

City of Montgomery
City Council Work Session Minutes
April 20, 2022

Present

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

City Council Members Present

Craig Margolis, Mayor
Lee Ann Bissmeyer, Vice Mayor
Mike Cappel
Ron Messer
Sasha Naiman
Ken Suer

Council Members Absent

Chris Dobrozsi

City Council convened its Work Session for April 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, with Mayor Margolis presiding.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called.

Mayor Margolis stated that as Mr. Dobrozsi has previously reported he would miss the meeting, he asked for a motion to excuse his absence.

Mr. Cappel made a motion to excuse Mr. Dobrozsi's absence. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Riblet explained that staff and Council began the process of creating the new 2022-2026 Strategic Plan in August of 2021 and together staff and Council created the six (6) goals that form the foundation for the plan for the next five years. He explained that staff will present an overview of the goals, strategies and implementation steps.

Staff presented an overview of the following goals:

- Goal A. Facilities and Infrastructure
- Goal B. Finance
- Goal C. Economic Development
- Goal D. Communications and Engagement
- Goal E. Programming and Events
- Goal F. Workforce

City Council and staff discussed minor changes made to the original draft of the plan.

Mr. Cappel moved to approve the changes and to accept the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan as presented. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed,

ESTABLISHING AN AGENDA FOR MAY 4, 2022 BUSINESS SESSION

PENDING LEGISLATION

58 An Ordinance Establishing Schedules of Municipal Compensation

59

60 Mayor Margolis explained that this would be the second reading of the Ordinance and asked Mr. Riblet if there
61 were any updates.

62

63 Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

64

65 NEW LEGISLATION

66

67 **A Resolution Recognizing The Month Of May 2022 As National Historic Preservation Month in The City Of**
68 **Montgomery**

69

70 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Vice Mayor Bissmeyer.

71

72 Ms. Henao explained that, if approved, this Resolution will recognize the month of May as National Historic
73 Preservation Month in the City of Montgomery. She stated that the City greatly values its landmark buildings, and
74 this annual Resolution signifies the importance the City places on historic preservation.

75

76 Ms. Henao added that there were two new events in May. On May 17, the City is partnering with the Montgomery
77 Chamber of Commerce to conduct a walking tour during a Lunch-n-Learn program. And on May 27 a public
78 walking tour will be conducted to kick off the Memorial Day holiday weekend.

79

80 **A Resolution Authorizing An Application For Grant Funding To The Ohio Department Of Natural**
81 **Resources/Natureworks**

82

83 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mrs. Naiman.

84

85 Mr. Heitkamp explained that it is requested that City Council adopt this Resolution that is required by ODNR for
86 the NatureWorks Grant program application to replace a portion or portions of playground equipment in Swaim
87 Park. \$125,000 is budgeted in the 2022 Capital Improvement Program in account 410.303.5470.

88

89 Mr. Suer stated that the city had donated old playground equipment to other underfunded communities before and
90 asked if we could do that with the equipment to be replaced.

91

92 Mr. Heitkamp replied that we could certainly look into it.

93

94 **A Resolution Ratifying A Pool Management And Maintenance Agreement With Swimsafe Pool Management,**
95 **Inc. And Approving An Amendment To Such Agreement For The 2022 Season**

96

97 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Dobrozsi.

98

99 Mr. Heitkamp explained that, if approved, this legislation would amend the 2022 contract amount to an additional
100 amount of \$30,928.00, thus bringing the contract total for 2022 to \$162,888.00. In March 2022, SwimSafe Pool
101 Management contacted staff and indicated that the contractual amount of \$131,960.00 for 2022 would be
102 insufficient due to a significant increase in chemicals as well as staffing rates as a result of the pandemic.

103

104 Mr. Suer stated that it was not surprising that costs have gone up. He added that he still felt it was a good decision
105 to contract out the staffing and maintenance of the pool.

106 Mrs. Naiman asked for clarification on the charges for the chemicals and staffing as noted in SwimSafe's
107 memorandum.

108

109 Mr. Heitkamp provided clarity on the related information.

110
111 Mr. Cappel asked if SwimSafe would be able to hire staff at the rate of \$12 per hour.

112
113 Mr. Heitkamp replied that it was their suggestion to increase to that amount so he felt they could.

114
115 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer asked if the City was having difficulty in hiring seasonal employees.

116
117 Mr. Heitkamp said that we have not received many but was hopeful we could fill all positions.

118
119 **An Ordinance Providing for The Issuance of Not to Exceed \$7,500,000 Of Notes by The City of Montgomery,**
120 **Ohio, For the Purpose of Making Public Infrastructure Improvements Within the City and Declaring an**
121 **Emergency**

122
123 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.

124
125 Mr. Riblet explained that, if adopted, this Ordinance would approve the refinance certain Bond Anticipation Notes
126 related to funding construction and engineering services for the Montgomery Quarter Project. The Notes must
127 either be paid in full or refinanced within the second quarter of this year. It is recommended that the City refinance
128 the Notes for another year due to the fluctuating financial markets. In the future, once the Montgomery Quarter
129 Project through at least Stage 1 has been completed, the City can make the decision to issue permanent Notes to be
130 repaid with revenues generated from the completed project.

131
132 Mr. Riblet added that with the current market fluctuations, the Ordinance is requested to be passed as an emergency
133 to give our financial advisors the maximum flexibility to price the Bonds and complete refinancing.

134
135 Mr. Messer stated that he thought it was the right thing to do as we would pay back cheaper dollars in the long run.

136
137 Mrs. Naiman stated that it was noted that 5% of the income tax revenues would be set aside for the funding of this
138 note and asked if that was being done.

139
140 Mr. Riblet replied that staff began doing that in 2022. He stated it would take six years to completely pay the note
141 off.

142
143 **A Resolution Authorizing An Agreement With Enterprise Fleet Management Through Sourcewell To Lease**
144 **Motor Vehicles To Support City Services**

145
146 Mayor Margolis assigned this legislation to Mr. Suer.

147
148 Mr. Riblet explained that, if approved, this legislation would authorize an agreement with Enterprise Fleet
149 Management, Inc. to implement a Fleet Management Program. Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc. utilizes the
150 Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program, which is similar to the Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program, and
151 the City of Montgomery is a member. Mr. Riblet added that this request was discussed at the April 4 Financial
152 Planning Committee meeting where they made a motion to recommend to City Council.

153
154 Mr. Cappel stated that he totally supported this program to tightly manage the City's fleet. He asked who would
155 own the vehicles.

156
157 Mr. Riblet replied that the title would remain with Enterprise, all but one dollar of the costs. He added that the City
158 could opt out of the program at any time.

159
160 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer asked if the \$20,000 savings noted in the memo was an initial savings or an annual savings.

161 Mr. Riblet stated that was for the initial 5-year period. He stated that the representatives from Enterprise have
162 forecasted that amount in savings. He explained that there would be semi-annual meetings to monitor maintenance,
163 purchase and sale of vehicles.

164 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer stated that it sounds like the better option that will work good for the City.

165
166 Mr. Messer asked if Enterprise was working with other cities.

167
168 Mr. Riblet replied that they work with Monroe and Sharonville currently. He added that when Chief Crowell
169 contacted Monroe, they advised the City to do it as it has been very beneficial for them.

170
171 Mr. Suer stated that he likes that with this plan the City will save money on maintenance and repairs. He thought it
172 was very comprehensive and would benefit the City in the long run.

173
174 Mayor Margolis asked Mr. Riblet how many vehicles would be included in the plan.

175
176 Mr. Riblet replied there were 43 but that did not include the 5-ton dump trucks or the large fire apparatus.

177
178
179 **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

180
181 Mr. Riblet reported the following items:

- 182
- 183 • The next City Council Business Session is scheduled for May 4.
 - 184
 - 185 • The Financial Planning Committee will meet on Monday, May 2 at 4:30 p.m. The Law and Safety and
186 Financial Planning Committees have cancelled their meetings for May.
 - 187
 - 188 • Mr. Riblet stated that at this time the May 9 Committee meetings, consisting of the Parks and Recreation,
189 Government Affairs, and Public Works Committees do not have agenda items. He stated he would provide
190 an update at the May 4 meeting.
 - 191
 - 192 • The Planning Commission met on Monday and approved a Final Development Plan Modification for
193 Sycamore High School's new stadium. The approvals included stadium-related signage as well as a
194 relocation of the scoreboard from the southwestern area of the stadium to the northeastern side in order to
195 increase visibility for the home fans and the press box. The commission was not supportive of potential
196 sponsorship signage on the rear of the scoreboard.
 - 197
 - 198 • On Monday, April 19, Mayor Margolis, Tracy Henao and Mr. Riblet attended the Hamilton County
199 Municipal League Meeting where OML Executive Director Kent Scarett provided updates on several
200 legislative items. Also, Mayor Margolis was re-elected to the HCML Board for a term beginning 2022-
201 2024.
 - 202
 - 203 • Duke Energy's contractor AMS Construction has begun installation of a new gas main at the Pfeiffer Road
204 and Deerfield Road intersection. This new gas main is being relocated in order to make way for the
205 roundabout improvements. This work expected to take 6-8 weeks. The roundabout project is currently out
206 for bid, with a bid opening scheduled for May 3.
 - 207
 - 208 • As Council is aware, each year the Chairs of all Boards and Commissions present an update to Council on
209 the work of their respective groups. Due to the pandemic, these updates were provided in a summary form

210 last year and emailed to Council. In an effort to provide a forum for these updates, staff would like to ask
211 how Council would like these updates presented this year. If in person, would scheduling the updates prior
212 to the 5/18, 6/1 and 6/22 meetings work for Council. We try to schedule the updates as early as possible to
213 avoid summer conflicts.

214
215 City Council agreed to schedule the Chair Updates in person as noted.

216
217 • A contract was approved with Axxess, LLC. in an amount of \$32,000 to re-construct and enhance the
218 Johnson Nature Preserve walking bridge which is located in the back of the preserve. The project is expected
219 to take 10-12 weeks to complete.

220
221 • A contract was approved with Ford Development in an amount of \$46,000 to complete paver crosswalk
222 repairs in our Heritage District primarily focused on the intersection of Cooper Road at Montgomery Road.
223 It is anticipated that work will begin in mid-May and last for 2 weeks.

224
225 Under Human Resources, Mr. Riblet reported:

- 226 • Initial interviews for the Public Works Department Supervisor position are being conducted this week.
227 • Applications for the Service Worker I position will be reviewed next week to select candidates for
228 interviews.
229 • The testing period for our Patrol Officer exam closed on April 18 and an eligible list is being prepared for
230 the Civil Service Commission to review and certify.
231 • We are in the process of accepting applications for the Customer Service Representative position (City Hall
232 front desk).

233
234 Mr. Riblet reported the following upcoming events to City Council:

- 235 • 4-21 Know Your Neighbor-Terwilliger Lodge beginning at 6:00 Juan and Rosa Molina will be the speakers
236 • 4-22 Rib Luncheon at Public Works running from 11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.
237 • 4-27 Volunteer Dinner at Montgomery Inn 6:30-8:30 pm
238 • 4-28 Public Open House for the Montgomery RAB Landscape/Hardscape at Terwilliger Lodge 5:30-7:30
239 p.m.
240 • 5-6 City Hall Public Service Luncheon at Terwilliger Lodge 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
241 • 5-12 1st Mental Health Community Presentation -Terwilliger-NAMI-beginning at 7:00 p.m.

242 **LAW DIRECTOR REPORT**

243
244 Mr. Donnellon stated he had nothing additional to report at this time.

245
246 **CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

247
248 **Mr. Cappel**

249
250 Mr. Cappel reported that a cardboard recycling event was help the previous weekend and was very busy. He also
251 reported he would be out of town from April 24 through April 28.

252
253 **Vice Mayor Bissmeyer**

254
255 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer reported highlights from the 2021 Housing Survey presented at the April 4 Planning, Zoning
256 and Landmarks Committee meeting.

257
258 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer also reported the Landmarks Commission met on April 13 where they discussed a property
259 at 7960 Remington Road where the owners want to turn the single family home into a two family.
260

261 **Mrs. Naiman**

262
263 Mrs. Naiman reported that at the Beautification and Tree Commission met and discussed the Garden Tour and the
264 plant swap.
265

266 Mrs. Naiman reported that as mentioned by Mr. Riblet, the Diversity and Inclusion Commission is hosting the Know
267 Your Neighbor Series and she stated that she is looking forward to hearing Juan and Rosa Molin present about their
268 heritage and culture.
269

270 Mrs. Naiman reported that the Parks and Recreation Commission met and discussed pickleball and the requests for
271 more courts and concerns from the local pickleball group.
272

273 **Mr. Suer**

274
275 Mr. Suer inquired if other Council Members were attending the Blue Ash Memorial Day ceremony. Several
276 members confirmed they would attend.
277

278 **Mr. Messer**

279
280 Mr. Messer reported that he attended that April 18 Planning Commission meeting where the discussion focused on
281 a request from Sycamore Schools to allow advertisements on the back of the proposed new scoreboard at the High
282 School. He stated that he was impressed by the level of professionalism shown by the Commission and the
283 applicant. He stated that the commission members exhibited concern for citizens and precedence.
284

285 Mr. Messer added that he would be out of town from April 29 through May 7.
286

287 **Mayor Margolis**

288
289 Mayor Margolis reported that he signed a proclamation declaring June as Pride Month.
290

291 Mayor Margolis reported that he participated for a time with staff in brush collection. He praised staff for their
292 efficiency and drive in getting the routes completed quickly.
293

294 Mayor Margolis reported that he was participating in a video blog with Star One Realtors.
295

296 **MINUTES**

297
298 Mr. Cappel moved to accept the April 6, 2022 Business Session minutes as written. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer
299 seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.
300

301 **OTHER BUSINESS**

302
303 Chief Crowell presented an overview of the requests for the following liquor license from the State of Ohio Liquor
304 Control Board:
305

- 306
- a new D5J-D6 liquor permit to be issued to CRG Unit 46 LLC dba Bru Burger Bar at 9300 Montgomery Road.
 - a new D5J liquor permit to be issued to Livery Montgomery LLC dba Livery at 9320 Montgomery Road.
- 307
308

- 309 • a new D5-D6 liquor permit to be issued to Pacific Kitchens LLC dba The Pacific Kitchen at 8300 Market
310 Place Ln.
311 • a new D3 liquor permit to be issued to Z Wine & Cheeze LLC at 7823 Cooper Road.

312
313 Chief Crowell reported no issues that would require a hearing with the State and recommended Council make a
314 motion to not request a hearing on the requests.

315
316 Mr. Cappel made a motion that for all four requests to not request a hearing with the State of Ohio Liquor Control
317 Board. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

318
319 Mayor Margolis asked if there was any other business to discuss. There being none, he asked for a motion to
320 adjourn.

321
322 Mr. Cappel made a motion to adjourn. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

323
324 City Council adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

325
326
327
328



Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council