

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MARCH 25, 2024**

1. Call to Order: The March 25, 2024 action meeting of the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, 1001 Stump Road, Montgomeryville, PA. Chairwoman Candyce Fluehr Chimera called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair Candyce Fluehr Chimera
Supervisor Tanya C. Bamford
Supervisor Annette M. Long
Supervisor Beth A. Staab
Township Solicitor John Walko, Esq.
Township Manager Carolyn McCreary

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Police Chief J. Scott Bendig
Director of Finance Brian Shapiro
Director of Planning & Zoning Marianne McConnell
Director of Public Works Greg Reiff
Director of Rec & Community Ctr. Floyd Shaffer
Director of IT Richard Grier
Recording Secretary Deborah Rivas

ABSENT:

Vice Chair Audrey R. Ware

2. & 3. Pledge of Allegiance and Announcements: Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Chimera made the following announcements:

- The annual Electronic Recycling Event will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 9 am to Noon at the William F. Maule Park at Windlestrae.
- The Shade Tree Commission is hosting its annual Arbor Day Tree Giveaway in honor of Roy Rodriguez on Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 9 am to Noon at Gazebo Park in the Municipal Building parking lot.
- The Stars, Stripes, and Remembrance event will be held on Friday, May 24th, from 5 pm to 9 pm at the William F. Maule Park at Windlestrae. Join us as we honor our country's heroes through a community event featuring fireworks, food trucks, kids' amusements, a Touch-A-Truck, and music. Entry is free, and fireworks begin at approximately 8:30 pm.
- Ms. Chimera also read a Proclamation recognizing the month of April as Autism Awareness Month.

4. Public Comment: Under public comment, Richard Morrow of 100 Willowood Court stated that he's heard noise that residents of the Village of Neshaminy Falls will be using the Community and Recreation Center for free since a fire destroyed their clubhouse. He expressed his concern that the center be utilized fairly by all. Residents purchase memberships and use the facility for a variety of uses. If many new residents are using the facility for free, Mr. Morrow felt that it could become a problem.

5. Announcement of Executive Session: Township Solicitor John Walko, Esquire, announced that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session earlier this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Township building to discuss one real estate matter, one litigation matter and one potential litigation matter. Mr. Walko stated that the topics discussed are legitimate subjects of an Executive Session under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law.

6. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (4-0), the minutes of the February 26, 2024 Board meeting, the ratification of the payment of bills for March 11, 2024, the payment of bills for March 25, 2024, the Escrow Release #5 for Higher Rock (Residential), the Escrow Release #2 for Walnut Knoll and Escrow Release #1 for Pecan Properties were all approved as submitted.

Planning and Zoning:

7. Adoption of Resolution 2024-07, Village Shopping Center Sewage Facilities Planning Module:

Ms. Chimera announced this item would be tabled to a future meeting. Ms. Bamford stated that she was the Board liaison to the Sewer Authority and that the Township needs additional information on this item before proceeding. The DEP regulates this sewer facility, and there is a limit to the EDUs, so it was agreed that the Board would be prudent to gather more information from a professional consultant to make an informed decision.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board agreed to table the resolution for the Village Shopping Center Sewage Facilities Planning Module to a future date pending additional information from the consultant.

Public Works:

8. Bid Award for the 2024 Curb and Curb Ramp Project:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board awarded the contract for the 2024 Curb and Curb Ramp Project to Drumheller Construction Co., Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$163,032.50 per the recommendation of Gilmore & Associates, Township Engineer.

9. Bid Award for the 2024 In-Place Paving Project:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board awarded the contract for the 2024 In-Place Paving project to James D. Morrissey, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$727,557.00 per the recommendation of Gilmore & Associates, Township Engineer.

10. Bid Award for the Mill and Overlay of the FDMT Battalion 1 Parking Lot:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board awarded the contract for the Mill and Overlay of the FDMT Battalion 1 Parking lot project to A. H. Cornell & Son, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$81,846.52 per the recommendation of Gilmore & Associates, Township Engineer.

11. Approve Purchase of Window Treatments:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board approved the purchase and installation of new window treatments from Yocum Shutter & Blinds, a COSTARS vendor, for the Township Building and Battalion 2 Firehouse for \$14,000.00.

Public Safety:

12. Adoption of Ordinance #24-340 – Amendment to Chapter 222, Vehicles and Traffic – Bridge Weight Restrictions for Knapp Road Culverts: Chief Bendig reported that Gilmore and Associates conducted a study last year on two culverts located on Knapp Road between Norway Drive and Valleybrook Drive. To maintain the structural integrity of the culverts and the safety of those traveling over them, Gilmore and Associates have recommended that the maximum speed of all vehicles driving over the culverts be reduced to fifteen (15) miles per hour and their maximum weight be restricted to eighteen (18) tons. Additionally, recent state and county bridge construction projects on Route 152 at Lower State Road and Stump Road over Little Neshaminy Creek have resulted in recommendations by state and county officials to repeal the current weight limit restrictions on those bridges. An ordinance amendment has been drafted to amend Township Code Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 222-Vehicles and Traffic.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board adopted Ordinance #24-340 – Amending the Township Code Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 222 – Vehicles and Traffic to provide for a 15 mph speed limit and an 18 ton weight limit over the two culverts locate under Knapp Road between Norway Drive and Valleybrook Drive and removing the other weight limits under Section 222-17.A.

13. Spring/Summer 2024 Recreation Programs: Mr. Shaffer presented the lineup of activities at the Montgomery Township Community and Recreation Center (MontCRC) for Spring/Summer 2024, including the recommended fees/charges for each program/event.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the 2024 Spring/Summer Recreation Program and Fee Schedule as submitted.

Old Business: Ms. Bamford has received concerns from residents about sidewalk maintenance. Several years ago, the Board changed the policy of repairing and replacing sidewalks due to the increasing expense. Ms. Bamford requested that staff address the code and proposed that it be changed to clearly explain that the responsibility of sidewalk maintenance belongs to the homeowner.

New Business:

19. Department Reports - Monthly reports were submitted by each department for activity in February. Township Manager Carolyn McCreary provided an update on the current grant awards received, pending grant applications made, and future grant opportunities.

20. Committee Liaison Reports – Ms. Long reported that the Community and Recreation Center main steps are completed and opened for use. There are new railings and lights on the stairs. The fencing around the great lawn has been delivered with an installation date in early April. Repairs and seeding will be done to the lawn area. The interior has been painted, including the hallways, fitness areas, event room, etc. The Public Safety Committee discussed the fire at the Village of Neshaminy Falls clubhouse and commended the responders, who worked well together.

Ms. Chimera reported that she could not attend the Planning Commission meeting, but Ms. McConnell provided an update that the Planning Commission reviewed the Chase Bank Land Development Plan. The commission had some concerns about the corner of Rt. 309 and North Wales Road.

Ms. Bamford reported that the Shade Tree Commission is finalizing its recommendations on street tree replacement, including educational requirements. The commission also discussed Bamboo regulations. The Arbor Day Tree Giveaway and Forestry Workshop were also discussed. The Park and Recreation Board is excited about the new dog park. They are aware that the new grass will need time to establish to wear better once the park is open for use. The Park Board is interested in having a grand opening event. The Park Board also reviewed the Architectural presentation for a feasibility plan for the Windlestrae House.

Ms. Staab reported that the Environmental Advisory Committee will host the annual eRecycling Event on Saturday, April 20th, and the Single-Use Plastic Reduction Ordinance will take effect on April 22nd, Earth Day. Ms. Staab also noted that the Township received a check for over \$37,000 from the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Committee.

21. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera and seconded by Ms. Bamford, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary