

Montgomery Borough Council
February 9, 2021

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

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

- I. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Roll call was taken: Susan Andrews-P, Jeff Frey Jr.-P, Joshua Geiger-A (arrived at 6:31pm), 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 18, 2021 and February 4, 2021 both for legal issues.
- III. Fire Department Report. Chief Brad Feaster reviewed the written report. The fundraiser of the Super Bowl wings and pizzas was a great success and he thanked the Borough residents for clearing the snow from around the fire hydrants that are close to their properties.
- IV. EMA Report. A written report was handed in; Greg Gruver had nothing more to report.
- V. Public Concerns. None
- VI. Approve January 12, 2021 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Clayton Steward to approve; second by Jeff Frey Jr. Motion carried.
- VII. Approve December 2020 Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to approve; second by Clayton Steward. Motion carried. January 2021 Treasurer's Report was tabled until next month's meeting.
- VIII. Code Enforcement Officer's Report. Donna Miller reported a monthly report for December 2020 was included for review. Advertising was done for a Montgomery Codes Enforcement person.
- IX. Solicitor's Report. Solicitor Dewald had nothing more to report. Donna Miller asked Attorney Dewald what an executive session could be called for, his response was guidelines under the Sunshine Act, legal, sale of real estate, personnel and some other diminish conversational issues.
- X. Police Report. Police Chief Mark Cassel handed in and reviewed the written report for January 2021. Roger McRae asked about the problem with the dead battery for the Taurus.
- XI. Mayor's Report. Mayor Alexander reported that Chief Cassel is looking into purchasing parking meters to be placed on S. Main Street. Information was given

to Council. Many questions and concerns were asked by Council. This will be discussed more at the work session of March 1, 2021, when Council can review the information. Mayor Alexander presented plaques to Dennis and Leslie Gruver for their years of service in Montgomery EMA. Thank you, Dennis and Les! Mayor Alexander stated two applications were received for the Part-time Police Officer position and interviews will be done on Friday, February 12th.

- XII. Borough Coordinator's Report. Donna Miller reported on the following:
1. Postings have been done for the Vacancy Board, Water Authority and Code Enforcement positions. One resident has picked up an application for the Codes position. Updated grant information was given for the PA Dept of Agriculture grant.
 2. A thank you and certificate of appreciation was received from the Montgomery Christmas Committee.
 3. A thank you was received for participating in the US Census 2020.
 4. A motion was made by Clayton Steward to purchase a Hometown Hero Banner for Lynn Crist, within the discount period for \$210.00; second by Roger McRae. Motion carried.
 5. Donna Miller reported that new equipment must be looked into for 2022.
 6. 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-
 - Summer Alive Program-None
 - Montgomery Community Development Committee-Steve Cook reported that a meeting will be set up for the spring/summer projects.
 - Public Works: Streets, Sidewalks, Parking Lots, Water Authority etc.- Clayton Steward reported he attended the Water Authority meeting, and he stated he has a lot to learn about the water system. Steve Cook asked about the replacement of water lines on Wagner Ave and Brook Street. Donna Miller replied as grants are being looked into for this. Donna Miller reported nothing new to report from the Water Authority about the ongoing projects.
 - Parks/Recreation/Vacant Lots-Councilwoman Green stated the meeting will be Tuesday, February 16th at the Riverside Roadhouse at 6:30pm. Clay Steward asked to look into the removal of a tree at the Park.
 - General Administration/Labor Relations-None, a meeting will be set up.
 - Public Safety: Police/Fire/EMA-Items were discussed earlier in the meeting.
 - Budget/Finance Committee-The next meeting will be Thursday, February 11 at 8:15am at the Borough office.
 - Tech Committee-None
 - West Branch Regional Authority Representative-Rocky Sanguedolce stated nothing new to report.
 - Holiday Committee-Clayton Steward reported the Legion will be having a Valentine Lasagna dinner on Saturday, February 13th, the cost is \$10. The

Montgomery Lions is fixing up a trailer to be used to collect aluminum cans, these monies will go toward the Firework donation; locations for the trailer will be discussed. The Holiday Committee will look into sponsorships for the Fireworks as well.

- Planning & Development-None
- Vacancy Board Committee-None
- Zoning Board-None
- Planning Commission-None

XIV. Old Business.

1. Ordinance #2021-1 OPT Tax. The second reading will be at the March 9, 2021 meeting due to advertising requirements.
2. Water Authority Vacancy. No letters of interest have been received from a Borough resident.

Councilwoman Green asked about the opening of the Borough office. Donna Miller replied as the office is open during regular business hours for phone calls and questions, but not to the Public as of yet. Anyone with questions or concerns can call. This will be addressed on a monthly basis.

XV. New Business.


1. Mapping for May 15, 2021 Community Yard Sales. President Andrews stated she has contacted Fae Herb about this, Fae will be doing this again, and more information will follow closer to the time.
2. Ordinance #2021-2-First Reading; Amending/Updating the Regulations of parking. This Ordinance is being done, due to changing the fees for violations. A motion was made by Clayton Steward to accept; second by Jeff Frey. Motion carried.

XVI. Public Comments.

Resident Ruth Little stated she cannot hear during the zoom sessions. She asked why the Borough needs to hire a Part Time Police Officer. Mayor Alexander stated due to sick and or vacation time, the Borough needs someone to cover the 60 hours. She asked if the Police Contract is up for renewal this year, the answer is yes.

XVII. Adjournment. Motion was made by Laurel Green to adjourn the meeting at 7:21pm; second by Clayton Steward. 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

**Montgomery Borough Council
Meeting
March 1, 2021**

This meeting was done remotely by Zoom.

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

- I. Pledge of Alliance-All rose for the Pledge of Alliance
- II. Roll Call was taken. Susan Andrews-P, Jeff Frey-P, Joshua Geiger-P, Laurel Green-P, C. Roger McRae-P, Rocky Sanguedolce-P, and Clayton Steward-P. Also present was Borough Coordinator Donna Miller and Mayor Edward Alexander.

President Andrews stated an Executive session(s) was held prior to this meeting for personnel and legal issues.

- III. Public Concerns: Ruth Little asked questions concerning the Police Department, as is the Borough keeping or letting the Department go, keeping the 60 hours of coverage, getting quotes from other agencies. President Andrews stated there has been no discussion, but this will be discussed in the next executive session. President Andrews stated if the Department would disband; the State Police would cover and at this time it is not legal to contract with another agency about Police coverage. Ruth Little suggested about contacting Ann Baker from Duboistown about this matter. Shawn Coles asked about making the intersection of N. Main and W. Houston Ave. a four way stop. Donna Miller will look into this.

IV. Old Business:

1. Parking Meters. President Andrews reviewed the information that Chief Cassel compiled for this. Discussion from Council and residents was held, about having merchants issue tickets, caulking tires etc. The parking is mostly tenant parking. At this time, the parking meters are not a "right fight" for the Borough. Resident Shawn Coles asked if the Police Committee meetings are open to the Public, they are not unless a quorum of Council is attending.
2. Montgomery Park. Councilwoman Green stated the next Park and Recreation meeting will be held March 16th @ 6:30pm at the Riverside Roadhouse. Discussion was held on opening the enclosed pavilion for roller-skating. A motion was made by Clayton Steward to open the enclosed pavilion starting March 6, 2021 through Memorial Day 2021 on Saturdays from 1-3pm only for roller skating, second by Jeff Frey. Motion carried. Councilwoman Green stated the first skate will be held March 6 from 1-3pm, supervised by a representative from the Parks Committee. There will be no bathroom facilities. Ms. Green stated she talked to LuAnn from the Summer Alive program; they are excited for the coming summer activities and the skating. Summer Alive is interested in opening up an area for natural playground. She asked Councilman McRae if anything had to be moved from Summer Alive for the skating, he stated everything was fine. The Park Committee suggested totes for their items to be placed in. Councilman

McRae stated upon more inspection the roof of the Little League building should be replaced. He is looking into non-profit organizations for funding for this. President Andrews stated the Community Garden applications will soon be available on the website and at the Borough office in a few weeks. Resident Shawn Coles asked about updating the bathrooms at the Park. Donna Miller replied as she is applying for a grant through DCNR Act 13 funding for new roofs and updating the bathrooms. Councilwoman Green handed out a flyer about sponsorship for the yearly 2021 Fireworks. A motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to approve soliciting of sponsorship of the 2021 fireworks, second by Joshua Geiger. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Green asked about the basketball pole. Resident Ruth Little asked about placing stone at the entrance of the skateboard park due to all the mud. Ruth Little also reported a piece of skateboard equipment is broken/loose.

V. New Business:

Mayor Alexander stated the Police Committee, himself, and Chief Cassel have conducted interviews for a part time Police position. This will be done at the regular meeting on March 9, 2021.

Councilman Steward stated the Street Committee conducted interviews for the Codes Enforcement position. This will be done at the regular meeting on March 9, 2021.

Councilman McRae had a discussion on having West Branch Regional Authority take over the water or selling it to another agency.

Councilwoman Green asked about how many vacant properties the Borough owns. The Borough has approximately 5 or 6 properties. Councilman Sanguedolce stated if there was a FEMA buy out these properties cannot be resold.

VI. Public Comments: None

VIII. Adjournment. A motion was made by Clayton Steward to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm; second by Laurel Green. 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; done remotely


Donna J. Miller
Borough Coordinator

djm