

City of Montgomery  
City Council Business Session Minutes  
April 3, 2024

Present

City Council Members Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager  
Terry Donnellon, Law Director  
Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager  
John Crowell, Police Chief  
Kevin Chesar, Community Dev. Director  
Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director  
Maura Gray, Finance Director  
Matthew Vanderhorst, Communications and Information Service Director  
Paul Wright, Fire Chief  
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council

Ron Messer, Mayor  
Sasha Naiman, Vice Mayor  
Lee Ann Bissmeyer  
Chris Dobrozsi  
Craig Margolis  
Catherine Mills-Reynolds  
Ken Suer

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City Council convened in Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Messer presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Messer stated that as a motion to dispense of roll call was made at the public hearing held prior to the meeting, a roll call was not needed.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Brad Hoener and Jeremy Schmid of PepsiCo addressed City Council to express their excitement in moving their Cincinnati administrative offices to the Montgomery Quarter. Mr. Hoener explained that they chose to move to Montgomery for several reasons. The first was the MQ development which offered a fresh new atmosphere with walkability to restaurants and would be attractive to new employees. He stated that being closer to the downtown Kroger offices was also a big factor as their staff managed the contract with Kroger stores in which they placed their products in. Mr. Hoener gave an overview of the products that PepsiCo owns and how many of those were made specifically for Kroger stores. He also expressed their focus on community engagement encouraging their staff to become volunteers. He stated that they designate April as Volunteer Month. He stated he looks forward to getting involved in Montgomery.

City Council thanked Mr. Hoener and Mr. Schmid for coming to Council and welcomed them to the city.

Mr. Riblet stated that he was very pleased to have PepsiCo move into the MQ. He stated that having a company the caliber of Pepsi is a great addition to the MQ and the City. He stated that the best is yet to come.

**LEGISLATION FOR CONSIDERATION**

**PENDING LEGISLATION**

There was no pending legislation

**NEW LEGISLATION**

Mayor Messer stated that since all following legislation has been made available to the public before the meeting a motion can be made to accept the agenda and read all legislation by title only.

Mr. Margolis moved to accept the legislative Agenda and read all legislation by title only. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

**An Ordinance Establishing The Schedule Of Municipal Compensation For Employees**

Mr. Dobrozsi read the title and moved for passage of the first reading. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded.

58  
59 Mr. Dobrozsi explained that information has been previously supplied on this Ordinance that, if approved, will  
60 establish a new Schedule of Municipal Compensation for non-bargaining unit employees. It is necessary to  
61 establish a new Schedule of Municipal Compensation as the current Schedule does not specify any wage rate  
62 adjustments for July 2024 or beyond.

63  
64 Mr. Dobrozsi asked if there were any updates.

65  
66 Mr. Riblet replied that there were no updates but asked Council to consider passing a motion to make the second  
67 and third readings consecutive to accommodate the referendum period and to allow the legislation to be effective  
68 on July 1. He explained the second reading would be on May 1 and the third would be on May 15.

69  
70 Mr. Margolis moved to change the readings to consecutive readings at the May Business and Work Sessions. Vice  
71 Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

72  
73 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

74  
75 AYE: Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis (7)  
76 NAY: (0)

77  
78 **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 34, Personnel Policies; Bond**

79  
80 Mr. Dobrozsi read the title and moved for passage of the first reading. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded.

81  
82 Mr. Dobrozsi explained that information has been previously supplied on this Ordinance that, if approved, will  
83 adopt proposed modifications to Chapter 34 of the Montgomery Ohio Code of Ordinances.

84  
85 Mr. Dobrozsi asked if there were any updates.

86  
87 Mr. Riblet stated that there was a small change on the table on the second to last page to provide clarification. Mr.  
88 Riblet asked that the same adjustment be made to the readings as was made for the prior legislation.

89  
90 Mr. Margolis moved to change the readings to consecutive readings at the May Business and Work Sessions. Vice  
91 Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

92  
93 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

94  
95 AYE: Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer (7)  
96 NAY: (0)

97  
98 **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

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100 Mr. Riblet gave the following report:

- 101  
102 • City Council Work Session is scheduled for April 17, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.  
103  
104 • As a reminder the Volunteer Walk of Fame Ceremony will be held at 5:30 p.m. on April 17. This year's  
105 inductees include:  
106 ○ Jane Garfield, Landmarks  
107 ○ Bob Saul-BZA  
108 ○ Patrick Stull-Planning  
109 ○ Alice Aguilar-EAC  
110

- 111 • Staff will also present an update on the Strategic Plan at the beginning of the April 17 Work Session  
112 meeting.
- 113
- 114 • As a reminder, the Government Affairs and Parks and Recreation Committees have been rescheduled  
115 from April 8 to Monday, April 15 at 3:30 and 4:30 p.m. respectively. The Public Works Committee has  
116 cancelled their meeting for April.
- 117
- 118 • The Arbor Day Foundation named the City of Montgomery as a 2023 Tree City USA for our commitment  
119 to effective urban forest management. The City also received a Growth Award for demonstrating  
120 environmental improvement and an outstanding level of tree care. This is the 28<sup>th</sup> year in a row that the  
121 City has received the Tree City USA recognition.
- 122
- 123 • It is that time of year again to schedule Boards and Commission Chair Updates. Ms. Gaylor would like to  
124 begin to scheduling these in May and into June if agreeable with Council. Normally the updates are  
125 scheduled in 15 minute intervals. This would allow for 4 updates prior to each Council meeting. Would  
126 Council be able to meet at 5:00 prior to the 5/1, 5/15, and 6/5 meetings in order to allow for all updates.  
127 City Council agreed and approved for Ms. Gaylor to schedule Chair updates prior to Council meetings on  
128 5/1, 5/15 and 6/5.
- 129
- 130 • Mr. Riblet authorized a contract with Care Solace for mental health care coordination services in the  
131 amount of \$16,500.00 Mr. Riblet reminded Council that the City received a \$5,000 grant from Duke  
132 Energy to go towards this contract and One Ohio opioid funds would be used for the remainder of the  
133 contract.
- 134
- 135 • Mr. Riblet also signed a contract with Payton Harshfield to create murals at the MQ in the corridors of the  
136 public parking garage leading to the restaurants in the amount of \$15,000. He explained that Ms.  
137 Harshfield is very talented, and her art will add something very special to the area. He stated that she  
138 estimated it would take several months for her to complete the project.
- 139

#### 140 Human Resources

- 141
- 142 • Two new Patrol Officers were sworn in on Monday, April 1. Dan Pohl and Andy McGuffey came to us  
143 from the City of Fairfield. Both officers will be invited to a ceremonial swearing in and introduction to  
144 City Council in the near future.
- 145
- 146 • Emilie Ziese will begin employment with us on Friday, April 7. Emilie is currently employed by Goshen  
147 Township Fire Department. A second candidate is finishing post-offer steps and once finalized this will  
148 bring our Fire Department to full staff.
- 149
- 150 • Rebecca Koligian will begin employment with us on April 22 as our new Police Clerk, replacing Amy  
151 Smith. Becky is currently a police dispatcher with the City of Blue Ash.
- 152
- 153 • Advertising for summer seasonal positions is currently underway.
- 154

#### 155 Events

- 156
- 157 • The Second Annual Mental Health Fair will be held this coming Saturday, April 6 at Twin Lakes Davies  
158 Center. The Fair will run from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. and will feature 4 speaker sessions and 27 vendors.  
159 Asha will make her first public appearance at this event.
- 160
- 161 • The Solar Eclipse in the Park event is on Monday, April 8 from 1:30-4:00 in Weller Park. Our  
162 Montgomery on the Move Vehicle will be at Weller Park, with giveaways for kids and snacks. Come to

163 the park for your chance to win a Solar Eclipse Commemorative T-shirt. The partial eclipse is anticipated  
164 to happen around 3:00 p.m.

165

- 166 • Montgomery Quarter Park is also hosting a solar eclipse party. Bru Burger Bar, Livery, and Kitchen  
167 Social are participating in a Solar Eclipse Cocktail contest.

168

169 **MINUTES**

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171 Mr. Margolis moved to approve the March 20, 2024 Work Session minutes as written. Vice Mayor Naiman  
172 seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

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174 **MAYOR'S COURT REPORT**

175

176 Mayor Messer requested a motion to disburse the March Mayors Court collections in the amount of \$4,876.

177

178 Mrs. Bissmeyer made the motion to disburse the March Mayors Court Collections in the amount of \$4,876. Vice  
179 Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

180

181 Mr. Dobrozsi reminded City Council and Staff that he would be on vacation and would miss the April 17 Work  
182 Session.

183

184 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

185

186 There was no Executive Session.

187

188 **ADJOURNMENT**

189

190 Mayor Messer asked if there was any further business to discuss in the Public Session. There being none he asked  
191 for a motion to adjourn.

192

193 Mr. Dobrozsi moved to adjourn. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

194

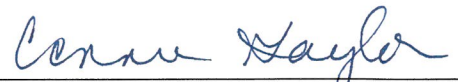
195 City Council adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council