

Montgomery Borough Council
November 12, 2024

**Meeting was conducted publicly at Borough Hall

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

- I. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance

A moment of silence was held for Leslie Gruver

- 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. Steve Cook had nothing more to report then what was on the monthly report.
- IV. EMA Report. No one was in attendance due to a death of Leslie Gruver
- V. Public Concerns. Margaret Mathis asked Council if there was an issue with her crossing guard position. She wanted to inform Council that a Council member is "harassing/stalking" her when doing the job. This member also stated that they are going for her position. Margaret Mathis asked if someone from Council could put a stop to it.
- VI. Approve October 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Margaret Mathis to approve; second by Whitlow Wertz. Motion carried.
- VII. Approve September 2024 Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Laurel Green to approve; second by Margaret Mathis. Motion carried.
Approve October 2024 Treasurer's Report-Tabled until next months' meeting.
- Ruth Little asked about the Police report from PSP; Donna Miller replied she has not checked into this.
- VIII. Code Enforcement Officer's Report. Joe Lyons reviewed the monthly report. Due to his full-time position; he regretfully handed in his resignation as of December 31, 2024. It was discussed about reviewing a proposal from Codes Assessment Professionals; for doing the Code Enforcement position; this proposal will be given for review at the December 2024 meeting.
- IX. Solicitor's Report. Solicitor DeWald had nothing new to report.

- X. Mayor's Report. Mayor Bennett had nothing new to report.
- XI. Borough Coordinator's Report. Donna Miller reported the following:
-Leaf pick up will continue, brush area gate will be open Wednesdays only.
-The grant for the Boat ramp is due November 30th; an up-to-date report was given from Tactical Data Group
- XII. Committee Report.
-Public Works: Streets, Sidewalks, Parking Lots, Water Authority etc.- Donna Miller reported that the Water Authority received \$996,000 for water line replacement for Broad St/Wagner Ave.
-Parks/Recreation/Vacant Lots-None
-General Administration/Labor Relations-Employee contract will be ready for review at the December 2024 meeting
-Public Safety: Fire/EMA-None
-Budget/Finance Committee-The 2025 Budget will be discussed under New Business
-West Branch Regional Authority Representative-Rocky Sanguedolce had nothing to report
-Holiday Committee-Councilwoman Mathis stated the Christmas parade will be Saturday, December 7th at 1pm; Montgomery High School Band and MVFC will be participating; flyers will be placed throughout the Borough; parade will end at the Park with Santa; letters to Santa will start December 9 thru the 20th, mailbox will be in front of the Borough office; Participates in the Christmas house decorating contest must be registered; forms will be in the newsletter and Borough office-last day to turn in will be December 18th; judging will be December 21&22; winners announced December 23rd. New lights were purchased for Main Street and a blow up was purchased; the Park Christmas tree will be decorated on November 29th @ 2pm; everyone is invited. The Montgomery Library will be having a Friendsgiving dinner on Saturday November 16th @ 5pm. Ornament and tree decorating will be held at the Library after the Parade on December 7th.
- XIII. Old Business. None
- XIV. New Business.
1. Montgomery Christmas Committee donation. A motion was made by everyone to donate \$500.00 to the Montgomery Christmas Committee; second by everyone. Motion carried.
 2. Montgomery Lions donation for the Thanksgiving dinner. A motion was made by Ruth Little to donate \$250.00 to the Montgomery Lions for their annual free Thanksgiving meal; second by Whitlow Wertz. Motion carried.
 3. 2025 Montgomery Borough Budget. Donna Miller stated two 2025 Budgets are proposed; Option A No tax change and Option B-1/2 mill decrease. Councilwoman Little asked if the millage for the Library and Fire Department

will change if the taxes would be decreased; NO the millage would stay the same for both.

A motion was made by Laurel Green to accept Option B-1/2 mill decrease; second by Gary Yocum Jr. A roll call vote was taken; Josh Geiger-No; Laurel Green-Yes; Ruth Little-No; Margaret Mathis-No; Rocky Sanguedolce-Yes; Whitlow Wertz-No; Gary Yocum Jr-Yes; 3 Yes votes; 4 No votes. This motion did not pass.

A motion was made by Ruth Little to accept Option A-No tax change budget; second by Whitlow Wertz. A roll call vote was taken; Josh Geiger-Yes; Laurel Green-No; Ruth Little-Yes; Margaret Mathis-Yes; Rocky Sanguedolce-No; Whitlow Wertz-Yes; Gary Yocum Jr.-No; 4 Yes votes; 3 No votes. Motion carried for a no tax increase budget for 2025. The 2025 Borough budget is \$553,926.00

XV. Public Comments:

Roger McRae thanked the Borough for the donation to the Lions Thanksgiving meal; it will be held at the CTVFC on Thursday, November 28th from 11-1; take out or dine in.

A Borough resident stated he would like the cinders picked up in late March or early April and not to put cinders on the sidewalks.

Steve Cook commented on the Budget; the money that the Borough is saving from not having Police is in a "rainy day fund"; to do other projects in the Borough

The new owners of the old fireman social hall on W Houston Ave were in attendance; just to introduce their selves; this is being renovated to become a Microbrewery.

XVI. Adjournment. Motion was made by Laurel Green to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 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