

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SEPTEMBER 26, 2022**

1. Call to Order: The September 26, 2022, public meeting of the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, 1001 Stump Road, Montgomeryville, PA. Chairwoman Tanya C. Bamford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair Tanya C. Bamford
Vice Chairwoman Candyce Fleuhr Chimera
Supervisor Annette M. Long
Supervisor Beth A. Staab
Supervisor Audrey R. Ware
Township Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, Esq.

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE:

Police Chief, J. Scott Bendig
Fire Chief, William F. Wiegman
Director of Finance, Brian Shapiro
Director of Planning, Bruce Shoupe
Director of Public Works, Greg Reiff
Director of Recreation & Comm. Ctr., Floyd Shaffer
Director of Information Technology Rich Grier
Public Information Coordinator Derek Muller
Recording Secretary, Deborah Rivas

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

- Emergency Services Night at Wegmans - This event kicks off Fire Prevention Month, and several area departments will attend on Monday, October 10th, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Autumn Festival - Saturday, October 15th, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., fireworks following at approximately 7:00 p.m. Activities and other information are available on the website and social media channels.
- Grant Award – A Greenways, Trails, and Recreation grant has been received from DCED in the amount of \$125,000 for the approved Whistlestop Park renovation project. This \$1.1 million project has already received a grant award of \$250,000 from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The work includes six pickleball courts, an ADA-looped trail around the park, new accessible playground equipment on a poured safety surface, educational signage, and stormwater improvements.
- Ms. Bamford announced that today was Rosh Hashanah and she wanted to say L’Shana Tovah to all who are celebrating the High Holy Day.

4. Public Comment – There was no public comment.

5. Announcement of Executive Session – Township Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, Esquire, announced that the Board of Supervisors met in an Executive Session virtually at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday,

September 14th via TEAMS and earlier this evening at 6:45 p.m. to discuss a litigation matter. Mr. Kilkenny stated that the topic discussed is a legitimate subject of an Executive Session under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law.

6. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried (5-0), the minutes of the September 12, 2022, meeting and the payment of bills for September 26, 2022, were approved as presented.

Recognition:

7. Hispanic Heritage Month: Ms. Bamford read the resolution recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month, an annual celebration of the history and culture of the US Latinx and Hispanic communities. The month runs from September 15 to October 15 and commemorates how these communities have influenced and contributed to American society. Ms. Long stated that she was the first and probably the only Latina to be voted into office in the North Penn area. She is honored to acknowledge and thank everyone for recognizing Latino and Hispanic Heritage Month. Ms. Long thanked employees and residents for their contributions culturally in Spanish.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board adopted Resolution 2022-36, recognizing September 15 through October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month.

Planning & Zoning:

8. Approval of DEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module: Mr. Shoupe reported that the Township received an application from John and Judy Antonucci at 311 Stump Road for three lots on Stump Road, which they wish to be serviced by public sewer. The Act 537 Plan is the Township's plan for sewer service. The Montgomery Township Municipal Sewer Authority is responsible for the implementation of this plan and occasionally it must be changed due to development, and a planning module must be submitted to DEP.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board adopted Resolution 2022-37, approving the DEP Sewage Facilities Planning Module for 311 Stump Road.

Public Safety:

9. National Preparedness Month & Recognition of PEMA Certifications: Chief Wiegman announced that National Preparedness Month is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. This year's theme is A Lasting Legacy: The life you've built is worth protecting. It

focuses on building a disaster preparation kit, making a disaster preparation plan, protecting family and property, and teaching youth to plan for disasters.

Montgomery Township Emergency Services Staff has obtained certifications through PEMA, including Local Municipal Basic, Advanced, and Professional certifications. These certifications are required by PEMA and include in-person training, independent study courses, attendance at quarterly county training, and a written endorsement from the county Emergency Management Coordinator. Staff members who have obtained PEMA Certifications in 2021-2022 are:

Professional Certification - Chief William Wiegman, Captain Andrew Backlund, and Firefighter Harry Reese;

Advanced Certification - Lt. Jacob Millevoi, Firefighter Jacob Weltman, and Firefighter Anthony Rubas; and

Basic Certification - Firefighter Eoghan Lowry

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board recognized September as National Preparedness Month and further recognized the members of the Fire Department for obtaining emergency management certifications through PEMA.

10. Promulgation of Montgomery Township Emergency Operations Plan, 2022: Chief Wiegman reported that Pennsylvania legislation requires that political subdivisions of the Commonwealth establish a local emergency management organization that has the responsibility to prepare, maintain, and keep current an Emergency Operations Plan. The plan was last updated in November 2020. An official Promulgation form was presented for approval.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board adopted Resolution 2022-35 to promulgate and distribute the Montgomery Township Emergency Operations Plan dated September 26, 2022.

Administration & Finance:

11. Certification of 2023 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the Police Pension Fund and Non-Uniformed Employees' Pension Fund:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Ware, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board accepted the 2023 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Montgomery Township Police Pension Fund in the amount of \$678,328 and the Montgomery Township Non-Uniformed Employees' Pension Fund in the amount of \$321,998.

New Business:

12. Department Reports: Monthly reports were submitted by each department for activity in the month of August. No specific monthly report was highlighted, but Ms. Bamford stated that she read through the Finance Report (budget) that was provided with the packet and said that the visibility into the finances is much better. Ms. Bamford gave credit to Mr. Shapiro and Ms. McCreary for helping to evolve how the Township reports its finances.

13. Committee Reports: Ms. Staab reported that her two committees were preparing for public interactions at the Autumn Festival and what they would offer at their tables. The Environment Advisory Committee reviewed their handouts and display. The Ready for 100 Committee is looking to engage the community on how to save money and update sustainability within their own homes. There will be giveaways and a raffle for a solar phone charger.

Ms. Ware reported that the Senior Committee is also preparing for the Autumn Festival and their table setup, and participating in Rep. Todd Stephens' Senior Expo at the Community and Recreation Center this coming Thursday.

Ms. Chimera reported that the Park and Recreation Board has some new members, including a member from the Senior Committee.

Ms. Long reported that the Public Safety Committee learned that the Fire Department has higher call numbers at this time than in past years. They have also hired four new part-time firefighters. The firefighters have installed over 900 smoke detectors with their program. The Police Department is successfully utilizing the license plate reader, and a resident attended the meeting with concerns about dog leash laws, which will be discussed soon. The Recreation and Community Center Advisory Committee met, and the center has been very busy all summer and is back to pre-COVID numbers. Mr. Shaffer requests that the committee be increased from six to seven members to provide an odd number of committee members.

Ms. Bamford reported that she is recovering from a recent case of COVID infection and stated that the Sewer Authority biobot study shows a spike of increased infection in the Township. The Shade Tree Commission reported the sad news of the passing of longtime volunteer Roy Rodriguez. The Board members shared their thoughts on Mr. Rodriguez and his impact on the Township and held a moment of silence in his memory.

14. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Long and seconded by Ms. Staab, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary