

Approved minutes – Regular Meeting 11/11/2025

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

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

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

The regular monthly meeting of the Meyersdale Borough Council was called to order by President Irwin, November 11, 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 was absent. Olivia Baker, Junior Council Member, Mr. Reiber, Street Foreman, OIC Craig and Council Member Elect Mr. Jeffery Christner and Mr. Robert Munion were also present.

Mrs. Mardiann Vincent was present to give a report on the Summer Lunch Program. Mrs. Vincent presented a check in the amount of \$2,400.00 to be used for picnic tables in the pavilion at the Paul E. Fuller Park. Mrs. Vincent reported that the Pittsburgh Food Bank gives grant funding up to \$1,500.00 that can be used at food vendor sites for numerous things, such as purchasing of appliances. Mrs. Vincent is willing to work with the Borough to prepare a grant application together in the Spring of 2026.

**JUNIOR COUNCIL REPORT:**

Miss Baker presented a report of activities at the school. She left the meeting at approximately 7:04 PM

**MINUTES:**

Mr. Baker made the motion to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2025 Regular Meeting as presented. 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. Baer seconded. Motion passed.

• **USED SNOW THROWER**

Mr. Reiber reported that Mountain Dental will donate the used snow thrower to Mr. Christner. The Secretary was asked to send a thank you letter.

• **ELECTRICITY PROVIDER PRICING**

A poll of Council was taken and it was a unanimous decision to keep the electric supplier as is. The Secretary was asked to notify Mr. Haines of their decision.

• **PAVING COST OVERAGE FROM 2024 CONTRACT**

Mr. Smith made the motion to pay ½ of the overage and note on the check as full and final payment. Mrs. Gnagey seconded. Motion passed. Solicitor Valentine was to prepare a cover letter to be mailed with the check.

• **OCCUPATION TAX UPDATE**

A Special Meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2025 to discuss the proposed Ordinance regarding the Occupation tax.

**GUESTS:**

A.) No other guests were present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

No report was given.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

No report was given.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:**

No report was given.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

No report was given.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Solicitor Valentine reported on the following:

- The RFP for the ADA restroom project was given to Council for review. Decisions regarding the type of fixtures and other amenities should be discussed by Council. This item will remain on the Agenda for the December 2025 meeting.
- Mrs. Gnagey met with the School Board regarding forgiveness of taxes on the 326 Salisbury St. property. ~~The School is willing to grant approval.~~ It was reported that the County does not have a problem forgiving the taxes owed as well.
- Mr. Baer made the motion to put the following properties for sale via the bidding process: 326 Salisbury St. empty lot, 618 Grant St. empty lot, the former Mahler property empty lot and two of three empty lots at 352 Meyers Avenue. Mr. Baker seconded. Motion passed. One of the 352 Meyers Avenue lots is where the emergency access road is located. Solicitor Valentine suggested that the buyer of the 352 Meyers Avenue properties would be responsible to pay the full cost of subdivision and surveying of the property. Mrs. Gnagey suggested that the 326 empty lot map be circled or highlighted to eliminate confusion to prospective buyers.
- The 221 Salisbury St. property that sustained a fire loss was discussed. Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to grant Solicitor Valentine permission to file a conservatorship to get the legal process going for the Borough to take over the property should the owner not respond to certified mailings. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed. Mrs. Gnagey amended the motion to add to grant Solicitor Valentine permission to move forward with the necessary legal action as soon and as rapidly as possible. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

SEE  
MINUTES  
12/9/2025  
FOR  
CORRECTION  
JCA

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

No report was given.

\* OIC Craig left the meeting at 7:36 P.M.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### Municipal Authority

Mr. Brian Witherite was present to thank Council for filling the vacancy on the MMA Board so quickly. The MMA Board is working on a grant with no matching funds for a vehicle. The Board is seeking a part-time office worker to assist the Office Manager. They had advertised on their website, newspaper and social media. An RFP for the Sherman Street project has been let. The project is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2026. A detailed report will be given at the December 2025 meeting.

Mr. Witherite presented his letter of interest to be reappointed to the MMA Board. The appointment will be made at the January 5, 2026 Reorganization Meeting of Council. The Secretary will advertise the vacancy sometime in December.

### Street Foreman

Mayor Smith gave Mr. Reiber permission to have studs placed in the police vehicle tires for the winter.

Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to grant Mr. Doug Horne, Shop instructor at MAHS, permission to purchase supplies to build the picnic tables for the pavilion using the Borough charge account at Salisbury Builders, with the total cost not to exceed \$1,500.00. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Smith made the motion to grant Solicitor Valentine permission to prepare a hold harmless agreement between Karen and Norman Gnagey and the Borough for the use of scaffolding owned by the Gnagey's. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed with Mrs. Gnagey abstaining. (See attached abstention memorandum). The scaffolding will be used to assist with the installation of the new basketball backboards.

### Meyersdale Area Merchants Association

Mrs. Denise Gehringer was present to provide a report on Light up Night and Small Business Saturday to be held on November 29, 2025. MAMA will be discussing the Farmers Market at the January 2026 meeting. Solicitor Valentine reported that he has found a way to get around the renovating of the Lady Bird Johnson billboard located in Summit Township. No details were provided.

### Public Library

No report was given.

### Meyersdale Community Events Committee

Mr. Jeff Christner reported that a meeting will be held on November 19, 2025 at the Elks Club to discuss the upcoming Light up Night. Plans are to utilize the community center gym for children to meet Santa.

Mayor Smith reported that the Fire Department will be putting up the Christmas lights before Small Business Saturday and Light up Night.

### Meyersdale Renaissance Committee

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

No report was given.

Streets/Buildings

More information will be requested from Somerset County on the UCC Survey.

Flood Control

Solicitor Valentine read a text message from Senator Stefano regarding the change of scope for the Flood control. DCED is reluctant about making changes.

It was suggested that Council look into other grant options. Mrs. Gnagey was asked to research other grant avenues and report back at the December 2025 meeting.

Farmer's Market

No report was given.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A.) Zoning Ordinance Review

This item was tabled until after the New Year. President Irwin suggested holding a Special Meeting sometime in January to discuss only zoning issues.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A.) Announcements

There were no announcements.

B.) Meyersdale American Legion Auxiliary Fundraiser

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to purchase a banner in the amount of \$125.00 to honor the current police officers and those officers who have passed. Mrs. Gnagey seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Ackerman was asked to take the lead on this project.

C.) Water fountain for Community Center

Mr. Smith made the motion to acquire other quotes for the installation. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Smith was asked to take the lead on this project.

D.) Mr. Reiber was given permission to have an outside light installed at the entrances to the Community Center.

It was reported that the water fountain at the Monument has been shut off for the winter. The fountain is needing to be repainted at some point.

F.) Mr. Ackerman reported that the Meyersdale School had a wonderful program for area Veterans.

G.) Mr. Christner thanked everyone for their vote and that he is looking forward to working with everyone on Council.

**GOALS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR**

Flood Control rip rap – No discussion

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

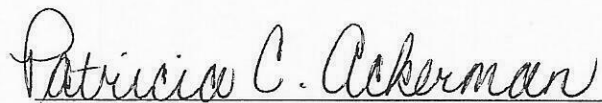
There were no additional items to be discussed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There was no executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM. Mr. Baker seconded. Motion passed.



Patricia C. Ackerman  
Borough Secretary

**Conflict of Interest  
Abstention Memorandum**

TO: Borough Secretary, Patricia C. Ackerman  
Meyersdale Borough, Somerset County, Pennsylvania

FROM: Haren Gnagey, council member

DATE: 11/11/25

Pursuant to Pennsylvania's "Public Official and Employee Ethics Law" (65 PA CSA 1101 et seq), I hereby declare that I am required to abstain regarding the following issue/motion:

I am donating use of equipment

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My conflict/reason for abstaining is as follows:

my interest

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Haren Gnagey  
Signature

NOTE: Section 1103 (J) requires the following procedure:

"Any public official or public employee, who in the discharge of his official duties, would be required to vote on a matter that would result in a conflict of interest shall abstain from voting and, prior to the vote being taken, publicly announce and disclose the nature of his interest as a public record in a written memorandum filed with the person responsible for recording the minutes for the meeting at which the vote is taken...."

(Please note that State Ethics Commission required a public official to complete a form every time he has a conflict of interest).

**MEYERSDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
 Regular Meeting \_\_\_\_\_ Special Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

**GUEST SIGN IN**

PLEASE PRINT

	NAME	ADDRESS	TOPIC
1	Mardi Vincent	338 Main St Middl	SFSF
2	Denise Gehring	106 Meyers Ave	
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**GUESTS MUST STAND WHILE SPEAKING**