

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SEPTEMBER 27, 2021**

1. Call to Order: The September 27, 2021 public meeting of the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, 1001 Stump Road, Montgomeryville, PA. Chair Tanya C. Bamford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair Tanya C. Bamford
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, William Wiegman
Director of Planning & Zoning, Bruce Shoupe
Director of Public Works, Greg Reiff
Director of Rec. & Community Ctr. Floyd Shaffer
Director of Administration & HR, Ann Shade
Information Techs Wes Whitaker & Favian Zendejas
Recording Secretary, Deborah A. Rivas
Public Information Coordinator, Derek Muller

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

- October 4th is Emergency Services Night. Our first responders will be at Wegmans from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- October 9th is the Drive-Thru Trick or Treat Experience from 2 to 4 p.m. at the William F. Maule Park at Windlestrae.
- October 23rd is National Drug Take Back Day from 10 am to 1 pm at the Township's Community and Recreation Center. This is a drive-thru event.
- On October 30th the Township is partnering with Senator Maria Collett's office and holding a FREE shredding event at the William F. Maule Park at Windlestrae. Residents are limited to 4 file-sized boxes per car and no bound materials can be accepted.
- The Montgomery Township Police Department is collecting non-perishable food items in support of Montgomery County Children & Youth Services for Thanksgiving Dinners for families in financial hardship. Donations will be accepted in the Township Building Lobby from September 27th to October 31st.

4. Public Comment – Under public comment, Suzan Leonard, residing in Upper Gwynedd Township, stated that she serves on the Board of Directors for the North Wales Library and she was there to support Executive Director Jayne Blackledge. Ms. Leonard stated that she was hoping that the library could build a continuing relationship with Montgomery Township.

5. Presentations: Ms. Bamford presented a check in the amount of \$5,000 to the MontCo Anti-Hunger Network. Executive Director Paula Schafer was present to accept the donation. Ms. Bamford also presented a check in the amount of \$1,500 to the North Wales Library. Director Jayne Blackledge was present to accept the donation.

6. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Mr. Quigg and unanimously carried, the minutes of the September 13, 2021 meeting and the Bills List dated September 27, 2021 were approved as presented.

Planning & Zoning:

7. Board Positions for Zoning Hearing Board Applications: Mr. Shoupe presented three applications to be considered by the Zoning Hearing Board at their October meeting. The first application is for 322 Regency Drive for the construction of a deck. The second application is for 111 David Lane for a variance to operate a personal / boxing training facility within the garage of the home. The third application is for 435 Doylestown Road for the use of outdoor dining on the property which is zoned R-5 Residential. The Board declined to intervene on the applications.

Public Safety:

8. Authorization to Prepare and Advertise Ordinance for Truck Restrictions in the Pine Crest Community: Chief Bendig reported that earlier this year there was damage to property reported due to a tractor trailer attempting to make a right turn into the Pine Crest Development. The Police Department's Highway Safety Unit was asked to prepare a study to determine if truck restrictions in the Pine Crest community should be considered to avoid future damage. It was determined that a truck restriction is justified, especially with alternate state routes being available for commercial vehicles.

Under public comment, Mike Thompson of 508 Country Club Drive stated that he agreed with restricting truck traffic in the community. Mr. Thompson also asked the Township to consider restricting parking to one side only of County Club Drive as the road is narrow and it would be difficult for a fire truck to come down the road in an emergency as vehicles currently park on both sides of the road.

Also, under public comment, Anne Flink of 132 Country Club Drive, stated that she is the President of the HOA for Pine Crest and that there is a considerable amount of speeding and vehicles cutting through the Pine Crest community. She asked the Police to monitor the situation and enforce the speed limit. Ms. Flink was in support of restricting tractor trailer traffic in the community.

Ms. Staab stated that there was signage available that can be placed on your property asking people to slow down. She also said that residents can remind their guests and neighbors to mind the speed limit in the community. Chief Bendig offered to attend the annual Homeowner's Association meeting to speak with residents about these concerns.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Mr. Quigg and unanimously carried, the Board authorized Township staff and professionals to prepare and advertise

the proposed ordinance, restricting truck traffic as described in the Gilmore & Associates correspondence to the Township dated September 8, 2021.

9. Security Camera Replacement Purchase for Police Department: Chief Bendig reported that in July of 2021, the department's internal security camera system consisting of seventeen cameras suffered a catastrophic failure, resulting in video loss throughout the station. While the system has been restored, its current condition requires an expedited replacement, deviating from the scheduled 2022 replacement. A quote has been received from The Protection Bureau to provide the requested equipment and installation. A prerequisite of this project will require the installation of cabling throughout the Police Department facility. A quote has been received from Bridgecable.com Network Cabling to provide these services.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the contract for cable installation services to Bridgecable.com Network Cabling to provide services at a total cost of \$7,442.30; Upon motion by Ms. Long, seconded by Mr. Quigg and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the contract for the purchase and installation of equipment to The Protection Bureau at a total cost of \$24,295.00.

Public Works:

10. Purchase of Woods Batwing Mower:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of one 2021 Woods 15' Batwing Mower from Cherry Valley Tractor, at a total cost of \$25,649.50, per their quote dated September 21, 2021.

11. Purchase of Brush Bandit Chipper:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Long, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried, the Board approved the purchase of 2021 Intimidator 19XPC (19" Drum Style) Brush Bandit Chipper from Modern Group, LTD, at a total cost of \$93,766.80 per their quote dated September 22, 2021.

Administration & Finance:

12. Presentation of Proposed 2022 Capital Expenditures (All Departments): Ms. McCreary reviewed details of the Capital Investment Plan (CIP), noting the proposed expenditures for 2022 is \$8 million. She stated while the number of projects is ambitious for one year, every Department Head was instructed to prioritize equipment and projects. She stated the other criteria for inclusion in the budget was a reliable cost estimate and the ability to complete the project or make the purchase in 2022. She pointed out that due to ongoing supply and labor shortages she was hoping to put things out to bid as early as possible. Included in the proposed budget is the following:

- \$2.14 million for traffic signal improvements including emergency preemption along Route 309
- \$1 million for the Powerline Trail (Phase I) – partially funded by a TAP grant
- \$840,000 for stormwater projects including the Sassafras storm sewer replacement
- \$839,000 for road paving
- \$800,000 for a new firetruck with ½ being paid in 2022
- \$250,000 for surface replacement at Whistlestop Park
- \$235,000 for an additional Dog Park
- \$366,000 for bocce ball courts at the Community Recreation Center and Friendship Park

Ms. McCreary and the Department Heads answered questions from the Board concerning the CIP with Ms. McCreary stating if there was no opposition to what is being proposed it would be included in the budget which will be presented formally on November 8th.

Other Business:

13. Department and Committee Liaison Reports: There were no questions for the Department heads regarding their reports for the month of August.

At the request of Ms. Bamford, each Department has been asked to be featured each month and provide an update at the meeting. The Public Works and Recreation Departments were selected for this meeting. Mr. Reiff reported on some of the projects completed this year by the Public Works Department including the Autumn Woods trail and swale repair and the installation of the sign and flagpole at Friendship Park. Other ongoing tasks include park mowing, including 64 basins, street sweeping, part of the MS4 requirements, and recently adding No Parking signs to Bridle Path Road. Mr. Shaffer thanked Mr. Reiff and his crew for providing their time and talents to projects at the community and recreation center. Mr. Shaffer reported that COVID required the center to start over and slowly things are beginning to get busier. Mr. Shaffer outlined the activities that occurred at the center on this particular day.

14. Committee Liaison Reports: Ms. Chimera reported that the Business Development Partnership had a presentation by members of Septa, which is researching how people are travelling and how Septa can better serve the suburban areas. Ms. Bamford reported that the most recent Biobot study showed that COVID numbers are decreasing. In addition, the Sewer plant was applauded for how it handled the significant rainfall which was received during Hurricane Ida. Lastly, Ms. Bamford reported that there were rumors regarding the privatization of the Sewer Authority and that these were rumors. There is no intention to sell the Sewer Authority in Montgomery Township.

15. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford and seconded by Mr. Quigg, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary