

Montgomery Borough Council
September 14, 2021

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

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

- I. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Roll call was taken: Jeff Frey Jr.-P; Joshua Geiger-P, Laurel Green-P, Margaret Mathis-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.

*Vice President Sanguedolce stated no Executive session(s) have been held prior to this meeting.

**Reorganization of Council. Nominations were open for Council President as follows:

Clayton Steward nominated by Laurel Green; Laurel Green nominated by Rocky Sanguedolce; Jeff Frey nominated by Roger McRae and Rocky Sanguedolce nominated by Margaret Mathis. Nominations were closed. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Jeff Frey-voted for Rocky Sanguedolce; Josh Geiger-voted for Clay Steward; Laurel Green-voted for Clayton Steward; Margaret Mathis voted for Rocky Sanguedolce; Roger McRae voted for Rocky Sanguedolce; Rocky Sanguedolce voted for Clayton Steward and Clayton Steward voted for Clayton Steward. Votes were four (4) for Clayton Steward and three (3) for Rocky Sanguedolce. Clayton Steward is the Montgomery Borough Council President.

A motion was made by Laurel Green to retain the current Vice President as Rocky Sanguedolce and current President Pro Tem as Roger McRae; second by Clayton Steward. Motion carried.

Borough Committees for 2021 were reviewed and a few changes were made.

At this time Council President Steward presided over the meeting.

- III. Fire Department Report. Chief Brad Feaster reviewed the written report as follows: The Department thanked the community for their support for the carnival/festival. On September 11, 2021 the department was dispatched for two critical calls, one for a cardiac arrest and the other for a birth. The department did a walk through at the Coastal Chemical building due to a possible new project. The building is very safe. The department is still monitoring the Covid-19 standard of operation. There was a total of 15 calls for August 2021. Rope rescue will be September 18 and 19 and Stop the bleeding at Station 13 on September 27 at 6:30pm. On September 25th the Lions will be using the carnival grounds and food stand for their festival. And October 2nd will be the Fireman's fall festival and pumpkin roll at 2pm. The Fire Department would like to thank the

community for their continued support, the department is always looking for new members and open to the community. Borough Secretary Angie Adams stated a fire alarm was accidentally pulled at the Borough building recently, but no fire department responded. During the day time hours there is a lack of volunteers available. The fire department was recalled, if no response within 8 minutes the next fire department is dispatched.

- IV. EMA Report. Greg Gruver handed in the monthly written report for review. He also stated Montgomery has been lucky in the recent rain events. The residents have been warned about moving of their vehicles, but few follow the warning. What can be done for the enforcing? Council President Steward asked what was the difference between a warning and a watch; a watch is all ingredients are there to start a storm a warning is the storm is already started.
- V. Public Concerns. William Warfel from Broad Street asked what is the length of the time given for the citations with the problem properties within the Borough, Fred Grasty responded to this and his other concerns and will talk to him more after the meeting. Mr. Warfel also was concerned about the condition of Shick Alley.
Ruth Little had concerns about the properties on Penn Street, Fred Grasty will look into this. Ruth asked for an update on the replacement of the light pole on Montgomery Street and about the bicycle incident, Chief Cassel responded as to no new updates on both items. Ms. Little also asked hiring of a Borough maintenance employee, President Steward replied as this is being looked into.
- VI. Approve August 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Laurel Green to approve; second by Joshua Geiger. Motion carried. .
- VII. Approve July 2021 Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Roger McRae to approve; second by Laurel Green. Motion carried.
Approve August 2021 Treasurer's Report-Tabled until next months' meeting.
- VIII. Code Enforcement Officer's Report. Fred Grasty appreciates all the Borough residents have done.
- IX. Solicitor's Report. Solicitor Dewald explained about changing the number of Council members from 7 to 5. A referendum must be done, with 10% of the legal residents signing the petition, then this would be on the ballot as a question, this process would take approximately two years. A motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to have the Solicitor prepare the documents to start this process; second by Jeff Frey. A role call vote was taken: Jeff Frey-yes; Joshua Geiger-yes; Laurel Green-yes; Margaret Mathis-yes; Roger McRae-no; Rocky Sanguedolce-yes; Clayton Steward-no. Vote was five (5) yes and two (2) no. Motion carried.
- X. Police Report. Chief Cassel reviewed the written report. The Bike Rodeo was a big success, a thank you for the donations and to everyone that helped. Councilwoman Mathis stated since the Police department patrolled some before and after school times, the speeding has been better on Main Street. A big Thank

You. Also, she asked Chief Cassel about the Neighborhood Watch program, he will look into this and report back to her.

- XI. Mayor's Report. Mayor Alexander reported since the bike rodeo, he has not seen many children using the helmets. He does not have a solution to the problem with the helmets or with the kids on Broad Street, do we ticket the parents, community service for the kids??
- XII. Borough Coordinator's Report. Donna Miller reported on the following:
- The pedestrian signs were received for North and South Main Streets
 - The Lions Halloween Parade will be Saturday, October 30th; forming at 5:30; 6pm start with Trick or Treating from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.
 - Borough Committees please have projects done for 2022 as the 2022 Budget is being worked on and if and when a meeting is scheduled, please include everyone on the committee and place the time and date of the meeting on board located in front of her office
 - Talks for Non-uniform and Uniform Employee contracts are being started
 - Work Session will be Monday, October 4th at 6:30pm
 - The W. Houston Ave water line relocation was done with paving the end of this week.
 - Monies will be received for the Brook Street water line replacement that will start in the spring of 2022
 - The Timber Run project was awarded to MR Dirt.
 - Approved for the equipment grant for a new dump truck
 - Approved for a grant from SRBC for water monitoring equipment
 - Hydrant pressure testing will take place mid October 2021 for the Borough
- XIII. Committee Report.
- Summer Alive Program-Donna Miller stated she will be cleaning out items left from Summer Alive, they were given 2-3 months to do and nothing happened.
 - Montgomery Community Development Committee-Steve Cook stated a proposal for the Park is being worked on.
 - Public Works: Streets, Sidewalks, Parking Lots, Water Authority etc.- Donna Miller reported on the Water previously in the meeting.
 - Parks/Recreation/Vacant Lots-Councilwoman Green stated the next meeting will be Tuesday, September 21st at 6:30pm at Riverside. At the previous meeting, Chris Spangler from Montgomery Little League stated they would like to turn both infields into dirt fields, one at a time. A motion was made by Laurel Green for Montgomery Little League to proceed with this, second by Rocky Sanguedolce. Motion carried. Roger McRae stated roller skating will start after January 2022.
 - General Administration/Labor Relations-Contracts are being reviewed.
 - Public Safety: Police/Fire/EMA-Fred Grasty will collect more information about getting the weeds on the far side of Adams Creek cut down and bring to the work session meeting of October 4th.
 - Budget/Finance Committee-Donna Miller stated a meeting will be held

Thursday, September 30th at 10am.

-Tech Committee-None

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

-Holiday Committee-President Steward stated the Boat Club is having a Cornhole tournament this weekend, Lions are having a Fall festival on Saturday, September 25 from noon until 6pm at the carnival grounds; the Fireman are having their annual Pumpkin roll in October; the Lions will be donating donuts and cider at the end of the Halloween Parade at the Legion. The next meeting will be the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30pm. (September 27th).

-Planning & Development-None

-Vacancy Board Committee-None

-Zoning Board-None

-Planning Commission-None

XIV. Old Business.

1. Dog Park. Solicitor DeWald stated the Water Authority took no action on this. It was advised that the Borough look for a new parcel for this.

2. Ordinance Amendments. After a discussion on the Ordinance amendments. A motion was made by Jeff Frey to have the Solicitor start with the Ordinance amendment wording and bring to the next meeting; second by Rocky Sanguedolce. Motion carried.

XV. New Business.

1. 2022 Minimum Municipal Obligation for Pensions. This is a yearly mandated item.

Non-Uniform \$27,544.00. A motion was made by Jeff Frey to accept this, second by Laurel Green. Motion carried.

Uniform \$27,499.00 A motion was made by Jeff Frey to accept this, second by Laurel Green. Motion carried.

2. Resolution #2021-9-14 A resolution reducing Employee Contribution to the Police Pension plan for the year 2022. A motion was made by Jeff Frey to accept; second by Laurel Green. A roll call vote was taken: Jeff Frey-yes; Joshua Geiger-yes; Laurel Green-yes; Margaret Mathis-yes; Roger McRae-no; Rocky Sanguedolce-yes; Clayton Steward-yes. Six (6)-yes; One (1)-no. Motion carried.

XVI. Public Comments. Dennis Gruver asked if the pavilion would be available to store Toys for Tot items, yes.

XVII. Adjournment. Motion was made by Rocky Sanguedolce to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm; 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". Attached



Donna J. Miller
Borough Coordinator