

Approved minutes – Regular Meeting 2/11/2025

Approved minutes – Special Meeting _____

Approved minutes – Special/Workshop Meeting _____

Regular Meeting
February 11, 2025
7:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the Meyersdale Borough Council was called to order by President Irwin, February 11, 2025 at 7:00 P.M.

Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Baker, Mr. Irwin, Mrs. Knieriem, and Mr. Smith, Solicitor Valentine, were present. Mrs. Gnagey arrived late at 7:07 PM. Mr. Baer and Mayor Smith were absent. Mr. Timmy Pritts, Police Lieutenant and Mr. Brion Reiber, Street Foreman were present.

MINUTES:

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to approve the January 14, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes and the January 27, 2025 Special Meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT/ BILLS:

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

Mr. Smith made the motion to make a one-time donation to the Meyersdale Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$10,000.00, with \$5,000.00 being distributed in February and the remaining \$5,000.00 distributed in six months. Mrs. Knieriem seconded. Motion passed.

The donation is to assist the fire department with unexpected expenses.

GUESTS:

Susie Decker and Dr. Gray were registered, but were not present.

* NOTE: Mrs. Gnagey arrived at 7:07 PM

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Deb Fisher, owner of the Levi Deal Mansion was present to report a problem she is having regarding barking dogs. A neighbor leaves their dogs outside in all types of weather. She has spoken to them about the situation and the barking is halted for a minimal amount of time. She has contacted several officials, including 911, Dog law enforcement and State Police and each time she is referred to the local police department. It was also reported that the neighbor has junk accumulated in the fenced in back yard and that they have not mowed the lawn for at least two years.

President Irwin reported that the condition of the yard has been reported to the PA Municipal Code Alliance for investigation.

Lieutenant Pritts reported that there are no ordinances or state laws regarding barking dogs, but that he would continue to try to get the issued resolved. Mrs. Gnagey suggested that Council consider updating the Noise Ordinance to include barking dogs.

Ms. Fisher was asked to attend the March 11, 2025 regular meeting of Council for an update.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Irwin reported on the upcoming openings for Borough official positions and explained the process to obtain petitions in order to be placed on the ballot for the May 2025 election.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

No report was given.

JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER:

Miss Baker presented a report of activities being held at the school.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:

Mr. Kevin Broadwater reported on the following:

- The hazard mitigation document must be updated.
- The flood control inspection is held yearly.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

No report was given.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Valentine reported on the following:

- The deeds for the Little League and the Vietnam/Korean Memorial will be recorded.
- The contract for the window replacement project will be forwarded to Darr for signing, then Council can meet with Darr Construction to discuss change orders.
- A response from DEP has not been received as to whether or not the Community Center will need to be pressure tested in the event the school deeds the building over to the Borough without restrictions.
- Salisbury Borough is taking the steps to have Meyersdale Borough Police cover their Borough. They are in the process of preparing a new ordinance for police protection.
- A zoom meeting will be held February 26, 2025 at 3 PM regarding the stone wall on Grant Street. The streets committee was asked to attend.
- HRI paving has not agreed to accept the Borough offer. Solicitor may have more to report at the March 11, 2025.
- PennDOT is asking CSX for corrective action regarding repairs to the High Street bridge.
- A grant was received for \$225,000.00 for the flood control rip rap project. A notice will be given to the Corps of Engineers regarding the grant funds received and find out if it would be possible to merge the Corps funds to complete the project.
- The ATV signs need to be installed as soon as possible. The Street Foreman will start this as soon as the weather permits.
- A zoom meeting with the non uniform union representation will be held during the March 6, 2025 committee meeting. The draft job descriptions will be reviewed at this time.
- Solicitor is awaiting a hearing date on the 326 Salisbury Street property.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

No report was given.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Municipal Authority

No report was given.

Street Foreman

Mr. Reiber reported on the following:

- He has not been successful in finding the replacement bulbs for the lights at the front of the Community Center. Permission was given to have Mr. Leroy Cook try to fix the original lights for less than \$500.00 and also provide an estimate to change the lights over to something that would be easier for the Borough workers to maintain.
- The Lions Club is planning on repairing the back deck and handicap ramp before the Maple Festival.
- Street sweeping is scheduled for March 2025

Mrs. Gnagey addressed an issue with the furnace shutting down.

Mr. Reiber explained that Darr Construction was in regarding the furnace issue and it was explained when it gets really cold the gas pressure drops, thus causing the furnace to shut down. This problem could be an issue for Columbia Gas.

Mrs. Gnagey noted that the furnace room door should always be left open.

Mrs. Gnagey reported an odor coming from the shower room. She suggested purchasing a special lubricant to eliminate getting the sewer gas smell or installing a rubber plug. Mr. Reiber reported that the drains are flushed on a weekly basis.

Meyersdale Area Merchants Association

Mrs. Gnagey reported that the Car Wash, Morguen Toole and the GI Dayroom have been sold. A ribbon cutting will be held in the Spring.

Public Library

Mrs. Gnagey reported that the fund raising event, Death by Chocolate, will be held February 14, 2025.

Meyersdale Community Events Committee

Mrs. Knieriem reported that \$135.00 was raised during the Festival of Trees event.

Meyersdale Renaissance

No report was given.

COUNCIL MEMBERS – STANDING COMMITTEES:

Police/Public Safety

No report was given.

Personnel

No report was given.

Finance

No report was given.

Refuse

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to accept a proposal for renewal of the refuse contract with Harbaugh Trucking. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Streets/Buildings

NPL contractors for the gas replacement project will be contacted by Mr. Baker and Mr. Reiber to make them aware that advance notice should be given for street closures, especially to Stewart Transportation, so that they can alter the school bus routes.

Flood Control

Flood Mitigation Grant award

Mr. Baker made the motion to accept the Flood Mitigation Grant award in the amount of \$225,000.00 to assist with the Flood Control Rip Rap replacement project. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

Farmer's Market

The Farmer's Market will be held at the Paul E. Fuller Park every Thursday from 9 AM – 2 PM for the 2025 season.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A.) Job Descriptions

No additional report was given.

B.) Social Media Policy

Item was tabled.

C.) Emergency pet shelter

Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to approve the use of the Community Center for an emergency pet shelter. Mrs. Knieriem seconded. Motion passed.

D.) Upstairs classroom

Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to give the Apostolic Church 30 days to clear out the space and if not charge them \$200.00 per month rent. Mrs. Knieriem seconded. Motion passed. Solicitor Valentine was asked to give the Church formal notice via letter.

E.) Response from Roger Hanson

This item was tabled for executive session.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) Announcements

There were no announcements.

B.) PEMA & FEMA Grant opportunities

Mrs. Gnagey reported that these grant opportunities would not apply to the Borough.

C.) Replace light grids in daycare room

This item was to be place on the list of general maintenance to the Community Center.

D.) Holiday decoration grant

Mrs. Gnagey reported that she e-mailed everyone two or more options for holiday decorations. The options are both 34 inches or less in height. The decorations should be ordered soon to avoid price increases.

E.) ADA restroom grant application

Mrs. Gnagey reported that the Borough could apply for CDBG funds, which would cover replacement of toilets, and sinks to make the restrooms handicap accessible. Other renovations associated with a project would need to be funded by the Borough. There would be upfront costs for engineering in order to apply for the grant funding. Mr. Baker made the motion to proceed to obtain a cost estimate for engineering services needed to apply for the grant. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

GOALS FOR 2024

Flood Control rip rap

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

There were no additional items to be discussed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel matters at 8:01 PM. Mrs. Knieriem seconded. Motion passed.

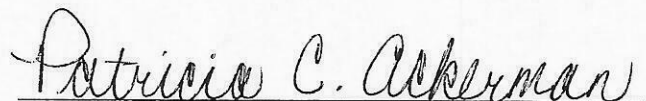
Mr. Ackerman made the motion to return to regular session at 8:56 PM. Mrs. Knieriem seconded. Motion passed.

DISCUSSION/MOTIONS:

There were no discussion or motions.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 PM. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.



Patricia C. Ackerman
Borough Secretary

MEYERSDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
 Regular Meeting 2/11/2025 Special Meeting _____

GUEST SIGN IN

PLEASE PRINT

| | NAME | ADDRESS | TOPIC |
|----|-------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| 1 | JEFF CHRISTAD | 204 NORTH ST | 1 |
| 2 | John Eugene Misher | | |
| 3 | Deborah FISHER | 301 MEYERS AVE | 5 |
| 4 | Wendy Kelly | | |
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GUESTS MUST STAND WHILE SPEAKING

GUEST SIGN IN ON EXCEL