

MEMORANDUM

January 17, 2025

TO:

Mayor and City Council Members

FROM:

Brian K. Riblet, City Manager BKP

SUBJECT:

City Council Work Session of Wednesday, January 22, 2025

As a reminder, City Council is scheduled to meet in Work Session on Wednesday, January 22, 2025 immediately following a Public Hearing scheduled at 5:45 p.m.

Public Hearing

City Council is asked to consider a recommendation by the Planning Commission for the Expansion of a Conditional Use and Final Development Plan for the Gate of Heaven Cemetery located at 11000 Montgomery Road.

At the close of each presentation, City Council's options are to:

- Approve the Recommendation
- Deny the Recommendation
- Remand the matter to Staff for more specific information or
- Take the matter under advisement and vote at another public meeting within thirty days.

If City Council chooses the final option, it is suggested that City Council announce the date and time of the subsequent hearing when the matter will be discussed and considered for vote.

As a reminder, the Code does not allow additional new evidence to be submitted for review during the public hearing. City Council is to limit its consideration to the information presented by the City, and any comments, pro or con, from the public.

Work Session

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Special Presentation
 - a. Officer Michael Ross will be sworn in at the City's newest Police Officer

- 4. Guest and Residents
- 5. Legislation for Consideration this Evening
 - a. A Resolution Of The City Of Montgomery Supporting The Ohio Municipal League's Challenge Of AT&T's Tariff Application At The Public Utilities Commission Of Ohio—Please see attached correspondence from Law Director Terry Donnellon requesting that City Council consider this Resolution that, if approved, follows-up a request from the Ohio Municipal League to join them and other communities throughout the State of Ohio to oppose a Tariff Application from AT&T to allow AT&T to pass along right-of-way relocation costs to local customers. This is inconsistent with the Ohio statute and Ohio case law. The City noted its support of the League's position in a separate communication to meet the Commission deadline, and this Resolution formally states our support for the Municipal League and opposes the Tariff.

Motion to Add to the Agenda

Voice Vote

Assign to a City Council Member

Move to read the Resolution by title only

Voice Vote

Explain Resolution

Roll Call Vote

b. An Ordinance Accepting Certain Dedicated Streets Within The Montgomery Quarter Subdivision And Declaring An Emergency—Please see attached correspondence from Law Director Terry Donnellon requesting that City Council consider this Ordinance that, if approved, will accept the Montgomery Quarter Phase 1 street grid as public improvements. This is part of the ordinary process for the City to accept dedicated right-of-way to place the responsibility for continuing maintenance upon the City.

Motion to Add to the Agenda

Voice Vote

Assign to a City Council Member

Move to read the Ordinance by title only

Voice Vote

Move to suspend the second and third readings of the Ordinance and to pass as an emergency

Roll Call Vote

Explain Ordinance

Roll Call Vote

6. Establishing an Agenda for February 5, 2025 Business Session

Pending Legislation

There is no pending legislation

New Legislation

a. A Resolution Approving A Construction Agreement With Brandicorp, LLC For Montgomery Quarter Public Improvements Within The Interchange Roundabout—Please see attached correspondence from City Manager Brian Riblet requesting that City Council consider this Resolution that, if approved, would authorize an Agreement with Brandicorp, LLC as the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for the Montgomery Road Roundabout Monument Project.

Add this Resolution to the February 5, 2025 Business Session agenda, assign it to a City Council member for reading, and consider adoption of the Resolution that evening.

- 7. Administration Report
- 8. Law Director Report
- 9. City Council Member Reports
- a. Mrs. Bissmeyer
 - i. Reappoint Jade Stewart and Tom Molloy to the Board of Zoning Appeals with terms ending on January 31, 2029
 - ii. Reappoint Dennis Hirotsu and Peter Fossett to the Planning Commission with terms ending on January 31, 2029

Make a motion to reappoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at Committee level, so they do need a second.

Voice Vote

b. Mrs. Mills-Reynolds

i. Reappoint Reza Ghoorkhanian, Jorge Tameron and Dorothy Stadelmann to the Parks and Recreation Commission with terms ending on January 31, 2028

Make a motion to reappoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at Committee level, so they do need a second.

Voice Vote

c. Mr. Dobrozsi

- i. Reappoint Nam-Ha Brown and Elise Williams to the Arts Commission with terms ending January 31, 2028
- ii. Reappoint Marcallene Shockey to the Sister Cities Commission with a term ending January 31, 2028

Make a motion to reappoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at Committee level, so they do need a second.

Voice Vote

d. Mrs. Naiman

- i. Reappoint Chip Harrod and Benny Miles to the Diversity and Inclusion Commission with terms ending January 31, 2028
- ii. Reappoint Fred Kleiser to the Civil Service Commission with a term ending January 31,2028

Make a motion to reappoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at Committee level, so they do need a second.

Voice Vote

e. Mr. Suer

- i. Reappoint Carole Cottrill and John Durham to the Landmarks Commission with terms ending on January 31, 2028
- ii. Reappoint Gary Blomberg, Ed Steinebrey and Brian Clifford to the Board of Tax Appeals with terms ending on January 31, 2027

Make a motion to reappoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at the Committee level, so it does need a second.

Voice Vote

f. Mr. Margolis

i. Reappoint Ellen Hall and Zeeshan Pasha to the Environmental Advisory Commission with a term ending January 31, 2028

Make a motion to appoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at the Committee level, so it does need a second.

Voice Vote

- g. Mayor Messer
- 10. Approval of Minutes- January 8, 2025 Business Session
- 11. Other Business
- 12. Executive Session
- 13. Adjournment

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

C: Connie Gaylor, Executive Asst./Clerk of Council Department Heads Terry Donnellon, Law Director



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA 10101 Montgomery Road • Montgomery, Ohio 45242 (513) 891-2424 • Fax (513) 891-2498

January 22, 2025 City Hall Immediately following a Public Hearing scheduled for 5:45 p.m.

- Call to Order
- 2. Roll Call
- 3. Special Presentation
 - a. Officer Michael Ross will be sworn in at the City's newest Police Officer
- 4. Guests and Residents
- 5. Legislation for Consideration This Evening
 - a. <u>A Resolution Of The City Of Montgomery Supporting The Ohio Municipal League's Challenge Of AT&T's Tariff Application At The Public Utilities Commission Of Ohio</u>

Motion to Add to the Agenda

Voice Vote

Assign to a City Council Member

Move to read the Resolution by title only

Voice Vote

Explain Resolution

Roll Call Vote

b. <u>An Ordinance Accepting Certain Dedicated Streets Within The Montgomery Quarter</u> Subdivision And Declaring An Emergency

Motion to Add to the Agenda

Voice Vote

Assign to a City Council Member

Move to read the Ordinance by title only

Voice Vote

Move to suspend the second and third readings of the Ordinance and to pass as an emergency

Roll Call Vote

Explain Ordinance

Roll Call Vote

6. Establishing an Agenda for the February 5, 2025 Business Session

Pending Legislation

There is no pending legislation

New Legislation

a. <u>A Resolution Approving A Construction Agreement With Brandicorp, LLC For Montgomery Quarter Public Improvements Within The Interchange Roundabout</u>

Add this Resolution to the February 5, 2025 Business Session agenda, assign it to a City Council member for reading, and consider adoption of the Resolution that evening.

- 7. Administration Report
- 8. Law Director Report
- 9. City Council Member Reports
 - a. Mrs. Bissmeyer
 - i. Reappoint Jade Stewart and Tom Molloy to the Board of Zoning Appeals with terms ending on January 31, 2029
 - ii. Reappoint Dennis Hirotsu and Peter Fossett to the Planning Commission with terms ending on January 31, 2029

Make a motion to reappoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at Committee level, so they do need a second.

Voice Vote

b. Mrs. Mills-Reynolds

i. Reappoint Reza Ghoorkhanian, Jorge Tameron and Dorothy Stadelmann to the Parks and Recreation Commission with terms ending on January 31, 2028

Make a motion to reappoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at Committee level, so they do need a second.

Voice Vote

c. Mr. Dobrozsi

- i. Reappoint Nam-Ha Brown and Elise Williams to the Arts Commission with terms ending January 31, 2028
- ii. Reappoint Marcallene Shockey to the Sister Cities Commission with a term ending January 31, 2028

Make a motion to reappoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at Committee level, so they do need a second.

Voice Vote

d. Mrs. Naiman

- i. Reappoint Chip Harrod and Benny Miles to the Diversity and Inclusion Commission with terms ending January 31, 2028
- ii. Reappoint Fred Kleiser to the Civil Service Commission with a term ending January 31, 2028

Make a motion to reappoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at Committee level, so they do need a second.

Voice Vote

e. Mr. Suer

- i. Reappoint Carole Cottrill and John Durham to the Landmarks Commission with terms ending on January 31, 2028
- ii. Reappoint Gary Blomberg, Ed Steinebrey and Brian Clifford to the Board of Tax Appeals with terms ending on January 31, 2027

Make a motion to reappoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at the Committee level, so it does need a second.

Voice Vote

f. Mr. Margolis

i. Reappoint Ellen Hall and Zeeshan Pasha to the Environmental Advisory Commission with a term ending January 31, 2028

Make a motion to appoint

These reappointments have not been discussed at the Committee level, so it does need a second.

Voice Vote

- g. Mayor Messer
- 10. Approval of Minutes-January 8, 2025 Business Session
- 11. Other Business
- 12. Executive Session
- 13. Adjournment

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

C: Connie Gaylor, Executive Asst./Clerk of Council Department Heads
Terry Donnellon, Law Director



A LEGAL PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

TO:

Mayor Ronald G. Messer

Members of City Council

FROM:

Terrence M. Donnellon

RE:

Supporting the Ohio Municipal League's Challenge of AT&T's Tariff Application at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

DATE:

January 15, 2025

This Resolution was requested through the Ohio Municipal League and the Hamilton County Municipal League to indicate our support to oppose the Tariff Application by AT&T with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. Their Tariff Application asks the Commission to approve the process to pass through to local customers the cost to relocate AT&T's improvements in the right-of-way.

Under Ohio law, local communities control the right-of-way, and utilities use the right-of-way by permission of the City or under a separate Easement Agreement. Very typically when the support structures must be moved, the utility company pays the cost to move the utilities so long as there is an underlying public purpose for the need to expand the right-of-way. As an example, when a roadway is widened, an additional right-of-way is required. Communities will work with the utility companies to relocate their poles and/or underground utilities. This theory has been tested many times in the courts, and by statute and case law the liability to the utilities has been reaffirmed.

AT&T is attempting to pass along that cost through a Tariff to be approved by the Public Utilities Commission. This Resolution will oppose the Tariff Application, which is now pending before the Commission.

The Ohio Municipal League is opposing the Application with legal counsel and has asked communities throughout the State of Ohio to join them to preserve this local control. While AT&T does not have any structures within the City of Montgomery, we do not want this approved Application to open the door for other local utilities which would impact the City of Montgomery to pass those costs along to customers.

The Administration sent a Letter of Opposition to the Tariff Application and in support of the Municipal League, but this will formalize our position. There may or may not be costs in the

Council Memo January 15, 2025 Page Two

future to oppose the Application, but the Municipal League has asked us to endorse our support and a potential additional appropriation in the future to litigate the issue through the system. We do not know what that cost may be, but we are not obligated to incur such cost until such time as we appropriate the funds.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrence M. Donnellon,

Law Director

TMD/lld

Enclosure

cc: Brian Riblet, City Manager

Connie Gaylor, Executive Assistant

Department Heads

File

RESOLUTION NO. , 2025

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY, OHIO SUPPORTING THE OHIO MUNICIPAL LEAGUE'S CHALLENGE OF AT&T'S TARIFF APPLICATION AT THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2024, the Ohio Bell Telephone Company dba AT&T Ohio ("AT&T") filed a Telecommunications Form related to a change in its tariff for "Construction Charges, Relocation of Facilities" with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (the "PUCO") in PUCO Case Nos. 24-1123-TP-ATA and 90-5032-TP-TRF (collectively referred to as "AT&T's Tariff Application"); and

WHEREAS, AT&T's Tariff Application proposes tariff changes which will require any municipalities in which AT&T is located in the municipality's public right-of-way to pay the full cost of any relocation or undergrounding of AT&T's facilities, regardless of the reason for the relocation, which is in direct contradiction of current Ohio law; and

WHEREAS, AT&T's Tariff Application is subject to a thirty-day auto approval process, meaning that if the PUCO does not rule on the application, then the application is automatically approved, and the tariff change becomes effective on the thirty-first day after the filing of the application; and

WHEREAS, if AT&T's Tariff Application goes unchallenged and becomes automatically effective, municipalities throughout Ohio (and, subsequently, constituents who may or may not be AT&T customers) would be required to pay for any relocation of AT&T facilities in the public rights-of-way, even if the relocation or undergrounding is required for health, safety, or public welfare purposes; and

WHEREAS, any challenges to AT&T's Application must be filed prior to

January 17, 2025, to allow the PUCO to pause the automatic approval process, to allow challengers to be heard through an evidentiary hearing, and to consider legal arguments. To challenge AT&T's Tariff Application, an interested stakeholder must file a motion to intervene with the PUCO showing that it has a real and substantial interest in AT&T's Tariff Application and the intervener is so situated that the disposition of the proceeding may, as a practical matter, impair or impede its ability to protect that interest; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Municipal League has engaged counsel to challenge AT&T's Tariff Application on behalf of its Member Ohio communities which will be substantially impacted by such Tariff approval; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the City Manager, did note the City's support of the Ohio Municipal League's challenge, and Council now enacts this legislation to formalize its opposition to the AT&T Tariff Application.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Montgomery, Hamilton County, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. Council of the City of Montgomery, Hamilton County, Ohio ("Council"), finds that AT&T's Tariff Application directly changes and significantly impacts, to the detriment to the City, how the City of Montgomery manages and administers its public rights-of-way.

SECTION 2. Council hereby formally authorizes and agrees to participate in, and to intervene in, the proceeding at the PUCO in order to challenge AT&T's Tariff Application and any subsequent and/or necessary legal, administrative, legislative efforts.

SECTION 3. Council has been advised by the Ohio Municipal League that future financial and/or other support from the City may be necessary to the success of a

challenge to AT&T's Tariff Application and any related legal, administrative, or legislative efforts. The City may take under consideration the specific amount or form of such financial and/or other support from the City at a subsequent meeting of this Council and appropriate funds as appropriate to continue such challenge.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED:	
ATTEST: Connie M. Gaylor. Clerk of Council	Ronald G. Messer, Mavor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Terrence M. Donnellon, Law Director



A LEGAL PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

TO: Mayor Ronald G. Messer

Members of City Council

FROM: Terrence M. Donnellon

RE: Accepting Certain Dedicated Streets within

the Montgomery Quarter Subdivision

and Declaring an Emergency

DATE: January 15, 2025

Several years ago when the Montgomery Quarter Subdivision was platted and the subdivision plat was filed with Hamilton County, the street grid in Stage 1 of the Project, being all of Ayers Place, Roosa Street, and portions of Cameron Lane, Montgomery Road and Main Street, were dedicated by The Montgomery Community Improvement Corporation as public roadways. Once construction is completed and accepted by the City, it is our responsibility by Ordinance to then accept such public improvements, at which time the street grid will be retitled to the City of Montgomery, Ohio, and it will be our responsibility to maintain the street and related streetscape within the right-of-way.

This Ordinance accepts such dedicated streets and public improvements, and the Ordinance will be recorded with Hamilton County once approved by City Council.

To advance the process to remove the responsibility for the street grid from the contractor, we are asking Council to pass this Ordinance as an emergency and to suspend the second and third readings. The Project has been inspected and accepted by the City, and that portion of the Project site which may still have active construction while the hotel is completed will be secured to be repaired or restored under a separate maintenance bond between the City and Brandicorp, LLC. The Administration will complete a Change Order to the original Construction Agreement to acknowledge these deferred Punch List items and those areas which may be damaged while the hotel construction is complete. The bond will be maintained for a period of one year to assure compliance.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrence M. Donnellon,

Law Director

TMD/lld

Enclosure

cc: Brian Riblet, City Manager

Connie Gaylor, Executive Assistant

Department Heads

File

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING CERTAIN DEDICATED STREETS WITHIN THE MONTGOMERY QUARTER SUBDIVISION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, within Plat Book 483, Page 42 of the Official Records of Hamilton County, Ohio, certain acreage along Montgomery Road was subdivided to become the Montgomery Quarter; and

WHEREAS, within such subdivision plat, as recorded, Hamilton County Auditor's parcel number 603-0004-0222 was dedicated by The Montgomery Community Improvement Corporation as public right-of-way for the construction of Ayers Place, Roosa Street, and a portion of Cameron Lane, Montgomery Road and Main Street; and

WHEREAS, under a separate Construction Manager-at-Risk Agreement, the City of Montgomery, Ohio and The Montgomery Community Improvement Corporation contracted for construction of various public improvements within the Montgomery Quarter, including the street grid and related streetscape within the dedicated right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the contractor has achieved substantial completion under the terms of the Construction Manager-at-Risk Agreement, and the right-of-way improvements have been completed consistent with the engineering standards for public use, and as a result City Council does desire to accept the dedicated lot 603-0008-0523 and declare the improvements to be appropriately dedicated as public improvements for the use of the traveling public.

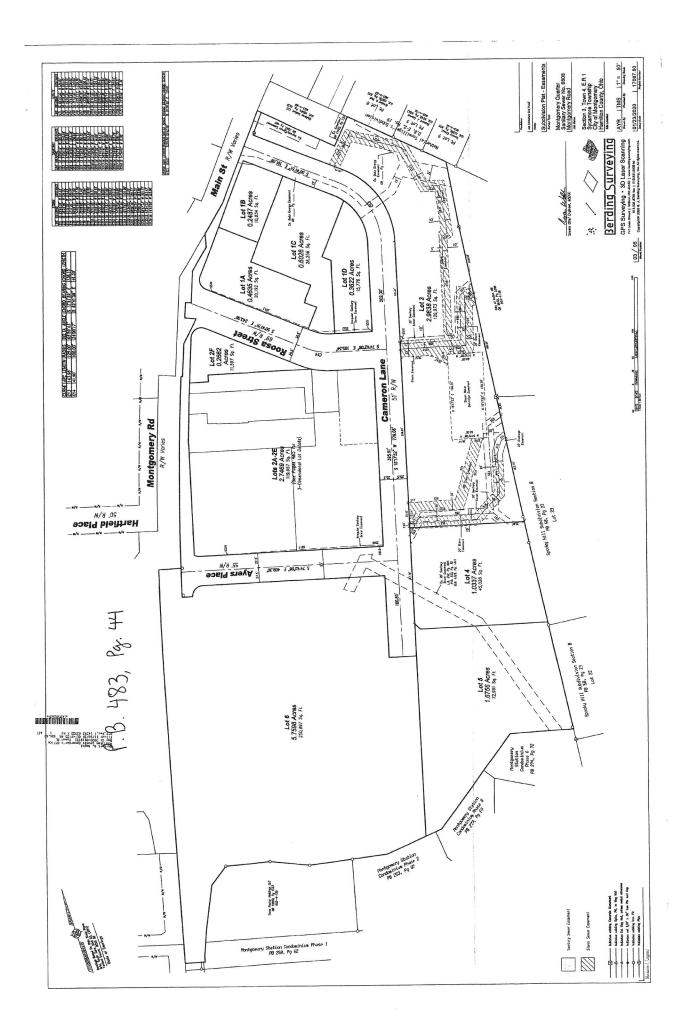
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Montgomery, Hamilton County, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. The attached Plat depicting the dedication of the street grid within the Montgomery Quarter Subdivision, specifically Ayers Place, Roosa Street, and portions of Cameron Lane, Montgomery Road and Main Street, are hereby accepted and approved for filing within the Official Records of Hamilton County, Ohio.

SECTION 2. The public improvements are hereby accepted, and the City assumes continuing responsibility to maintain such public improvements as a part of the roadway system within the City of Montgomery for the benefit of the traveling public.

SECTION 3. In order to facilitate the appropriate development of the site, and to complete Stage 1 of the Construction Manager-at-Risk Agreement, and to open such roadway and improvements for safe public travel, this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the public health, safety and welfare, and it shall take effect immediately upon passage.

PASSED:	
ATTEST:Connie M. Gaylor, Clerk of Council	Ronald G. Messer, Mayor
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
Mrun Dorum	
Terrence M. Donnellon, Law Director	





MEMORANDUM

January 16, 2025

TO:

City Council

FROM:

Brian K. Riblet, City Manager

SUBJECT:

Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for the Montgomery Road

Roundabout Monument Project

Request

It is necessary for City Council to consider a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and enter into an Agreement with Brandicorp, LLC as the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for the Montgomery Road Roundabout Monument Project.

Financial Impact

The public improvements associated with the Montgomery Road Roundabout Monument Project primarily consists of constructing a vertical monument in the center of the roundabout creating a welcoming southern gateway to our community. In addition, the project will include decorative fencing, lighting, irrigation, and landscaping. A Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) will be negotiated with Brandicorp, LLC not to exceed \$1.8 million to represent the City as our CMAR and manage/oversee the project. If approved, funding for this project will be made available through the Downtown Improvement Fund (480.000.5470) in which funds have been placed there in anticipation of this project.

Background

On April 9, 2024, the City conducted a bid opening for this project which, at the time, included additional landscape islands, decorative walls/fencing, lighting, and irrigation that extended beyond the inner circle of the roundabout and west on Ronald Reagan Highway. The City only received one bid which was significantly higher than the Engineer's Estimate, the bid was ultimately rejected.

Additional internal meetings were conducted with our Steering Committee which also included Council members Ken Suer and Chris Dobrozsi, we decided to reduce the scope of the project and focus on the immediate inner circle of the roundabout which is primarily the vertical monument and associated wall, decorative fencing, landscaping, lighting, and irrigation. In addition, we chose to re-advertise utilizing the CMAR approach to the project.

The City advertised an RFQ for this project and received (4) submissions prior to the deadline on October 24, 2024, including: Brandicorp, LLC., Prus Construction, Pepper Construction and Graybach.

After reviewing the RFQ submissions, all (4) entities were invited to participate in the RFP process and we received (3) submissions prior to the deadline of December 2, 2024, including Brandicorp, LLC., Prus Construction, and Graybach.

Interviews were conducted with all (3) entities and the Evaluation Committee selected Brandicorp, LLC. to proceed with negotiations to reach a proposed agreement and GMP.

Recommendation

Staff recommends City Council approve a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to Negotiate and enter into an Agreement with Brandicorp, LLC as the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for the Montgomery Road Roundabout Monument Project.

RESOLUTION NO. , 2025

A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH BRANDICORP, LLC FOR MONTGOMERY QUARTER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS WITHIN THE INTERCHANGE ROUNDABOUT

WHEREAS, as a part of the Montgomery Quarter development project, the City does desire to contract for construction of a monument and supporting landscape/streetscape improvements within the Roundabout at the Montgomery Road and Ronald Reagan Highway interchange ("Roundabout Project Improvements"); and

WHEREAS, the Criteria Drawings have been prepared by the City's design professionals in consultation with City Administration for the Roundabout Project Improvements; and

WHEREAS, to obtain market competitive pricing for the construction work and to maximize the timely and efficient construction of such Roundabout Project Improvements, the City Administration elected to proceed under R.C. § 9.33 et. seq. to pursue a Construction Manager-At-Risk model to choose a contractor; and

WHEREAS, after advertising for Request For Qualifications, then soliciting Request For Proposals from the Best Value candidates, the City Administration through its Evaluation Committee chose to negotiate a contract with Brandicorp, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the City Administration is now asking Council to approve a Construction Agreement with Brandicorp, LLC for the Roundabout Project Improvements in the substantial form of the Construction Agreement attached hereto.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Montgomery, Hamilton County, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. The City Manager is hereby authorized to finalize and execute the attached Construction Agreement, substantially in the form and under the terms and conditions of the Construction Agreement attached hereto, as negotiated with Brandicorp, LLC to construct Roundabout Project Improvements in the Montgomery Quarter Project.

SECTION 2. Such Construction Agreement shall include Guaranteed Maximum Pricing for the Roundabout Project Improvements in an amount not to exceed \$1,800,000. The City Manager is authorized to execute such Guaranteed Maximum Pricing amendments with the Contractor when design and engineering plans have been reviewed and approved with any accepted construction alternates.

SECTION 3. The City Manager is authorized to execute such additional documentation as may be necessary to complete the Construction Agreement to assure efficient and quality construction of the Roundabout Project Improvements.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED:	
ATTEST: Connie M. Gaylor, Clerk of Council	Ronald G. Messer, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Terrence M. Donnellon. Law Director

These minutes are a draft of the proposed minutes from the City Council meeting. They do not represent the official record of proceedings until formally adopted by the City Council. Formal adoption is noted by signature of the Clerk within the minutes.

City of Montgomery 1 City Council Business Session Minutes 2 3 January 8, 2025 4 5 City Council Members Present Present Lee Ann Bissmeyer 6 Brian Riblet, City Manager Chris Dobrozsi 7 Terry Donnellon, Law Director Craig Margolis 8 John Crowell, Police Chief Ron Messer 9 Kevin Chesar, Community Dev. Director Catherine Mills Reynolds Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director 10 Sasha Naiman 11 Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager Ken Suer 12 Maura Gray, Finance Director Matthew Vanderhorst, Communications and Information Service Director 13 Paul Wright, Fire Chief 14 Amy Frederick, Communications and Engagement Coordinator 15 Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council 16 17 City Council convened in Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Messer presiding. 18 19 20 **ROLL CALL** 21 Mayor Messer asked for a motion to dispense with the roll call as all members were present. Mr. Margolis made 22 23 the motion. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed. 24 25 SPECIAL PRESENTATION 26 Mr. Riblet formally swore in Sergeant T.J. Shreve as the City's new Assistant Police Chief in front of a packed 27 Council Chambers. Council members, staff, and family congratulated Asst. Police Chief Shreve on his promotion. 28 29 30 **LEGISLATION FOR CONSIDERATION** 31 A Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to The Current Contract with Donnellon, Donnellon and Miller 32 for Legal Services to The City of Montgomery 33 34 Mayor Messer asked for a motion to add this legislation to the agenda for consideration at the meeting. Mr. 35 Margolis moved to add the legislation to the agenda. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously 36 37 agreed. 38 39 Mayor Messer assigned the legislation to Mr. Dobrozsi. 40 Mr. Dobrozsi moved to read the Resolution by title only. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council 41 42 unanimously agreed. 43 Mr. Dobrozsi read the title and moved for passage. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. 44 45 46 Mr. Dobrozsi explained that this Resolution will authorize an amendment to the current contract with Donnellon, 47 Donnellon and Miller for legal services to the City of Montgomery for the year 2025. 48 49 The roll was called and showed the following vote: 50 51 AYE: Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis (7) (0)52 NAY: 53

These minutes are a draft of the proposed minutes from the City Council meeting. They do not represent the official record of proceedings until formally adopted by the City Council. Formal adoption is noted by signature of the Clerk within the minutes.

City Council Business Session Minutes

January 8, 2024

Page 2.

PENDING LEGISLATION

Mayor Messer explained that since all following legislation has been made available to the public before this evening's meeting, he would like a motion to accept the legislative agenda and read all legislation by title only.

57 58 59

54

55

56

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

60 61 62

An Ordinance Establishing Compensation For Elected Officials

63 64

Mr. Dobrozsi read the title and moved passage of the Ordinance. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded.

65 66

Mr. Dobrozsi explained that if approved, this Ordinance would initiate the process to increase compensation for Council Members and the Mayor commencing January 1, 2026.

67 68 69

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

70 71

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

72

(0)

73 74 75

NEW LEGISLATION

76 77 A Resolution of the City of Montgomery, of Ohio, Supporting the Ohio Commission for the United States Semi-Quincentennial (America250-OH)

78 79

Mrs. Bissmeyer read the title and moved passage of the Resolution. Ms. Margolis seconded.

80 81

Mrs. Bissmeyer explained that information has been previously supplied on this legislation that, if approved, will allow the City to become an official AM 250-OH Community and support the efforts of celebrating the 250th anniversary of America.

83 84

82

Mrs. Bissmeyer asked if there were any updates.

85 86 87

Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

88 89

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

90 91

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

92 93 94

A Resolution Requesting The County Auditor To Make Tax Advances During The Year 2025 Pursuant To Ohio Revised Code § 321.34

95 96 97

Mr. Suer read the title and moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Margolis seconded.

98 99

100

101

Mr. Suer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will allow the advance payment of taxes to be drawn on the undivided real estate tax fund of Hamilton County. City Council passed legislation to advance taxes for collection year 2024 on September 4, 2024. Hamilton County requires passage of this legislation for each collection year.

102 103 These minutes are a draft of the proposed minutes from the City Council meeting. They do not represent the official record of proceedings until formally adopted by the City Council. Formal adoption is noted by signature of the Clerk within the minutes.

City Council Business Session Minutes

January 8, 2024

Page 3.

104 Mr. Margolis thanked Ms. Gray for advising Council on this option with the county.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

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

Mr. Dobrozsi recused himself from the next piece of legislation as it includes funding for the Montgomery Quarter and could pose a potential professional conflict. He exited the dais.

A Resolution Delegating Authority To Make Declarations Of Official Intent And Allocations With Respect To Reimbursements Of Temporary Advances During Fiscal Years 2025 And 2026 Made For Capital Improvements To Be Made From Subsequent Borrowings For The Montgomery Quarter Redevelopment Project (Formerly Known As The Gateway Redevelopment Project)

Mr. Suer read the title and moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Margolis seconded.

Mr. Suer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will allow the City to advance certain monies for Stage II of the Montgomery Quarter Redevelopment Project. The City has issued previous reimbursement Resolutions for Stage I and an initial Resolution for Stage II governing calendar years 2023 and 2024. This Resolution will extend the City's right to claim reimbursement during calendar years 2025 and 2026.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Messer
NAY:
(0)
ABSTAIN: Dobrozsi
(1)

Mr. Dobrozsi rejoined Council on the dais.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Riblet gave the following report:

 • City Council Work Session is scheduled for January 22, 2025 immediately following a Public Hearing scheduled at 5:45 p.m. Council previously made a motion to commence with the Work Session immediately following the conclusion of the Public Hearing.

• Mr. Riblet reported that there are no agenda items for the Law and Safety, Government Affairs, and Public Works Committees and recommended cancelling all meetings for the month of January. City Council agreed with this recommendation.

• Staff requested a Montgomery Community Improvement Corporation (CIC) meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 5 at 5:45. This meeting would be the annual organizational meeting of the members and trustees as well as several agenda items. City Council unanimously agreed to the scheduling of the meeting. Mr. Dobrozsi made a motion to commence with the Business Session immediately following the CIC meeting. Mrs. Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

• The 2nd Annual Menorah Lighting Ceremony was held on December 30.

These minutes are a draft of the proposed minutes from the City Council meeting. They do not represent the official record of proceedings until formally adopted by the City Council. Formal adoption is noted by signature of the Clerk within the minutes.

City Council Business Session Minutes January 8, 2024

Page 4.

• Kudos to Public Works for clearing the streets this past weekend and Monday. This was a larger snowfall than what has been experienced in a while, and they did an exceptional job.

• The first session of MCLA is scheduled for Thursday, January 9, at Terwilliger Lodge at 5:45. There is a great group of 24 residents and community members.

• Exciting news that our Montgomery family will be getting a little bit bigger as Walter Taylor from Public Works got engaged during the holidays.

• Happy Birthday to Council Member Suer whose birthday is on January 16.

MINUTES

Mr. Margolis moved to approve the December 18, 2024 Work Session minutes as written. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

MAYOR'S COURT REPORT

Mayor Messer asked for a motion to disburse the December Mayors Court Report. Mrs. Bissmeyer made a motion to disburse the December Mayors Court in the amount of \$7,940. Mr. Margolis seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

Mr. Margolis moved to adjourn. Mrs. Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

City Council adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council