

City of Montgomery
City Council Work Session Minutes
June 19, 2024

Present

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

City Council Members Present

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

City Council convened its Work Session for June 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Messer presiding.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Messer noted that the roll call was held in the previously held Public Hearing and that all members were present.

Mayor Messer gave special recognition to the significance of the Juneteenth holiday and its importance to the country.

LEGISLATION FOR CONSIDERATION THIS EVENING

Mayor Messer made a motion to add the following legislation to the agenda for consideration this evening. Mr. Margolis seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mayor Messer assigned the legislation to Mr. Dobrozsi.

A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Labor Agreement With The Montgomery Firefighters IAFF Local 4391 For Wages And Benefits From April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2027

Mr. Dobrozsi moved to read the Resolution by title only. Mrs. Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Riblet explained that, if approved, this Resolution would authorize a labor agreement with the Montgomery Firefighters IAFF Local 4391 ("IAFF") from April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2027. He added that he was very pleased with the efficient process of negotiations this year and attributed it to the positive culture and full staff at the fire department.

Mr. Dobrozsi moved for passage of the Resolution. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis (7)

NAY: (0)

ESTABLISHING AN AGENDA FOR JULY 10, 2024 BUSINESS SESSION

NEW LEGISLATION

A Resolution Adopting A Tax Budget For 2025

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59 Mayor Messer assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.

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61 Mayor Messer stated that as Ms. Gray had just presented the Tax Budget in the previously held Public Hearing,
62 that the legislation would be added to the July 10 Business Session for consideration.

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64 **An Ordinance To Amend Appropriations For Current Expenses And Other Expenditures Of The City Of**
65 **Montgomery, State Of Ohio, During The Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024**

66
67 Mayor Messer assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.

68
69 Ms. Gray explained that it is necessary for City Council to amend the 2024 Appropriation Ordinance to
70 accommodate the transfer of cash and increased expenditures for the Montgomery Road at Vintage Club Boulevard
71 Signal Improvements project. She added that the effect of the supplemental appropriations is to increase
72 appropriations to accommodate the transfer of cash from the Vintage Club TIF Fund (Fund 331) to the Vintage
73 Club Capital Construction Fund (Fund 463) in the amount of \$241,000 and the subsequent appropriation of a not
74 to exceed expenditure in Vintage Club Capital Construction Fund (Fund 463) in the amount of \$241,000.

75
76 Mayor Messer stated that the legislation would be added to the July 10 Business Session for consideration. He
77 added that it is requested that the second and third reading be suspended with passage of the Ordinance requested
78 that evening.

79
80 **A Resolution Authorizing Internet Auction of Surplus Personal Property Through Govdeals.com**

81
82 Mayor Messer assigned the legislation to Mr. Dobrozsi.

83 Chief Crowell explained that this is an annual Resolution that, if approved, will designate GovDeals.com as
84 internet auction agents for the disposal of surplus property for the period of August 1, 2024 through July 31, 2025.
85 Ohio law authorizes the City to dispose of surplus and abandoned personal property through internet auction.
86 Section 50.02 of the Code of Ordinances sets forth a procedure for the sale and disposition of lost, abandoned,
87 stolen, seized, or forfeited property ("Surplus Property") through internet auction agents.

88
89 Mayor Messer stated that the legislation would be added to the July 10 Business Session for consideration.

90
91 **A Resolution Accepting a Bid and Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Agreement with Sunesis**
92 **Construction Company for the Huntersknoll Court Drainage Improvement Project**

93
94 Mayor Messer assigned the legislation to Mr. Margolis.

95
96 Mr. Heitkamp explained that, if approved, this Resolution will authorize a contract with Sunesis Construction
97 Company to install new storm sewer to replace inadequately sized storm sewers and drainage swales with the intent
98 of reducing/eliminating roadway, structure, and property flooding across five residential properties on Huntersknoll
99 Court and Deerfield Road. Staff requests the project to be approved at \$451,300, which is the amount of the base
100 bid and a 10% contingency.

101
102 Mrs. Mills-Reynolds asked if the City was given any assurance from the residents to hold the City harmless in
103 case of severe flooding that the improvement project would not handle.

104
105 Mr. Heitkamp replied that there was no formal release other than the Easement Agreement that was presented to
106 the residents. He explained that the drainage improvements would allow for a larger flow of water and that he did
107 not anticipate issues with extreme flooding.

108

Mr. Suer stated that this project was reminiscent of the Jolain Drive drainage improvements and asked Mr. Heitkamp how those improvements have improved the situation at those properties.

Mr. Heitkamp replied that those drainage improvements were working well. He stated that since that job was completed in 2018 that he has not had contact with any of the residents which he feels is a good sign.

Mr. Suer stated that he felt this project would be just as successful.

Mr. Margolis asked if the project would be going through the yards of the residents.

Mr. Heitkamp replied that it would and explained the area of the project.

Mr. Margolis asked if there were issues on the north side of Huntersknoll Court.

Mr. Heitkamp stated that there were in the past, but when the Church of the Savior installed a detention basin it relieved a lot of the flooding on the north side.

Mayor Messer commented on the disparity between the low and high bid amounts.

Mr. Heitkamp replied that this type of project is not a typical project in that the work is not efficient. The contractors have to work in and around any structures and landscaping on the properties as well as manipulate their equipment in tight places. He stated that often causes bids to be inflated. He added that the positive thing is that the work can be completed in a short time and is a good job for contractors who are filling their schedules between summer and larger jobs.

Mayor Messer asked how the property owners feel about the work.

Mr. Heitkamp replied that they are happy that there will be a solution to the flooding.

Mayor Messer stated that the legislation would be added to the July 10 Business Session for consideration.

A Resolution Accepting a Bid and Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Agreement with Bansal Construction, Inc. to complete the Montgomery Road and Vintage Club Boulevard Traffic Signal Improvements Project

Mayor Messer assigned the legislation to Mr. Margolis.

Mr. Heitkamp explained that, if approved, this Resolution will authorize a contract with Bansal Construction, Inc. to improve the traffic signal located on Montgomery Road at Vintage Club Boulevard by removing the existing span wire system and replacing it with a black decorative mast arm system with illuminated street name signs, along with other upgrades. Staff requests the project be approved in the amount of \$241,000, which is the amount of the base bid and a 10% contingency.

Mr. Margolis asked Mr. Heitkamp how many span wire signals were left.

Mr. Heitkamp replied around six or seven.

Mrs. Mills-Reynolds asked when an anticipated installation date would be.

Mr. Heitkamp replied that it depended on the delivery of the mast arm, but he anticipated in the fall.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Riblet reported the following items:

- A Council Business Session is scheduled for Wednesday, July 10 at 6:00 p.m.
- The Financial Planning Committee will meet on Monday, July 1 at 4:30 p.m. The Law and Safety and Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committees have been cancelled for the month of July.
- The Parks and Recreation Committee will meet on Monday, July 8 at 3:30 p.m. The Government Affairs and Public Works Committees have no agenda items at this time and are recommended to be cancelled.
- Ms. Henao and Mr. Riblet will give a State of the City presentation at the Twin Lakes Clubhouse at 11:30 on Thursday, June 20 on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce.
- Plattenburg wrapped up the 2023 financial audit today and reported it was a clean audit with no compliance issues. Staff will be submitting our ACFR to The Government Finance Officers Association for consideration for the Award of Excellence.
- Mr. Riblet surveyed Council on availability to hold a dedication ceremony for the Montgomery Quarter plaque and it was determined to look at July 15, 16 or 17 at 11:30 or 4:00. Mr. Riblet stated that he would work with the Development Team and confirm with Council in the next couple of days.

Events

- A Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) event is planned for Saturday, June 22, from 6:00 – 10:00 pm at the Corner of Montgomery and Cooper Roads. Live music featuring Five O’Clock Friday will be presented and food from the Barking Burger Food Truck, Taglio, and Chloe’s Creation will be available.
- The Beautification & Tree Commission’s Garden & Tree Tour will be held this Sunday, June 23, from 2:00– 6:00 pm. This self-guided tour will feature five private gardens and two City of Montgomery Park gardens.
- With the July events around the corner, a reminder of the Independence Day events:
 - July 3rd concert begins at 7:15 in Montgomery Park-The theme this year is Salute to the States
 - July 4th parade line up begins on Delray Drive. The parade begins at 10:00 a.m. The Festival held in Montgomery Park will run from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Riblet requested an Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official.

LAW DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Donnellon reported that he had no additional report outside of the legislation already discussed.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mrs. Bissmeyer

Mrs. Bissmeyer thanked staff for their efforts in planning fun summer events for the community. She was also pleased to see that the Health Care Benefits Committee were already hard at work on the quote for health care for the upcoming renewal in September.

Mrs. Mills-Reynolds

Mrs. Mills-Reynolds reported the following:

- The Beautification and Tree Commission will hold this year's Garden Tour on June 23 and there is still a vacancy for an additional home so anyone who knows of a home to include, please let her or anyone on the Commission know.
- The Parks & Recreation Commission is working on the Montgomery Amazing Race.
- She thanked staff for the wonderful additions at the pool and for also managing the adult swim time.

Mr. Dobrozsi

Mr. Dobrozsi reported on the following:

- He attended an OKI meeting where they discussed transportation needs for seniors and those with disabilities.
- The Sister Cities Commission continues planning for Bastille Day. He stated that they now have 15-16 restaurants and four sponsors.
- The Arts Commission has confirmed all dates and entertainment for the Live at the Uni series.
- Government Affairs met and approved surplus to go to GovDeals for auction; the theme for the 2026 Montgomery Calendar was discussed and then interviews were held for the vacant seat on the Arts Commission. Based on those interviews, Mr. Dobrozsi recommended that Miluska Risco be appointed to the Arts Commission for a term ending on January 31, 2027. He explained this was a Committee recommendation so a second was not needed. City Council unanimously agreed.

Vice Mayor Naiman

Vice Mayor Naiman stated she had no report.

Mr. Suer

Mr. Suer reported that the Landmarks Commission met at which time Ms. Henao presented an update on history projects now that the MHPA has dissolved. He stated that Ms. Henao was overseeing all projects and initiatives regarding the city's Landmarks and Historical data. He added that the Commission discussed holding a Speaker series in the future.

Mr. Margolis

Mr. Margolis reported that the EAC held the monthly cardboard recycling.

Mayor Messer

Mayor Messer reported that he attended a Meet & Greet with Governor DeWine at Finlay Market. He also met with Ethan Reynolds, Governor DeWine's representative for the southwest regional area. He stated that Mr. Reynolds offered to work with the City in scheduling Governor DeWine for events in the City dependent on his availability.

MINUTES

Mr. Margolis moved to approve the minutes of June 5, 2024 as written. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Messer asked Mr. Riblet if there would be a neighborhood representative for the Montgomery Quarter.

Mr. Riblet replied that he would follow up with the Developer to find out. He stated that he felt there would be once the residential units were completed and filled.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Messer stated that Mr. Riblet had requested an Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official and asked for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session.

Mr. Margolis made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official.

Vice Mayor Naiman seconded.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis (7)

NAY: (0)

City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 6:59 p.m.


City Council reconvened into Public Session at 8:26 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

City Council adjourned at 8:26 p.m.



Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council