

Myerstown, PA
Wednesday, April 30, 2014

President Bryan L. Rittle called the advertised special meeting of the Myerstown Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m., on Wednesday, April 30, 2014. The meeting was held in Borough Council Chambers in the Myerstown Municipal Center, 101 East Washington Avenue, Myerstown, PA 17067.

ROLL CALL:

After the Pledge of Allegiance, a roll call was taken. Present were: President Bryan L. Rittle, Vice President Michael D. Behm, Keith Fox, Barry Lutz, Park W. Haverstick, II, Jeffrey L. Thomas, Mayor Gloria R. Ebling; Manager Christopher J. Moonis and Assistant Secretary Lisa A. Brubaker.

MINUTES:

No minutes of past meetings were presented for approval at this special meeting and no action was taken on any minutes.

CITIZENS' AND VISITORS' COMMENTS:

Council President Bryan L. Rittle asked if there were any comments and if everyone understood why the Council is here.

Ron Ream – 621 S. Railroad Street – asked if this is the first step in eliminating the police force. The Council President explained the Officers are retiring. So the department will not be active at this time, but does not mean the borough is doing away with the department. With the retirement, the Borough is amending the ordinance for the pension benefits. The Settlement Agreement will also need to be executed.

Joann Steffy – 305 S. Broad Street – asked if the Council is actively looking for police officer to hire. The Council President stated not at this time. The study that was completed recommended the Council do not until they look at all the other means to satisfy our department needs, including a look at a regional police force. Our department is not conducive for an officer to want to stay. We are a small town and no room for advancement. Ms. Steffy asked if there have been discussions with other municipalities and are they interested in doing so. The Vice President stated the other municipalities have to be on board with regionalization, but the Council President stated other municipalities are open to discussion.

Dana Reich – 16 E. Mill Ave. – asked about Ordinances. The Council President stated the Borough has a Code Enforcement Officer who does the property maintenance issues and there is a possibility of hiring a part-time inspector.

The Manager stated he has been in contact with the State Police and have been assured the Borough will have adequate coverage that will meet our needs.

BUSINESS:

The Ordinance 822 was prepared for action. The Ordinance 822 – is an Amendment to the Police Pension Plan. The Council President gave a review of the Ordinance. A motion was

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made by Park W. Haverstick, II, seconded by Keith Fox, to approve and adopt the Ordinance 822 Amending to the Police Pension Plan. On a roll call vote: Michael D. Behm – yes; Park W. Haverstick, II – yes; Jeffrey L. Thomas – yes; Barry Lutz – yes; Keith Fox – yes; Bryan L. Rittle – yes. The Council President asked if the Mayor Gloria R. Ebling had any objections, she did not. Motion unanimously carried.

The Settlement Agreement between the two officers and the Borough. The Council President reviewed the agreement. The Council President asked for a motion approving the separation from employment of the police officers. A motion was made by Keith Fox, seconded by Barry Lutz, to acknowledge the retirement of Officer Lois Dahl and Officer Edward Kozicki and approve the separation agreement. On a roll call vote: Michael D. Behm – yes; Park W. Haverstick, II – yes; Jeffrey L. Thomas – yes; Barry Lutz – yes; Keith Fox – yes; Bryan L. Rittle – yes. The Council President asked if the Mayor Gloria R. Ebling had any objections, she did not. Motion unanimously carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Borough Council recessed the regular meeting and entered into Executive Session at 7:23 p.m. to discuss several personnel issues.

Borough Council returned from Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. reconvening the regular session and resumed consideration of and action on the regular meeting agenda.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE BOROUGH:

There were no comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Keith Fox, seconded by Barry Lutz, to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Lisa A. Brubaker
Assistant Secretary

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