

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NOVEMBER 9, 2020**

At 6:30 p.m., Vice Chair Matthew W. Quigg called to order the Executive Session at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, 1001 Stump Road, Montgomeryville, PA. In attendance were Supervisors Candyce Fluehr Chimera, Annette M. Long and Beth A. Staab. Chair Tanya C. Bamford was absent. Also in attendance was Township Manager Carolyn McCreary and Township Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, Esquire.

At 7:00 p.m., Vice Chair Matthew W. Quigg called to order the action meeting at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, 1001 Stump Road, Montgomeryville, PA.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Vice Chair Matthew W. Quigg
Supervisor Candyce Fluehr Chimera
Supervisor Annette M. Long
Supervisor Beth A. Staab
Township Manager Carolyn McCreary
Township Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, Esq.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Police Chief J. Scott Bendig
Director of Fire Services Bill Wiegman
Director of IT Rich Grier
Director of Planning & Zoning Bruce Shoupe
Director of Finance Brian S. Shapiro
Director of Recreation Floyd Shaffer
Director of Admin & HR Ann M. Shade
Director of Public Works Kevin Costello
Recording Secretary Deborah A. Rivas

ABSENT:

Chair Tanya C. Bamford

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Vice Chair Matthew W. Quigg called for public comment from the audience.

Under public comment, Matt Echelmeier of 11 Spur Road, stated that a new Rotary organization had been started in the Montgomery Township, Chalfont Borough and New Britain Township areas. Mr. Echelmeier said that he wanted to bring awareness to the club and its mission as a service organization. The club had already adopted two highways in the Township, Doylestown Road and the 202 Parkway. Mr. Echelmeier asked the Board to consider the Rotary if they hear of any fundraising or service projects that might be needed in the future.

Supervisor Candyce Fluehr Chimera reported that the Halloween Drive-Through Event held on Saturday, October 31, 2020 was a great success. Many thanks were shared with all of those who attended and worked the event. Supervisor Chimera also reported on the 2020 Montgomery County Award presented to Montgomery Township for a transportation improvement project at the Higher Rock Development located at Stump Road and Bethlehem Pike.

Vice Chair Matthew W. Quigg announced that the Board wished to thank the Police Department and Volunteer Fire Personnel for coordinating the successful food drive at Giant Supermarket on October 24, 2020. Due to the generosity of so many, 1,600 lbs. of food was donated to Manna on Main Street and the Mattie N. Dixon Community Cupboard. Vice Chair Quigg also announced

that the Township is again honored to service as a drop-off location for Toys for Tots. New, unwrapped toys may be dropped off in the lobby of the Township building. Also new this year is an online option which allows you to select a toy and donate virtually.

Township Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, Esquire, announced that the Board met in an executive session earlier this evening at 6:30 p.m. to discuss two personnel matters. Mr. Kilkenny stated that these matters are legitimate subjects of executive session pursuant to Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law.

Vice Chair Matthew W. Quigg made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting and Supervisor Beth A. Staab seconded the motion. The minutes of the meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

Montgomery Township Municipal Sewer Authority Manager Shannon Drosnock presented the 2021 Proposed Budget for the Sewer Authority. Members of the Sewer Authority Board were present, Christopher Kelm, Dan Baker and Manish Ingle.

Township Manager Carolyn McCreary reviewed details of the 2021 budget process, noting proposed capital projects and expenditures were presented on September 28, with worksessions held on October 5, October 6 and in an Executive Session held on October 12 to discuss personnel matters.

Included in the budget presentation were highlights of each department's accomplishments and operations in 2020 despite the pandemic. She also shared each department's goals for 2021 and how many of the proposed capital expenditures tied into these goals.

Key points in the 2021 budget are no recommended tax increase, the General Fund expenditures increasing by .99% compared to 2020 with key revenues proposed at 6.1% less than 2020 due to uncertainty in earned income tax and business privilege tax revenue. The budget also includes the addition of one full-time firefighter, and one entry level position in Administration/Human Resources. The proposed expenditures of \$13,460,000 equal the proposed revenue in the General Fund, resulting in no proposed utilization of fund balance (reserves). It was noted that the proposed capital expenditures for 2021 are 40% less than those approved as part of the adopted 2020 budget. Total expenditures for all funds is \$20,996,700.

Resolution #20-174 made by Supervisor Beth A. Staab, seconded by Supervisor Annette M. Long and adopted unanimously, authorized the advertisement of the proposed 2021 Budget (all funds) to be considered for adoption at the public meeting on Monday, December 14, 2020 after 7:00 p.m. Copies of the adopted Preliminary Budget will be made available for viewing at the Township building and on the Township website at www.montgomerytwp.org.

Director of Public Works Kevin Costello reported that staff is proposing the replacement of the 25 year old Honeywell control panel with a new Carrier VVT zone system. The system will consist of 9 zones with modulating bypass dampers and separate thermostats for each zone. Three quotes were solicited and Scatton's Heating & Cooling provided the lowest quote for a total cost

of \$20,230.00. Resolution #20-175 made by Supervisor Annette M. Long, seconded by Supervisor Beth A. Staab and adopted unanimously, authorized the installation of the zone system control panel to be installed by Scatton's Heating and Cooling Inc. for a total cost of \$20,300.00.

Chief of Police J. Scott Bendig reported that staff is requesting consideration for the adoption of Ordinance #20-316 – Amendment to Chapter 107 of the Montgomery Township Ordinance – Firearms and Hunting. Chief Bendig stated that currently the ordinance allows for the discharge of firearms and bows and arrows for the purpose of target practice on residential properties. Since the adoption of this ordinance in 1992, the residential population has doubled, therefore, the allowance of the discharge of firearms and bows and arrows on residential properties for target practice is unsafe based on population density and the change is recommended. Resolution #20-176 made by Vice Chair Matthew W. Quigg, seconded by Supervisor Candyce Fluehr Chimera and adopted unanimously, adopted Ordinance #20-316, amending Chapter 107 of the Township Ordinance-Firearms and Hunting.

Chief of Police J. Scott Bendig reported that staff is requesting consideration for the execution of an Intermunicipal Police Services Agreement between Montgomery Township, Warrington Township and New Britain Township. This agreement was created in an effort to formulate a County Line Road Traffic Task Force. The Task Force is designed to provide mutual police aid across jurisdictional lines along County Line Road in the three Townships to enable police to more effectively enforce traffic statutes. Discussion followed. Resolution #20-177 made by Supervisor Annette M. Long, seconded by Vice Chair Matthew W. Quigg and adopted unanimously, authorized the adoption of the Intermunicipal Police Services Agreement.

Director of Finance Brian Shapiro reported that Berkheimer Associates, the appointed tax collector for Earned Income, Local Services, Merchantile, Business Privilege and Amusement taxes, requires a resolution for online access to view various reports. Mr. Shapiro recommended that three staff members of the Finance Department, in addition to himself, be granted online access. Resolution #20-178 made by Vice Chair Matthew W. Quigg, seconded by Supervisor Annette M. Long and adopted unanimously, approved the Confidentiality Resolution authorizing liaisons between the Finance Director, Human Resources Coordinator and two Accounting Associates and Berkheimer Associates for the express purpose of sharing confidential tax information for official purposes.

A motion to approve the payment of bills was made by Supervisor Candyce Fluehr Chimera, seconded by Vice Chair Matthew W. Quigg, and adopted unanimously, approving the payment of bills as submitted for November 9, 2020.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary