

Approved minutes – Regular Meeting 6/11/2024

Approved minutes – Special Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Approved minutes – Special/Workshop Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Meeting  
June 11, 2024  
7:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the Meyersdale Borough Council was called to order by President Irwin, June 11, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Baer, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Gnagey, Mr. Irwin, Mrs. Knieriem, Mr. Smith, Solicitor Valentine, and Mayor Smith were present. Mr. Brion Reiber, Street Foreman was also present. Tim Pritts, Police Lieutenant was absent.

**MINUTES:**

Regular Meeting – April 9, 2024 (Approve clarification regarding removal of public statement)

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to approve the April 9, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes with clarification. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed with Mrs. Gnagey and Mrs. Knieriem casting a No vote.

Regular Meeting – May 14, 2024

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to accept the minutes of the May 14, 2024 Regular Meeting 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. Mr. Baer seconded. Motion passed.

Mrs. Gnagey suggested that the General Fund Contingency Fund at First National Bank be rolled over to the General Fund Money Market account at Somerset Trust. This item was to be added to the Agenda for the July 2024 meeting.

Mrs. Gnagey suggested that Mr. Dan Stein & Mr. Shawn Hostetler sign a nondisclosure agreement, because their work with the computer programs in the Borough Office contain sensitive and financial information.

**GUESTS:**

A.) Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Mathias – Bottom Street

It was reported that Mr. Kevin Yoder was to get all parties concerned to sign off on the Subdivision Plan. Solicitor Valentine was asked to contact Mr. Yoder.

B.) Mr. Jeff Christner – Gym Equipment

Mr. Christner reported that he is working on getting quotes on a volleyball setup for the gymnasium. Estimates are also being obtained on basketball backstops and hoops. These items were to be added to the Agenda for the July 2024 meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

A.) Mrs. Joyce Nalley was present to request that a Proclamation be prepared in honor of Mrs. Virginia Shultz Werner, who will be celebrating her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 25, 2024. Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to prepare a Proclamation. Mr. Baer seconded. Motion passed. Mrs. Nalley will work with the Borough

Secretary on the preparation of the Proclamation and Mayor Smith will present the same to Mrs. Werner at a Birthday Celebration to be held on July 25, 2024 at Penn Alps in Grantsville, Md.

- B.) Mrs. Susie Decker was present to report vandalism at the PA Maple Festival grounds. The grounds have been vandalized three times and the last time involved an accelerant that could have caused major damage. The Maple Festival rents camping sites on the Festival grounds during the summer and the Festival Board is concerned for the safety of their guests. Mayor Smith reported that the police cannot patrol the Festival grounds without written permission. Mrs. Decker indicated that she could provide written permission.
- C.) Mrs. Donna Wilhelm expressed her concern that there needs to be more police officers and that there isn't anything for kids to do.  
It was explained that there has been a problem with obtaining police officers for the last few years. This is a problem all towns are facing. The pool of qualified officers is limited and they aren't applying.
- D.) Mrs. Deb Kolb asked on behalf of the United Church of Christ, if the broken drainage grate at the Corner of Center St. and North St. could be repaired. The street foreman will investigate the same.
- E.) Mr. Keith Hay was present to offer his services to conduct seminars on how people can be safe. He would offer the service free of charge to anyone and also to the Police Department
- F.) Mrs. Patricia Murray remarked that the refinished gym floor looks really nice and that Mr. Jeff Christner and Mr. Tom Smith should be commended for getting it completed.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

There was no President's report.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

There was no Magistrate report.

Mayor Smith reported that there needs to be signs posted at the playground PARK CLOSES AT DUST and that there should be NO TRESSPASSING signs posted along the flood control.

Mayor Smith reported that security cameras will be put in various places and that two or more officers will be added to the roster within the next week.

Everyone was reminded of the Independence Day Celebration to be held on June 30, 2024 and that this will be the best show ever.

**JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER:**

No report given during summer break.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:**

No report was given.

**ENGINEERS REPORT:**

No report was given.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

A detailed monthly report was not given.

#### Deed to Community Center

Mr. Smith made the motion to grant Solicitor Valentine permission to communicate with the School Board Solicitor regarding revising the deed to the Community Center. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Solicitor Valentine reported that the Borough is moving forward with legal action against the owners of the Salisbury Street property. The Borough will acquire the property and then the County will take care of the demolition.

Mrs. Deb Kolb asked if the parking issues with the Shipley building have been resolved.

Solicitor Valentine reported that the owners are in compliance with parking for the current tenants they presently have in the building. As long as they do not go over the number of PMCA permitted spaces, there is no violation.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### Municipal Authority

No report was given.

#### Street Foreman

Mr. Reiber reported on the following:

- Quote to fix damaged fence at the flood control - \$450.00 from B&T Fabrication  
Mr. Baer made the motion to accept the quote from B&T Fabrication in the amount of \$450.00.  
Mrs. Gnagey seconded. Motion passed.
- B & T Fabrication fabricated, installed and donated a lock box for the police department.  
The Secretary was asked to send a thank you letter.
- Tableland was able to give the Borough two summer youth workers for the summer season.  
The workers are Benjamin Reiber – High Graduate program and Dylan Teets – Youth program.
- Mulch Main Street Park  
Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to grant Mr. Reiber permission to contact Level Acres Landscaping regarding mulching the Main Street Park at a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00. Mr. Smith seconded.  
Motion passed.
- Storm drain  
Mr. Baker made the motion to purchase a drain at a cost of \$510.00 to be installed at the corner of Main St. and Center St. at the former GC Murphy Building. Mr. Baer seconded. Motion passed.  
The Meyersdale Municipal Authority has offered the use of staff to help with the drain replacement if needed.
- The crew will be concentrating on getting the flood control in order for the upcoming inspection 6/20/24. Then they will move on to cleaning up, mowing and weeding for the Independence Day celebration June 30, 2024.

#### Meyersdale Area Merchants Association

No report was given.

### Public Library

No report was given.

### Meyersdale Community Events Committee

It was reported that the Independence Day Celebration will be held on June 30, 2024. The festivities will begin at 5 PM. There will be a dunking booth to raise money for a back to school event. The Committee is searching for a nonprofit group to conduct a cornhole tournament as well.

### Meyersdale Renaissance

It was reported that the Meyersdale Renaissance is helping local businesses with grant funding for video security systems.

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS – STANDING COMMITTEES**

Council agreed to cancel the committee meetings scheduled for July 4, 2024.

### Police/Public Safety Committee

No report was given.

### Personnel

- Hiring Part-time Police Officer  
Mr. Ackerman made the motion to hire Mr. Mark Craig as a Part-time police officer effective June 15, 2024 at a rate of \$22.20, pending clearances, etc. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.
- Supplement Tableland workers hourly rate and work hours  
Mr. Baer made the motion to supplement the tableland workers hourly rate and work hours as follows:  
Benjamin Reiber - Tableland will pay \$10.00 per hour for 30 hours per week.  
Borough will supplement \$2.00 per hour for 30 hours per week and \$12.00 per hour for 6 additional hours per week.  
Dylan Teets – Tableland will pay \$9.00 per hour for 30 hours per week.  
Borough will supplement \$3.00 per hour for 30 hours per week and \$12.00 per hour for 6 additional hours per week.  
Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed. (See attached letter from Tableland Services, Inc.)

### Finance

- Proceeds from sale of 2002 truck - \$6,650.00  
Mr. Baker made the motion to use the proceeds from the sale of the 2002 truck as a payment toward the principal on a truck loan at Somerset Trust Company. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.
- Budget for recording and publicizing monthly meetings.  
Mr. Smith made the motion to grant Mr. Hostetler and Mr. Stein permission to purchase equipment necessary to record and upload the meetings to YouTube at a cost not to exceed \$1,300.00. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed. The recording of the meetings could be up and running as soon as July 2024.
- Upgrade internet service  
Mr. Smith made the motion to grant Mr. Hostetler and Mr. Stein permission to upgrade the internet service at a cost not to exceed \$4,500.00. Mrs. Knieriem seconded. Motion passed.

Regular Meeting – June 11, 2024

- Police body cameras  
Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to purchase 4 body cameras for the police department at a total cost of \$3,000.00. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.
- Agenda items  
Council agreed that all topics for the regular meeting must be submitted to the Borough Secretary by 7 AM the Monday before the scheduled meeting in order to be included on the meeting Agenda.

Refuse

No report was given.

Streets/Buildings

Mr. Smith reported that supplies for the line painter are as follows:  
Paint - \$610.00, Stencils - \$110.00, and tips for the machine - \$100.00.

Flood Control

No report was given.

Farmer's Market

No report was given.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESSS:**

A.) Patrolman police agreement/handbook

Mayor Smith reported that the agreement/handbook has not been signed.

B.) Ambulance meeting

Mrs. Gnagey reported that a meeting will be held on June 17, 2024. There are two ordinances that are being considered for review. It was reported that it must be a unanimous decision amongst all of the Boroughs and Townships involved to be on board to make the plan work.

F.) Vietnam/Korea Memorial subdivision

No report was given.

G.) Job Descriptions

No report was given.

H.) COVID ARPA funds

No decision was made regarding these funds.

I.) Community Center

Mr. Smith reported that Sherwin Williams will donate 10 gallons of red paint for the gym project. Paint brushes, etc. are estimated to cost \$400.00 and another \$65.00 for black paint.

There was no update on when the Prison workers would be available to paint the gym.  
Council decided to acquire an estimate to replace the back door to the community center.  
Mr. Smith also reported that the new street name signs are scheduled to be shipped.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A.) Announcements

There were no announcements.

B.) Non Uniform 5 year Union Contract

President Irwin presented an extensive report regarding the Non Uniform contract for January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026 and how it evolved into a five year contract.

The contract negotiations were listed on unresolved lists and discussed at Council meetings dating back to 2020. Council meeting minutes reflect those discussions. President Irwin had a concern that he was being singled out as being instrumental in getting the five year contract pushed through, which was not the case. The entire Council decided that it would be in the best interest of the Borough to negotiate a five year contract. Four of the current members of Council were also members of Council when the negotiations and finalization of the contract took place. The contract was accepted and approved by all members of Council, with Mr. Ackerman abstaining. The current contract is now half way to fruition and discussion regarding the same should cease.

Solicitor Valentine confirmed that the contract was negotiated for five years and that the content of the contract has stayed status quo, with no major changes for the exception of yearly negotiated wage increases since the Union was formed.

C.) Financial Reports

A draft of a financial report was presented to Council for review.

D.) Local Share Account grant

Mrs. Gnagey reported that LSA grants are available ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 for high priority issues such as storm drains and mapping of the same. Mrs. Gnagey suggested applying for grant.

LSA grant funds are derived from Casino gambling fees.

E.) Community Foundation for the Alleghenies Grant Funds

Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to add this topic to the Agenda. Mrs. Knieriem seconded. Motion passed.

Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to apply for a \$7,500.00 grant to replace Christmas Holiday decorations.

Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed. Rather than utilize ASPIRE to write the grant, the Borough Secretary was instructed to complete the grant application before the August 30, 2024 deadline.

F.) Security cameras

Mayor Smith reported that he is awaiting design and quotes for security cameras for the pavilion, Little League concession stand and the playground.

G.) Rental License Ordinance

No report was given.

H.) Bed & Breakfast establishments

Solicitor Valentine reported that Bed & Breakfast establishments are not related to the Rental License Ordinance.

I.) Ordinance #435 – Noise Ordinance (chickens, farm animals)

A draft ordinance regarding chickens was presented for Council review.

J.) Police ride a longs

It was reported that police ride a longs are permitted by the insurance company as long as they are not on a regular basis and there must be a signed hold harmless document on file.

K.) Side by Side vehicle ordinance

A draft ordinance was presented for Council review.

L.) Uptown cameras

No report was given.

M.) Community Yard Sale

Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to hold a Community Yard Sale, August 3, 2024 and publicize via the Borough Facebook page and the Borough website. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed. Additional information on the event will be made available.

N.) Clean up Day

Mr. Baer was asked to contact Harbaugh Trucking to provide a cost estimate for a clean up day. Mr. Baer will report at the July meeting.

O.) Uptown park trash cans

Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to purchase two trash cans for the uptown park at a cost of \$741.92 each. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed. Solicitor Valentine will purchase a can as a donation.

P.) Car Cruise

Mr. Smith made the motion to extend the July 7 car cruise to upper Center St. to the Post Office per a request made by Mrs. Melissa Blocher. Mr. Baker seconded. Motion passed.

**GOALS FOR 2024**

Emergency Access Road Meyers Ave.

No report was given.

Flood Control rip rap

Mr. Baker reported that the Corp of Engineers completed a site visit regarding the flood damage to the Flood Control rip rap. The funding is a seven step process and the Corp will recommend that the Borough be considered as a recipient. It was reported that seven towns applied for the funding.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

There were no additional items to be discussed.

Mrs. Joyce Nalley reported the activities for the 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration

- Appalachian wagon train will pass through Meyersdale on June 18, 2024.
- Car Cruise to be held on July 7, 2024 beginning at 6 PM. There will be a three mile loop.
- Items are being collected for a time capsule.
- Library is selling a book. The cost is \$25.00.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There was no executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 P.M. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.



Patricia C. Ackerman  
Borough Secretary



# Tableland Services, Inc.

## Community Action Partnership for Somerset County

Voice: 814.445.9628  
800.452.0148  
Fax: 814.443.3690

[www.tableland.org](http://www.tableland.org)

535 E Main Street  
Somerset, PA 15501

RE: Youth Employment and Training Program

Tableland Services places young adults into paid work experiences for 30 hours per week at individual businesses/worksites. The business/worksites has the option of placing the young adult on their payroll for any hours over the 30. The business/worksites may also pay above the hourly wage that Tableland pays.

*Amy Kimmel*

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RECEIVED

JUN 12 2024

MEYERSDALE BOROUGH  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ben - 30 hours @ \$10.00  
Dylan - 30 hours @ \$9.00

