streets were swept.
- The storm drain at the former GC Murphy building will be cleaned before the weekend activities for the PA Maple Festival.
- Mr. Reiber was instructed to mow the uptown park at his convenience and when weather permits.
- The Borough will be taking care of replacing light fixtures in the front of the Community Center.

Meyersdale Area Merchants Association

Mr. Brian Berkebille was present to report that the Farmers Market will be held every Thursday from 8 AM – 1 PM at the Paul E. Fuller park pavilion beginning in June and will run until September.

MAMA is building on a project to put decorated bicycles around town.

The annual golf outing is being planned.

The annual Merchants Association meeting if planned for June 30, 2025 and will be held at the Levi Deal Mansion.

The annual membership drive will be underway.

Public Library

No report was given.

Meyersdale Community Events Committee

Mr. Baer reported that everything is ready for the Easter Egg Hunt. There will be a Mother & Son dance to be held on May 10, 2025 and plans are underway for a Father & Daughter dance to be held in June.

The Committee will be holding a 50/50 fundraiser during the Maple Festival.

Meyersdale Renaissance Committee

No report was given.

COUNCIL MEMBERS – STANDING COMMITTEES:

Police/Public Safety

- Salisbury police coverage

Mayor Smith reported that he is awaiting a response from Attorney Flower

Personnel

No report was given.

Finance

Mrs. Gnagey suggest increasing the rental fees for the gymnasium and the Pavilion. No action was taken.

Refuse

No report was given.

Streets/Buildings

No report was given.

Flood Control

No report was given.

Farmer's Market

No report was given.

UNFINISHED BUSINESSS:

A.) Social Media Policy

This item was to be kept on the Agenda for the May 2025 meeting.

B.) ADA restroom and grant applications

A Special Meeting was scheduled for April 22, 2025 at 6:30 PM to meet with Somerset Engineering to discuss the ADA restrooms and comprehensive plan. The meeting is to be advertised specifically for this topic.

C.) Holiday decorations

Mrs. Gnagey reported that the string lights for the bushes at the uptown park will need to be replaced. She suggested that there be better organization for taking the decorations to the gazebo for setup and for

taking them back down and storing.

D.) Borough e-mail

Mrs. Gnagey suggested setting up a new secure e-mail for the Borough with multi-point authentication. Mr. Dan Stein and Mr. Shawn Hostetler were asked to assist with the process.

E.) Dale Street mirror

Mrs. Gnagey reported that she contacted Verizon regarding installing a mirror on their pole. She is awaiting a return call.

F.) Ballfield off Thomas St.

Solicitor Valentine reported that further negotiations with the Little League ballfield must be taken up with the Meyersdale Municipal Authority. The ballfield property is now the property of the MMA.

G.) Zoning Ordinance review

No report was given.

H.) Committee meetings for summer months

Mr. Smith made the motion to discontinue committee meetings for May, June, July and August. Mr. Baer seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) Announcements

There were no announcements.

B.) Interest rates

Mr. Smith made the motion to move the General Fund Contingency Fund from the First National Bank to Ameriserv Bank in order to gain a higher interest yield. Mrs. Gnagey seconded. Motion passed.

C.) Docusign

Mr. Dan Stein & Mr. Shawn Hostetler will research how to set up docusign.

D.) The Secretary reported that the Holiday lights have been ordered and that three individuals will be purchasing Holiday lights for in the uptown park.

Mr. Reiber suggested that Council find a secure location to store the decorations from year to year. There have been issues with items not being located.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

There were no additional items to be discussed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no executive session.

GOALS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR

Flood Control rip rap

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Baker made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

Patricia C. Ackerman

Patricia C. Ackerman
Borough Secretary

MEYERSDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
 Regular Meeting 4/8/2025 Special Meeting _____

GUEST SIGN IN

PLEASE PRINT

	NAME	ADDRESS	TOPIC
1	Patricia Shaefflis	105 Sixth Ave M' Dale PA	
2	Tara Holliday	Monthley Insurance	
3	Robert Talmadge	130 Center St.	
4	Matt Broadwater	9285 Mason Dixon	
5	Kayla Broadwater	514 Sunset Lane	
6	Benny Spade		
7	Demise & Chuck Gehring	106 Meyers Ave	
8	Brian Benkebile	Meyersdale	
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GUESTS MUST STAND WHILE SPEAKING