

City of Montgomery
City Council Business Session Minutes
September 1, 2021

Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager
Terry Donnellon, Law Director
Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager/Acting Comm. Dev. Dir.
John Crowell, Police Chief
Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director
Paul Wright, Fire Chief
Katie Smiddy, Finance Director
Amy Frederick, Community and Engagement Coordinator
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council

City Council Members Present

Chris Dobrozsi, Mayor
Craig Margolis, Vice Mayor
Lee Ann Bissmeyer
Mike Cappel
Ron Messer
Lynda Roesch
Ken Suer

City Council convened its Business Session for September 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers with Mayor Dobrozsi presiding.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Dobrozsi asked for a motion to dispense with roll call as all Council Members were present.

Mrs. Bissmeyer made a motion to dispense with the roll call. Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Larry Dannenberg of the Montgomery Farmers Market provided an update of the market to City Council.

City Council thanked Mr. Dannenberg and all the members of the Montgomery Farmers Market for their continued commitment to the community and market.

TABLED LEGISLATION

An Ordinance Agreeing To Adjust The Boundaries Between The City Of Montgomery, Ohio And The City Of The Village Of Indian Hill, Ohio Pursuant To Ohio Revised Code Section 709.37

Mayor Dobrozsi asked for an update on the legislation.

Mr. Donnellon replied that there were no updates at this time and advised to leave the legislation as tabled until information was received by the homeowners.

PENDING LEGISLATION

There was no pending legislation on this agenda.

NEW LEGISLATION

A Resolution Amending Resolution No. 27, 2020 Establishing Contributions to Health Care Benefits

Mr. Messer moved to read the Resolution by title only. Vice Mayor Margolis seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Messer read the title and moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Cappel seconded.

Mr. Messer explained that, if approved, this Resolution would authorize extending the current monthly City contribution limits for employee group medical and dental insurances for an additional three months (October 1 through December 31, 2021.) Last year the City contracted with Humana for a 15-month period to provide employee group medical insurance with a zero percent increase in premium costs. Recently, City Council approved extending

the existing contract with Dental Care Plus for employee group dental insurance an additional three months from October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 (at current rates) in order to sync the employee group dental insurance contract end period with the employee group medical insurance contract end period. Typically, this is the time of year the Administration requests that City Council establish new City contribution limits for employee group medical and dental insurances to begin effective October 1. However, the Administration is seeking to have the current City contribution limits for employee group medical and dental insurances extended three months for a December 31 end date to coincide with the medical and dental insurance contract end dates.

Mr. Messer asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

Mayor Dobrozsi asked for the roll to be called.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Cappel, Bissmeyer, Suer, Dobrozsi, Roesch, Messer, Margolis (7)

NAY: (0)

A Resolution Establishing City Contributions To Employee Health Savings Accounts And Health Reimbursement Accounts

Mr. Messer moved to read the Resolution by title only. Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Messer read the title and moved for passage. Mr. Cappel seconded.

Mr. Messer explained that, if approved, this Resolution will continue the City's incentive contribution to employees' Health Savings Accounts (and to Health Reimbursement Accounts for employees who, as a result of being enrolled in Medicare, are no longer eligible for a Health Savings Account) for the period beginning September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022. The City's contribution to employees' Health Savings Accounts is recommended to be continued at \$1050 for a family plan and \$750 for a single plan for the twelve-month period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022. In addition to the base City incentive contribution, it is recommended that the City continue to match the employee's contribution to his/her Health Savings Account in an amount up to \$700 for employees with family plans and up to \$500 for employees with single plans. The City's contribution to employees' Health Reimbursement Accounts is recommended to be continued at \$1050 for a family plan and \$750 for a single plan for the twelve-month period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2022. Employees cannot make contributions to Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRA's); therefore, no matching employer contribution is recommended for HRA's.

Mr. Messer asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Riblet stated that in response to a previous question regarding the number of employees who participate in the incentive contribution program that out of the 72 fulltime staff members, 100% of the employees participate.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Bissmeyer, Suer, Dobrozsi, Roesch, Messer, Margolis, Cappel (7)

NAY: (0)

A Resolution Accepting a Bid and Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Contract With J.K. Meurer Corporation for the Safety Center and Public Works Parking Lots Project

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

Mr. Cappel read the title and moved for passage. Mrs. Bissmeyer seconded.

Mr. Cappel explained that, if approved, this Resolution would authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with J. K. Meurer Corporation for the Safety Center and Public Works Parking Lot paving project. It is requested that the base bid which includes the Safety Center and Public Works parking lots and also the alternate which includes the Municipal Pool parking lot be approved for funding in the amount of \$222,910. The amount of the recommendation includes \$16,511.00 in project contingency funding, which is an amount equal to 8% of the total of the base bid and alternate amount. The project is programmed in the 2021 Capital Improvement Program under accounts 410-101-5470 in the amount of \$35,000, 223-000-5470 in the amount of \$80,000, and 410-261-5470 in the amount of \$110,000.

Mr. Cappel asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Heitkamp replied there were none.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Suer, Dobrozsi, Roesch, Messer, Margolis, Cappel, Bissmeyer (7)

NAY: (0)

Mayor Dobrozsi stated that he would recuse himself from the next piece of legislation like he has done with all legislation that relates to the development and roundabout. He explained that although he has no ownership interest in Neyer Properties, Inc. nor any in the limited liability companies in partnership to develop the Montgomery Quarter, he will continue to recuse himself from discussion and abstain from voting upon legislation related to the Montgomery Quarter project. He asked Vice Mayor Margolis to take over the meeting.

Vice Mayor Margolis asked Mr. Suer to proceed with the legislation.

An Ordinance Accepting Publicly Dedicated Easement Rights For Driveway Access Improvements from Various Property Owners on Montgomery Road and Declaring an Emergency

Mr. Suer moved to read the Ordinance by title only. Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Suer read the title and moved to suspend the rules for three separate readings of the Ordinance. Mr. Cappel seconded.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Roesch, Messer, Margolis, Cappel, Bissmeyer, Suer (6)

NAY: (0)

ABSTAIN: Dobrozsi (1)

Mr. Suer moved for passage of the Ordinance as an emergency. Mr. Cappel seconded.

Mr. Suer explained that, if approved, this Ordinance will accept certain easement rights necessary to realign the access drive on the west side of Montgomery Road across from the new Montgomery Quarter Development. The access drive services the Dunkin Donuts property, Houdini and Avis. Construction is already underway, so Council is being asked to pass this as an emergency to facilitate that construction and to be able to publicly record the Easement.

Vice Mayor asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Donnellon replied that there were none.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Margolis, Cappel, Bissmeyer, Suer, Roesch, Messer (6)

NAY: (0)

ABSTAIN: Dobrozsi (1)

Mayor Dobrozsi took over facilitating the meeting once again.

A Resolution to Adopt the Recommendation of the Montgomery Tax Incentive Review Council with Respect to The Compliance of All Tax Increment Financing Districts Within the City of Montgomery

Mr. Suer moved to read the Resolution by title only. Mr. Messer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

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

Mr. Suer explained that, if approved, this Resolution would adopt the recommendation of the Montgomery Tax Incentive Review Council with respect to the compliance of all Tax Increment Financing Districts within the City of Montgomery. The Montgomery Tax Incentive Review Council met on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. Ohio law mandates that City Council approve, reject, or remand the decision of the Tax Incentive Review Council relative to the compliance of the tax increment financing districts with their enabling legislation.

Mr. Suer asked if there were any updates.

Ms. Smiddy replied there were none.

Steve Uckotter, 7561 Trailwind- Mr. Uckotter asked who the members of the Tax Incentive Review Council were.

Ms. Smiddy replied that Mr. Suer, Ms. Henao, Mr. Riblet, Beth Weber -Sycamore Schools, Ben VanHorn-Great Oaks, Greg Jarvis-Hamilton County and herself.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Cappel, Bissmeyer, Suer, Dobrozsi, Roesch, Messer, Margolis (7)

NAY: (0)

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Riblet reported the following items:

- City Council Work Session is scheduled for Wednesday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m.
- The Public Works Committee will meet on Monday, September 13 at 5:30 p.m. The Parks and Recreation and Government Affairs Committees of Council have cancelled their meetings for the month of September.

- Interviews are being scheduled for Wednesday, September 29 with the three firms who expressed interest in design of the interior and adjacent areas of the newly completed roundabout. Mayor Dobrozsi and Council members Roesch and Suer have offered to participate in this process.
- Vice Mayor Margolis and Gary Heitkamp will be traveling to Montgomery, N.Y. on Friday, September 10 to attend their General Montgomery Day celebration on Saturday, September 11.
- Oral exams were completed today for the 13 firefighter/paramedic candidates. These scores will be combined with written test scores and agility test scores to create an eligible list. The Civil Service Commission is scheduled to meet on September 8 to certify the list. After this step is completed, the interview and screening process will be conducted to fill seven full-time firefighter/paramedic positions.
- A reminder, The Dog Fest & the K-9 Kerplunk will be held on Monday, September 6, from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.
- A reminder, City offices will be closed on Monday, September 6, in recognition of the Labor Day holiday.
- As a reminder, the 2022 Budget Review Session is scheduled for Thursday, September 9 beginning at 5:30. (A reminder that dinner will begin at 5:00). Earlier that day, the annual Montgomery Chamber appreciation lunch will be held on Neully-Plaisance plaza from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 pm. so if you're available and can attend please do so.
- A Save the Date for the Smokin' Irish barbecue graciously provided by Mr. Donnellon, is scheduled for Friday, October 22 at Terwilliger Lodge from 11:00 to 1:00. Please mark your calendars to attend if you are available.
- A Happy Birthday to Connie Gaylor (September 2) and Mr. Harold Thomas (September 2).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Dobrozsi asked for a motion to approve the August 18, 2021 Work Session minutes.

Vice Mayor Margolis made a motion to approve the August 18, 2021 Work Session minutes as written. Mr. Messer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

MAYOR'S COURT REPORT

Mayor Dobrozsi explained that Mayors Court Report for August would be presented at the September Work Session.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Suer stated that he thought the Strategic Planning retreat was a very productive session with great participation by all. He added that as the plan gets refined, he feels the City will have a very good plan for the next five years.

Mrs. Bissmeyer thanked staff for developing the plan and Mr. Uckotter for attending.

Mr. Cappel stated that it was really important to implement plans and that the City really does implement them. He added he felt it was a great process.

Vice Mayor Margolis reminded staff of several upcoming meetings, as follows:

- The Hamilton County Municipal League will be hosting their next quarterly membership meeting on Saturday, September 18, 2021 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Robert Schuler Center, 11532 Deerfield Rd, Cincinnati OH 45242. This is a joint meeting of the Hamilton County Municipal League, FSC-SWO, and the Hamilton County Townships Association. Elected officials from all three of these organizations along with village/city/township administrators are invited. All of the State Representatives and State Senators for Hamilton County have been invited to attend this open forum meeting.
- On Wednesday, September 29 the Hamilton County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency will hold a Partners in Preparedness Meeting at the Sharonville Convention Center.

Vice Mayor Margolis reported that he attended the Ohio Redistricting Committee Meeting on August 24. He stated that it was an interesting process, and he will look forward to seeing the results of the meeting.

Vice Mayor Margolis stated that regarding the Strategic Planning process that the planning was easy however its how staff moves it forward that makes is a high-quality organization.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

City Council adjourned at 7:57 p.m.



Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council