

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MAY 9, 2022**

1. Call to Order: The May 9, 2022, public meeting of the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, 1001 Stump Road, Montgomeryville, PA. Chairwoman Tanya C. Bamford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair Tanya C. Bamford
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
Fire Chief, William Wiegman
Director of Finance, Brian Shapiro
Director of Admin & HR, Ann Shade
Director of Public Works, Greg Reiff
Director of Planning, Bruce Shoupe
Director of Information Technology, Rich Grier

ABSENT:

Vice Chairwoman, Candyce Fleuhr Chimera
Supervisor Audrey R. Ware
Recording Secretary, Deborah Rivas

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

- The Earth Day and Arbor Day events were significant successes on Saturday, April 23. Two hundred twenty-five trees were distributed to residents by the Shade Tree Commission, and 15,795 pounds of electronic waste were recycled at the EAC's Electronic Recycling Event.
- The Montgomery Township Police, Fire, and Public Works Departments coordinated a food drive benefitting the Mattie N. Dixon Community Cupboard on Saturday, April 30, at Giant. Seven hundred sixty-seven pounds of food and essential items were collected during the event.
- The Police Department also participated in the National Drug Take-Back Day on April 30th, collecting 106 pounds of medication between the two drop-off locations, Giant and Wegmans.
- Ms. Bamford announced that Ann Shade, Director of Administration and Human Resources, will leave the Township to pursue a new career path. Ms. Shade was recognized for her 21 years of service to the Township.

4. Public Comment – There was no public comment.

5. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Long, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried (3-0), the minutes of the April 11, 2022 meeting, the ratification of the payment of

bills for April 11 and April 25, 2022, and the payment of bills for May 9, 2022, were approved as presented.

Public Safety:

6. Recognition of National Police Week:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-20, recognizing the week of May 11 through May 17, 2022, as National Police Week, honoring the service and sacrifice of those law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities, especially Officer David Hancock of the Montgomery Township Police Department who lost his life on December 11, 1976.

7. Recognition of Police Officer Commendations:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Long, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board recognized and commended Detective Sergeant Glenn Davis, Detective Todd Walter, Detective Ricardo DeJesus, Officer Joseph Schott, and Officer Scully for their official outstanding police work commendations.

8. Swearing-In of New Recruit Police Officers: Chief Bendig reported that two vacancies would be occurring within the Police Department in 2022 due to retirements. A recruit testing process was initiated with two hundred and fourteen applications. Chief Bendig introduced the top two candidates, Hannah Moran and Sean Orrison, to be considered for appointment to the positions of Recruit Police Officers. Ms. Bamford administered the oath of office to Ms. Moran and Mr. Orrison.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board appointed Hannah Moran and Sean Orrison to the position of Recruit Police Officer in the Montgomery Township Police Department effective May 10, 2022.

Planning and Zoning:

9. Subdivision Approval – Pecan Properties, 901 Lansdale Avenue – Samuel Costanzo, P.E. of Van Cleef Engineering Associates, presented the plan for a 3-lot subdivision at the corner of Lansdale Avenue and Knapp Road. The waivers requested were discussed, and the Board agreed to accept all waivers except for the placement of sidewalks, which will be required, and a requirement for installing a crosswalk across Knapp Road, subject to PennDOT approval.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-21, approving the Pecan Properties residential subdivision, subject to the conditions stated on the record.

10. Waiver of Special Event Permit Fee – Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Church:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board approved the waiver of fees (\$169.50) associated with the temporary sign/special event permit and the general electrical work for the Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Summer Festival.

11. Appointment of Building Code Appeals Alternate Member:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board appointed Christopher Stigler to the Building Code of Appeals Board as an alternate member for a four-year term ending on January 1, 2024.

Administration and Finance:

12. Website Redesign Proposal – Ms. McCreary reported that staff has been evaluating the current website to be more user-friendly and help promote one of our citizen engagement goals. After reviewing multiple municipal websites with the plan to include an update in the 2023 budget, staff contacted eGov, our current website designer. They advised that they could redesign the website and reorganize our content for \$10,000. Derek Muller, Public Information Coordinator, presented additional information and examples of his vision for the new website.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board approved the proposal from eGov Strategies dated April 5, 2022, for \$10,000.00 for the redesign of the Township's website.

13. Appointment to Police Pension Committee:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Long, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board appointed Lt. Gerald Dougherty as a member of the Police Pension Board.

Public Works:

14. Advertisement of Bid for Resurfacing of Courts at Whistlestop Park: Mr. Reiff reported that staff and engineers from Gilmore & Associates met to discuss work recommended on the courts in Whistlestop Park. The work includes stone dust overlay on the hockey and basketball courts, installing two new basketball systems, crack repairs, and new color coating and striping on the tennis courts.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board authorized the bid advertisement for the Whistlestop Court Projects.

Old Business:

15. Sale of Ladder 18 (2002 E-One Rear Mount Platform): Chief Wiegman reported that the department had received a conditional offer of sale from a fire department located in Beaverton, Michigan. They will be requesting approval from their Board of Directors to purchase Ladder 18 for \$110,000.00. They will be meeting on Tuesday, May 10, 2022. Staff is seeking the Board's authorization to continue the utilization of a broker to assist in the sale of Ladder 18. The broker's commission will be 5% of the final sale price of Ladder 18. The department will have to replace the tires on Ladder 18 and make some minor repairs before the sale as a condition of the offer.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board approved the sale of Ladder 18 for \$110,000.00 and authorized the Department of Fire Services to accept the offer and execute all documentation required to facilitate the sale and transfer of the title of Ladder 18.

New Business:

16. Resolution Supporting DCED Grant Application – Whistlestop Park: Ms. McCreary reported that a new round of applications for DCED's Greenways, Trails, and Recreation grant program opened and will close on May 31st. Eligible projects include the rehabilitation and development of parks. The staff has confirmed that the recent application for a DCNR grant does not preclude the Township from seeking funding from this program.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Long, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-22 supporting the grant application to the Department of Community and Economic Development for the Whistlestop Park Improvement Project.

17. Resolution Recognizing National Public Works Week:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-23, recognizing the week of May 15 through May 21, 2022, as National Public Works Week.

18. Resolution Recognizing National Emergency Services Week:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Long, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried (3-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-24, recognizing the week of May 15 through May 21, 2022, as National Emergency Medical Services Week.

19. Discussion on Ordinance Amendment for Medical Marijuana Dispensaries: Ms. McCreary reported that staff was requested to provide information showing what other municipalities have done regarding the location of medical marijuana dispensaries. Ms. McCreary provided examples of ordinances enacted by surrounding municipalities that require that no dispensary facility be located within 1,000 feet in any direction of the property line of any public, private or

parochial school, day-care center, or family day-care center, as well as not to be within 1,000 feet of another medical marijuana dispensary property. Discussion followed, and the consensus was to prepare a draft ordinance amendment for the Board's future consideration.

20. Department Reports: Mr. Reiff reported the impact that delays in ordering supplies and products have had on his department. Many orders for products that the department uses daily are running eight to twelve weeks behind on delivery. Traffic signal equipment and poles are six months behind. Pricing is also affected. A ten-foot conduit section was previously \$2, and now it is \$10-12. The Public Works staff has been stretching out its equipment as long as possible and will continue to do so.

21. Committee Reports: Ms. Long reported that the Public Safety Committee activities were part of this evening's meeting, the Police Commendations and new hires, as well as the potential sale of Ladder 18. Ms. Staab reported on the EAC electronic recycling event and the Shade Tree Commission's Arbor Day Tree Give-a-Way event. Ms. Bamford also attended the two events and thanked everyone for attending the Volunteer Appreciation Event at the Pine Crest County Club. Ms. Bamford said that she was looking forward to the survey responses to see how the Township can improve on celebrating its volunteers in the future. Upon prompting by Ms. McCreary, Mr. Muller announced that he would be volunteering tomorrow at the first-ever North Penn Senior Games event held at the Community and Recreation Center, the Corn Hole competition.

22. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Bamford and seconded by Ms. Staab, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary