

City of Montgomery
City Council Work Session Minutes
October 19, 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
Matthew Vanderhorst, Community and Information Serv. Dir.
Paul Wright, Fire Chief
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 convened its Work Session for October 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, with Mayor Margolis presiding.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Margolis asked for a motion to dispense with 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.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Matt Stull with Hotel California By the Sea (HCBTS) Addictions Treatment Center provided background on the services provided at the residential treatment facility located in Montgomery. Mr. Stull provided information on the success rates of clients who have entered into and maintained sobriety through the treatment received at HCBTS. Mr. Stull explained that he was seeking to become involved in the community to increase awareness about mental illness and addictions and to partner on initiatives that would normally be outside the scope of their services.

City Council asked questions and thanked Mr. Stull for all he was doing with his clients as well as to decrease the stigma and percentage of those dealing with mental health issues and addictions.

Mr. Riblet added that staff met with Mr. Stull and that his passion and drive to provide services to his clients was very authentic and inspiring. Mr. Riblet shared that Mr. Stull and HCBTS would be participating in a community mental health presentation as well as other City initiatives.

GUESTS AND RESIDENTS

There were no additional guests or residents.

ESTABLISHING AN AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 2, 2022 BUSINESS SESSION

PENDING LEGISLATION

An Ordinance Accepting Dedicated Streets Within The City

Mayor Margolis explained that this legislation had been previously introduced and this would be the third reading of the Ordinance. He asked Mr. Heitkamp if there were updates.

Mr. Heitkamp replied there were none.

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

59
60 Mayor Margolis explained that this legislation had been previously introduced and this would be the second reading
61 of the Ordinance. He asked if there were any updates.

62
63 Mr. Riblet replied there were none at this time but anticipated that Mr. Bigham would provide final updates at the
64 November Work Session.

65
66 **An Ordinance for The Allocation of Earnings Tax Revenues and Amending Section 44.14 of The**
67 **Montgomery Code of Ordinances**

68
69 Mayor Margolis explained that this legislation had been previously introduced and this would be the second reading
70 of the Ordinance. He asked if there were any updates.

71
72 Mr. Riblet replied that there were none.

73
74 **NEW LEGISLATION**

75
76 **A Resolution Accepting the Transfer of Real Property from the Montgomery Community Improvement**
77 **Corporation and Designating such property as a Municipal Park and Recreation Area**

78
79 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Vice Mayor Bissmeyer.

80
81 Mr. Donnellon explained that this legislation is a companion piece to a Resolution presented to the Montgomery
82 Community Improvement Corporation (MCIC) accepting the transfer of park property at the Montgomery Quarter
83 development from the MCIC to the City. He explained that the legislation will designate the Montgomery Quarter
84 Park as parkland, and consistent with the grant from ODNR states that we must maintain it as parkland for a
85 minimum of 15 years. He added that the City has been working to develop the Park, which is near completion, and
86 the City will need to own the Park as a Public Improvement. Our Code requires when we receive property that we
87 designate it for its specific purpose. There is no plan at this time to transfer the Park for any other purpose than a
88 public park.

89
90 **A Resolution Authorizing A Contract With Patented Acquisition Corporation D/B/A Think Patented For**
91 **Design And Production Services**

92
93 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Dobrozsi.

94
95 Mr. Vanderhorst explained that it is requested that City Council consider this Resolution that, if approved, would
96 authorize the City Manager to extend the current contract with Think Patented for the 2023 fiscal year for the design
97 and printing of the Montgomery Bulletin and City Calendar. The current annual cost for the Montgomery Bulletin
98 and City Calendar is estimated to be \$62,000 by the end of 2022. The estimated cost for 2023 is \$65,414 but is still
99 a competitive rate.

100
101 **An Ordinance Terminating Assessments For The Reserve Of Montgomery And Declaring An Emergency**

102
103 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Vice Mayor Bissmeyer.

104
105 Mr. Donnellon explained that City Council is requested to consider approving this Ordinance that, if approved,
106 would terminate Assessment #38-613 for the Reserve of Montgomery that was established in 1994 and was paid
107 off early by the City of Montgomery due to the refinancing of bonds issued at a lower interest rate for the assessment.
108 Mr. Donnellon stated that any balance in the fund would be refunded to the property owners. He added that by

109 approving this at the November Business Session as an emergency, staff will be able to work with the County to
110 ensure the assessment will be cancelled prior to the January 2023 tax bills are issued.

111
112 Mr. Messer commented that the 114 property owners will be very appreciative of the correction and the refund
113 coming to them.

114
115 Mrs. Naiman asked when it was noticed that the assessment had not been terminated.

116
117 Mr. Donnellon stated he thought it was last year.

118
119 Mr. Riblet confirmed it was in the last 12 to 18 months.

120
121 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer asked if the 2022 year end appropriations would be adjusted.

122
123 Mr. Riblet stated that it would not require any appropriations but that the budget line would be lower to reflect the
124 outgoing payments.

125
126 **A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Execute A Capital Improvement Community Park,**
127 **Recreation/Conservation Project Pass-Through Grant Agreement With The Ohio Department Of Natural**
128 **Resources**

129
130 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.

131
132 Mr. Riblet explained that it is requested that City Council consider this legislation approving a grant agreement with
133 the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. He stated that pursuant to House Bill 687, the 134th General Assembly
134 of the State of Ohio has appropriated funds in the amount \$100,000 for costs associated with the “Montgomery
135 Cultural Arts and Performance Fountain” within the Montgomery Quarter project site. He explained that the City
136 of Montgomery initially submitted a grant application in late 2017 to be considered as part of the State of Ohio’s
137 Biennial Capital Budget for FY19/20 and was approved in the amount of \$250,000. He explained that the site work
138 at the Montgomery Quarter did not commence until mid-2020 therefore the original amount was carried over and
139 approved as part of Senate Bill #310. All work associated with both previous grant awards is substantially complete
140 and the City of Montgomery has received 90% reimbursement. Both are anticipated to be closed out in early
141 November at which time we can submit for the remaining 10% retainage. Mr. Riblet added that the funds for this
142 latest grant award will be used to support the design and installation of items associated with the Montgomery
143 Cultural Arts and Performance Fountain including electrical and lighting needs, audio equipment, staging and
144 temporary shelter.

145
146 City Council thanked Mr. Riblet for his and staff’s continued efforts of pursuing grant money for the large projects
147 in the city.

148
149 **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

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151 Mr. Riblet reported the following items:

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153
- A Council Business Session is scheduled for November 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
 - A Financial Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 7 at 4:30 p.m. The Law and Safety and Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committees have canceled their meetings for the month of November.
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- 159 • It is anticipated that there are agenda items for the Parks and Recreation Committee for the Monday,
160 November 14 meeting. He stated that there are no agenda items for the Government Affairs or Public Works
161 Committee at this time; however, an update will be provided at the November 2 Business Session.
162
- 163 • Mr. Riblet reported it was brought to staff's attention that Officer Rich Riley received the National Officer
164 of the Month Award for January 2021 at a ceremony recently held in Washington, D.C. This recognition
165 is for Officer Riley's lifesaving, heroic efforts during a report of a missing individual who subsequently
166 was involved in a fiery crash resulting in Officer Riley pulling her from a burning car.
167

168 Human Resources

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- 170 • Jeff Barger was promoted to Sergeant effective October 16.
171
- 172 • Staff will be meeting with three Finance Director candidates for initial interviews on October 26 as we
173 continue to accept applications.
174
- 175 • Due to multiple staff members expressing interest in the Recreation Specialist position, we conducted an
176 internal posting for candidates. Lisa Lorenz (current part-time employee assigned to provide support for
177 recreation events and activities) has been offered the position. We expect Lisa to transition to her full-time
178 role as Recreation Specialist in late December or early January.
179

180 Events

- 181 • There is an Open House and Ribbon Cutting ceremony being held, tomorrow, at Center Bank, 9600
182 Montgomery Road. The open house runs from 4:30 to 7:00 pm with the ribbon cutting ceremony at 5:00.
183
- 184 • A reminder that Terry Donnellon will once again sponsor a barbeque luncheon this Friday at Terwilliger
185 Lodge. The luncheon begins at 11:00 and goes until 1:00.
186
- 187 • Thursday, October 27 at 7:00 p.m. the City will host another Community Mental Health Series featuring
188 Dr. Megan Schrantz from the Lindner Center and Hotel California By The Sea that you were introduced to
189 this evening. This community forum will focus on Anxiety and Depression which is timely right before the
190 holidays and will be held at Terwilliger's Lodge.
191
- 192 • As a reminder, the First Responders Breakfast will be held on October 28 at the Safety Center beginning
193 at 7:30.
194
- 195 • Once again, the City of Blue Ash Veterans Day Committee has invited City Council to participate in their
196 30th Annual Veterans Day Ceremony on Friday, November 11. The event will be held at the Blue Ash
197 Veterans Memorial Park and will begin at 10:30 a.m. and will last approximately one hour. The ceremony
198 will be followed by a reception at the Blue Ash Recreation Center. Please let Ms. Gaylor know if you would
199 like to attend the ceremony and also the luncheon. RSVPs are due by October 31.
200
- 201 • The Annual Chamber Awards Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, November 10 at the Montgomery Inn. The
202 City has been nominated in the Large Business Category as Organization of the Year. Please let Ms. Gaylor
203 know if you would like to attend.
204

205 Mr. Riblet requested an Executive Session for matters related to economic development.
206

207 LAW DIRECTOR REPORT

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209 Mr. Donnellon stated he had nothing to report.
210

211 **CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

212
213 **Mr. Cappel**

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215 Mr. Cappel reported that the monthly cardboard recycling was held on October 15.

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217 **Vice Mayor Bissmeyer**

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219 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer reported on the cases discussed at the recent Board of Zoning Appeals and Landmark
220 Commission meetings.

221
222 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer commended Chief Wright and the Fire Department staff who provided mutual aid in Indian
223 Hill for a serious car accident.

224
225 **Mr. Dobrozi**

226
227 Mr. Dobrozi reported the Arts Commission's Live at the Uni's recent concert with the band No Promises was a
228 great success.

229
230 Mr. Dobrozi thanked staff for facilitating and holding another great Harvest Moon Festival. He stated every year
231 it continues to grow and be a great family event.

232
233 Mr. Dobrozi reported he attended an OKI Board meeting.

234
235 Mr. Dobrozi reported that at the recent Government Affairs Committee meeting the 2022 Holiday Card was
236 selected and the Law Director Review process was discussed. He reported that he would be providing more
237 information to City Council and staff in the next week.

238
239 **Mrs. Naiman**

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241 Mrs. Naiman reported the Parks and Recreation and Beautification and Tree Commissions held the Star Parties and
242 a B & T Talk which were all well attended.

243
244 **Mr. Suer**

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246 Mr. Suer echoed the thanks to staff for a well done Harvest Moon Festival.

247
248 **Mr. Messer**

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250 Mr. Messer stated how amazing the 5/3 Private Bank tour was. He stated that he appreciated how much they
251 included the theme of Montgomery in their design.

252
253 Mr. Messer explained that there is a Civil Service meeting on Thursday to review and certify an eligibility list of
254 fire fighters.

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256 **Mayor Margolis**

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258 Mayor Margolis also expressed his appreciation of the 5/3 Private Bank Tour and how welcoming the staff there
259 was. He added it is a great addition to our community.

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MINUTES

Mr. Donnellon noted for the record that the October 5, 2022 Business Session minutes were amended to correct the recusal process of Mr. Dobrozsi regarding the allocation of ARPA funds.

Mr. Cappel moved to approve the October 5, 2022 Business Session minutes as amended and to approve the October 5, 2022 Public Hearing minutes as written. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Margolis asked if there was any other business to discuss in Public Session. There being none, he stated that Mr. Riblet had requested an Executive Session for matters related to economic development.

Mr. Cappel made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session for matters related to economic development. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

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

Mayor Margolis stated that there would be a short recess prior to the Executive Session and that there would be no items discussed when Council came back into Public Session.

City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m.

City Council reconvened into Public Session at 9:22 p.m.

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

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

City Council adjourned at 9:22 p.m.



Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council