

Myerstown, PA  
Tuesday, October 14, 2014

President Bryan L. Rittle called the regular monthly meeting of the Myerstown Borough Council to order at 7:01 p.m., on Tuesday, October 14, 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, Park W. Haverstick, II, Teresa Allwein, Jeffrey L. Thomas, Barry Lutz, Keith Fox, Mayor Gloria R. Ebling; Treasurer Lee C. Smith; Solicitor Frederick S. Wolf; Public Works Department Supervisor David C. Fake; Wastewater Department Supervisor Barry A. Ludwig; Deputy Secretary Lisa A. Brubaker and Manager Christopher J. Moonis.

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Park W. Haverstick, II, seconded by Teresa Allwein, to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the September 9, 2014 Regular Monthly Meeting. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Council President Bryan L. Rittle announced the opening of the Public Hearing to review the Keystone Communities Anchor Building Grant Program at 7:03 p.m. Council President handed the hearing over to Manager Christopher J. Moonis. The Manager stated the purpose of the Hearing is to announce to the public the Borough has submitted a single application to the Pennsylvania Community and Economic Development under the Keystone Communities Program in order to assist in providing funding for an anchor building within the borough boundaries. The application has been filed and we are asking the State to consider funding monies in order to help with an acquisition of a parcel to be created as an anchor building for the community. That anchor building could include municipal operations, additional recreational programs, the development of a business incubator in Myerstown to help incubate new businesses; it could also act as a hub for an economic specialist that would be funded by the State, County, Borough and other Borough's over the years to help assist local business people in growing their businesses within the Myerstown area. A community center could be available within the structure. Other community space for the local public and private civic groups could meet there on a regular basis. We are very hopeful to get the anchor building grant to help us provide these things over the next three years.

With that said, the Manager stated he will take questions first from the members of Council, the Mayor, and then open it up to questions or comments from the public. The Council President asked with the Keystone Communities does the borough have to be designated as a member of the Keystone Community. The Manager stated no, the program was originally designed for communities that were specifically designated as a Keystone Community. We are too small to receive that designation, so under the program guidelines local municipalities that do not meet the overall criteria of the Keystone Community can still apply for programs and still receive funding even though we are not designated a Keystone Community.

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The Council President asked if there are any other questions from Council. If not we will open it to the public if they have any question to the Manager about the Anchor Building Grant. David Fake - 324 W. Main Avenue - asked which building is it, and what is an anchor building. The Manager stated they are targeting the former Myerstown School that would be the primary location but does not have to be the only location. The former school is detailed in the grant. The Council President asked if there are any other questions, if not then they can close the hearing. The Council President closed the hearing at 7:07 p.m. The Council will now continue with the regular meeting.

CITIZENS' AND VISITORS' COMMENTS:

There was no public comment.

REPORTS TO COUNCIL:

The Council received written reports from the Mayor, Department Supervisors, Manager and the Solicitor. Staff was present to provide any additional information on their report and answer any questions from the Council.

The Mayor Gloria R. Ebling presented the report. There were no additional comments.

The State Police Report was reviewed. Sergeant Tice was present. Councilmember Michael D. Behm asked if the State Police are providing more coverage due to the number of incidents. Sergeant Tice stated they are providing more coverage not necessarily due to incident numbers but a collective formula put into their coverage. There were no additional comments.

The Manager gave comments from the Recreation Committee meeting. The creation of the 501(c)3 is still being discussed. The committee will give a list of information for budget.

Wastewater Supervisor Barry A. Ludwig presented the report. He is asking Council for their approval to go ahead and process for Bayer 1 & 2 their discharge permit and also the discharge permit for Tech Cast. A motion was made by Teresa Allwein, seconded by Barry Lutz, to authorize the Wastewater Supervisor to proceed with the Bayer 1 & 2 and Tech Cast Industrial Discharge Permit. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

The Wastewater Supervisor stated the November Sewer Advisory Meeting will be held on November 17, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

The ARRO Engineering report was presented. The Wastewater Supervisor stated the engineer has a comment that the specifications for the Phase I rehabilitation work has been completed. They are not that far yet on the documents. There were no additional comments.

Public Works Supervisor David C. Fake presented the report. Councilmember Jeffrey L. Thomas asked if there will be more of the reflector strips placed on the stop sign posts in the borough. The Public Works Supervisor stated yes there will be more placed. Councilmember Keith Fox asked if the salt is stocked for the winter season. Yes, the salt bay is stocked. Councilmember Teresa Allwein questioned the number for crack sealing, the number is 3,178. There were no additional comments.

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The Solicitor's report was presented. The Borough had adopted a revised Resolution updating the limits. A copy has been forwarded to the partners for their adoption. The contract for the Phase II of the televising has been executed. Property maintenance and property liens were discussed. The Bahney Trust – a meeting was held with the family, and he believes they have put together a proposed plan, once it is ready it will be brought to the Council for review. The Solicitor has a matter of litigation to discuss in executive session. There were no additional comments.

The Manager gave a review of the Borough status. The budgets are being worked on. A budget meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. The Manager will schedule and advertise an additional budget meeting for Wednesday, October 22, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. A meeting was held between the business owners, the Borough and DCED to discuss the Phase II Economic Development Plan from the EIP II Phase. An application has been submitted for the Anchor Building Grant and a grant application for the Circuit Rider Program. If the Council approves he will be submitting a EIP III grant application. The Manager showed a map designating certain properties to enter into a LERTA Program. It is a local program to help defer the cost of improvements to the real estate basically giving the new real estate through the improvements tax incentives by reducing or eliminating the taxes for a certain number of years. The proposed areas for the LERTA Program were reviewed. More details will follow. Pictures of Councilmembers and a group picture will also be taken to place on the website. The new Code Enforcement Officer John Neely was present. Mr. Neely stated it is going well and has had a positive response. He will be presenting a formal report every other month to Council. The paving project was discussed. The paving season has been extended by the State until October 31, 2014. The contractor is requesting an extension to the October 15, 2014 deadline without the penalty. A motion was made by Barry Lutz, seconded by Jeffrey L. Thomas, to grant an extension without the penalty to Pennsy Supply until the October 31, 2014 extension date. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

#### Committee Reports:

The Finance Committee Chairman Michael D. Behm reiterated that the budgeting process has been started.

The Council President stated the Isaac Meier Homestead will be starting to replace their roof.

Treasurer Lee C. Smith prepared and presented Borough Council with the monthly Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Michael D. Behm, seconded by Teresa Allwein, to approve the Treasurer's Report and have it on file for audit. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

The monthly listing of invoices was presented. A question was asked on a \$216.00 check for Pacheco. It was for an overpayment against their lien. A motion was made by Keith Fox, seconded by Teresa Allwein, to approve payment of all invoices as listed. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

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COMMUNICATIONS:

The communications were reviewed. There were no additional comments.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Council President read the list of current Committee and Board vacancies. If anyone is interested in volunteering to serve on any of these boards contact the Borough office.

NEW BUSINESS:

A resignation letter was received from Scott Hentz for his position on the Recreation Committee. A motion was made by Teresa Allwein, seconded by Barry Lutz, to accept with regret the resignation letter from Scott Hentz. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

The Borough received a request from Stacey Schott Hackman to be appointed as a member of the Recreation Committee. A motion was made by Michael D. Behm, seconded by Keith Fox, to approve Resolution 2014-25 to appoint Stacey Schott Hackman as a member to the Recreation Committee. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

The Water Authority has submitted a request to purchase the Borough copier. A motion was made by Park W. Haverstick, II, seconded by Michael D. Behm, to approve the offer of \$300.00 by the Water Authority to purchase the copier. All those in favor: Michael D. Behm – yes; Park W. Haverstick, II – yes; Teresa Allwein – yes; Jeffrey L. Thomas – yes; Barry Lutz – yes; Keith Fox – yes; Bryan L. Rittle – abstained – due to his seat on the Water Authority Board; Motion carried.

A request has been received from Heidelberg Township requesting assistance from the Goodwill Fire Police to assist at their Halloween Parade. A motion was made by Keith Fox, seconded by Teresa Allwein, to approve the request from Heidelberg Township for the Goodwill Fire Police to provide support services for their Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 25, 2014. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 2014-23 – was presented to authorize the filing of a proposal for funds for an anchor building. A motion was made by Michael D. Behm, seconded by Jeffrey L. Thomas, to approve Resolution 2014-23 authorizing the filing of a proposal to obtain funds from the Department of Community and Economic Development for the acquisition and re-development of an anchor building. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

Resolution 2014-24 – was presented to authorize the implementation of circuit rider program. A motion was made by Keith Fox, seconded by Jeffrey L. Thomas, to approve Resolution 2014-24 authorizing the partnership with Lebanon County to implement a Circuit Rider Program to support a multi-municipal economic development initiative. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

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The Manager read a resignation letter submitted by Councilmember Teresa Allwein. A motion was made by Michael D. Behm, seconded by Keith Fox, to accept with regret the resignation letter from Teresa Allwein effective November 11, 2014. All those in favor: Motion unanimously carried.

Tom Houtz from the Myerstown Activities Network was present to discuss the Parade Route due to the work being done on Broad Street. He is asking for any thoughts on an alternative route. Mr. Houtz will attend the November meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Borough Council recessed the regular meeting and entered into Executive Session at 8:01 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

Borough Council returned from Executive Session at 8:53 p.m. reconvening the regular session and resumed consideration of and action on the regular meeting agenda.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE BOROUGH:

The Council asked the Solicitor to send a letter to EASTCO Enterprises concerning their Water and Sewer bill.

There were no additional comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Keith Fox, seconded by Jeffrey L. Thomas, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Lisa A. Brubaker  
Deputy Secretary

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