

Montgomery Borough Council
January 12, 2021

**Meeting was conducted in house for Council only and by Zoom remotely for the Public.

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

- I. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

At this time, Donna Miller read a remembrance and a moment of silence was done for Lynn A. Crist.

- II. Roll call was taken: Susan Andrews-P, Jeff Frey Jr.-P, Joshua Geiger-P, Laurel Green-P, C. Roger McRae-P, Rocky Sanguedolce-P and Clayton Steward-P. Also present were Borough Coordinator Donna Miller, Mayor Edward Alexander and Solicitor Jonathan Dewald remotely.

*President Andrews stated an Executive session has held on January 4, 2021 and a session prior to this meeting both for legal issues.

- III. Fire Department Report. The Fire Department was in attendance remotely. A written report was included for review. Donna Miller read the report as follows; The Fire Department is operating under the Department of Health covid-19 guide lines, members staffed the station throughout the latest snow storm in December due to the large vehicle accident on Route 80; one EMT has passed testing with two more taking test in the near future, a total of 15 calls for December and a total of 185 calls for 2020. The next fundraiser will be the February 7th, Super Bowl pizza and wing sale from 1-4pm. The Department is looking for new members and the department is always open to walk through and to answer questions. The Fire meetings are the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30pm and training every Wednesday at 6:30pm.

- IV. EMA Report. A monthly written report and the 2020 yearly audit was handed in for review.

- V. Public Concerns. Resident Ruth Little asked about the vacancy on the Vacancy Board. President Andrews explained about this, stating this must be filled by a Borough resident and the rest of Council. This would only be used if Council cannot fill a vacancy within the required time. Ms. Little asked for an updated balance of the Solicitor fees for 2020. It is \$90,921.38. No monies have been used in the line of credit that the Borough has. Ms. Little was concerned about the zooming of the meetings but the Borough Officials are still in attendance. Ms. Little asked for an update about the fuel tank(s) that was discussed in a prior meeting, this was tabled in the January 4, 2021 meeting due to it is not cost effective. Also, she asked about the advertising of the recent Public safety meeting, this meeting was cancelled. Attorney DeWald answered all of Ms. Little's questions about the Vacancy Board and the advertising of meetings due to

Zoom. He stated the Borough is doing everything within the guidelines of Act 15.

- VI. Approve December 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to approve; second by Laurel Green. Motion carried.
Approve January 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to approve; second by Jeff Frey. Motion carried.
- VII. Approve October 2020 Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to approve; second by C. Roger McRae. Motion carried.
Approve November 2020 Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to approve; second by Laurel Green. Motion carried.
December 2020 Treasurer's Report was tabled until next month's meeting.
- VIII. Code Enforcement Officer's Report. Donna Miller reported nothing from Codes Inspections, but advertising will soon be done for a Montgomery Codes Enforcement person.
- IX. Solicitor's Report. Solicitor Dewald had nothing to report.
- X. Police Report. Police Chief Mark Cassel handed in and reviewed the written report for December 2020.
- XI. Mayor's Report. Mayor Alexander stated parking tickets fines are being raised, an amended Ordinance must be done for completion of this. The Toys for Tots distribution went well; the on-street parking during the recent snow storm and flooding was good with residents moving vehicles. A part-time Police Officer position is being advertised.
- XII. Borough Coordinator's Report. Donna Miller reported on the following:
 - 1. Donna Miller thanked Borough Employees, Malvin Gross, Randy Wright, Mayor Alexander and Larry Miller Jr. for the great job that was done snow plowing and removal from the recent snow storm in December.
 - 2. The Christmas decorations look good with the new lights, thank you to the volunteers that did this.
 - 3. A control burn was started today at the brush pile; everything is going well.
 - 4. A motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to change the Insurance agent for all of our insurances to the Kilmer Group from Wyalusing; second by C. Roger McRae. Motion carried. The insurances will remain the same, just changing the agent.
 - 5. Donna Miller reported on the projects that were done in 2020; a new maintenance garage roof was installed; new small equipment was purchased; a new zero turn mower was purchased and a grant was applied for equipment.
 - 6. Donna Miller reported on project for 2021. A new water/maintenance employee should be hired, new roofs at the Park pavilions should be done, paving and the purchasing of the equipment with the grant and more grants applied for various items.

7. Donna Miller also reported that February 16th is the first day for candidates to obtain signatures on petitions for the May 18th Primary Election. There will be four Council seats and one Mayoral seat available.

XIII. Committee Report.

-Junior Council-This was tabled due to COVID-19.

-Summer Alive Program-None

-Montgomery Community Development Committee-None

-Public Works: Streets, Sidewalks, Parking Lots, Water Authority etc.- Clayton Steward stated a good job was done with the recent plowing. Donna Miller reviewed the following current projects with the Water Authority; W. Houston Ave water line relocation should be out for bids soon with the construction in spring/summer of 2021; talking with the Lycoming County Commissioners about water service at the Timber Run project (across from the landfill); talks with the Muncy State Prison officials about water connection; looking for leaks and some repairs are done; a 15% water rate increase will be done with the February 2021 billing.

-Parks/Recreation/Vacant Lots-Councilwoman Green stated the monthly meetings will be the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Riverside Roadhouse at 6:30pm, starting with January 21, 2021.

-General Administration/Labor Relations-Councilman Sanguedolce reported nothing new at this time.

-Public Safety: Police/Fire/EMA-Clay Steward stated a December meeting was held about updating parking tickets and Dennis Gruver will be the liaison for EMA for the Borough.

-Budget/Finance Committee-The first meeting will be Thursday, January 14 at noon at the Borough office.

-Tech Committee-President Andrews stated updates are being done on the website and all the zoom information for 2021 is posted.

-West Branch Regional Authority Representative-Rocky Sanguedolce stated nothing new to report.

-Holiday Committee-Clay Steward stated the Christmas decorating contest went well, with certificates given out, possibly next year gift certificates can be given as prizes.

-Planning & Development-None

-Vacancy Board Committee-None

-Zoning Board-None

-Planning Commission-Donna Miller reported a resident wished to sub divide their adjoining property at 96 Montgomery Street/7 Heilman Street. A Planning Commission meeting was held for this and approved, also this was approved by Lycoming County.

XIV. Old Business.

1. Water Authority vacancy. A motion was made by Clayton Steward to advertise for this; second by Laurel Green. Motion carried. Advertising will be done on the website and newspaper.

2. Councilman McRae talked about opening the enclosed pavilion at the Park for roller skating on Saturday's from 1-3. This was tabled until more information or a plan can be made.

XV. New Business.

1. Ordinance 2021-1; OPT(LST) Tax-First Reading. Donna Miller and Attorney Jonathan Dewald explained about this tax and since Montgomery School is no longer accepting their portion, an updated Ordinance must be done. The Borough collects \$10 from all employees working within the Borough; \$5.00 is sent to the School and the Borough receives the other \$5.00. The Borough then will receive the total of \$10.00; this Ordinance will not go into effect until 2022. A motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to accept this Ordinance for the change in the amount collected for this tax; second by Jeff Frey Jr. Motion carried.

2. Grant Webinars. A motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to have Laurel Green attend this series of PSAB webinars by zoom for a fee of \$50; second by Clayton Steward. Motion carried. It will be looked into if more than one person can attend, Donna Miller would like to attend.

XVI. Public Comments.

Roger McRae stated the Montgomery Lions will be having two upcoming events; Saturday, April 3 at 1pm will be the Easter egg hunt at the Borough park and Saturday, April 17th will be the third annual Lions/Riverside 5K Run/Walk for Vision starting at 9am.

Community Yard Sales will be the third Saturday in May, which will be Saturday, May 15, 2021.

XVII. Adjournment. Motion was made by Clayton Steward to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm; second by Joshua Geiger. 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". -None


Donna J. Miller
Borough Coordinator

Djm