

Approved minutes – Regular Meeting 9/10/2024

Approved minutes – Special Meeting _____

Approved minutes – Special/Workshop Meeting _____

Regular Meeting
September 10, 2024
7:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the Meyersdale Borough Council was called to order by President Irwin, September 10, 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. Mr. Tim Pritts, Police Lieutenant was absent.

MINUTES:

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to approve the August 13, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Baker 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.

2025 Proposed Budget

Mr. Baer made the motion to adopt the 2025 Proposed Budget and authorize to advertise for 10 days as required. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

Bank Accounts

Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to change select checking accounts at First National Bank to higher interest bearing money market accounts at First National Bank. (See attached spreadsheet) Mr. Baker seconded. Motion passed.

Transfer funds from Money Market Account to the General Fund Checking Account

Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to authorize the Borough Secretary to make transfers of \$50,000.00 from the General Fund Money Market Account at Somerset Trust to the General Fund Checking Account at First National Bank anytime the balance in the General Fund Checking account reaches \$20,000.00. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.

GUESTS:

A.) Mrs. Donna Wilhelm was present to ask permission to rent the gymnasium to hold an exercise class. The fee for the 6 week program will be \$40 per person, with the first class being no charge. She reported that she will have the proper insurance and will have each participant sign a liability waiver. For the future, she has plans on holding a chair exercise class for the elderly.

Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to grant Mrs. Wilhelm permission to hold the class. Mrs. Gnagey seconded. Motion passed.

Mrs. Wilhelm will pay the standard \$15.00 per hour for the use of the gym. The class will be held every Monday from 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM beginning October 7, 2024.

B.) PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Arthur Darnell was present to introduce Pastor Brandon Risinger, the new Pastor of the Apostolic Church. Mr. Darnell and Pastor Risinger were asked to attend the October 3, 2024 Committee Meetings to discuss the Apostolic school and the property on Main Street.

Mr. Shawn Hostetler was present to report there were a few things that need to be wrapped up with the network that would take possibly one hour to complete. The wireless connections and passwords have been provided for the police department, borough office and guests for wi-fi use.

Mr. Michael Rhoten was present to ask that Council consider revisiting the zoning ordinance and focus on the ability to add services that are currently not allowed in areas of the town.

Mrs. Wendy Kelly was present to voice her concerns with the implementation of a short term rental Ordinance for Air B & B establishments. There isn't a problem with these establishments to date, and it was her opinion that action should be tabled until there is an issue.

Mrs. Kelly also would like to see the audience be able to comment on all items on the Agenda and not just during public comment.

Mr. Jeff Christner presented a quote for a volleyball system in the amount of \$3,720.00 and a cleaning applicator in the amount of \$278.12 for the gymnasium. Mr. Ackerman made the motion to purchase the items. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed. The Building Renovation funds will be used to pay for the items.

Mr. Steve Spochart was present with regard to the retaining wall on Grant St., as well as other items. Solicitor Valentine reported that the wall was built in the 1930's and it has been difficult to track if the Borough or PennDOT actually owns the wall. The wall needs repaired or replaced. It was suggested that Senators and PA Representatives be contacted to try to assist with the attempt to get PennDOT to work with the Borough on a resolution. Mr. Spochart suggested that if an attempt with PennDOT is not successful, the Borough could consider making application for grants and encompass the wall in with another project such as a sidewalk project.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

No report was given.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Smith presented a calls for service report. Fines totaled \$233.63 for the month.

The Police Officer handbook is almost complete.

Mayor Smith reported that Salisbury Borough has approached him regarding purchasing police protection from Meyersdale Borough.

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to grant the Mayor and the President of Council permission to meet with Salisbury Borough officials to discuss the possibility. Mr. Baer seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ackerman – Yes; Mr. Baer – Yes; Mr. Baker – Yes; Mrs. Gnagey – Yes; Mr. Irwin – Yes; Mrs. Knieriem – Yes; Mr. Smith – Yes. Motion passed.

JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER:

No report given during summer break.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:

Mr. Kevin Broadwater was present regarding the adoption of the Emergency Operation Plan.

Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to adopt the Emergency Operation Plan. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

Stipend for Emergency Management Coordinator

Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to allocate a \$1,000.00 stipend to Mr. Broadwater for his position as the Emergency Management Coordinator. Mrs. Gnagey seconded. Motion passed.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

No report was given.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Valentine reported on the following:

- 4 Way Stop at 8th Ave. and Salisbury St.
Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to pass resolution #9-2024. Mr. Baker seconded. Motion passed.
- A draft job description will be distributed to Council for review. This item will be discussed at the October 3, 2024 Personnel Committee Meeting.
After reviewed, the document will be presented to the Non Uniform Union representative to pass along to the union members.
- ATV signage
Mr. Smith made the motion to grant Solicitor permission to make application to DCNR for the signs needed for ATV/UTV traffic. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed. There will need to be a sign at every road that intersects with a State Highway. There is approximately 96 total signs needed. It is possible that DCNR will provide them at no cost to the Borough.
- The agreements are prepared pertaining to Alaska St. Solicitor Valentine will meet with the property owners. Mr. Ackerman made the motion to proceed with the subdivision plan and to authorize the President of Council to sign any and all documents. Mr. Baer seconded. Motion passed.
- The Agenda item regarding Ordinance #435 was to be removed.
- A Social Media Policy would be discussed at the October 3, 2024 Committee meeting.
- Solicitor suggested that the Borough should not follow the sample ordinance from Confluence regarding Air B & B establishments. He recommends looking at the Zoning Ordinance to make changes which would make uses more effective to the bicycle trail. This item would be discussed at the October 3, 2024 Committee meeting.
- Community Center Rental was discussed. All renters using the community center for a business or fundraising event that is open to the general public will require a proof of insurance certificate with the Borough as being an additional insured. Solicitor Valentine will prepare a waiver form.
Any rentals for parties will not need to comply.
- Solicitor is completing additional research regarding a height ordinance. Solicitor Valentine will contact the hospital for additional information.
- It has been found that there is \$982.42 in taxes owed against the 326 Salisbury Street property.
Mr. Baker made the motion to grant Solicitor Valentine permission to proceed with a settlement agreement with the owner, work with the Meyersdale Area School District on tax forgiveness and to authorize the President of Council to sign any documents deemed necessary. Mr. Smith seconded.

Motion passed. If the property is acquired, the Borough would apply to the County for assistance with the demolition.

- Clay Street property
Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to authorize Mr. Spochart to look into having the property torn down. Mr. Gnagey seconded. Motion passed.
- The Vietnam/Korean Memorial subdivision plan is scheduled to go before the School Board. Once approved by the School Board, the plan will be forwarded to the County for approval. Mr. Smith made the motion to authorize the President of Council to sign any and all documents associated with the subdivision plan. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.
- Permission will need to be obtained from Penelec to place a traffic mirror at 235 Dale Street. Solicitor Valentine was asked to contact Penelec.
- A letter from MOPEC was received. Delinquencies in reporting have been corrected.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

No report was given.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Municipal Authority

A letter was sent to Summit Township asking them to make a recommendation for the upcoming appointment to the Meyersdale Municipal Authority. The appointment will be made in January 2025. The opening is for a resident of Summit Township.

Mr. Baker reported that the water level is low. The Municipal Authority is asking that customers not use water unnecessarily.

Street Foreman

Mr. Reiber reported that the Prison Inmates painted the curbs and some parking spaces. A quote has not been received for the concession stand repairs.

Meyersdale Area Merchants Association

Mr. Brian Berkebile was present to report that the meetings have been changed to the third Tuesday of each month at 9 AM. The guest speakers for the next meeting will be Erin Howsare and Rebecca Mull.

Public Library

There was no report given.

Meyersdale Community Events Committee

Mrs. Knieriem reported the following schedule of activities:

September 15, 2024 – Country Express will entertain at the park from 4 PM – 7 PM

A check for \$500.00 will be needed as well as barricades for the event.

October 17, 2024 – Bon Fire

Boxes are needed for this event.

October 19, 2024 – 150th Anniversary Event

The Community Choir will perform, tour of churches, and the day of activities will conclude at 6 PM with a dinner at the Firehall and performance by Keith Buterbaugh and other local talent.

Regular Meeting - September 10, 2024

Meyersdale Renaissance

No report was given.

COUNCIL MEMBERS – STANDING COMMITTEES

Police/Public Safety Committee

Mayor Smith reported that he pulled the police schedules and does not want any further public discussion regarding the police announced by anyone, including the Police Committee.

Personnel

No report was given.

Finance

No report was given.

Refuse

No report was given.

Streets/Buildings

Cost overrun on paving project. No motion was made to pay the overrun costs.

For future projects all bidders will be required to do an onsite visit prior to bidding and if the successful bidder is at risk of running over, it will be required that the Borough be notified.

Flood Control

No report was given.

Farmer's Market

No report was given.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A.) Patrolman police agreement/handbook

Mayor Smith will have this completed.

B.) Ambulance

Mrs. Gnagey reported that there will be a meeting held on September 16, 2024. She is hopeful that there will be a draft ordinance for review for the October meeting.

F.) Vietnam/Korea Memorial subdivision

No additional discussion.

G.) Job Descriptions

No additional discussion.

H.) COVID ARPA funds

A breakdown of the amount to be allocated for each category will be discussed at the

October 3, 2024 Committee meeting.

I.) Cleanup Day

Mr. Chris Harbaugh, Harbaugh Trucking will supply two dumpsters for a cleanup day at a rate of \$500.00 each.

Mr. Baer made the motion to hold a cleanup day on October 11, 2024 from 8 AM – 2 PM or until the dumpsters are full. Mr. Baker seconded. Motion passed. The Borough shed lot will be used as the drop off location. Proof of residency will be required.

J.) Quote to change electrical outlets on decorative lamp posts

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to accept the quote from Whitey's Electric in the amount of \$2,699.99 to change the electrical outlets on the decorative lamp posts. Mr. Baer seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

A.) Announcements

There were no announcements.

B.) Violation – Trimming trees in uptown park

An individual has been seen trimming trees in the uptown park without permission. Mr. Baker made the motion to instruct Solicitor Valentine to write the individual a letter. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed.

C.) Amusement Tax Devices (Gaming Machines)

It was reported that gaming machines have been popping up in several businesses in the Borough. Solicitor Valentine suggested addressing this issue with changes to the Zoning Ordinance. After some discussion, this item will be discussed at the October 3, 2024 Committee Meeting.

D.) Memorial Park Bench – Kristen Martin

Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to grant permission for a park bench to be placed in the uptown park in honor of Kristen Martin. Mrs. Gnagey seconded. Motion passed.

The cost for a matching bench was estimated at \$2,280.00 plus the cost of a cement platform. Mrs. Knieriem will work with the donor on the details.

GOALS FOR 2024

Emergency Access Road Meyers Ave.

Mr. Ackerman made the motion to accept a quote from Keystone Lime Company in the amount of \$10,854.00 to build an asphalt access road on Line Street to Meyers Ave. and to pay for the project with COVID grant funds. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed. The Street Crew will assist by installing the road base.

Flood Control rip rap

No report was given.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

There were no additional items to be discussed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no executive session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Knieriem made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M. Mr. Ackerman seconded. Motion passed.



Patricia C. Ackerman
Borough Secretary

MEYERSDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
 Regular Meeting 9/10/2024 Special Meeting _____

GUEST SIGN IN

PLEASE PRINT

	NAME	ADDRESS	TOPIC
1	Jeff Christner	Meyersdale	
2	Ruth & Eugene Mishler		
3	STEVE SPOCKAET	RASC	
4	Dritta Mitchell		Musical Boosters
5	Mike Rhoten		Bike Shop zoning
6	Brian Benkebile		
7	Don White	Meyersdale	Excuse class Rental
8	Wendy Tom Kelly		
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GUESTS MUST STAND WHILE SPEAKING

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
FUNDS INVESTMENT PROPOSAL

ACCOUNT NAME	CURRENT INTEREST RATE	CONVERSION OPTION	PROPOSED NEW INTEREST RATE	NOTES
General Fund CHECKING	0.50%	Convert to a preferred interest checking with no transaction limits	1.50%	
Payroll Account Checking	0.00%	Convert to a preferred interest checking with no transaction limits	1.50%	
Pavilion Checking	0.50%	Convert to a preferred interest checking with no transaction limits	1.50%	
Frank Lucente Fund Checking	0.50%	Convert to a preferred interest checking with no transaction limits	1.50%	
Farmers Market checking	0.50%	Convert to a preferred interest checking with no transaction limits	1.50%	
Gas Well Checking	0.50%	Convert to a preferred interest checking with no transaction limits	1.50%	
Highway Aid Checking	0.50%	Convert to a money market account with a 6 transaction per month limit	4.00%	
Flood Control Checking	0.50%	Convert to a money market account with a 6 transaction per month limit	4.00%	
Harry Leckemby Checking	0.50%	Convert to a money market account with a 6 transaction per month limit	4.00%	
Fireworks Fund Checking	0.50%	Convert to a money market account with a 6 transaction per month limit	4.00%	
General Fund Contingency Reserve	0.50%	Convert to a money market account with a 6 transaction per month limit	4.00%	

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
FUNDS INVESTMENT PROPOSAL

ACCOUNT NAME	CURRENT INTEREST RATE	CONVERSION OPTION	PROPOSED NEW INTEREST RATE	NOTES
Local Services Tax Checking	0.50%	Convert to a money market account with a 6 transaction per month limit	4.00%	
Community Center Checking	0.50%	Convert to a money market account with a 6 transaction per month limit	4.00%	
Grant Funds Checking	0.00%	Convert to a money market account with a 6 transaction per month limit	4.00%	Unsure if we can have these grant funds in an interest bearing account.
Fire Loss Checking	0.00%	No change	0.00%	No change to low fund balance

D ACCOUNT CHANGES FOR HIGHER INTEREST YIELD

RESOLUTION 9-2024

BOROUGH OF
MEYERSDALE

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MEYERSDALE ESTABLISHING A FOUR WAY STOP AND FOUR WAY STOP SIGNS AT THE INTERSECTION OF EIGHTH AVENUE AND SALISBURY STREET

WHEREAS, the Borough of Meyersdale has laid out EIGHTH Avenue and Salisbury Street as intersecting two two-way streets.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Meyersdale has received requests from residents to establish a four way stop and four way stop signs at the intersection of EIGHTH Avenue and Salisbury Street.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Meyersdale has received complaints from Borough residents that the speeds on Salisbury Street at the intersection of EIGHTH Avenue necessitates establishing a four way stop and four way stop signs and is a safety issue.

WHEREAS, the Borough of Meyersdale Ordains and Enacts the following:

Establish a four way stop and four way stop signs at the intersection of EIGHTH Avenue and Salisbury Street

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Meyersdale and it is HEREBY RESOLVED AND ENACTED by authority of the same:

RESOLVED AND ENACTED this 10TH day of SEPTEMBER, 2024.

ATTEST:

Patricia C. Ackerman

Borough Secretary

Jeffery DDS

President of Council

APPROVED, this 10TH day of SEPTEMBER, 2024.

[Signature], Mayor

