

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SEPTEMBER 11, 2023**

1. Call to Order: The September 11, 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 7:06 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 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 Rec. & Community Ctr Floyd Shaffer
IT Systems Administrator Favian Zendejas
Public Information Coordinator Derek Muller

Ms. Chimera called for a moment of silence in recognition of the anniversary of September 11th.

2. & 3. Pledge of Allegiance and Public Comment: Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Chimera called for public comment. Ben Hartranft of 105 Bellows Way stated that he feels the Township needs more educational pieces and inclusion for special needs individuals.

4. Announcement of Executive Session – Township Solicitor John Walko, Esquire, announced that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session at 6:45 p.m. in the Township building earlier this evening to discuss a matter of litigation. Mr. Walko 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. Long, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the August 28, 2023 Board meeting, the payment of bills for September 11, 2023, Escrow Release #4 for the Meadows at Parkview Toll Brothers, Escrow Release #6 for CSW Luxor VII Montgomeryville, L.P. – Westrum Montgomeryville and Escrow Release #1 for Higher Rock Residential Development were approved as submitted.

Introduction:

6. Swearing-In of New Recruit Police Officers: Chief Bendig reported that two vacancies exist within the department due to a retirement and the creation of a Professional Standards position. A recruit testing process was initiated with twenty-two applications received. Chief Bendig introduced the top two candidates, Michael Poekert and Jacob Millevoi, to be considered for appointment to the positions of Recruit Police Officers. Ms. Chimera administered the oath of office to Mr. Poekert and Mr. Millevoi.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board appointed Michael Poekert and Jacob Millevoi to the position of Recruit Police Officer in the Montgomery Township Police Department effective September 12, 2023.

Presentation:

7. Community and Recreation Center Capital Improvement Plan – Ms. McCreary reported that D’Huy Engineering has been contracted to update the capital improvement plan for the Community and Recreation Center (CRC). Doug Taylor from D’Huy Engineering presented a description of the details of the work his firm did evaluating the condition of the CRC and explained the metrics to determine when and what needs to be updated and/or replaced.

Planning and Zoning:

8. Public Hearing: Proposed Text Amendment – The Village 511-521 Stump Road - Ms. Chimera opened the public hearing at 7:37 p.m. Notes of testimony were taken by Court Reporter Paula Meszaro. Christen G. Pionzio, Esquire, represented the applicant, Harry Hasson, who is proposing a text amendment for redevelopment of his property located at 511-521 Stump Road by adding provisions to permit a new Mixed-Use Complex consisting of nonresidential and residential uses on a single tract of land. The applicant proposes to construct a new 3,600-square-foot building on the property with apartments on the second floor as well as renovate the existing buildings to add second-floor apartments. The proposed amendment includes specific uses permitted as part of the mixed-use complex and parking standards. The proposed amendment would also apply to each property with the S-Shopping Center zoning designation. Township Solicitor John Walko, Esquire, introduced the Township exhibits B1 through B7 into the record. Harry Hasson, applicant, and Andrew Randazzo, Architect, were present. Township staff, consultants, and the County have had the opportunity to review the details of the proposed text amendment and the corresponding review letters are in the packet. The Montgomery Township Planning Commission unanimously recommended the Board of Supervisors approve the proposed ordinance as submitted. The hearing was closed at 7:52 p.m.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board authorized the adoption of Ordinance #23-336Z to amend the Township Zoning Code to Allow Mixed Use Complex by Conditional Use in the S-Shopping Center District.

9. Bharatiya Temple – Amended Stipulated Settlement Agreement – Ms. McConnell reported that in December 2018, the Board of Supervisors authorized the Township Solicitor to enter into a Settlement Stipulation resolving the Bharatiya Temple Zoning Hearing Appeal in the Montgomery County Court of Appeals, docket #2018-03410 for a proposed two-story learning center. The property owner desires to modify the Proposed Improvements and Stipulated Agreement to include “an unfinished basement for storage purposes only, additional parking, a two-story 10,824 sq ft (5,412 sq ft per floor) learning center”. The property owner no longer

intends to construct the additions to the existing Temple building. The applicant must meet the requirements of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas Docket No. 2018-03410 as amended. Carl Wiener, Esquire, represented the applicant.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board authorized the Amended Settlement Stipulation, Docket No. 2018-03410, and facilitated court approval.

Public Safety:

10. Installation of the Antenna and Cable on NWWA Water Tower: Chief Wiegman reported that Township emergency communication upgrades are needed to replace aging infrastructure and increase our current Township radio system's effectiveness, reliability, and range. The upgrades include the placement of a radio repeater and antenna at the new NWWA Water Tower at Airport Square. The North Wales Water Authority (NWWA) has agreed to install the necessary radio antenna and cable. The cost to install the antenna and necessary cable for the radio repeater is \$20,300.00. NWWA will be responsible for installing the antenna and necessary cable from the top of the tank to the radio repeater located inside the tank. The final connection from the antenna to the cable will need to be made by an antenna specialty contractor.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board approved the payment of the cost for NWWA to install the antenna and necessary cable for \$20,300.00.

11. Purchase and Installation of New Lockers and Flooring and Donation of Old Lockers – Chief Bendig reported that the Police Department is proposing purchasing and installing new lockers and flooring in the men's and women's locker rooms. The flooring and lockers are original to when the municipal facility was constructed in 1992. Two quotes have been received from authorized vendors under the COSTARS Cooperative Purchasing Program. The total cost of purchasing and installing new lockers and flooring is \$45,675.00. Additionally, authorization is requested to donate the used lockers to the Carpentry Vocational Program at the North Montco Technical Career Center, as permitted under Section 1504.C.2 of the Pennsylvania Second Class Township Code.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board awarded the contract for the purchase of the requested flooring and installation to P.C. Curry Floor Coverings, an authorized vendor under the Co-Stars Cooperative Purchase Program at a total cost of \$15,690.00.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board awarded the contract for the purchase of the requested lockers and installation to Robinson Steel Company, an authorized vendor under the Co-Stars Cooperative Purchase Program at a total cost of \$29,985.00.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board authorized the donation of the used lockers to the Carpentry Program at the North Montco Technical Career Center, as permitted under Section 1504.C.2 of the Pennsylvania Second Class Township Code.

Public Works:

12. Award of Bid for ADA Upgrades at Bethlehem Pike and Gwynedd Crossing/English Village – Mr. Reiff reported that bids were opened on September 8, 2023. Four bids were received ranging from \$79,498.80 to \$236,960.50.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board awarded the bid for the ADA upgrades at Bethlehem Pike and Gwynedd Crossing/English Village to Marino Corporation, the lowest responsible bidder in the amount of \$79,498.80 per the recommendation of Gilmore & Associates, Township Traffic Engineer.

Parks and Recreation:

13. Approval of Fall 2023 Recreation Programs and Fee Schedule – Mr. Shaffer provided the lineup of fall activities and programs and announced that the community and recreation center is thriving. Mr. Shaffer stated that Angelina Cappelletti and Brian Sullivan are a big part of the success of the center. The Board was very happy and excited to hear that things are happening at the community and recreation center. Ms. Cappelletti reviewed the programs and highlighted new offerings and returning favorites.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board approved the 2023 Fall Recreation Programs and Fee Schedule amendment as submitted.

Old Business –

Ms. Staab reminded everyone about the India Festival being held at the Bharatiya Temple on September 23 and 24. The Township has a table and volunteers are requested to sign up to man the table via a Sign-Up Genius. Ms. McCreary reported that the link for the sign-up was emailed to all volunteer committee members previously.

14. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera and seconded by Ms. Long, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary