

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
FEBRUARY 27, 2023**

**1. Call to Order:** The February 27, 2023 action meeting of the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, 1001 Stump Road, Montgomeryville, PA. Chair Candyce Fluehr Chimera called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chair Candyce Fluehr Chimera  
Supervisor Tanya C. Bamford  
Supervisor Annette M. Long  
Supervisor Beth A. Staab  
Supervisor Audrey R. Ware  
Township Solicitor Sean Kilkenny  
Township Manager Carolyn McCreary

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Police Chief J. Scott Bendig  
Director of Fire Services Bill Wiegman  
Director of Finance Brian Shapiro  
Director of Public Works Greg Reiff  
Director of Rec & Community Center Floyd Shaffer  
Director of Information Technology Rich Grier  
Zoning Officer Marianne McConnell  
Recording Secretary Deborah A. Rivas

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

- Ms. Staab announced that the EAC is requesting residential and business input regarding single-use plastics. The surveys are open until March 31, 2023.
- Ms. Ware announced that the Senior Committee is hosting two upcoming programs for residents who are turning 65 in 2023. Presenter Nancy Morris is a state-trained volunteer Medicare counselor with PA MEDI. Her programs will help Medicare beneficiaries make informed decisions about their coverage. Plan to attend either Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. or Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The programs will be held at the Community and Recreation Center.

**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 this evening at 6:40 p.m. at the Township building to discuss one 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. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried, the minutes of the February 13, 2023 meeting, and the Payment of Bills List dated February 27, 2023, were approved as presented.**

**Introduction:**

**7. Volunteer Committee Applicant:** Ms. McCreary reported that the Township received an application from Frank Mullen, asking the Board to consider appointing him to the Finance

Committee. He was recommended for consideration by Andrew Hatstat, a member of the committee. Mr. Mullen introduced himself and provided a brief summary of his background and interest in serving on the committee.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Frank Mullen to the Finance Committee for the remainder of the term which expires on January 1, 2024.**

**Planning and Zoning:**

**8. Review of Zoning Hearing Board Applications:** Ms. McConnell identified the pending hearing before the March 1, 2023 Zoning Hearing Board meeting. Application 23010003 is for 130 Primrose Court for a variance from the provisions of Section 230-53.3C1 of the Code of Montgomery Township to install a generator 10 feet from the side property line where a minimum of 15 feet is required.

**Board consensus was not to enter an appearance for the application, allowing the Zoning Hearing Board to render a decision based on the testimony presented.**

**9. Waiver of Fees – Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Church:** Ms. McConnell reported that a letter was received from Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Church requesting the Township consider waiving the permit fees for the replacement of shingles on the Catholic Education Center gym roof. The cost of the project is \$47,855, and the fees are calculated to be \$679.50 for this project. It has been the past practice of the Board to waive permit fees for this type of request.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried, the Board waived the fees associated with the building permit for the roof replacement on the Catholic Education Center gym roof at the Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Church.**

**10. Act 537 Plan Revision – 311 Stump Road:** Ms. McCreary reported that the Township received a request from Shannon Drosnock, Director of the Montgomery Township Municipal Sewer Authority (MTMSA). The property at 311 Stump Road is requesting connection to the public sewer system due to the septic system being destroyed in a fire. PaDEP is permitting the connection they are considering this a hardship situation, noting this is a project-specific determination and is not to be construed to be allowed in any other situations. They are granting the one-off emergency connection approval but require the Board of Supervisors to adopt the amended resolution.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2023-04 amending the Act 537 plan to rerate the capacity of the existing Higher Rock Sewage Pumping Station, allowing for the sanitary sewer connection for 311 Stump Road.**

**Public Safety:**

**11. FDMT 2023 Fundraising:** Chief Wiegman reported the FDMT is required to advise the Board of Supervisors on an annual basis in advance of planned fund-raising activities in accordance with the Fire Services Agreement dated February 1, 2022. The FDMT is seeking the Board's approval to hold the following activities: residential fund-raising mailer in Winter 2023, business fund-raising mailer in Summer 2023, car washes in Fall 2023, and dine and donate events throughout 2023.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried, the Board approved 2023 planned fund-raising activities of the FDMT.**

**12. New Fire Police Officer:**

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Christopher Mamrol to the position of Special Fire Police Officer, effective February 27, 2023, and welcomed him to Montgomery Township.**

**13. Replace New Doors in the K-9 Kennel:** Chief Bendig requested authorization to replace the two K-9 doors, which are original to the building and were approved in the 2023 Capital Investment Plan.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of K-9 kennel doors from K J Door Services Inc., at a total cost of \$6,875.00 per their quote dated February 13, 2023.**

**Parks and Recreation:**

**14. Purchase of Fitness Equipment:** Mr. Shaffer reported that the typical lifespan of treadmills is between seven and ten years. The Community and Recreation Center begins its eighth year in 2023, and the highly utilized treadmills are in need of replacement. Staff proposes replacing six treadmills as approved in the 2023 Capital Investment Plan. A quote was received from Life Fitness, a vendor under the PA COSTARS program.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of six new treadmills from Life Fitness for \$31,323.90.**

**Public Works:**

**15. Purchase of a Plasma Cutter:** Mr. Reiff reported that the Public Works Department is scheduled to purchase a new Plasma Cutter which will be used to cut various metals for fabrication projects and was approved in the 2023 Capital Investment Plan.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of the Plasma Cutter from Wilson Products, at a total cost of \$3,261.35 per their quote dated January 18, 2023.**

**16. Purchase of a Plate Compactor:** Mr. Reiff reported that the Public Works Department is scheduled to purchase a new Wacker Vibratory Plate as approved in the 2023 Capital Investment Plan. This plate will replace the 2008 model, used for compacting material in preparing areas for concrete and blacktop.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of one Wacker Vibratory Plate from Beardsley Ltd., at a total cost of \$2,558.00 per their quote dated January 16, 2023.**

**17. Purchase of Bollard Lighting for the Township Building:** Mr. Reiff reported that the Public Works Department is scheduled to purchase replacement Bollard lights to line the pathway into the Administration Building and along the path to the gazebo. The lighting was approved in the 2023 Capital Investment Plan. Three quotes were obtained for this lighting from separate vendors. City Electric Supply quoted the lowest price.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of Bollard lights from City Electric Supply, at a total cost of \$9,660.00 per their quote dated February 16, 2023.**

**18. Authorization to Bid Lawn/Field Care Treatments:** Mr. Reiff stated that included in the 2023 Budget is Athletic Field Fertilizer Treatment, which includes pre and post-emergent broad leaf weed control and liquid fertilizer to be applied to all Township owned parks, and the Administration and CRC buildings. Competitive bids will be solicited utilizing the PennBid website.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Ware, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the bid advertisement for the 2023 Lawn and Athletic Field Fertilizer Treatment utilizing PennBid.**

**Old Business: None.**

**New Business:**

**19. Department Reports:** Monthly reports were submitted by each department for activity in the month of January. Chief Wiegman provided an update on the activities of the Fire Department. Chief Wiegman spoke about the Youth Fire Prevention Program, the Juvenile Firestarter Program, the Drone program, upcoming training, participation in the Quick Response Service with the VMSC, emergency management planning, and the upcoming Police and Fire tabletop exercise in the Fall. Chief Bendig provided an update on the activities of the Police Department, specifically focusing on the current hiring process. The department is not seeing many candidates applying for the position and, out of 46 candidates invited to interview, 11 were no-shows. The department did 35 interviews and selected 4 candidates for background checks, polygraph testing, and investigation. Interviews with the Public Safety Committee, a conditional offer, medical testing, and psychological testing would follow once the top candidates are chosen. Chief Bendig stated that the department prides itself on having high standards and will only hire qualified candidates.

The process may need to be revisited should any top candidates commit to other departments in the consortium who are also seeking qualified candidates.

A discussion was held regarding Temporary Outdoor Pop-Up Sales in the Township. Ms. McCreary reported that there had been some recent activity regarding pop-up sales in the Township and that the language in the ordinance governing these types of sales is somewhat ambiguous and may need to be tightened up. Ms. McConnell explained that the language indicates a two-week lead time to apply for a temporary sales license. If the pop-up sale occurs on the weekend, there is no one to enforce it, and the vendor moves on. Any notice of violation would allow them 30 days to comply, making enforcement difficult. Discussion followed. Under public comment, Andrew Hatstat of 128 Veronica Lane stated that he thought pop-up tents and sales were a great idea and more should be encouraged. He stated that businesses like Dick's Sporting Goods are big corporations and would not be affected by these small pop-up businesses. The Board's consensus was to have staff tighten the language in the ordinance.

**20. Committee Reports:** Ms. Ware reported that the Senior Committee will host several Medicare events. They are also working on mailing out an informational letter to seniors in the community. Ms. Staab reported that the EAC is reviewing the results of their Single Use Plastic Survey. The Ready for 100 Committee has been working on action plans, and she heard that other townships are looking to Montgomery Township for direction. Ms. Bamford said that the Park Board had a great discussion with ideas on new initiatives, such as trail markers, how to redevelop the Windlestrae House for recreational use, and homework for the members to see what other communities are doing in Park and Recreation. Ms. Long stated that the CRC Advisory Committee discussed the new equipment purchase and the Public Safety Committee discussed the current police hiring process. Ms. Chimera reported that the Planning Commission had a presentation from Penn Medicine. It was a great presentation, and the Planning Commission unanimously recommended the project to the Board.

**21. Adjournment:** Upon motion by Ms. Chimera and seconded by Ms. Long, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary