

Approved minutes – Regular Meeting _____

Approved minutes – Special Meeting _____

Approved minutes – Special/Workshop Meeting _____

APPROVED MINUTES - REORGANIZATION MEETING 4/5/2026

Reorganization Meeting
January 5, 2026
7:00 P.M.

2025 Council

The first part of the reorganization meeting was called to order by President Irwin at 7:00 P.M., January 5, 2026. Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Baer, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Gnagey, Mr. Irwin, Mr. Smith, and Mayor Smith were present. Solicitor Valentine was present via telephone. Mrs. Knieriem was absent. Council Member Elect Christner and Council Member Elect Munion were also present.

MINUTES:

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to accept the minutes of the December 9, 2025, Regular Meeting as presented. Mr. Baker seconded. Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

No report was given.

BILLS/FINANCIAL REPORT:

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

GUESTS:

There were no pre-registered guests present.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Jack Gauntz, member of the Meyersdale Municipal Authority Board, was present to show his support for Council to reappoint Mr. Brian Witherite to the Meyersdale Municipal Authority Board. Mr. Gauntz reported that Mr. Witherite is knowledgeable and has various contacts in Harrisburg to assist with acquiring grant funding for the Authority.

Mr. Gauntz also commended the Municipal Authority employees on the work they have done with regard to recent water leaks.

Mrs. Sarah Jones, member of the Meyersdale Municipal Authority Board, was present to show her support for Council to reappoint Mr. Brian Witherite to the Meyersdale Municipal Authority Board as well. She indicated that the current MMA Board is well run, each member brings a different skill set and that there is no drama or chaos. The Board strives to be a good employer as well. The MMA received a \$200,000.00 grant thanks to the efforts of Mr. Witherite. It was her opinion that it would be detrimental to the Meyersdale Municipal Authority if Mr. Witherite was not reappointed.

Mr. & Mrs. Eric Minnick were present with their concerns regarding a water break that happened on December 21, 2025, where water flooded their basement which resulted in them having damage and destroying everything in the basement. Mr. Minnick explained that the water ran down from where the water break was and had no place to go because the storm drains were clogged. After some discussion, Council suggested that Mr. & Mrs. Minnick register a complaint with the Meyersdale Municipal Authority Board for discussion at their January 6, 2026 MMA workshop meeting. The Borough has no control over issues related to the MMA.

The Borough will research if there are any ordinances which would pertain to curbs and how high they must be.

Mr. Brian Witherite was humbled that Mr. Gauntz and Mrs. Jones spoke on his behalf. He reported that there is a lot of work the MMA Board will need to get done. He thanked the MMA employees. He also thanked Senator Stefano and State Representative Metzgar for their support in obtaining grant funding for the MMA.

BUSINESS:

A.) Duda Actuarial Consulting

Mr. Baer made the motion to accept the quote for services in the amount of \$1,750.00 from Duda Actuarial Consulting for work to be performed with regard to the Meyersdale Borough Police Pension Plan. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed. The fees are an allowable expense to be paid from the Police Pension Funds.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Mr. Smith reported that the water fountain and the basketball hoops are scheduled to be installed.
- Mrs. Gnagey reported on the following:
 1. A new artificial Christmas tree is being purchase for display in the gazebo. She suggested posting the old tree free for the taking on facebook and on the Borough website. It would be a first come first serve basis and would need to be dismantled by the recipient. Solicitor Valentine indicated that this would be appropriate.
 2. A local church has offered to donate several illuminated stars for display. Mrs. Gnagey suggested displaying them in the windows at the Community Center. Council will need to decide if they want to accept the donation.
 3. Suggests that Council set goals and invite ~~Senator Stefano~~ *MAR. STEVE SPOCHART, SUMERSET CO REDEVELOPMENT ALTH* and Mrs. Michelle Beener, ASPIRE Grant Writing to a meeting to review grant funding opportunities.
 4. Asked if anyone had notified Mr. Kevin Yoder, Appalachian Engineering regarding the DCED grant for the flood control debris basin cleaning.
- Mayor Smith thanked Council and is looking forward to serving as Mayor for another term.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to adjourn this portion of the reorganization meeting. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed. The first part of the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 P.M.

2026 Council

Mayor Smith administered the oath of office to:

Mrs. Karen S. Gnagey and Mr. Robert Munion, prior to the beginning of the second part of the reorganization meeting. Mr. Jeffrey Christner was administered the oath of office by District Magistrate Bell.

Mr. Christner, Mrs. Gnagey and Mr. Munion will serve for a 4 year term.

Mayor Smith was administered the oath of office by a local Notary Public and he will serve a 4 year term..

The second part of the reorganization meeting was reconvened and called to order by Mayor Smith at 7:24 P.M. Mayor Smith presided over the meeting until the President and Vice President were elected.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Ronnie Ackerman, Mr. Clarence Baer, Mr. Jeffrey Christner, Mrs. Karen Gnagey, Mr. Jeff Irwin, Mr. Robert Munion, Mr. Thomas Smith and Mayor Patrick (Shane). Smith were present. Solicitor Valentine was present via telephone.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Mr. Ackerman nominated Mr. Irwin. Mr. Smith seconded.

No other nominations were made, Mayor Smith declared the nominations be closed.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ackerman – Yes; Mr. Baer – Yes; Mr. Christner – Yes; Mrs. Gnagey – Yes; Mr. Irwin – Yes,
Mr. Munion – Yes; Mr. Smith – Yes.

Mr. Irwin will serve as President of Council.

VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Baer nominated Mr. Smith. Mr. Christner seconded.

No other nominations were made, Mayor Smith declared the nominations be closed.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ackerman – Yes; Mr. Baer – Yes; Mr. Christner – Yes; Mrs. Gnagey – Yes; Mr. Irwin – Yes,
Mr. Munion – Yes; Mr. Smith – Yes.

Mr. Smith will serve as Vice President of Council.

The meeting was turned over to Mr. Irwin, newly elected President.

TREASURER

Mr. Baer made the motion to retain the Borough Secretary as treasurer. Mr. Christner seconded. Motion passed.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Irwin made the motion to retain Mr. Marc Valentine as Solicitor. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

BANK DEPOSITOR

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to retain Somerset Trust Company as the depositor for the Refuse, General Fund Money Market Account and Building Renovation accounts, Ameriserv as the depositor for the General

Fund Contingency Reserve Account and the First National Bank of Pennsylvania for all other Borough accounts. Mr. Christner seconded. Motion passed.

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. Smith made the motion to appoint Mrs. Gnagey as president pro tempore. Mr. Munion seconded. Motion passed. The President Pro Tempore serves in the absence of the President, Vice President or Mayor.

ENGINEER

Council agreed not to retain an engineer at this time.

APPOINTMENT TO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY BOARD

Letters of interest were received from Mr. Brian Witherite and Mr. William McKenzie. President Irwin read the letters.

Mr. Ackerman nominated Mr. Witherite. Mr. Munion seconded.

No other nominations were made.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Ackerman – Yes; Mr. Baer – Yes; Mr. Christner – Yes; Mrs. Gnagey – Yes; Mr. Irwin – Yes,

Mr. Munion – Yes; Mr. Smith – Yes.

Mr. Witherite will serve a 5 year term.

MEETING NIGHTS

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to set the Regular Meeting night for the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

The Secretary will advertise the meetings as required.

ADOPT BYLAWS

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to continue to operate under the bylaws adopted February 20, 2007. Mr. Christner seconded. Motion passed.

ADOPT RULES OF ORDER

Mr. Munion made the motion to continue to operate under the rules of order adopted February 20, 2007 and revised January 4, 2010. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

ADOPT OPEN COMMENT POLICY

Mr. Christner made the motion to continue to operate under the open comment policy adopted February 13, 2024. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

President Irwin will compile the committee appointments and distribute them to Council.

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to hold the Police/Public Safety, Personnel, and Finance Committee meetings on the Thursday preceding the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 P.M. Mrs. Gnagey seconded. Motion passed. The Secretary will advertise the meetings as required.

A.) Next Scheduled Meeting

Council decided not hold another meeting in January. The next Regular Meeting will be held February 10, 2026 at 6 PM.

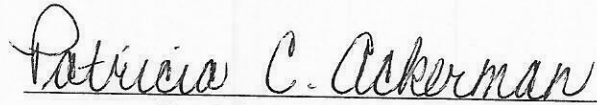
B.) Miscellaneous

Solicitor Valentine reported that there wasn't an update on the Salisbury St. burned house. There was a fraudulent transfer of the property. He plans to send an e-mail to Council with a breakdown of the costs associated with the burned structure and is hopeful that it can be torn down within two months. The following items were to be placed on the Agenda for the February 10, 2026 meeting:

- DCED Grant
- Handicap restroom
- Zoning review
- Set 3-5 year goals

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Munion made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Christner seconded. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:43 P.M.



Patricia C. Ackerman
Borough Secretary

MEYERSDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
 Reorganization Meeting 1/5/2026

GUEST SIGN IN

PLEASE PRINT

	NAME	ADDRESS	TOPIC
1	Sarah Jones	415 1st Ave	
2	Ron Meyers	415 1st Ave	
3	Jackie Smith	100 North St.	
4	Eric Minnick	303 Front St.	
5	Jer Minnick	853 Front St.	
6	Brian White	230 Sherman	
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GUESTS MUST STAND WHILE SPEAKING

GUEST SIGN IN ON EXCEL