

AMERISERV FINANCIAL INC /PA/

Form 8-K

July 25, 2016

UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of

The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

July 25, 2016

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

AMERISERV FINANCIAL, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Pennsylvania

(State or other jurisdiction

of incorporation)

0-11204

(Commission

File Number)

25-1424278

(IRS Employer

Ident. No.)

Main and Franklin Streets, Johnstown, Pennsylvania

(Address of principal executive offices)

15901

(Zip Code)

(814) 533-5300

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

N/A

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- ☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4 (c))

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On July 25, 2016, AmeriServ Financial, Inc. issued a press release announcing that its Board of Directors had declared a cash dividend of \$0.015 per share quarterly common stock cash dividend. This new quarterly dividend amount represents a 50% increase from the previous \$0.01 per share quarterly dividend. The cash dividend is payable August 22, 2016 to shareholders of record on August 8, 2016. This increased cash dividend represents a 1.9% annualized yield using the July 21, 2016 closing common stock price of \$3.13 and represents an approximate payout ratio of 21% based upon the Company's recently reported second quarter 2016 earnings per share of \$0.07. The press release, attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1, is incorporated herein.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d)

Exhibits:

99.1

Press release, dated July 25, 2016 of AmeriServ Financial, Inc.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

AMERISERV FINANCIAL, INC.

Dated: July 25, 2016

By: /s/ Michael D. Lynch
Michael D. Lynch
Senior Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
99.1	Press release, dated July 25, 2016, of AmeriServ Financial, Inc.

Exhibit 99.1

AMERISERV FINANCIAL, INC. INCREASES QUARTERLY

COMMON STOCK CASH DIVIDEND

JOHNSTOWN, PA AmeriServ Financial, Inc. (NASDAQ: ASRV) announced that its Board of Directors declared a \$0.015 per share quarterly common stock cash dividend. This new quarterly dividend amount represents a 50% increase from the previous \$0.01 per share quarterly dividend. The cash dividend is payable August 22, 2016 to shareholders of record on August 8, 2016. This increased cash dividend represents a 1.9% annualized yield using the July 21, 2016 closing common stock price of \$3.13 and represents an approximate payout ratio of 21% based upon the Company's recently reported second quarter 2016 earnings per share of \$0.07.

Jeffrey A. Stopko, President & Chief Executive Officer, commented on the increased dividend: "Our focus in 2015 was on increasing earnings and building cash in order to pay off our SBLF preferred stock before the rate would sharply increase. With the successful redemption of the SBLF preferred stock in the first quarter of 2016 and the Company's rapid return to more typical profitability levels in the second quarter of 2016, our Board of Directors is confident that this is the appropriate time to begin to return more capital to our shareholders."

AmeriServ Financial, Inc. is the parent of AmeriServ Financial Bank and AmeriServ Trust and Financial Services Company in Johnstown. The Company's subsidiaries provide full-service banking and trust and wealth management services through sixteen community offices in southwestern Pennsylvania. At June 30, 2016, AmeriServ had total assets of \$1.1 billion, a book value of \$5.25 per common share and a tangible book value of \$4.62 per common share.

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains forward-looking statements as defined in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and is subject to the safe harbors created therein. The forward-looking statements contained herein include, but are not limited to, information regarding AmeriServ's dividend program and future payment obligations. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause AmeriServ's results to differ materially from management's current expectations. Such risks and uncertainties are detailed in AmeriServ's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015. Forward-looking statements are based on the beliefs and assumptions of AmeriServ's management and on currently available information. The statements in this press release are made as of the date of this press release, even if subsequently made available by AmeriServ on its website or otherwise. AmeriServ undertakes no responsibility to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement.