# Montgomery Borough Council June 11, 2019

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

- I. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

  A moment of silence was held for Police Officer Angel McLaughlin. At this time, Mayor Leet presented to Officer McLaughlin's family a gratitude plaque for the outstanding service she did for Montgomery Borough and also read a tribute to her. The family thanked the Police Department for all that was done.
- II. Roll call was taken: Whitlow Wertz-P, Dale Brendle-P, Fae Herb-P, Lynn Crist-P, Susan Andrews-P, Amber Wilt-P. Also present was Borough Coordinator Donna Miller, Solicitor Jonathan Dewald and Mayor Sean Leet.
- III. Fire Department Report. Brad Feaster read and reviewed the written report for May 2019; with a total of 16 calls; Fire-5; Rescue-1; EMS-9 and Public Assist-1. The Carnival was a success and Thank you to the community for their support. Phase 2 of the carnival grounds is under way, leveling should be completed this evening then raking and re-seeding. The next fund raiser will be the food stand open for the fireworks on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, no time was given. There are 6 Junior fireman and 2 senior firemen in the Essentials class. The firemen are looking at the possibility of updating the hydraulic rescue tools, a demo was held with Hurts rescue tools and another demo is scheduled with Amkus rescue tools. Donna Miller asked the fire department to keep track of the water being used for pools, as DEP requires it and then billing can be done.
- IV. EMA Report. Dennis Gruver handed in the monthly report for review. Dennis also reported he received a memo from Kevin Nero, from Coastal Chemical, stating they have two spill response teams; North Ridge Group located in Winfield and Lewis Environmental Group in Danville, PA. EMA will be having their fundraiser on July 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Park.
- V. Public Concerns.
  - 1. Michael D. Burger-2020 Census. Mr. Burger explained about the 2020 census, the reasons for it and how the residents can reply to it.
  - 2. Margaret Mathis-Girl Scouts. Margaret Mathis, Whitney Edkin and two girl scouts were here to show the plans they have for Stackhouse Park. The Scouts would be having a bench for the late Mayor Hoover, fixing up the bird bath, plant flowers and bushes and stepping stones, this all to be done by the end of August. Councilwoman Herb also stated something should be done for the late Council member Donald Feaster. The Scouts would be working on their Bronze Award which is the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can earn. A resolution was adopted by Fae Herb to rename Richard Stackhouse Park to Montgomery Memorial Park, second by Amber Wilt. Attorney Dewald stated this would be a ceremonial act. A cherry blossom tree will be planted in remembrance of Officer McLaughlin.

Councilwoman Herb stated this would be a place to go and sit and reflect. Councilwoman Wilt asked what could be done with the alley in back of her house? President Crist responded this could be placed in future budgets, Donna Miller will send the maintenance up to look and to see what could be done.

- VI. Approve May 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes. After a correction was made to section XV as to Councilwoman Herb voted No at the first accepting of the Council resignation; a motion was made by Susan Andrews to approve; second by Fae Herb. Motion carried.
- VII. Approve April 2019 Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Dale Brendle to approve; second by Susan Andrews. Motion carried. Some questions were asked about percentages of bill paying and the LST tax; and about the PA Association of Borough's payroll tax and Mayor Leet asked about the Beckoning Cat program, as this a separate account, running on donations.

  Approve May 2019 Treasurer's Report. Tabled until next months' meeting.
- VIII. Code Enforcement Officer's Report. A written report was handed in and Donna Miller reviewed.
- IX. Solicitor's Report. Atty. Jonathan Dewald stated he will have the amended stop sign ordinance ready for the next meeting of July 1<sup>st</sup> to review. Councilwoman Herb asked about the update on the property on W. Houston Ave., Atty Dewald stated it is on the schedule for the Commissioners, but he has no new updates, he will follow up and report at the next meeting. Attorney Dewald stated he just received the Police Policy and Procedure manual has been received less than a month and ready for his review, it was received from Ray Kranz in late January or early February. Councilwoman Andrews asked why it was paid for before it was received. Sean Leet will look into this and get back with the Council.
- X. Police Report. Chief Delp handed in the written report for review. Chief Delp stated it was a loss to the family, about Officer McLaughlin and sent his condolences to her family. Chief Delp was asked about the statist of the new hire, Mark Cassel, he will be qualified Wednesday, June 12, so possibly next week he will be starting.
- XI. Mayor's Report. Mayor Leet handed out a copy of the Police Policy Procedure form for review. A resolution was made to accept the Police Body Camera Policy by Fae Herb, second by Dale Brendle. A motion was by Dale Brendle to accept the Policy Procedure form, second by Fae Herb. Both Resolutions and Motions carried. These forms must be filled out by all Officers and placed on the Mayor's desk at the end of the shift or repercussions will occur. Councilwoman Herb asked about how long these documents have to be kept. At this time, Councilman Brendle asked Mayor Leet if he was a Police Officer, Sean Leet replied no; Councilman Brendle did not think it was appropriate that Mr. Leet wore a hat that said "Police" on it.
- XII. Borough Coordinator's Report. Donna Miller reported on the following:
  - 1. Donna Miller thanked Chief Delp for the wonderful job arranging Officer McLaughlin's services; and she stated it is nice to see Police Officer's out

- walking "the beat" throughout the Borough. A round of applause was given for Chief Delp's practice of this.
- 2. Stackhouse Park. The concrete pad is poured and ready for the plane to be displayed. The Girl Scouts will be doing planting etc., as stated under Public Concerns.
- 3. A motion was made by Amber Wilt to order 75 yards of Playground Mulch from Columbia Wood Products for approximately \$1900.00; second by Susan Andrews.
- 4. The fencing is ready for pick up for the parking lot on W. Houston Ave and N. Main Streets.
- 5. Street Sweeper-Due to the sweeper being broke down; a motion was made by Susan Andrews to cancel the sweeper from Bradco for this year, second by Dale Brendle. Motion carried. Coordinator Miller had information on pricing for purchasing road cleaning equipment to our skidster, more will be discussed at future meetings.
- 6. Stop sign on Wagner Ave., this will be done when the amended stop sign ordinance is adopted.
- 7. Donna Miller gave a special thank you to resident Barb Sampsell and her helper Eileen for the flower pots that were placed in various spots within the Borough and the Employee Angie Adams for her flower pots in front of the Borough Office.

# XIII. Committee Report.

-Summer Alive Program: Tina Tickle and LuAnn Porter from the program were here and stated for a two-week period, 167 kids participated in the program, with using 225 pounds of fruits and vegetables, 120 pounds of meat, 23 gallons of milk and 15 pounds of grains. Something new this year is the cooking classes, washing own dishes and there is a Teen Staff. The only products to throw away this year are the plates. There is an award from the USDA "Turn up the Heat", the program would like to win. Everyone is invited to have breakfast or lunch. Ms. Porter said there are grants available for the art program for 2020. She asked if a moral could be painted on the concrete wall coming out of the bathrooms. A motion was made by Susan Andrews to allow this, second by Amber Wilt. Motion carried. Councilwoman Herb asked to see the design before painted on wall. The maintenance employees will pick up trash in the morning and the Borough will supply the trash bags and paper towels for bathrooms. Also, if the pavilion is not rented for the weekend, Summer Alive can let their items out, they will check each week with the Office for this. A rodent problem has been happening at the enclosed pavilion. A motion was made by Susan Andrews to have Ehlrich Pest Control; control the problem, second by Dale Brendle. Motion carried. -Montgomery Community Development Committee: Councilwoman Herb stated the meeting will be June 27th at the Adam Room at 7:00pm; everyone is invited. Mayor Leet commented on the great pictures that Fae posts on the Facebook page. Surveys will be handed out at the Summer Alive program.

-Public Works: Streets, Lights, Curbs, Sidewalks and Storm Sewers: Council asked who painted the yellow curb lines through the Borough, community service people did, they would like the lines painted longer in places. Councilwoman

Herb asked about an update on possibly getting some of the street lights turned back on. Councilwoman Andrews gave an update, she suggested everyone drive through and stop and turn off their lights, to see how dark it is.

- -Parks/Recreation/Vacant Lots: Mayor Leet stated the Park pavilion roof the shingles are coming off, Donna Miller stated some repairs have been done, but the whole roof needs to be replaced, she will send maintenance down to look at the problem. Also, the dead tree limbs will be addressed. The hand-i-cap parking stall at the Park needs to be repainted. Councilwoman Andrews said the Community Garden is up and functioning. She said she got lumber from YBC for \$40.00(a great deal), She also asked about when a street is closed if the Fire Department is notified. Donna Miller responded as when the Borough closes a street, yes. It is just common curtsey that the Contractor would, but when a permit is issue Donna Miller will contact Brad Harding for this.
- -Labor Relations-None
- -Public Safety: Representative to Fire Company-None
- -Maintenance/General Administration-None
- -Public Safety-Police-None
- -Public Safety-Representative to EMA-None
- -Public Works-Representative to Water and Sewer Authority. Councilman Wertz stated no meeting yet; the next meeting is June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm, Well #1 is being cleaned, a new pump is ordered, the old one is approximately 6-8 years old. Well #4 is up and operating, not perfect yet but working on it.
- -Budget/Finance Committee- Councilwoman Andrews stated the 2020 Budget is being worked on, and would like each committee to look into what is needed for priority items for capital projects.
- -Tech Committee-Councilman Brendle stated the website is working well and if any local business would like to be placed on the Business Directory please contact him and also if anyone is having an upcoming Borough event, he will place it on.
- -West Branch Regional Authority Representative-President Crist stated the meeting is tomorrow night and WBRA is trying to obtain funding for the Route 15/54 project.
- -Vacancy Board Committee-None
- -Zoning Board-None
- -Planning Commission-None

#### XIV. Old Business.

- 1. Junior Council update. Councilwoman Wilt stated there was one applicant, Sage Whipple, she will be invited to the July 1<sup>st</sup> meeting for a meet and greet.
- 2. Ordinance #2019-3-Amending Excavating Ordinance-Second Reading. A motion was made by Dale Brendle to accept, second by Susan Andrews. Motion carried.
- 3. Fill Council Vacancy for the remaining 2019 due to a resignation; deadline is June 24<sup>th</sup>. Questions were asked about the deadline, upon accepting Council has 30 days to fill the vacancy, if not accepted Council has 45 days to fill the vacancy. No more action was taken.

### XV. New Business.

- 1. Accept the resignation of Richard Miller from MWSA. A motion was made by Susan Andrews to accept, second by Fae Herb. Motion carried. A motion was made by Susan Andrews to advertise for this position, this should be a Borough resident to fill out the remaining term until the end of 2021, with deadline of Friday, June 28, 2019; second by Amber Wilt. Motion carried.
- 2. Advertise for Montgomery Water Operator/Maintenance Employee. Upon recommendation of Attorney Dewald, this advertising was turned over to the Montgomery Water Authority. Discussion was held on how the employee would be paid and benefits. Advertising will be started but discussion on benefits, wages and job description will be continued to the meeting of July 1<sup>st</sup>. Donna Miller will contact Randy Eddinger, Chairman of the Water Authority, to get advertising started and discuss job descriptions etc.

At this time, Mayor Leet was asked about the National Night Out, he replied as yes, we are having one. Donna Miller replied as the Mayor's in the past have asked area businesses for donations. He also gave an update on the Wine Fest, we have a sponsor for 125 glasses (\$300.00), but we need a total of 500 glasses. He is looking for sponsors for more. Edward Alexander stated he would sponsor some. Mayor Leet also stated he was told that Officers were told what to do, he would like that to stop. Councilwoman Herb asked about the Corporal badges that were being ordered, is there was a promotion? Mayor Leet responded as to none at this time. Mayor Leet was asked about the office use of the Code's old office, he said it would only be used for file cabinets. The Mayor would like to reorganize the Police Department offices. He also asked Chief Delp about destroying old evidence, Chief Delp responded as there is an "Order to Destroy" started.

## XVI. Public Comments.

- 1. Councilman Brendle asked Drew Onufrak (who was in attendance) if he was solely responsible for the inappropriate comment made about the Fire Department at the Public meeting held on June 4<sup>th</sup> at the School about the Coastal Chemical. Mr. Onufrak responded yes. Mayor Leet responded as this is Freedom of Speech. Mayor Leet thanked the Firefighters and EMA for all the work and answering all the questions at the meeting, and Chief Delp thanked them for attending the funeral service of Officer McLaughlin.
- 2. Councilwoman Herb stated the Historical Society will be having their meeting June 20<sup>th</sup> with the speaker being Dennis Gruver from Montgomery EMA talking about the 1972 Flood. Councilwoman Herb also asked about the microphones, they were on and working.
- 3. A question was asked to Donna Miller as to when the office was locked for lunch, it started at the first of the year, and it is locked for half an hour, times differ as to customers here or phone calls, but normally noon until 12:30pm. Donna Miller stated the office will be closed when working alone.
- 4. A motion was made by Susan Andrews to reorganize Council, second by Amber Wilt. This original motion was rescinded by Susan Andrews. A new motion was made by Susan Andrews to reorganize when the vacant council seat is filled; seconded by Fae Herb. Roll call vote was taken; Susan Andrews-

yes; Fae Herb-yes, Dale Brendle-yes, Whitlow Wertz-yes, Lynn Crist-yes, Amber Wilt-no. Motion carried.

**Executive Session-Personnel** 

Council entered into Executive Session at 8:22pm; no decisions were made after.

XVII. Adjournment. Motion was made by Fae Herb to adjourn the meeting at 8:23pm; second by Susan Andrews. 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"

Donna J. Miller

Borough Coordinator

djm