

A regular meeting of the Myerstown Borough Council was held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium at the Myerstown Community Center, the President being in the chair and the Secretary being present.

Present were: President Bryan L. Rittle, Vice-President Michael D. Behm, President Pro Tem Park W. Haverstick, II, Councilmembers Eric L. Powell, Ronald L. Ream, and Jeffrey L. Thomas, Solicitors Fred Wolf and Amy Leonard, Treasurer Lee C. Smith, Code Enforcement Officer John Neely, Assistant Manager Barry A. Ludwig, and Manager Michael R. McKenna. Absent was Mayor Gloria R. Ebling and Dana Reich.

The President of Council opened the meeting at 6:43 p.m. and asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was held for the passing of Nancy Kirsch, who served on the Planning Commission for the Borough.

Eric L. Powell moved and Park W. Haverstick, II seconded to dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the previous month's meetings with noted amendments, held on April 10, 2018. Motion carried.

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

Jeff Zeller of the Myerstown Activity Network requested approval to hold celebrations for National Night Out on August 7 at the Myerstown Recreation Area. He also requested permission to close Carpenter from 501 to Railroad, and Richland and Railroad Streets from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on November 24th for the Holiday Parade.

Park W. Haverstick, II moved and Michael D. Behm seconded to approve the request from the Myerstown Activity Network to use the Myerstown Recreation Area for their National Night Out Celebration on August 7, 2018, and to use Borough Streets as specified on the provided map for the Myerstown Holiday Parade on November 24, 2018. Motion carried.

Dave Newman of 1 W Richland Ave expressed concern about the intersection at Richland Ave and Railroad St, specifically that the parking lines and stop signs. were too close to the intersection.

Dane Bicher expressed concern about the repaving of Broad Street because of a pot hole at the north end of it. He also expressed concern that trucks from the Elk Plant were driving on that road when they weren't supposed to, causing damage to the roads.

Mark Myer of 26 N Railroad St., an Elder at the Fireplace Christian Fellowship, yielded his time to Brian Stevenson, Pastor at Fireplace Christian Fellowship, from 121 W Carpenter who expressed that they want to be good neighbors, asking if there was anything they had done that was not neighborly. Mark then yielded to Charles Kline, manager of the Bahney House Hotel, who expressed concern that for 8 years there has been false information spread by Borough Council about their activities, specifically that they are a halfway house and have contracts with the County prison to bring prisoners into the hotel. He presented Council with a form that each guest must sign agreeing not to participate in certain behaviors. Mark then took the floor and asked Council to be good neighbors and work with the community to make it a better place.

The following reports were presented to Council and placed on file: Mayor's Report, Assistant Manager's Report, Solicitor's Report and Manager's Report.

Ronald L. Ream moved and Michael D. Behm seconded to approve the bid from Pennsy Supply, Inc. of \$361,834.92 for the Railroad Street Improvement project. Motion carried.

Michael D. Behm moved and Park W. Haverstick, II seconded to accept the monthly Treasurer's Report and place on file for audit. Motion carried.

Park W. Haverstick, II moved and Eric L. Powell seconded to accept the payment of bills as submitted. Motion carried.

Eric L. Powell moved and Ronald L. Ream seconded to approve the appointments to the Planning Commission/Recreation Board/ International Property Maintenance Code Board of Appeals by Resolution 2018-08. Motion carried.

Michael D. Behm moved and Park W. Haverstick, II seconded to approve the proposal by IGS Energy for electricity provision for Borough accounts. Motion carried.

Attorney Pier Hess, representing the Goodwill Fire Company No. 1, made a statement regarding the company's wishes that one of their members be exempt from the Child Abuse Clearance and Drug and Alcohol Abuse policies and procedures being requested of the Company by Borough Council. Making statements on behalf of the member were the Fire Chief Briceon Kale, President of the Fire Company R. Kevin Pinegar, and two of their members.

Michael D. Behm moved and Jeffrey L. Thomas seconded to exempt Goodwill Fire Company No. 1 member Kenneth Mellor from the Child Abuse Clearance and Drug and Alcohol Abuse policies and procedures being requested of the Company. On a roll call vote: Jeffrey L. Thomas – yes; Ronald L. Ream – no; Bryan L. Rittle – no; Park W. Haverstick, II – no; Michael D. Behm – yes; Eric L. Powell – no. Motion failed.

Eric L. Powell moved and Ronald L. Ream seconded to set a deadline of July 31, 2018, for both of the borough's fire companies to adopt the requested Child Abuse Clearance and Drug and Alcohol Abuse policies and procedures. Motion carried.

Council member Dana Reich entered the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Ronald L. Ream moved and Dana Reich seconded to approve for a Resolution to be drafted to change the pavilion rental rates for the recreation area to \$30 for the upper pavilion, and \$50 for the lower pavilions with a \$25 charge for use of electricity. Motion carried.

Ronald L. Ream moved and Park W. Haverstick II seconded to approve the request from the Senior Center Group to use the Lower West Pavilion at no cost. Motion carried.

Eric L. Powell moved and Ronald L. Ream seconded to approve the Water Connection Ordinance 845 for advertisement. Motion carried.

Dana Reich moved and Park W. Haverstick, II seconded to approve lower rates at 50% off for the pool for the Community Appreciation Day on July 14th. Motion carried.

Ronald L. Ream moved and Michael D. Behm seconded to approve to draft an amendment to the parking ordinance allowing for time-limited parking in front of Gift Associates and Main Street Jewelers. On a roll call vote: Jeffrey L. Thomas – yes; Ronald L. Ream – yes; Bryan L. Rittle – yes; Park W. Haverstick, II – no; Michael D. Behm – yes; Dana Reich – yes; Eric L. Powell – no. Motion carried.

Park W. Haverstick, II moved and Jeffrey L. Thomas seconded to accept the DCED Audit Report. Motion carried.

Ronald L. Ream moved and Eric L. Powell seconded to approve for the Solicitor to draft an amendment to the Property Maintenance Code Ordinance to enact the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code. Motion carried.

The President asked if there were any additional comments for the good of the borough.

Leonard Kobal of the Goodwill Fire Company No. 1 expressed concern that a decision had not yet been made regarding the status of his suspension.

Park W. Haverstick, II moved and Dana Reich seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael R. McKenna, MPA
Borough Manager/Secretary