

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JUNE 12, 2023**

1. Call to Order: The June 12, 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
Township Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, 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
Asst. Director of Planning Marianne McConnell
Director of Information Technology Rich Grier
Recording Secretary Deborah A. Rivas

ABSENT:

Supervisor Audrey R. Ware

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Public Comment: Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Chimera called for public comment. Ben Hartranft of 105 Bellows Way said that he was excited to hear that the Montgomery Township Police Department, along with many Montgomery County Police departments, are participating in the Blue Envelope program. The purpose of the Blue Envelope Program is to help vehicle drivers who have conditions such as Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), communications challenges, dementia, anxiety or other conditions that might impair their ability to communicate easily during a traffic stop, car accident or other on-the-road interactions with police officers.

Joseph Martin, a local Boy Scout from Troop 69, is working towards his Eagle Scout rank by attending the meeting to earn a merit badge. He was invited by Ms. Chimera to join the Board at the dais and to participate and learn about local government business during the meeting.

4. Announcement of Executive Session – Mr. Kilkenny announced that the Board of Supervisors met earlier this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Township building to discuss two litigation matters and two personnel matters. Mr. Kilkenny stated that the topics discussed are legitimate subjects of an Executive Session under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Sunshine Law.

5. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the May 22, 2023 Board meeting, the Payment of Bills List dated June 12, 2023, Escrow Release #5 – Westrum Montgomeryville, Escrow Release #6 and End of Maintenance Period – Narayan Guest House, and Escrow Release #8 and Start of Maintenance Period were approved as submitted.

Presentation:

6. Update on VMSC Operations: VMSC Chief Shane Wheeler provided an update on the operations of the Volunteer Medical Service Corps over the past year, including the expansion of staff and equipment, current finances, and statistics for Montgomery Township. In addition, Chief Wheeler shared some new projects and ideas that the VMSC is pursuing as well as thanked the Board for their financial support.

Public Safety:

7. Lease Purchase of Replacement Police In-Car Camera System and Body Camera System: Chief Bendig reported that the Police Department was the first one in the North Penn community to implement body-worn cameras as well as an integrated in-car camera system. Under the capital replacement plan, the cameras were scheduled to be replaced in 2024. The department has begun to see failures in some of the units, prompting an early request to replace the camera systems. Lt. William Peoples presented the proposed new system from Axon Enterprise Inc. and discussed the benefits and features of the system. The proposal is for a five-year leased system which includes maintenance and upgrades for the entire lease.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the contract for the lease purchase of the in-car and body-worn camera systems to Axon Enterprise, Inc., a CoStars vendor, at a total cost of \$75,161.03 per year for five years per their quote dated May 26, 2023.

8. Execution of Grant and Purchase of ForenScope Smart Tablet and Fixed License Plate

Reader: Chief Bendig reported that the department applied for grant money from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) and was notified of an award of \$77,000.00 in grant funding for a ForenScope Smart Tablet and a fixed license plate reader.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the Chair to execute the grant agreements under the Local Law Enforcement (LLE) Support Grant Program and award the contract for purchasing a ForenScope Smart Tablet and fixed license plate reader at a total cost of \$69,565.00 per the quotes received from PLATELOGIQ, a CoStars vendor, and Evident Inc., a sole source vendor of all ForenScope Multispectral Imaging Systems.

9. Purchase of Replacement Generator for Battalion 2 Fire Station: Chief Wiegman reported that Battalion 2 is in need of a new generator at the Battalion 2 warehouse as the existing generator has reached the end of its life cycle.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase and installation of a new generator for the Battalion 2 fire station from West Generator Service at a cost of \$26,170.00.

Administration and Finance:

10. Appointment of Building Code Official: Ms. McCreary reported that with the retirement of Bruce Shoupe, the Township needs to appoint a new Building Code Official (BCO). Marianne McConnell, Assistant Director/Zoning Officer has obtained her Building Code Official certification from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried, the Board appointed Marianne McConnell as the designated Building Code Official for Montgomery Township effective June 13, 2023.

11. Resolution 2023-10 – Adoption of the Montgomery County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan: Ms. McCreary reported that the Stafford Act (P.L. 106-390, the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000) requires state and local governments to develop an approved mitigation plan as a condition for receiving certain federal disaster grants and loans. The Montgomery County Planning Commission, the Department of Public Safety, and municipalities throughout the County have worked together to update the plan and recently the plan has been approved by FEMA.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2023-10 adopting the Montgomery County 2022 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

12. Authorization for Bids for Leaf and Yard Waste Collection and Disposal: Ms. McCreary reported that the current contract for leaf and yard waste collection will expire this fall. A condition of eligibility for funding under DEP's 904 Recycling Performance Grant Program is that the Township provides a separate collection of leaf and yard waste.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the advertisement for Bids for Residential Leaf and Yard Waste Collection and Disposal, to provide for a twice-per-year curbside pick-up of bagged leaf and yard waste in the spring and fall, and for a drop-off and disposal of leaf and yard waste once every month.

13. Authorize Sale of Municipal Equipment by Online Auction: Mr. Shapiro reported that the Township has additional equipment to sell by online auction.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the authorization to post for sale a 2014 Dodge Charger Pursuit vehicle and a 2016 Ford Police Interceptor Utility

Old Business: None.

New Business: Ms. Bamford inquired about the work being done on Upper State Road. Mr. Reiff stated that the Rapid Flashing Beacon pedestrian crosswalk signals were being installed to provide residents with a safer crossing to access Spring Valley Park. The flashing beacons are also being installed at Kenas Road, near Davis Drive for Windlestrae Park. The project is approximately six weeks from completion.

14. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera and seconded by Ms. Long, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary