

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
JANUARY 3, 2022**

**SWEARING IN OF THE ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

The Honorable A. Nicole Tate-Phillips, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery County PA, administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Township officials: Patricia Gallagher as Real Estate Tax Collector; Kunbi Rudnick as Township Auditor; Lauren Deborah Wilson as Township Auditor; Candyce Fluehr Chimera as Township Supervisor and Audrey R. Ware as Township Supervisor.

**REORGANIZATION MEETING**

**1. Call to Order:** The January 3, 2022 reorganization 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:**

Supervisor Tanya C. Bamford  
Supervisor Candyce Fluehr Chimera  
Supervisor Annette M. Long  
Supervisor Beth A. Staab (Virtually)  
Supervisor Audrey R. Ware  
Township Manager Carolyn McCreary

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Police Chief J. Scott Bendig  
Director of Fire Services Bill Wiegman  
Director of Planning & Zoning Bruce Shoupe  
Director of Finance Brian Shapiro  
Director of Information Technology Rich Grier  
Director of Public Works Greg Reiff  
Director of Administration & HR Ann M. Shade  
Information Technology Tech Wes Whitaker  
Recording Secretary Deborah A. Rivas

**2. & 3.** Following the Pledge of Allegiance, upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried, Ms. Bamford was appointed to serve as the Temporary Chair.

**4. Nomination and Election of Chair:**

Upon nomination by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab, Ms. Bamford was nominated as Chairwoman, no other nominations were presented, the Board unanimously elected Ms. Bamford as Chairwoman for 2022.

**5. Nomination and Election of Vice Chair:**

Upon nomination by Ms. Long, seconded by Ms. Bamford, Ms. Chimera was nominated as Vice Chairwoman, no other nominations were presented, the Board unanimously elected Ms. Chimera as Vice Chairwoman for 2022.

**6. Resolution 2022-01 – Establish Holidays, Meeting Dates, Official Appointments & Treasurer’s Bond:**

**MOTION:** Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Long, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2022-01 – a resolution establishing the Township Holidays for 2022, the Board of Supervisors meeting dates, the official Township appointments and setting the Treasurer’s Bond for 2022.

**7. Resolution 2022-02 – Acknowledgement of Professional Appointments, Appointments to Boards, Committees & Commissions, Qualifying Depositories and Approval of Authorized Drivers.**

**MOTION:** Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Ware and unanimously carried, the Board adopted Resolution #2022-02, acknowledging the professional appointments, appointing the Volunteer Committee and Board members to new terms, qualifying the depositories and approving the list of authorized drivers.

**8. Approval of 2022 Fee Schedule:**

**MOTION:** Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board adopted the 2022 Fee Schedule as presented, effective January 3, 2022.

**9. Township Consultant Fees:**

**MOTION:** Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Ware and unanimously carried, the Board approved the fees for 2022 for the appointed Township consultants effective January 3, 2022.

**10. Certify Delegate to Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors:**

**MOTION:** Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried, the Board certified Supervisor Audrey R. Ware as the voting delegate to represent Montgomery Township at the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) Conference for 2022.

**11. Appoint Board Liaisons to Township Committees:**

**MOTION:** Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried, the Board adopted Resolution #2021-07 qualifying its depositories as presented.

**12. Appointment of Officials and Consultants:**

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried, the Board appointed the following Board members and staff to serve as liaisons to the following committees, boards and agencies for 2022:**

- Autumn Festival Committee – all Board members
- Business Development Partnership – Beth Staab
- Community & Recreation Center Committee – Annette Long
- Environmental Advisory Committee – Beth Staab
- Finance Committee – Audrey Ware
- Human Relations Commission – Tanya Bamford
- Open Space Committee – Carolyn McCreary
- Park and Recreation Board – Candyce Chimera
- Planning Commission – Candyce Chimera
- Pension Committee – Carolyn McCreary
- Public Safety Committee – Annette Long
- Ready for 100 Committee – Beth Staab
- Senior Committee – Audrey Ware
- Sewer Authority Board – Tanya Bamford
- Shade Tree Commission – Tanya Bamford

### **ACTION MEETING**

**1. Call to Order:** The January 3, 2022 action meeting of the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairwoman Bamford at 7:19 p.m.

**2. Public Comment:** Under public comment, Amy Hanson of 116 Gwynmont Circle stated that this was the eighth Board meeting that she has attended since July of 2020 and asked for the Supervisors and Staff to create a reasonable legal path for residents to obtain backyard chickens. Ms. Hanson described chickens as pets and not livestock and outlined the benefits of raising them. Ms. Hanson encouraged the Board to conduct a trial of backyard chickens in the Township and she offered her assistance with educating residents during a trial.

**3. Announcement of Executive Session:** Township Manager Carolyn McCreary announced that the Board met in executive session at 6:00 p.m. this evening to discuss personnel matters.

**4. Consent Agenda:**

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford and unanimously carried, the minutes of the December 13, 2021 meeting and the Bills List dated January 3, 2022 were approved as presented.**

**Planning & Zoning:**

**5. Board Positions for New Zoning Hearing Board Applications:** Mr. Shoupe presented two applications to be considered by the Zoning Hearing Board at their January meeting. The first application is for 739 Bethlehem Pike for the construction of a car wash. The second application is for 1282 Welsh Road for a proposed auto repair shop. Both applications presented involved traffic and parking concerns so the Board consensus was to send the Township Solicitor to the Zoning Hearing Board to oppose the applications.

**Administration and Finance:**

**6. Acknowledgement of Request for Benefits:** Newly elected Supervisor Audrey R. Ware notified the Township in writing that she would like to be placed on the Township's health insurance plan as permitted under the Second-Class Township Code.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, with Supervisor Ware abstaining, the Board approved the request to add Supervisor Ware to the Township's health insurance plan.**

**7. Amendment to Police Chief's Memorandum of Understanding:** Ms. McCreary reported that Chief Bendig entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) when he was promoted to Chief as he was no longer a member of the collective bargaining unit. Ms. McCreary noted that the MOU did not contain a severance provision as is common with employment agreements such as this one. A draft amendment was created by the Township's labor attorney for the Board's consideration. The term of severance suggested by the Board is one week for every year employed by the Township. Chief Bendig's hire date is July 28, 1989.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried, the Board approved the amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding with J. Scott Bendig dated September 24, 2012.**

**8. Comcast Franchise Renewal – Proposal for Multi-Municipal Negotiation:** Ms. McCreary reported that approximately 15 municipalities are eligible for a renewal of the franchise agreement with Comcast. The Cohen Law Group has prepared a proposal for the negotiations and includes a franchise fee audit to determine if the municipalities were paid the revenue they are entitled to. As more members agree to participate in the agreement for negotiations, the fee for the Township may be discounted. The current fee is \$10,900 and could range from \$8,175 to \$9,810 depending on the number of municipalities that agree to participate in this process.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Ware and unanimously carried, the Board approved the proposal from the Cohen Law Group dated December 6, 2021 for the cable franchise renewal negotiations with Comcast and the franchise fee audit.**

**9. Award of Bids – Municibid Online Surplus Asset Sale** – Mr. Shapiro announced that the online auction for various Township equipment ended on December 30, 2021. Five items received bids and are recommended for award. Three items did not receive any bids and are recommended for disposal, and one item, the 2001 E-ONE 95ft. rear mounted platform aerial fire truck received a bid much less than the reserve and is recommended to be rejected by the Board. A discussion regarding the sale of the ladder was held and suggestions were made to research the possibility of donating the truck should there be no offer to sell the vehicle at a reasonable price.

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the sale of the following equipment:**

- **1997 Gravely Walk-Behind Mower sold to Brian Shapiro in the amount of \$495.00**
- **2013 Ford Police Interceptor sold to Mitchell Cohen in the amount of \$ 6,150.00**
- **ENRADD Speed Device sold to John Doucette in the amount of \$1,250.00**
- **2006 F-350 4X4 sold to Michael Harris in the amount of \$17,900.00**
- **2000 FORD F-550 4X4 sold to Brian Werely in the amount of \$24,100.00**

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the disposal of the following equipment:**

- **LTI Laser Technology Inc.**
- **Trax Mite Traffic Counter**
- **ITC Traffic Ace Classifier**

**MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Long, seconded by Ms. Ware and unanimously carried, the Board rejected the following bid:**

- **2001 E-ONE 95ft rear mounted platform aerial truck bid in the amount of \$32,000 from Kyle Koretsky.**

**14. Adjournment:** Upon motion by Ms. Bamford and seconded by Ms. Chimera, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary