

**Montgomery Borough Council**  
**September 10, 2024**

\*\*Meeting was conducted publicly at Borough Hall and remotely by Zoom.

President Sanguedolce called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

- I. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll call was taken: Joshua Geiger-P, Laurel Green-P, Ruth Little-P, Margaret Mathis-P, Rocky Sanguedolce-P, L. Whitlow Wertz-P, Gary Yocum Jr-P. Also present were Borough Coordinator Donna Miller; Solicitor Jonathan Dewald and Mayor Ken Bennett.  
  
\*Report on Executive Session(s)-None
- III. Fire Department Report. No one was in attendance; but a report was included for review.
- IV. EMA Report. Dennis Gruver reviewed the monthly report and stated EMA helped with the Little League Grand Slam parade with communications; they will be helping with the 911 ride with Fire Police at the intersections; Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> they will be having a drill at the Muncy State Prison. Councilwoman Mathis asked if the Fire Police would cover the intersections during the 2024 Christmas parade; Dennis Gruver replied yes; Councilwoman Mathis will provide him a date.
- V. Public Concerns. Councilwoman Mathis stated a few residents have brought these questions to her:
  1. Why did we have our meeting the same date as the open house at Montgomery school; the Borough meetings have been scheduled for a year and they are always the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month.
  2. Questions were asked about having the Police cruiser parked throughout the Borough. All Council thought this was a good idea; it slows traffic down. The car is insured and the employee(s) driving this is also insured. Attorney DeWald stated there is no problem with this.
  3. Are the meetings available by the cloud after the meetings are held? Attorney DeWald stated the recordings are destroyed after the minutes are approved.
- VI. Approve August 13, 2024 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Laurel Green to approve; second by Margaret Mathis. Motion carried.
- VII. Approve July 2024 Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Margaret Mathis to approve; second by Whitlow Wertz. Motion carried.  
Approve August 2024 Treasurer's Report-Tabled until next months' meeting.

- VIII. Code Enforcement Officer's Report. Joe Lyons reviewed the updated property violation list. The Borough is now towing junk/abandoned vehicles on Borough property and private grounds. Regulations are stated in Ordinances 441 and 449; Bailey Towing is doing this at no charge for the Borough. Christopher Roberts from Bailey's was in attendance to explain the procedure; the vehicles are tagged by the Borough; giving 72 hours for removal; if the vehicle is not removed it will be towed by Bailey's and impounded at Bailey's lot for 30 days; if no response from owner; Bailey's will own the vehicle/trailer/camper through proper PA state procedures. Questions were asked about property maintenance issues; Joe Lyons stated these are being addressed. Councilman Wertz asked about the property on N Main Street that was roped off due to the retaining wall; Joe Lyons said the owner lives in Tennessee; all correspondence has been returned. This property is now at a repository sale. Interest has been made by a neighbor about buying the property.
- IX. Solicitor's Report. Solicitor DeWald had nothing new to report.
- X. Mayor's Report. Mayor Bennett stated the experiment with the Police cruiser is working; traffic is slowing down.
- XI. Borough Coordinator's Report. Donna Miller reported the following:  
-Budget meeting for Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>; is canceled; due to no new figures  
-Labor committee met last evening; Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> to start the negotiations with the employees.  
-County reassessment will be starting; Tyler Technologies will be doing this; community meetings will be set up; more details to follow when received.  
-Montgomery Lions Halloween Parade will be Thursday, October 31, 2024; forming at 5:30pm; moves at 6pm; Trick or Treating hours will be 6:30pm-8:30pm
- XII. Committee Report.  
-Public Works: Streets, Sidewalks, Parking Lots, Water Authority etc.- Nothing new to report  
-Parks/Recreation/Vacant Lots-None  
-General Administration/Labor Relations-Labor meeting was held last evening; Monday, September 9, 2024; more to follow.  
-Public Safety: Fire/EMA-None  
-Budget/Finance Committee-Budget meeting for September 11<sup>th</sup> is canceled due to no new budget figures as of this date.  
-West Branch Regional Authority Representative-Rocky Sanguedolce had nothing new to report.  
-Holiday Committee-Councilwoman Mathis stated the Candy Bingo will be Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 3pm at the Park pavilion. They are working on holiday decorations. They will be having a Christmas House decorating contest; participates must be registered and would like Donna Miller, Rocky Sanguedolce

and Ken Bennett to be the judges.  
-Planning & Development-None  
-Vacancy Board Committee-None  
-Zoning Board-None

XIII. Old Business.

1. Park Equipment-Local Fiscal Recovery Money. A motion was made by Laurel Green to purchase playground equipment totaling \$38,269.00 (\$27,191.00 -Local Fiscal Recovery; \$11,078.00-General); second by Margaret Mathis. Motion carried.

XIV. New Business.

1. 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligations-Police and Nonuniform Pension. A motion was made by Margart Mathis to accept this; Police-\$14,985.00; non-uniform-\$34,464.00; second by Ruth Little. Motion carried.

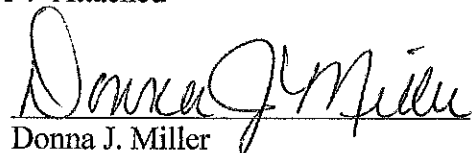
XV. Public Comments:

Janet Sellard told everyone to keep up the good work; don't listen to the Facebook comments and the using of the Police cruiser was a great idea.

Councilman Whitlow Wertz stated after the recent high-water event; he contacted the Montgomery Fire Department two times to wash off the boat ramp and parking lot; with no response. He stated it is time to "shut the pocketbook off". He asked EMA about the pumps they have; Dennis Gruver stated they have them.

XVI. Adjournment. Motion was made by Laurel Green to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 pm; second by Margaret Mathis Motion carried.

Members of the public present at the commencement of the meeting are set forth on the sign in sheet attached to these minutes as "Exhibit A". -Attached



Donna J. Miller  
Borough Coordinator

Djm