

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MAY 22, 2023**

1. Call to Order: The May 22, 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.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Police Chief J. Scott Bendig
Fire Chief Bill Wiegman
Director of Finance Brian Shapiro
Director of Public Works Greg Reiff
Asst. Dir. of Planning & Zoning Marianne McConnell
Director of Comm. Ctr. & Recreation Floyd Shaffer
Director of Information Technology Rich Grier
Public Information Coordinator Derek Muller
Recording Secretary Deborah A. Rivas

2. & 3. Pledge of Allegiance and Public Comment: Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Chimera called for public comment from the audience and there was none.

4. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford and unanimously carried, the minutes of the April 10, 2023 meeting, the Payment of Bills List dated April 24, 2023, and the Construction Escrow Release No. 4 for Westrum Montgomeryville – 425 Stump Road, were approved as presented.

Presentations:

5. Police Officer Commendations: Chief Bendig reported that the Police Department would like to recognize several members of the Department for their exceptional performance in the line of duty as recommended by the Police Department's Award Committee.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board recognized and commended Officer Bins Thomas, Officer Daniel Rose, Officer Peter Byrne and Officer Nicholas Eufrazio for their official outstanding police work commendations.

6. Recognition of Citizen Police Academy Graduates: Chief Bendig stated that the Police Department wished to recognize several members of the community for competing the Department's 2023 Citizen Police Academy. In addition, the Board recognized Officer Robert Johnson for his leadership of the Academy over many years.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board recognized members of the community who completed the Police Department's 2023 Citizen Police Academy.

Planning and Zoning:

7. Review of Zoning Hearing Board Applications: Ms. McConnell identified the pending hearings before the June 7, 2023 Zoning Hearing Board. Application 23050001 is for GK Evans Enterprises, LP – 1100 & 1110 Bethlehem Pike for a variance to allow the proposed wall signage.

Application #23050002 – is for Raising Cane's Restaurants, LLC – 860 Bethlehem Pike for a variance to permit a restaurant serving food or beverages with outdoor counter, drive-through and curb service, as well as a variance to permit the drive-through canopy over the proposed pickup window 54.5 feet from the side property line.

Board consensus was not to enter an appearance for the applications, allowing the Zoning Hearing Board to render decisions based on the testimony presented.

8. Changes to the Meadows at Parkview Landscaping Plan: Ms. McConnell reported that staff and Township professionals met with representatives of the HOA and their arborist to discuss the approved landscape plan. There were concerns about what was promised by Toll Brothers and the plan that was approved by the Board of Supervisors. The HOA's arborist reviewed the list of proposed plantings and suggested alternatives that meet the Township's standards for those plantings that all agree need to be installed or replaced. HOA representatives met with Toll Brothers to discuss the landscaping issues. Toll Brothers agreed to consider some of the proposed modifications based on their arborist and a review letter from Valerie Liggett, the Township's appointed arborist. A revised plan was submitted in April for review. Toll Brothers is seeking the Township's position, noting the Gilmore & Associates review letter appears to be in general agreement with the plantings and locations the HOA is requesting. Judy Stern Goldstein noted if the Township agrees with the revisions, we need to address payment for fee in lieu for the trees and shrubs that are no longer on the plan. The fee has been calculated to be \$59,800.00. This is based on the elimination of 17 street trees, 24 individual lot trees and 64 replacement trees. Discussion followed. Michael Johnson, President of the HOA and a representative from Toll Brothers were present and stated that they were in agreement with the concept plan and fee in lieu.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the proposed revisions to the Meadows at Parkview landscaping plan per the recommendation of the Township's consultants, authorized the calculation of the fee in lieu of any removed trees and shrubs, and communicate this requirement to Toll Brothers. Approval of the revised landscaping concept plan is contingent on the fee in lieu being remitted to the Township, and the revised landscape plan and covenants being recorded.

Public Safety:

9. Authorization to Purchase Police Canine: Chief Bendig reported that canine Odin retired from service due to medical issues in April of 2023. The department is proposing to replace canine Odin with a new canine. A quote has been received from Tarheel Canine Training of Sanford, North Carolina, for the purchase and training of a canine for a total cost of \$13,295.25. The canine will be trained in both patrol and drug detection and the team is anticipated to be on patrol in November 2023.

- **MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the contract for the purchase of one new canine from Tarheel Canine Training of Sanford, North Carolina, at a total cost of \$13,295.25 per their quote dated May 16, 2023.**

Administration and Finance:

10. Award of Bids for Municibid Online Surplus Asset Sale: Mr. Shapiro reported that the bids for the authorized sale of Township surplus assets through online auction Municibid have been completed and tabulated. The Township will receive \$174,316 for the sale of surplus assets.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the sale of the following equipment, as well as authorized the disposal of Cobra Head Street Light Equipment and Fiber Switch Comnet FDX55S2-B equipment:

Listing ID	Auction Item	Winning Bid	First Name	Last Name
56235399	Spectra Candela II Traffic Signal Light Tester (No.3)	\$ 20.00	Steve	Ritter
56235261	Residential Street Light Equipment (Lot No.1)	\$ 51.00	Muhittin	Bagriyanik
56227156	Life Fitness Treadmill No.5 (Base Serial AST127164)	\$ 160.00	Todd	McCartney
56226780	Life Fitness Treadmill No.3 (Base Serial AST127163)	\$ 160.00	Todd	McCartney
56241451	Assorted Beacon Warning Lights (Qty 18)	\$ 310.00	Salvatore	Panzitta
56246358	Motorola MOBILE TWO-WAY RADIO (QTY 8)	\$ 310.00	Jackie	Griffin
56234576	Onan Pro 6000E Generator (No.9)	\$ 310.00	Joshua	Heck
56234810	Onan Pro 6000E Generator (No.13)	\$ 310.00	Joshua	Heck
56248113	Onan Pro 6000E Generator (No.11)	\$ 400.00	Joshua	Heck
56226967	Life Fitness Treadmill No.4 (Base Serial AST127165)	\$ 410.00	Stephen	Mangin

56231395	John Bean Wheel Balancer	\$ 460.00	Ronald	Palmerick
56226585	Life Fitness Treadmill No.2 (Base Serial AST127171)	\$ 575.00	STEVE	MORRET
56248647	2005 Kustom Signals Trailer	\$ 675.00	Brian	Webster
56225667	Life Fitness Treadmill No.1 (Base Serial AST127168)	\$ 675.00	Stephen	Mangin
56241127	2008 Wacker WP 1550 Plate Compactor (No.3)	\$ 700.00	Jon	Eure
56227350	Life Fitness Treadmill No. 6 (Base Serial AST127166)	\$ 725.00	Todd	McCartney
56231605	Metrotech Utility	\$1,650.00	STEVE	MORRET
56245315	2008 Kubota ZD331 Zero Turn Mower	\$2,150.00	Lori	Heffner
56244768	2009 Kubota ZD331 Zero Turn Mower	\$2,700.00	Martin	Bligh
56243025	2002 John Deere 1445 Front Line Diesel Mower (No.13-45)	\$5,656.00	Arthur	Bugbee
56249050	2010 Chrysler 300	\$6,100.00	Charles	Hall
56243726	2002 Bush Hog 2615 Legend	\$6,609.00	Eric	Klinger
56228438	1996 Bomag Roller BW120	\$7,900.00	Leah	Geesey
56249148	2009 Dodge Charger	\$8,100.00	Christopher	Davish
56248745	2016 Chevy Tahoe	\$9,000.00	jean	gauthier
56231047	2001 Woodchuck Chipper	\$10,100.00	Nick	Conti
56230503	2001 90XT Skid Loader	\$28,100.00	Rachelle	Storms
56229424	2005 Case 5905M Backhoe 4x4	\$35,900.00	Diane	Shruntz
56242275	1999 Mack Truck (No.13-11)	\$44,100.00	Leah	Geesey

11. Resolution 2023-09 – Supporting an Amendment to the Sterling Act: Mr. Shapiro reported that recently the PA Senate passed SB 671 which would repeal the Sterling Act and codify the Local Tax Enabling Act with the intent to address the Sterling Act credit and mandate Philadelphia to credit school districts and municipalities for local wage taxes claimed by their residents who are subject to the City of Philadelphia tax on salaries, wages, commissions, and other compensation. In addition, the bill prohibits Philadelphia from assessing taxes on non-residents who are performing their employment duties outside of the City (remote workers). If the Act is amended, it is currently estimated to bring over \$647,000 of additional earned income tax revenue to the Township.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board adopted Resolution 2023-09 supporting an amendment to the Sterling Act to require that up to 1% of earned income by non-residents working in the City of Philadelphia be remitted to the municipality where the taxpayer resides.

Public Works:

12. Purchase of Flat Panel LED Lighting: Mr. Reiff reported that the Public Works Department is requesting authorization to purchase LED Flat Panel Lighting to replace the fluorescent lighting in the Administration and Police complex. The purchase is part of the approved 2023 Capital Investment Plan. A quote was received by Denney Electric Supply to provide the lighting at a total cost of \$9,023.20. The total cost reflects a significant PECO discount of \$15,000.00 if the order is placed on or after June 1, 2023.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of the Flat Panel LED Lighting from Denney Electric Supply for a total cost of \$9,023.20 per the quote dated May 11, 2023.

13. Purchase of New Park Sign for Fellowship Park – Mr. Reiff stated that the department is scheduled to purchase a new Fellowship Park Sign. The new sign will be placed in the park in preparation for the fall 2023 upgrades to be made to the park. A quote has been obtained from Display & Sign Center to provide the requested sign.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of the new Fellowship Park Sign for a total cost of \$3,865.00 per the quote dated March 23, 2023.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

14. Department Reports: Monthly reports were submitted by each department for activity in the month of April. Mr. Grier provided a status on the extensive list of activities and projects the Information Technology Department completed over the past year and those planned for this year.

16. Committee Reports: Ms. Chimera reported that the Planning Commission did not meet. Ms. Long reported that the Public Safety Committee discussed speeding in neighborhoods and safety issues. The committee also reviewed the proposed School Bus Camera patrol pilot program and the Public Works crew completed a two-day chainsaw training program. The Public Safety Committee also participated in the drone demonstration. The Community and Recreation Center Advisory Committee discussed the repairs to the Splash Pad and the purchase of the new treadmills. Kids University orientation was recently held and the summer concerts this year will include food trucks. Pickleball was discussed and a request for more courts was received. Ms. Bamford reported that the Shade Tree Commission hosted Arbor Day and discussed future plantings. The Sewer Authority Board reported a dramatic decrease in COVID cases via the Biobot program. Ms. Staab stated that the EAC will continue its work on the Plastic Waste Reduction program. Ms. Ware reported that the Senior Committee sponsored an evening Medicare seminar.

last month which had over 60 attendees. The committee is looking to host two more seminars this fall.

17. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera and seconded by Ms. Long, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary