

Approved minutes – Regular Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

Approved minutes – Special Meeting 9/24/2024

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

Special Meeting  
September 24, 2024  
7:00 PM

A Special Meeting of the Meyersdale Borough Council was called to order by President Irwin, September 24, 2024 at 7:00 PM.

Mr. Ackerman, Mr. Baer, Mr. Baker, Mrs. Gnagey, Mr. Irwin, Mrs. Knieriem, Mr. Smith, and Mayor Smith were present. Solicitor Valentine was present via phone. Mr. Brion Reiber was also present.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss personnel and police matters.

**GUESTS:**

Mr. Jeff Christner was present to ask Council about the existing Christmas wreath decorations. Due to the fact that this item was not included on the Agenda for the meeting, it was to be placed on the Agenda for the October 3, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

**ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. Personnel – Benjamin Reiber

Mr. Brion Reiber was present to report that Benjamin Reiber, Tableland Employee, has completed the program and his allotted time has ended with Tableland. Mr. Reiber asked if Council would consider letting Benjamin work until the end of October to assist with work that must be completed before winter.

Mrs. Gnagey had the following concerns:

1. Would this constitute the need to advertise the position as a new hire.
2. Concern regarding being perceived by someone as nepotism.
3. Was there an MOU from the union.
4. What projects will be completed.

After some discussion and per recommendation from Solicitor Valentine Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to advertise for a temporary seasonal worker at a rate of \$12.00 per hour, 30 hours per week for a period up to 8 weeks and to establish the scope of work as being mowing, installing signs, preparing equipment for winter and any and all other tasks as determined by the Street Foreman. Mr. Smith seconded. Motion passed. The successful candidate will be required to have a valid driver's license.

The Secretary was asked to advertise as required.

2. Police – Salisbury Police Protection

Mayor Smith reported that he and President Irwin met with the President and the Mayor of Salisbury Borough Council regarding the possibility of Meyersdale Borough Police providing police protection to Salisbury. Salisbury Borough was unsure of the number of hours that they could afford, but potentially would agree to reimbursement to Meyersdale Borough at a rate of \$60.00 per hour.

Mayor Smith is confident that this arrangement could work with two police officers working the same shift. One officer would be in Meyersdale and the other at Salisbury.

After a poll of the Council Members, it was agreed to support the Mayor and work with Salisbury on a proposal.

Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to allow the President of Council and the Mayor to continue dialogue with Salisbury Borough potentially providing an inter-municipal agreement at the rate of \$60.00 per hour. Mrs. Knieriem 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.

3. Correspondence from DEP regarding burning

Solicitor Valentine reported that a letter from DEP was received regarding burning. The letter was sent out to all locations that are in low pressure areas and where people have respiratory issues. Burning of leaves has become an issue with DEP. In the letter there was also an indication that burning has been taking place on the grounds where debris is deposited (brush, tree trimmings, etc.). It was pointed out that the area in question is owned by the Meyersdale Municipal Authority.

Solicitor Valentine indicated that permits are required to burn and that because this area is in a flood plain it may be difficult to obtain a permit. It was decided that this item should be placed on the Agenda for the October 3, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mrs. Gnagey made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 P.M. Mr. Baker seconded. Motion passed.



Patricia C. Ackerman  
Borough Secretary