MINUTES OF MEETING MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS JULY 11, 2022

1. Call to Order: The July 11, 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:

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE: Chairwoman Tanya C. Bamford Police Chief J. Scott Bendig Vice Chairwoman Candyce Fluehr Chimera Fire Chief William F. Wiegman Supervisor Annette M. Long Director of Public Works, Greg Reiff Supervisor Audrey R. Ware Director of Planning, Bruce Shoupe Director of Information Technology, Rich Grier Township Manager Carolyn McCreary Township Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, Esq. **Recording Secretary, Deborah Rivas**

ABSENT:

Supervisor Beth A. Staab

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

- July is National Parks & Recreation Month. The Township is bringing attention to how important it is to rise up and support the field of parks and recreation and inviting residents to share what they love about our parks, playgrounds, and recreation offerings via the survey link on our social media channels and Parks & Recreation section of the website.
- We have an open call for vendors, food vendors, and sponsors for the 20th Annual Autumn Festival, which will be held on October 15th. More information and applications are available on our website. Search "Autumn Festival" to be taken to the main event page.
- 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 earlier this evening at 6:30 p.m. to discuss one personnel and one litigation matter. Mr. Kilkenny stated that the topics discussed are legitimate subjects of an Executive Session pursuant to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law.

6. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Ware and unanimously carried (4-0), the minutes of the June 27, 2022 meeting, the payment of bills for July 11, 2022 were approved as presented.

Recognition:

7. Proclamation for Park and Recreation Professionals Day – Ms. McCreary reported that the Township is very proud of its beautiful parks and recreational opportunities for our residents, visitors, and guests to enjoy. The hard work that goes into providing these amenities which enhance our community can often go unnoticed. We are fortunate to have a group of dedicated employees working diligently to bring recreational activities for all ages including those held at the CRC, Kids University and Autumn Festival. Montgomery Township is pleased to recognize and celebrate Park and Recreation Professionals Day on July 15, 2022.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-27 Proclaiming July 15, 2022 as Pennsylvania Park and Recreation Professionals Day.

8. Roy Rodriguez, Township Volunteer – Ms. McCreary reported that longtime resident and volunteer, Roy Rodriguez is stepping down as the Chair of the Township's Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Rodriguez has served on the Shade Tree Commission for 26 years and on the Open Space Committee for 18 years. Roy was intimately involved with the planning, design and development of Memorial Grove, a place of quiet contemplation and remembrance. Roy also served on the Korean War Memorial America-Korea Alliance Peace Park Committee which established a memorial to honor the veterans who served in the Korean War and provide a site for reflection. Montgomery Township is better because of Roy's long-standing commitment and efforts. In honor of Roy's service to the Township, the Board of Supervisors announced that they have officially renamed the annual Arbor Day tree giveaway to the Roy Rodriguez Annual Tree Giveaway.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-28, recognizing Roy Rodriguez for his commitment to volunteer service to the Township and officially renaming the Arbor Day Annual Tree Giveaway to the annual Roy Rodriguez Annual Tree Giveaway.

Public Hearing:

9. Liquor License Transfer – Strong Crab, LLC, 650 Cowpath Road - Ms. Bamford called for a motion to open the public hearing for the consideration of the Liquor License Transfer at 7:08 p.m. Motion by Ms. Bamford, second by Ms. Chimera, unanimously carried (4-0). Notes of testimony were taken by Court Reporter Tim Kurek. Mr. Kilkenny presented the application for a liquor license transfer for Strong Crab LLC for their restaurant at 650 Cowpath Road. This is an inter-municipal transfer of a type "R" Restaurant liquor license, which is normally associated with an establishment that will have a minimum of 400 square feet, equipped with table and seating, and sufficient food, to accommodate at least 30 patrons at once. The property is the former Ruby Tuesday's property. Ms. Bamford closed the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board approved Resolution 2022-29, granting approval of the transfer of Restaurant Liquor License No. R-17869 into the Township of Montgomery from Limerick Township, PA.

Public Works:

10. Review Bid for Traffic Signals Modernization on Route 309 and the Montgomery Mall Access Drives – Ms. McCreary reported that the Township solicited for bids for the traffic signal modernization at Bethlehem Pike (SR 0309) and the Montgomery Mall Access Drives (North and South). Bids were due on June 24th and one bid was received from Armour and Sons Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$1,545,963.55. The bid tabulation was reviewed by the Township's traffic engineer and staff. Significant pricing difference was found in the excavation, installation of concrete and the maintenance/protection of traffic. Staff and consultants are recommending that the Board reject the bid and authorize its readvertisement for rebid.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board rejected the bid from Armour and Sons Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$1,545,963.55 for the traffic signal modernization at Bethlehem Pike (SR 0309) and the Montgomery Mall Access Drives North and South, and authorized the project to be rebid.

11. Change Order for Traffic Signal Controller Boxes – Mr. Reiff reported that the Board reviewed the details of the traffic signal upgrades proposed for several intersections in the Township and approved the contracts at their meeting on March 14, 2022. Due to the age of the traffic signal and its equipment, the conduit at Horsham and Hartman Roads are 2' and filled to capacity. In order to install the preemption system, new 3' conduit must be installed.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Ware and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board approved the change order from Armour and Sons Electric Inc. in the amount of \$19,522.00 and an additional amount of \$3,600.00 to replace the loop sensors, if necessary.

Public Safety:

12. Fire Department of Montgomery Township 2022 Fundraising Efforts: Chief Wiegman reported that the FDMT is required to advise the Board of Supervisors on an annual basis in advance of planned fundraising activities in accordance with the Fire Services Agreement dated February 14, 2022. The FDMT is seeking the Board's approval of its fundraising activities for 2022. The activities proposed include a residential fundraising mailer in Winter 2022, business fundraising mailer in Summer 2022, car washes in Fall 2022, Coin toss in Fall 2022 and Dine and Donate events throughout 2022.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board approved the 2022 planned fundraising activities of the FDMT and the transfer of \$10,000.00 to the FDMT to assist with fundraising activities for 2022.

New Business:

13. Grant Application to the Montgomery County Transportation Program: Ms. McCreary reported that a new round of applications for the Montgomery County Transportation Program is

open with applications due by July 29, 2022. The Township was asked by a resident to review the possibility of installing a pedestrian crossing at Spring Valley Drive and Upper State Road, noting the speed of motorists and the concern it brings for pedestrians attempting to cross Upper State Road to go to the park. Another resident inquired about safer pedestrian access into Windlestrae Park. A joint meeting with staff, Township Traffic Engineers and a PennDOT representative concluded that improvements could be made with the installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) and the necessary striping and concrete work. This would be a marked improvement for residents. The estimated cost of the project is \$492,144. If the grant is awarded, the Township's share of the project will be included in the 2023 budget.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-30 supporting the grant application to the Montgomery County Transportation Program for the installation of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons and pedestrian improvements at the entrance to Spring Valley and Windlestrae Parks.

14. Public Hearing for Comcast Franchise Cable Franchise Renewal: Ms. McCreary stated that at the January 3 public meeting, the Board of Supervisors approved the proposal from the Cohen Law Group to represent the Township along with 14 other municipalities in the franchise renewal negotiations with Comcast. This hearing has been advertised independently as a Public Notice and Comment Hearing. It is for intake purposes only, soliciting public comment, and does not require a court reporter to be in attendance. The minutes once adopted will satisfy the legal requirement. Ms. Bamford opened the hearing at 7:23 p.m. and read the opening remarks. Ms. Bamford asked for any public comments and there were none. The opening remarks are attached and included as part of these minutes.

15. Approval of Estimated Just Compensation for **1216** Stump Road – Ms. McCreary reported that on October 28, 2010, and November 24, 2014, the Township acted on a property located at 1216 Stump Road. An updated appraisal for this property indicates an additional payment of \$1,136,042 for estimated just compensation. The Township has a committed fund balance in the Capital Fund for this matter.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board approved the estimated just compensation for 1216 Stump Road in the amount of \$1,136,042, subject to the resolution of the evidentiary issues being satisfied between the parties before trial.

16. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford and seconded by Ms. Chimera, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary