

City of Montgomery
City Council Work Session Minutes
August 24, 2022

Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager
Terry Donnellon, Law Director
Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager
John Crowell, Police Chief
Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director
Matthew Vanderhorst, Community and Information Serv. Dir.
Jason Brice, Fire Lieutenant
Amy Frederick, Community and Engagement Coordinator
Chris Bigham, Interim Finance Director
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council

City Council Members Present

Lee Ann Bissmeyer, Vice Mayor
Mike Cappel
Chris Dobrozsi
Ron Messer
Sasha Naiman
Ken Suer

Council Members Absent

Craig Margolis, Mayor

City Council convened its Work Session for August 24, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, with Vice Mayor Bissmeyer presiding.

ROLL CALL

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer asked for a roll call.

All members were present except for Mayor Margolis. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer asked for a motion to excuse Mayor Margolis as previously reported by him.

Mr. Cappel made a motion to excuse Mayor Margolis. Mr. Dobrozsi seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Council Member Naiman presented Dave and Ashley Herberger with a Certificate of Appreciation as the Beautification and Tree Commission Summer Seasons of Beauty Winners.

GUESTS AND RESIDENTS

There were no additional guests or residents.

ESTABLISHING AN AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 BUSINESS SESSION

PENDING LEGISLATION

There was no pending legislation

NEW LEGISLATION

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

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.

Mr. Riblet introduced Mr. Chris Bigham as the Interim Finance Director and welcomed him to the Montgomery team. Mr. Riblet explained that Mr. Bigham had retired from the City of Cincinnati after 31 years of service and then joined Management Partners as a consultant. Mr. Riblet stated that Mr. Bigham would be with the City during the interim of conducting a hiring process for a full time finance director.

Mr. Bigham thanked Mr. Riblet for his warm welcome and the opportunity to work with the City staff during the interim period.

Mr. Bigham 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. He explained that the Montgomery Tax Incentive Review Council met on Tuesday, August 16, 2022. He added that 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.

An Ordinance Accepting Dedicated Streets Within The City

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer assigned the legislation to Mr. Cappel but asked Mr. Dobrozsi to take the first reading as Mr. Cappel would be absent from that meeting.

Mr. Donnellon explained that, if approved, this Ordinance would formally accept various streets within the City of Montgomery which have been dedicated for public use but had never been properly accepted. He stated that several years ago, the City updated the Hamilton County records to reflect various streets within the City which had been dedicated on the various subdivision plats. However, the Developer had not followed through to have the streets accepted after construction was complete. This legislation will provide Hamilton County with the authorization to update the necessary parcels on the county plats as public improvements.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Riblet reported the following items:

- The next City Council Business Session is scheduled for September 7, 2022.
- The Law and Safety, Financial Planning, and Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committees have cancelled their meetings for the month of September.
- The status of the September 12 Committee meetings (Parks and Recreation, Government Affairs and Public Works) will be updated at the September 7 Business Session meeting.
- Hope4Ukraine is proud to present a creative and dynamic multi-media program in collaboration with Cincinnati Symphony artists in the beautiful St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Montgomery. The concert is scheduled for Saturday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. and is called "Music From Ukraine and Beyond", and organizers are inviting city leaders to attend. Mayor Margolis has agreed to attend and provide a few opening remarks.
- Cody Carlson, a new Service Worker I, began employment with the City on Monday. In the past, Cody worked for the City as a part-time seasonal worker in the Public Works Department. Cody came to us from the City of Monroe.
- Brian Riblet and Tracy Henao attended a ribbon cutting for Fifth Third Private Bank on Monday morning. Employees for the new office space at Montgomery Quarter began work in their new space this week. Officials for Fifth Third are extremely excited about the new location and supporting the community.
- Wendy Grethel has been selected to fill the front desk position at City Hall. Wendy's first day will be September 6. Wendy comes to us from Sycamore Presbyterian Church, where she has been a program coordinator for many years. We welcome Wendy and look forward to working with her in service to the Montgomery community.

- Karen Dungey's last day is August 31. Karen has helped us staff the front desk for a couple of months, and we are sad to see her go. We are genuinely thankful for Karen's help and upbeat personality.
- Wednesday, August 24, a luncheon was held in recognition of Sarah Fink who will be moving on to the City of the Village of Indian Hill as their Recreation Manager. We wish her the best in her new role there.
- Tuesday, August 23, Council members Suer, Naiman, and Messer met with Braver Angels representatives as a follow up to their presentation to City Council to discuss a potential workshop. The group is leaning toward a "Managing Difficult Conversations," and we will be looking for some dates/times in October for consideration.

Human Resources

- A conditional job offer was extended today for the second open position in the public works department.
- The second round of interviews for three patrol officer candidates will be conducted this Thursday and Friday with the City Manager and Chief of Police.

Events

- Enjoy Yappy Hour with your dog in our Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) Thursday evening (8/25) at Montgomery Road and Cooper Road at the Neuilly-Plaisance Plaza. Any style Hot Dog & Catering will be there serving up food. This event runs from 5:00 – 7:00 pm.
- Friday evening (8/26), the recreation department will hold a Movie in the Park at Weller Park. The Movie is Luca and will begin at 9:00 p.m. or dusk.
- First Suburbs of Southwest Ohio will hold their quarterly meeting on Monday, August 29 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Village of Silverton. State Representative Sedrick Denson is the guest speaker for the evening.
- A DORA Tailgating Event will be held Saturday, September 3 at the Corner of Montgomery Rd. & Remington Rd. from 3:30-10:30.
 - 3:30 p.m. University of Cincinnati vs. Arkansas Game
 - 7 – 10 p.m. Live Band, The Mistics, in the MPH Parking Lot
 - 7:30 p.m. The Ohio State University vs. Notre Dame Game
- The annual Dogfest and K9 Kerplunk will be held on Labor Day as we see the summer pool season come to an end. Bring your furry friend and enjoy the festivities.
- A reminder that City offices will be closed on Monday, September 5 in observance of Labor Day.

LAW DIRECTOR REPORT

Mr. Donnellon stated he was continuing to work on Montgomery Quarter items as the development progresses.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Cappel

Mr. Cappel reported he would be out of town and would miss the September 7 Business Session.

Mr. Dobrozsi

Mr. Dobrozsi reported the Arts Commission has set all the dates for the upcoming Live at the Uni's concerts for the fall and that two of them were already filled to capacity. He added that the Photo Contest was scheduled for April of 2023 and that Pella Windows agreed to sponsor that event again next year.

Mr. Dobrozsi reported that the 2024 Calendar theme was selected at the recent Government Affairs meeting. He stated it was entitled Kids Hot Spots in Montgomery. Mr. Dobrozsi reported that two requests were approved to declare desk phones and office furniture as surplus and to be auctioned through Govdeals.com.

Mr. Dobrozsi stated that he walked through the Montgomery Quarter development and thanked staff and Mr. Donnellon for their efforts in seeing the development through. He stated that he knew there were hours and hours of time devoted to seeing the project come to life and that the development was an incredible design that he knew would receive regional and national attention.

Mr. Messer

Mr. Messer stated that he attended the Diversity Dinner and thought it was a fantastic event that was well attended.

Mr. Messer reported on a meeting with Braver Angels in which details of a workshop with City Council were discussed. He stated that he felt a two hour workshop was a good concept and looked forward to moving forward with that.

Mr. Suer

Mr. Suer reported on the Public Art Workshop that was held in conjunction of staff and the Arts Commission. He stated that he felt it was the beginning of a good process to determine a location and vision of public art in Montgomery.

Mrs. Naiman

Mrs. Naiman reported on the Holocaust and Humanity presentation made at the Diversity and Inclusion Commission meeting on Tuesday, August 23. She spoke about the exhibits used that differentiated between a "Upstander" and a "Bystander" and the effects of someone doing something positive in the community versus just being an onlooker.

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer reported that at the Board of Zoning Appeals meeting variances were granted to Circa Lighting and Ashford Homes for property across from the Lucke Home Development.

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer added that she was also at the Public Art Workshop and was impressed with the discussion around the vision of public art and maintaining a theme rather than incorporating plop-art into areas of the city without a real vision of creating a unified vision among all art.

MINUTES

Mr. Cappel moved to accept the August 3, 2022 Business Session minutes as written. Mr. Messer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

MAYORS COURT REPORT

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer asked for a motion to accept the July Mayors Court collections in the amount of \$6,590.

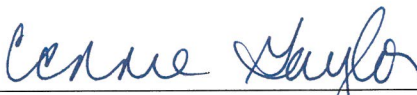
Mr. Cappel moved to accept the Mayors Court collections for the month of July in the amount of \$6,590. Mr. Suer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Vice Mayor Bissmeyer asked if there was any other business to discuss in public session. There being none, she asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Cappel made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

City Council adjourned at 7:42 p.m.



Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council