

Myerstown Borough Council – Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 8, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Myerstown Borough Council was held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Room at the Myerstown Community Center, the President being in the chair and the Secretary being present.

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

The President opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Park W. Haverstick, II moved, and Kathy E. Yang seconded, to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on July 11, 2023. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed a land development plan that was submitted for 291 W. Lincoln Avenue. Dan Becker, Jon Forry, and Michael Groff were present for the discussion. A Planning Commission meeting was held on July 24, 2023 to review the plan. The Planning Commission recommended Council approve the plan with conditions. They are here seeking conditional approval from Council. Solicitor Leonard provided an update on the plan and the contingencies. The contingencies were reviewed. Ronald L. Ream motioned, and Nikkole M. Williamson seconded, to approve the Land Development Plan for 291 W. Lincoln Avenue with the following contingencies - Highway Occupancy Permit approved by PennDot, Permitting for the use of on-lot well from DEP, Any outstanding agreements (developer's improvements agreement, and stormwater management operations and maintenance agreement) with the Borough, and Financial security for the site improvements being posted with Lebanon County. Motion unanimously carried.

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

Louann Ludwig – 105 N. Railroad Street – discussed traffic safety concerns and speeding at several locations. She stated Emergency Services people are driving recklessly coming to the fire station for calls. President Rittle stated the Mayor will contact the State Police to give them the areas of concern with speeding. Vice President Haverstick stated the Borough has purchased some digital speed signs. To place stop signs, the borough cannot just put-up signs, we would be required to do a traffic study first. He will inform the Fire Company Chief of the speeding from their members.

Nikkole M. Williamson moved, and Stacey A. Hackman seconded, to approve the payment of bills as submitted by the Treasurer. Motion unanimously carried.

Park W. Haverstick, II moved, and Ronald L. Ream seconded, to accept the July 2023 Treasurer's Report as submitted and have it placed on file for audit. Motion unanimously carried.

The reports from related Boards, Commissions, and Organizations were presented to Council for review and discussion.

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

Communications were reviewed.

Council discussed a proposal from Recycle Local to host recycling sheds or bins on borough properties. Solicitor Leonard will review the contract/agreement before any action is taken.

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Council discussed a resignation letter received from a Recreation Board Member. Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Stacey A. Hackman seconded, to accept with regret the resignation letter from Victoria Laysen, resigning from the Recreation Board. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed an event request from the Myerstown Vitality Partnership. Nikkole M. Williamson motioned, and Samuel R. Moyer seconded, to approve the event request from the Myerstown Vitality Partnership to hold the Annual Fall Fest at the Isaac Meier Homestead on Saturday, October 7, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed the request for Fire Police Assistance for an event. Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Kathy E. Yang seconded, to approve the request from Womelsdorf Borough for Fire Police Assistance for the Annual Ride for Freedom on Sunday, August 27, 2023. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed the enactment of a residential rental licensing ordinance. Park W. Haverstick, II motioned, and Nikkole M. Williamson seconded, to authorize the Borough Solicitor to advertise a residential rental licensing ordinance for enactment at the September 12, 2023 Council meeting. 6 – Aye – 1 – Nay – Kathy E. Yang. Motion carried.

Council discussed the enactment of a short-term rental ordinance. Nikkole M. Williamson motioned, and Samuel R. Moyer seconded, to authorize the Borough Solicitor to advertise a short-term rental ordinance for enactment at the October 10, 2023 Council meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

Samuel R. Moyer motioned, and Nikkole M. Williamson seconded, to add an action item to take action on Resolution 2023-09 – Application for the Community Development Block Grant. Motion unanimously carried.

Council discussed the Community Development Block Grant Funding Program. To apply, a Resolution must be approved by Council. Nikkole M. Williamson motioned, and Stacey A. Hackman seconded, to approve Resolution 2023-09 – Application to Community Development Block Grant Program for funding. Motion unanimously carried.

President Rittle recessed the regular meeting and Council entered into Executive Session at 8:07 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

Council returned from Executive Session at 8:24 p.m. reconvening the regular session.

Mayor Bicher discussed the closing of the pool facility and supplies. He discussed items for the 2024 budget.

Vice President Haverstick discussed a conversation with the Keystone Fire Company Chief regarding ARPA Funds.

Council discussed a Zoning Hearing Board decision and the timeframe in which the owner has to comply with the decision.

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

Nikkole M. Williamson moved, and Park W. Haverstick, II seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa A. Brubaker,
Deputy Secretary