

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
APRIL 10, 2023**

1. Call to Order: The April 10, 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 7:00 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 John F. Walko, Esq.
Township Manager Carolyn McCreary

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Police Chief J. Scott Bendig
Fire Chief Bill Wiegman
Director of Finance Brian Shapiro
Director of Public Works Greg Reiff
Director of Information Technology Rich Grier
Assistant Planning Director Marianne McConnell
Public Information Coordinator Derek Muller
Recording Secretary Deborah A. Rivas

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

- The Finance Department recently received three distinguished awards from the Government Financial Officers Association (GFOA). The awards were:
 - Distinguished Budget Award for the 2023 Annual Budget
 - Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report
 - Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting (PAFR Award) for the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2021.
- Upcoming events: April 15 Curbside Leaf and Yard Waste Pickup, April 22 Electronic Recycling at Maule Park @Windlestrae, April 29 Roy Rodriguez Arbor Day Tree Giveaway at Gazebo Park, and May 3 Let's Get Real: Prevention for Prom & Graduation Season
- In honor of National Library Week, the Township is excited to announce that two Township families will donate Little Libraries to be installed in Spring Valley Park and Friendship Park for all to enjoy.

4. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

5. Announcement of Executive Session – Township Solicitor John F. Walko, Esquire, announced that the Board of Supervisors met virtually in Executive Session on April 5 at 3:00 p.m. and earlier this evening at 6:45 p.m. in the Township building to deliberate on the Penn Medicine Conditional Use application. 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, the minutes of the March 27, 2023 meeting, and the Payment of Bills List dated April 10, 2023, were approved as presented.

Recognition:

7. Retirement of Officer David Dunlap: Chief Bendig reported that on March 14, 2023, Officer David Dunlap retired from the Montgomery Township Police Department after 40 years of service to the community. Officer Dunlap served in various roles during his tenure, including officer-in-charge (OIC) and Motor Carrier Inspector. However, Officer Dunlap will be most known for his work as a member of the Department's Highway Safety Unit, investigating serious traffic crashes, conducting traffic studies, and investigating citizen traffic complaints. During his 40-year career, Officer Dunlap has received seven departmental commendations for his actions as an officer and numerous letters of appreciation from township residents, civic groups, and neighboring law enforcement agencies. Officer Dunlap's skillset, dedication, and leadership will be sorely missed.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board recognized Officer David Dunlap on his retirement from the Township after 40 years of service to our community.

Presentation:

8. Police Department Accreditation Renewal: Chief Jim Adams (Ret.), Accreditation Program Coordinator of the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, presented the Association's Certificate of Law Enforcement Accreditation to Montgomery Township. In July 2001, the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association introduced the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. The program was designed and developed to provide a strategy for the continued professionalization of law enforcement agencies within our Commonwealth. In 2004, the Montgomery Township Police Department became the eighteenth police department in Pennsylvania to be accredited under the program. Since achieving accreditation in 2004, the department has undergone reaccreditation in 2007, 2011, 2014, and 2017. In 2020, the Department was reaccredited again and recognized as a Premier Agency by the Commission for its ongoing commitment to excellence through the Accreditation Program. In January 2023, the department was again reaccredited by the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission and recognized as a Premier Agency by the Commission.

9. North Wales Library – National Library Week: Ms. McCreary announced that the Township is proud to be a supporter of the North Wales Regional Library. She introduced North Wales Library Director Jayne Blackledge, who presented the Board of Supervisors with their library cards as new members of the North Wales Library. The Board of Supervisors also adopted the proclamation recognizing April 23 through April 29, 2023 as National Library Week in Montgomery Township.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the proclamation recognizing April 23 through April 29, 2023, as National Library Week in Montgomery Township.

Planning and Zoning:

10. Conditional Use Hearing Decision and Order - Penn Medicine: The transcription of the Decision and Order was captured by court reporter, Tim Kurek. As part of its deliberations, the Board reviewed details of the testimony presented, and considered conditions they may wish to include if they were to approve the application and render a decision. Ms. Chimera motioned to approve the conditional use application for the University of Pennsylvania Ambulatory Health Care Center, and Ms. Bamford seconded the motion. Mr. Walko read the Order of the Board of Supervisors of Montgomery Township granting the Conditional Use Application with 13 conditions outlined (attached). The motion passed with a vote of 4 to 1, Ms. Ware voting No.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and with a vote of 4 to 1, with Ms. Ware voting No, the Board approved the Conditional Use Application, with conditions, to Penn Medicine for an Ambulatory Health Care Center.

Administration and Finance:

11. Adoption of Ordinance 23-334 – Verizon Franchise Agreement: Ms. McCreary announced that the Cohen Law Group successfully negotiated the cable franchise renewal agreement with Verizon Pennsylvania LLC. Unlike prior agreements, the one is for five years primarily due to the dramatic changes in the cable market including changes in the industry, in technology, and in government regulations. The franchise fee percentage remains the same as our current agreement with the definition of gross revenue including language for sources that may not exist at this time. The Township is also permitted to conduct a franchise fee audit with new terms deemed fair to both sides. The agreement also has language ensuring that a bundled discount is not solely applied to a customer's cable services, which would reduce the calculated gross revenue. Within 90 days of the effective date of this agreement, Verizon will issue a payment of \$10,930 to the Township to offset the costs related to local channel programming.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 23-334, approving the renewal of the Cable Franchise Agreement with Verizon Pennsylvania LLC.

Public Works:

12. Award Bid for Lawn Care Treatments: Mr. Reiff reported that bids were received and opened utilizing PennBid on April 5, 2023. The bid documents were downloaded ten (10) times and one (1) bid was received. The Township reviewed the one bid, found everything to be complete and is recommending award of the bid to Moyer & Son, Inc. the only responsible

bidder with a bid of \$19,244.00. Ms. Staab inquired where the treatments would be applied and if the products used were safe for people and pets. Mr. Reiff responded that the products would be applied to playing field surfaces and Township building properties. The products would not be used around any Township waterways. Once dry, the products used are not harmful to people or pets.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the contract for the 2023 Lawn Care Treatment to Moyer and Son, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$19,244.00 per the recommendation of Township staff.

13. Approval of Replacement Pickup Truck: Mr. Reiff reported that the Public Works Department is scheduled to replace a 2005 Chevrolet Tahoe and is proposing to purchase one 2024 GMC Sierra 3500HD Pickup Truck and snowplow from Star Buick-GMC-Cadillac Quakertown as approved in the 2023 Capital Investment Plan.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the contract for the purchase of one 2024 GMC Sierra 3500HD Pickup Truck and snowplow from Star Buick-GMC-Cadillac Quakertown, an authorized vendor under the Co-Stars Cooperative Purchasing Program, at a total cost of \$68,670.00 per their quote dated April 6, 2023.

New Business:

14. Results of Single-Plastic Use Ban Survey: Mr. Muller reported that the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) recently promoted a survey for Township residents and businesses to provide input on a Single-Use Plastic Ban. The survey closed on March 31, 2023. The survey results showed a majority of the responses were favorable to considering a ban on single-use plastic. Discussion followed. The consensus of the Board was to have an educational process leading up to the potential banning of single-use plastic and to seek out other municipalities who have been through the process to see how it was managed. Mr. Walko reported that he had previously drafted an ordinance on the banning of single-use plastic and will share sample ordinances and information with the Township.

14. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera and seconded by Ms. Bamford, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary