

City of Montgomery  
City Council Business Session Minutes  
December 7, 2022

Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager  
Terry Donnellon, Law Director  
Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager  
Chris Bigham, Interim Finance Director  
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, Community Engagement Coordinator  
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council

City Council Members Present

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

City Council its Business Session for December 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Margolis presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

Mayor Margolis asked for a motion to dispense with the roll call as all members were present.

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

**GUESTS AND RESIDENTS**

Doug Baird, 7744 Kennedy Lane-Mr. Kennedy explained to City Council that in 2012 he purchased a vacant lot on Kennedy Lane and built a home there about five years ago. He stated that this past fall he installed a pool on the lot in the location that a former home was built and previously torn down. He explained that when the excavator began digging for the pool that they discovered the foundation was left and filled with window frames, wiring and filled in. He explained that this cost him more money and time to have all the debris and foundation walls removed. He stated there was no disclosure made from the seller at the time of purchase. He explained that while he was not at the meeting to place blame on the City, he did want to make sure it did not happen again to another person.

Mr. Riblet responded that he has spoken with Mr. Baird and that staff is researching documents regarding the demolition of the original house and will follow up with Mr. Baird of their findings. Mr. Riblet added that Mr. Baird partnered with the City to facilitate the process of installing sidewalks on Kennedy Lane in conjunction with the residents and Sycamore Township.

City Council thanked Mr. Baird for sharing his experience with them and stated that they would defer to Mr. Riblet to research the property and past permits and to follow up with Mr. Baird.

**LEGISLATION TO BE CONSIDERED THIS EVENING**

Mayor Margolis explained that since all legislation has been made available to the public before this evening's meeting, he would ask for a motion that Council accept the legislative Agenda and read all legislation by title only.

Mr. Cappel made a motion to accept the legislation for the December 7, 2022 Business Session and to read all legislation by title only. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

**PENDING LEGISLATION**

Mayor Margolis explained that a request has been made to move item 'A' under pending legislation to the end of New Business on the agenda in order to include pertinent information from legislation on this agenda.

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Mr. Cappel made a motion to move item 'A' to the end of new business on the agenda to allow for the vote of legislation pertinent to the item. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Dobrozsi explained that he would recuse himself from the vote and discussion on this legislation as well as the next piece. 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. Mr. Dobrozsi exited the dais.

**An Ordinance for The Allocation of Earnings Tax Revenues and Amending Section 44.14 of The Montgomery Code of Ordinances**

Mr. Suer moved for passage of the Ordinance. Mr. Cappel seconded.

Mr. Suer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Ordinance that, if approved, would adjust the allocation of the City's Earnings Tax Revenues. The current allocation is: 80% of Earnings Tax revenues to the General Fund and 20% to the Capital Improvement Fund. The proposed reallocation would provide 75% of the Earnings Tax revenues to the General Fund, 20% to the Capital Improvement Fund and 5% to the General Bond Retirement Fund.

Mr. Suer asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Bigham replied there were none.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

- AYE: Cappel, Bissmeyer, Margolis, Margolis, Naiman, Suer, Messer (6)
- NAY: (0)
- ABSTAIN: Dobrozsi (1)

**NEW LEGISLATION**

**A Resolution Adopting a Five-Year Capital Improvement Program for The City of Montgomery**

Mr. Suer moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Cappel seconded.

Mr. Suer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will adopt the City's proposed Five-Year Capital Improvement Program. This was reviewed by City Council as a companion piece to the proposed 2023 Operating and Capital Budget with Four Year Forecast and represents a comprehensive planning tool for capital investment in the community over the next five years.

Mr. Suer asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

- AYE: Bissmeyer, Margolis, Naiman, Suer, Messer, Cappel (6)
- NAY: (0)
- ABSTAIN: Dobrozsi (1)

Mr. Dobrozsi rejoined Council on the dais.

112 **A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into A Contract with Humana Health Plan of Ohio to**  
113 **Provide Medical and Dental Coverage for Full-Time Employees**

114  
115 Mr. Dobrozsi moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Cappel seconded.

116  
117 Mr. Dobrozsi explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, would  
118 authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Humana Health Plan of Ohio, Inc. for both medical and  
119 dental insurance coverages for the City's full-time employees for the January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023  
120 benefit period. The Humana proposal for medical insurance represents a six percent increase from the 2022 plan  
121 year premium and also requires keeping group dental insurance with Humana. The Humana proposal for dental  
122 insurance for 2023 represents a zero percent increase from the 2022 plan year premium.

123  
124 Mr. Dobrozsi asked if there were any updates.

125  
126 Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

127  
128 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

129  
130 AYE: Dobrozsi, Margolis, Naiman, Suer, Messer, Cappel, Bissmeyer (7)  
131 NAY: (0)

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133 **A Resolution Establishing City Contributions for Health Care Benefits**

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135 Mr. Dobrozsi moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Cappel seconded.

136  
137 Mr. Dobrozsi explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will  
138 establish the City's maximum contribution limits (caps) for a 12-month period beginning January 2023 for medical  
139 and dental insurance. The caps determine the amount of money the employees must contribute toward the cost of  
140 their health and dental insurance coverages. Typically, the City has increased these "caps" annually by six percent  
141 (6%) for medical insurance and three percent (3%) for dental insurance. This practice allows for some increase in  
142 the cost of healthcare but also ensures that significant increased costs are shared between the City and its  
143 employees. It should be noted that the recommended caps for medical and dental insurance are already in place in  
144 AFSCME, FOP and IAFF collective bargaining agreements.

145  
146 Mr. Dobrozsi asked if there were any updates.

147  
148 Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

149  
150 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

151  
152 AYE: Margolis, Naiman, Suer, Messer, Cappel, Bissmeyer, Dobrozsi (7)  
153 NAY: (0)

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155 **A Resolution Ratifying A Pool Management And Maintenance Agreement With Swimsafe Pool**  
156 **Management, Inc. And Approving An Amendment To Such Agreement For The 2023 Season**

157  
158 Mrs. Naiman moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Messer seconded.

159  
160 Mrs. Naiman explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, would  
161 authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the contract with SwimSafe Pool Management provide  
162 management operations of the swimming pool for 2023 in an amount of \$195,000.00.

163  
164 Mrs. Naiman asked if there were any updates.

165

166 Mr. Heitkamp replied there were none.

167

168 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

169

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

171 NAY: (0)

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173 **A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Extend The Contract With Rumpke Of Ohio, Inc. For**  
174 **Waste Collection Services For The Year 2023**

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176 Mr. Dobrozsi moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Cappel seconded.

177

178 Mr. Dobrozsi explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, would  
179 authorize the City Manager to execute a one-year extension of the contract with Rumpke of Ohio for waste  
180 collection services for 2023.

181

182 Mr. Dobrozsi asked if there were any updates.

183

184 Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

185

186 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

187

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

189 NAY: (0)

190

191 Mr. Dobrozsi explained that he would recuse himself from the vote and discussion on the following legislation.  
192 He explained that although he has no ownership interest in Neyer Properties, Inc. nor any in the limited liability  
193 companies in partnership to develop the Montgomery Quarter, he will continue to recuse himself from discussion  
194 and abstain from voting upon legislation related to the Montgomery Quarter project. Mr. Dobrozsi exited the dais.

195

196 **An Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of**  
197 **Montgomery, State of Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2023**

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199 Mr. Cappel moved to amend the Ordinance as presented in the packet. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City  
200 Council unanimously agreed.

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202 Mr. Suer moved for passage of the Ordinance. Mr. Cappel seconded.

203

204 Mr. Suer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Ordinance that, if approved, would  
205 establish the City's budget for fiscal year 2023. These documents were presented to and reviewed with City  
206 Council at the September 15 Budget Review meeting.

207

208 Mr. Suer asked if there were any updates.

209

210 Mr. Bigham stated that this amended Ordinance and attachments include the previously passed contracts for  
211 SwimSafe Pool Management and Rumpke Waste Collection Services.

212

213 Mr. Messer asked when the Ordinance takes effect.

214

215 Mr. Donnellon responded that while an Ordinance that is related to budget items is effective immediately and does  
216 not require a referendum period, this Ordinance would not take effect until January of 2023 with the new budget.

217

218 Mr. Messer inquired when the legislation for the new Quint fire apparatus would be on an agenda.

219

220 Chief Wright replied that it would be on the December 21 Work Session Agenda for discussion and the January 4,  
221 2023 Business Session for consideration at that meeting.

222  
223 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

224  
225 AYE: Cappel, Bissmeyer, Margolis, Naiman, Suer, Messer (6)  
226 NAY: (0)  
227 ABSTAIN: Dobrozsi (1)  
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229 **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

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231 Mr. Riblet reported the following items:

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- 233 • City Council Work Session is scheduled for Wednesday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m.
  - 234
  - 235 • As a reminder, the Government Affairs Committees will meet on Monday, December 12 at 4:30 p.m.  
236 The Parks and Recreation and Public Works Committees have cancelled their meetings for the month  
237 of December.
  - 238
  - 239 • Mr. Riblet explained that as in the past, a representative from Council is to be nominated to serve on  
240 the OKI Board.
  - 241
  - 242 Mr. Cappel moved to nominate Mr. Dobrozsi as the OKI Board Member for 2023. Vice Mayor  
243 Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.
  - 244
  - 245 • On Monday, November 28 he had the privilege of swearing-in the City's two newest police officers.  
246 Andre Jones comes to us from Colerain and Rasheed Kassem comes to us from the Hamilton County  
247 Sheriff's Office.
  - 248
  - 249 • Sgt. Mike Davenport formally gave notice this week that he will be retiring from the City on January  
250 1. Mike has been with the city for 20 years. Prior to Montgomery, Mike worked as a police officer for  
251 Madeira and Xavier University. We certainly wish Mike the very best as he pursues his next  
252 challenge.
  - 253
  - 254 • Thursday, December 8 is staff's annual Holiday Lunch at Terwilliger Lodge from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00  
255 p.m.
  - 256
  - 257 • The Live at the Uni series concludes on December 11 with Mandy Gaines at the Universalist Church.  
258 The concert begins at 7:00 p.m. with doors opening at 6:30 p.m.
  - 259
  - 260 • Staff has planned 5 Community Mental Health presentations for 2023. They are as follows:  
261
    - 262 ○ A presentation by the Police Department on Critical Incident Training and dealing with those in a  
263 mental health crisis on January 24.
    - 264 ○ A Mental Health Fair is scheduled for Saturday April 15 at Twin Lakes Davies Center from 9:00  
265 a.m. to noon. Staff is in the process of planning the event at this time that will include  
266 representatives from Twin Lakes, Sycamore Schools, and many of the vendors we have built  
267 relationships with over this past year.
    - 268 ○ A date is currently scheduled with speaker Kevin Hines who will be here on Thursday, May 11 to  
269 present on his experience of surviving his suicide attempt from jumping from the Golden Gate  
270 Bridge. This will be held at Good Shepherd Church.

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- A Braver Angels City Council workshop is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, 2023 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Staff is working with Montgomery Inn to host this event and to provide a light meal beginning at 6:30 p.m. We will provide additional details as we get closer.
  - The Montgomery Chamber of Commerce will host a holiday networking event on Thursday, December 15 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Pella Windows located in Montgomery Square shopping center.

279 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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281 Mayor Margolis asked for a motion to approve the November 16, 2022 Work Session minutes.

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283 Mr. Cappel moved to approve the minutes as written. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously

284 agreed.

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286 **MAYOR'S COURT REPORT**

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288 Mayor Margolis stated there was a Mayors Court report for November at Council's seats and asked for a motion to

289 disburse the November collections in the amount of \$6,270.

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291 Mr. Cappel made a motion to disburse the November Mayor's Court Collection in the amount of \$6,270. Vice

292 Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

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294 **OTHER BUSINESS**

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296 Mayor Margolis reported on events he had attended as follows:

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- On Friday, November 18 he attended a OPWC Integrating Committee meeting at which time they discussed the City of Montgomery Sidewalk Project among others;
  - He rode along with Sgt. T.J. Shreve of the Police Department;
  - On November 19 he attended a Montgomery Woman's Club Annual Luncheon;
  - On November 21 he attended the open house for the new E.H. Greene School;
  - On November 26 he attended a neighborhood house-lighting event where he heard great comments about the City;
  - On November 30 he presented Lt. Col. Dominick Black with a proclamation at the University of Cincinnati ROTC class;
  - On December 3, the City held the annual Holiday In the Village event that he attended and praised staff for making it such a special event for families;
  - On December 6 he attended a Hamilton County Municipal League meeting where the 2023 meetings were scheduled for the following dates:
    - 2/11/23-General Membership Meeting at the Sharonville Convention Center
    - 5/20/23- Elected Officials Presentation
    - 9/9/23- To be announced
    - 11/18/23- Elected Officials Presentation

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At this meeting he also reported discussions around HB215, HB445 and the need to legally notice meetings were also held.

- Mayor Margolis asked Ms. Gaylor to give a recap of the Hamilton County Public Health WeTHRIVE! Annual awards meeting held on Tuesday, December 6 at Forest Park Senior Center.

321 Mayor Margolis stated that he would be out of the state from December 8 through December 19 and wished  
322 everyone a Happy Holiday season.

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324 **ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

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331 City Council adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

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Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council