

Myerstown Borough Council – Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Myerstown Borough Council was held on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room at the Myerstown Community Center, the President being in the chair and the Deputy Secretary being present.

Present were: President Bryan L. Rittle, Vice President Park W. Haverstick, II, President Pro Tem Ronald L. Ream, Councilmembers Stacey A. Hackman, Dana Reich, Kathy E. Yang, and Samuel R. Moyer, Mayor Dane W. Bicher, Code Enforcement Officer John C. Neely, Treasurer Jennifer L. Blatt, Solicitor Amy B. Leonard, Deputy Secretary Lisa A. Brubaker, and Assistant Manager Barry A. Ludwig.

The President opened the meeting at 6:34 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

President Rittle announced an Executive Session was held on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, for personnel matters.

Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Ronald L. Ream seconded, to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on February 8, 2022. Motion unanimously carried.

The President opened the floor for citizens' and visitors' comments.

Joel Zinn was present to discuss the Lillian I. Behney Heritage Center. He showed several artifacts brought in for the center. He provided an update. The group understands they must bring any purchase requests to the Borough for approval since the Borough holds the funds from the trust. He asked about access to the building and room. Council stated access can be worked out, but that will be discussed at a later date.

Resolution 2022-14 was presented to Council recognizing the Distinguished Service of Gloria R. Ebling. President Rittle read the Resolution honoring Gloria R. Ebling for her years of service to the Borough. Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Dana Reich seconded, to approve Resolution 2022-14 – Distinguished Service. Motion unanimously carried.

Christopher Cap from the Pennsylvania Borough Association was present to present Gloria R. Ebling with a plaque for her distinguished years of service. He stated it was an honor to be here to help honor Gloria R. Ebling for her many years of service. He thanked her for her dedication and commitment to the community. He read the plaque and presented it to Gloria R. Ebling. Gloria R. Ebling stated it has been a privilege to serve the Borough and hopes she has brought some good to the Borough. She appreciates everyone she has served with, and to the new members, there will be challenges, but accept them, and you just keep going.

Stacey A. Hackman motioned, and Kathy Yang seconded, to approve the payment of bills as submitted. Motion unanimously carried.

Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Dana Reich seconded, to accept the Treasurer's Report for February 2022 as submitted and have it placed on file for audit. Motion unanimously carried.

The following organizational reports were presented to Council for review and discussion:
Myerstown Vitality Partnership, Water Authority, and Isaac Meier Homestead Committee.

The following official's reports were presented to Council for review and discussion:
Mayor's Report, Code Enforcement and Zoning Report, Solicitor's Report, and Assistant Manager's Report.

The following communications were received; thank you note from Gale Edwards; thank you note from Donna LaRue.

Resolution 2022-15 was presented to Council for Appointment to Various Boards and Commissions. Dana Reich motioned, and Kathy Yang seconded, to approve Resolution 2022-15. Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 2022-16 was presented to Council for Application for County Aid. Ronald L. Ream motioned, and Stacey A. Hackman seconded, to approve Resolution 2022-16. Motion unanimously carried.

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Council discussed a request to place information for an Alzheimer Group on the Borough website. The Borough has not placed individual group information on the website. Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Dana Reich seconded, to deny the request to place information from an Alzheimer Group on the Borough website.

Council discussed a request from MVP (Myerstown Vitality Partnership) for permission to park a food truck on Main Avenue for an event at Main Street Mercantile. Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Ronald L. Ream seconded, to approve the request from the MVP to park a food truck on Main Avenue for an event at Main Street Mercantile on April 23, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed a request from the Legion Baseball Association to use the Legion Field. Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Stacey A. Hackman seconded, to approve the request from the Legion Baseball Association to use the Legion Field from April 1 to August 1, 2022, with the stipulation of no field use until after 1:00 p.m. on April 9, 2022/April 16, 2022. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed the Use of Facility Request from the Myerstown Soccer Club. Dana Reich motioned, and Ronald L. Ream seconded, to approve the Use of Facility Request from the Myerstown Soccer Club to use the gymnasium on March 11, 2022, contingent upon receipt of the Use of Facility forms. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed the request from the Myerstown Church of the Brethren. Ronald L. Ream motioned, and Kathy Yang seconded, to approve the request from the Myerstown Church of the Brethren to hold their Easter Sunrise Service at the Pond area on Sunday, April 17, 2022 at 7:00 a.m. and waive any fees. Motion unanimously carried.

The Solicitor reviewed the information for the Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement. Council will need to approve an ordinance; she provided a draft ordinance. A public hearing will need to be held prior to the ordinance being adopted. Dana Reich motioned, and Stacey A. Hackman seconded, to approve the advertisement of the Ordinance and Public Hearing for the April Council meeting for the Comcast Franchise Agreement. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed the grant funding workshop being held by Senator Christopher Gebhard. Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Dana Reich seconded, to approve the attendance of staff and Borough Officials to the grant funding workshop being held by Senator Christopher Gebhard on April 12, 2022. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed an amendment to the Borough Zoning. The Solicitor reviewed the process. Ronald L. Ream motioned, and Park W. Haverstick, II seconded, to authorize the Solicitor to draft an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. Motion unanimously carried.

The Solicitor discussed the request from Steve Hansen for an exemption of the noise requirements that are imposed from the Liquor Control Board. The Borough must petition the Liquor Control Board for that exemption not Mr. Hansen. Part of the petition is that the Borough will impose their own noise ordinance rather than the Liquor Codes regulations. She has drafted a letter to Mr. Hansen but wanted to discuss it before the letter is sent. The Solicitor reviewed the letter. Enforcement was discussed. Ronald L. Ream motioned, and Stacey A. Hackman seconded, to authorize the Solicitor to send the letter to Steve Hansen. 6 Aye's – Park W. Haverstick, II, Ronald L. Ream, Stacey A. Hackman, Kathy Yang, Dana Reich, and Samuel R. Moyer – 1 Nye – Bryan L. Rittle – Motion carried.

Council discussed the Tosco Property. Zoning was discussed. Solicitor Leonard stated if this is a zoning issue it has to go to the zoning officer to issue an enforcement notice. The parking lot and curb cut created was discussed. Dana Reich motioned, and Park W. Haverstick, II seconded, to authorize the Solicitor to send a final letter to the property owner requiring the curb cut be restored within 30 days. Motion unanimously carried.

Councilmember Dana Reich exited the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Council recessed the regular meeting and entered Executive Session at 9:01 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Council returned from Executive Session at 9:40 p.m. reconvening the regular session.

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Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Stacey A. Hackman seconded, to approve the improvements request from Mission Church. Motion unanimously carried.

Alexis Kilheffer accepted the Administrative Assistant position. Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Samuel R. Moyer seconded, to hire Alexis Kilheffer to the full-time Administrative Assistant position with an hourly pay rate of \$15.00 an hour plus benefits. Motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Bicher asked a question on a prior Resolution approved on refugees. The Solicitor explained. He stated there is mortar from the building on the front porch area. He suggested the parking downtown be diagonal parking spots.

The President asked if there were any additional comments for the good of the borough. Seeing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Stacey A. Hackman seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa A. Brubaker,
Deputy Secretary