

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NOVEMBER 22, 2021**

1. Call to Order: The November 22, 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, Rebecca Geiser, Esq.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Police Chief, J. Scott Bendig
Director of Fire Services, William Wiegman
Director of Finance, Brian Shapiro
Director of Admin. & Human Resources, Ann Shade
Director of Planning & Zoning, Bruce Shoupe
Director of Rec. & Community Ctr., Floyd Shaffer
Director of Information Technology, Rich Grier
Public Information Coordinator, Derek Muller
Information Tech, Favian Ruiz
Recording Secretary, Deborah A. Rivas

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

- Our annual Toys for Tots drive is underway! With ongoing supply concerns, we are asking residents to consider purchasing new toys now and dropping them off in the lobby of the Township building and/or community center. Toys are being collected now through December 15th.
- Chief Bendig announced that on November 13th and 14th Montgomery Township hosted the 2021 United States Police Canine Association Region 6 “Police Dog 1” Field Trials. The certification was for the canines and handlers to display their ability to proficiently work as a team and receive an independent evaluation and certification from the organization. Chief Bendig stated that all four Township teams passed their certifications and Officer Schreiber and Canine Cooper, who were present at the meeting, were awarded 2nd place overall for the event.

4. Public Comment – There was no public comment from the audience.

5. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Mr. Quigg and unanimously carried, the minutes of the November 8, 2021 meeting and the Bills List dated November 22, 2021 were approved as presented.

6. Presentations – American Red Cross: Jennifer Graham, Executive Director of the Del Val Chapter of the American Red Cross and Rosanne Marks, Account Manager, Biomedical Services thanked the Township for hosting many blood drives over the years and specifically, during 2020. Ms. Graham and Ms. Marks described the Battle of the Badges as a friendly competition that was held in August which helped to create interest in donations. The drive had 69 donations which saved over 207 patients. The Police and Fire Departments had representatives and giveaways to provide to donors at the Battle of the Badges. A bragging rights plaque was presented to the Fire Services Department as the winner of the most votes by donors and accepted by Mr. Wiegman.

Planning and Zoning:

7. Public Hearing - Westrum Luxor Lifestyle Apartments Conditional Use Hearing: Ms. Bamford opened the hearing which had been continued from October 25, 2021 at 7:16pm. Notes of testimony were taken by Court Stenographer Tim Kurek. Attorney Carrie Nase represented the applicant, Westrum Development. The applicant is proposing the development of a vacant 10 +/- acre parcel of land behind the Rodeway Inn on Bethlehem Pike for approximately 220+ Lifestyle Apartments. Attorney Mark Sesso of Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell and Lupin, requested party status during the hearing. Mr. Sesso stated that he represents the adjoining landowner, 425 Stump Road Associates, LLC. Party status was accepted by Ms. Bamford. Witnesses who testified for Westrum Development were Anthony Caponigro, P.E. of Kimley-Horn and Associates, Matt Shinton, P.E. of Kimley-Horn and Associates, and John Westrum, Chairman and CEO of Westrum Development. Residents who made public comment included Mike Woznyj of 400 Pimlico Way, Kristen Voltz of 169 Jonathan Drive and Joanne Cunningham of 117 Narcissus Place. Resident's concerns included the size of the development, buffering, traffic issues, specifically turning left onto Stump Road, traffic counts, delivery vehicles being included in the anticipated traffic counts, and pedestrian crossing on Bethlehem Pike. At the conclusion of testimony, questions and public comment, the hearing closed at 8:33 p.m.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried, the Board approved the conditional use permitted for lifestyle apartments in the HLI-Industrial zoning district, with the following conditions: 1) abide by the conditions required by the Fire Department; 2) address the stacking concerns and/or escrow account considered for future traffic impact; and 3) continue to work with the Township staff and comply with conditions as approved.

8. Shake Shack Land Development Plan – At the request of the applicant, this agenda item has been tabled and will be discussed at a future Board meeting

9. PEMV Partners, LP, 1224 Welsh Road Construction Escrow Release:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried, the Board authorized a construction escrow release in the amount of \$111,337.69 as recommended by the Township Engineer.

10. Board Positions for Zoning Hearing Board Applications: Mr. Shoupe presented two applications to be considered by the Zoning Hearing Board at their December meeting. The first application is for 104 Carnaby Circle for the installation of a standby generator. The second application is for 739 Bethlehem Pike for a proposed car wash which requires a variance to allow a less than 25-foot wide landscaped area along the side yards of the property and a variance to allow for no loading space as a proposed car wash does not need a loading space for the operation of its business. The Board declined to intervene on the applications.

Public Safety:

11. Fulfillment of One Mind Campaign Pledge: Ms. McCreary announced that the police department has completed an initiative that they undertook earlier this year to improve their response to those suffering from mental health issues in our community. The pledge is part of an initiative called the One Mind Campaign started by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP). In completing the One Mind Pledge, the police department has established a sustainable partnership with a local mental health organization, developed and implemented a model policy to address officers' interactions with those affected by mental illness, and ensured that all of the officers received mental health awareness training, with over 40 percent of the department completing the more intensive Crisis Intervention Specialist training. With the completion of this pledge, the department becomes only the fourth (and the largest) agency in the Commonwealth to complete this initiative, and the first in Montgomery County.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board congratulated the officers of the Montgomery Township Police Department for their successful completion of the One Mind Campaign and commended Chief Scott Bendig for his commitment to this mental health initiative and for constantly striving to position this Police Department to continue to be at the forefront in law enforcement.

Recreation:

12. 2022 Winter Recreation Programs and Fees: Angelina Capozzi, Community and Recreation Center Program Supervisor, presented the roster of Winter 2022 Recreation/Fitness Programs and the recommended fee schedules for the various activities.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board approved the 2022 Winter Recreation Program and Fee Schedule as submitted.

Administration & Finance:

13. End of Maintenance Period – Cutler Landscaping Projects: Ms. McCreary reported that in late October, Gilmore & Associates staff inspected the landscaping at the Cutler residential

developments, identifying any trees that needed to be replaced before the end of the maintenance period. Some additional trees were replaced to address homeowners' concerns.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford and unanimously carried, the Board approved the close out of the maintenance period for the landscape restoration project for Montgomery Pointe, Montgomery Preserve, and Montgomery Walk per the recommendation of Gilmore & Associates, the Township's landscape architect, in their letter dated November 10, 2021.

14. Approve the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission Compost Agreement Renewal: Ms. McCreary reported that the Township is one of eleven (11) municipalities who are members of the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission. The Commission was established for the purpose of implementing the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988. The current compost agreement will expire on 12/31/21 and the Commission's Solicitor has negotiated a new agreement on behalf of the member municipalities. The agreement is for a three-year term with one automatic three-year renewal.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission compost agreement with Barnside Farms Compost Facility and authorized the Chairperson to execute it on behalf of the Township.

Other Business:

15. Department Reports: There were no questions for the Department heads regarding their reports for the month of October.

Each Department has been asked to be featured each month and provide an update at the meeting. The Fire Services Department was selected for this meeting. Mr. Wiegman reported that the three new full-time firefighters have completed their probationary period. The Fire Department has changed their probationary period to mimic the field training program utilized by the Police Department. The department created a new member training and orientation program for both career staff and volunteer staff. The fire truck selection committee will be traveling to Nebraska to do a final inspection on the new tower truck which is expected to arrive to the station, fully equipped with decals, etc., by the end of December or beginning of January. Staff is currently working with a fire department in Tennessee for the potential sale of Ladder 18. The FDMT Relief Association recently purchased new nozzles for the whole department which will help standardize the equipment. October was fire prevention month and the whole department participated in various activities throughout the month.

19. Committee Liaison Reports: Ms. Staab reported that the Shade Tree Commission hosted a forestry workshop for the region a few weeks ago. Ms. Chimera reported on the Business Development Partnership meeting where Lt. Bill Peoples and Community Policing Officer Rob Johnson spoke to the members about the license plate readers and how they are helping the

community. Ms. Bamford reported that the Community and Recreation Center Advisory Committee discussed the possible renaming of one of the baseball fields in honor of former Park and Recreation Board member and sports coach Mike Okino. The Sewer Authority reported on the bio bot study and that the numbers indicate that COVID numbers in the Township are stable, but still present.

15. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford and seconded by Ms. Staab, the meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary