

Montgomery Borough Council
November 14, 2023

****Meeting was conducted publicly at Borough Hall; and remotely by zoom.**

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

- I. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll call was taken: Joshua Geiger-P, Laurel Green-P, Ruth Little-P, Margaret Mathis-P, C. Roger McRae-P, Rocky Sanguedolce-P, Gary Yocum Jr-P. Also present were Borough Coordinator Donna Miller; Solicitor Jonathan Dewald and Mayor Kenneth Bennett.

*Report on Executive Session(s)-President Sanguedolce reported a meeting was held prior to this meeting for personnel and EMA emergency plan
- III. Fire Department Report. Brad Feaster had nothing more to report than the monthly report.
- IV. EMA Report. Greg Gruver had nothing more to report than the monthly report.
- V. Public Concerns. None
- VI. Approve October 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Margaret Mathis to approve; second by Ruth Little. Motion carried.
Approve October 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Laurel Green to approve; second Roger McRae. Motion carried.
- VII. Approve September 2023 Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Laurel Green to approve; second by Ruth Little. Motion carried.
Approve October 2023 Treasurer's Report-Tabled until next months' meeting.
- VIII. Code Enforcement Officer's Report. Joe Lyons stated 3 more problem properties have been added; 2 are done; one must be followed up on. Councilwoman Little asked what was the total number of properties; Joe stated in the past month and half were 28 total; 18 done; 7 in process and 3 to follow up on.
- IX. Solicitor's Report. Solicitor DeWald had nothing new to report.
- X. Police Report. Donna Miller stated the State Police report was included with the Council packet.
- XI. Mayor's Report. Mayor Bennett thanked Donna Miller for getting the cameras working; he commended all that the EMA and Fire departments due for the community.

- XII. Borough Coordinator's Report. Donna Miller reported the following:
- After a discussion on giving donations; as this was voted on before not to and then donations were given; should we require applications or put funds aside? a motion was made by Margaret Mathis to donate \$500 to the Montgomery Christmas Committee; second by Ruth Little. Motion carried.
 - Montgomery Lions Thanksgiving. Roger McRae stated he was not in favor of this donation and he abstain from voting. A motion was made by Laurel Green to donate \$250.00 for this; second by Margaret Mathis. Motion carried.
 - Leaf pick up has started and will continue weather permitting.
 - A motion was made by Gary Yocum Jr. to purchase Christmas Hams for employees and Council; second Laurel Green. Motion carried. Roger McRae abstained as he probably will not be here on Council due to School Board position.
 - Donna Miller stated she contacted Penn Strategies about obtaining grants for the Borough to use for various projects. The cost for one project would be \$5000 or for three projects \$2000 monthly for a year. Representatives from Penn Strategies will be invited to the December 4, 2023 work session where more discussions can be done.

XIII. Committee Report.

- Nature CAMP Program-None
- Montgomery Community Development Committee-None
- Public Works: Streets, Sidewalks, Parking Lots, Water Authority etc.- Donna Miller reported the Water Authority's meeting is this Thursday; and the Authority is purchasing property on Rt 405 to drill a new public well.
- Parks/Recreation/Vacant Lots-Councilwoman Green stated the next Park and Rec meeting will be Tuesday, November 21st at Riverside at 6:30pm to work on winter ideas; the roller skating in the winter months will not be this year, due to lack of participation; Laurel is working with the Montoursville Rec Board for bringing movies to the park
- General Administration/Labor Relations-None
- Public Safety: Police/Fire/EMA- None
- Budget/Finance Committee-None
- West Branch Regional Authority Representative-Rocky Sanguedolce had nothing new to report.
- Holiday Committee-Councilwoman Mathis stated the Holiday committee purchased an LED tree for the Park, this tree can be used for different occasions. Christmas parade will be Saturday December 9th at 5pm; with prizes for 1st; 2nd; and 3rd place prizes; she would like the Council and Mayor to ride on a float; raffle tickets will be given out; prizes will be a \$20 gift card from Station House; \$25 from Weis; \$10 from Coles's; large pizza and drink from OIP and stuff animals. Letters from Santa will start December 4th and run until December 20th; with the mailbox at the Borough office. Next meeting will be Wednesday, November 15th @ 5pm at the Library; Christmas house decorating contest will be held with no registration; Donna Miller; Ken Bennett and Rocky Sanguedolce will be the judges; November 18th at 5pm will be a Community Potluck at the

Library; the Untamed group is taking care of the Odyssey food box; they have monthly challenges-December's is fruit and bars of soap; a reversed Advent calendar will be done for December; a drop and shop-"Babysitting" will be done in December at the Library; on Saturday, November 25th at 1pm the Montgomery Historical Society and Montgomery Library will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the building that houses both organizations. Any information for the monthly newsletter; please reach out to her. Margaret handed out information about a Polyglide-an ice-skating area made from tiles.

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

XIV. Old Business. None

XV. New Business.

1. 2024 Montgomery Borough Budget-first reading
 - Option A-no tax increase or decrease-current rate of taxes
 - Option B-1/2 mill decrease

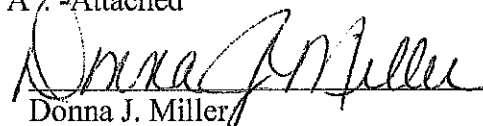
Discussions were held; with a possibility on reviewing the millage for next year due to not having a Police Department. A motion was made by Roger McRae to adopt Option A the no tax increase/decrease; first reading; second by Ruth Little. Laurel Green opposed. Motion carried.

2. Tax Levy Ordinance 2023-3. This sets the millage for 2024. A motion was made by Ruth Little to approve; second by Margaret Mathis. Laurel Green opposed. Motion carried. This can be changed to a Resolution due to not changing the millage.
3. Fireman Ballistic vests and plates \$11,686.00. After questions and a discussion; a motion was made by Laurel Green to approve this using the American Rescue Funds; second by Gary Yocum Jr. Motion carried. This amount was placed in the 2024 budget.

XVI. Public Comments. None

XVII. Adjournment. Motion was made by Laurel Green to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm; second by Gary Yocum Jr. 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