

City of Montgomery
City Council Work Session Minutes
June 21, 2023

Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager
Terry Donnellon, Law Director
Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager
Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director
Maura Gray, Finance Director
John Crowell, Police Chief
Paul Wright, Fire Chief
Matthew Vanderhorst, Community and Information Serv. Dir.
Amy Frederick, Community Engagement Coordinator
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council
Wendy Grethel, Customer Support and Volunteer Specialist

City Council Members Present

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

City Council Members Absent

Ron Messer

City Council convened its Work Session for June 21, 2023 at 6:10 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Margolis presiding.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Margolis stated that as the roll call was already conducted in the Public Hearing to let it be noted that Council Member Messer was previously excused from the meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Margolis presented Sycamore High School Graduate, Mannie Arbabi, with a Proclamation recognizing his 2023 OATCCC State Indoor Track and Field Championship Title in Shot Put Throwing.

City Council congratulated Mr. Arbabi and wished him luck at Cornell University and in his future endeavors.

Montgomery Fire Fighter Phil Klug addressed City Council to share his gratitude for his time on the Fire Department pending his retirement on July 6. He stated how impressed he was to have served out his final 16 months of service with the City. He remarked on the exceptional culture at Montgomery and that if there was a vision for a municipality it would be Montgomery.

City Council thanked Mr. Klug for his heartfelt comments and wished him a wonderful retirement.

GUESTS AND RESIDENTS

Mike Frazee, 5325 Cooper Road- Mr. Frazee explained that he came to the meeting to provide input on his feelings that Weller Park was not being fully utilized. He explained that he felt a Dog Park or Amphitheater would be considerations that would attract a broad group of people.

City Council thanked Mr. Frazee for his comments and attending the meeting and stated they would take his suggestions into consideration.

LEGISLATION FOR CONSIDERATION THIS EVENING

There was no legislation for consideration at the meeting.

ESTABLISHING AN AGENDA FOR JULY 5, 2023 BUSINESS SESSION

PENDING LEGISLATION

There was no pending legislation for consideration at this meeting.

58 **NEW LEGISLATION**

59
60 **A Resolution Adopting A Tax Budget For 2024**

61
62 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.

63
64 Mayor Margolis stated that as Ms. Gray has just presented the 2024 Tax Budget at the Public Hearing held prior to
65 this meeting there was no further presentation on this item. He asked City Council if they had any additional
66 questions. City Council had no additional questions.

67
68 **A Resolution Authorizing Internet Auction of Surplus Personal Property Through Govdeals.com**

69
70 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Dobrozsi.

71
72 Chief Crowell explained that, if approved, this Resolution will designate GovDeals.com as internet auction
73 agents for the disposal of surplus property for the period of August 1, 2023 through July 31, 2024. Ohio law
74 authorizes the City to dispose of surplus and abandoned personal property through internet auction. Section
75 50.02 of the Code of Ordinances sets forth a procedure for the sale and disposition of lost, abandoned, stolen,
76 seized, or forfeited property (“Surplus Property”) through internet auction agents. This Resolution will also
77 authorize the City Manager to enter into appropriate contracts with GovDeals.com.

78
79 **A Resolution Approving the Update of the Solid Waste Management Plan of the Hamilton County**
80 **Solid Waste Management District**

81
82 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Cappel.

83
84 Ms. Gaylor explained that, if approved, this Resolution will approve and accept the update of the 2024-2038
85 Solid Waste Management Plan. The Plan update fulfills the requirements of Ohio solid waste laws and
86 regulations, established a 15 year planning period and outlines how solid waste programs will continue to
87 operate in Hamilton County. Ms. Gaylor explained that the highlights of the new plan include a modification
88 of the District’s Residential Recycling Incentive (RRI) program, strategies for reducing wasted food through
89 composting, a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiative to ensure all communities are receiving services and
90 lastly holding the District’s fees at a stable rate with no increases.

91
92 Mrs. Naiman stated that she is hearing interest in having composting collection at local spots in the city.

93
94 **A Resolution Amending Resolution No. 26, 2020 To Modify The Authorized Hours Of Operation For**
95 **The Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area Within The City**

96
97 Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Dobrozsi.

98
99 Mr. Riblet explained that, if approved, this Resolution would modify the existing DORA hours on Friday to
100 begin at noon rather than 5:00 p.m. As required by R.C. § 4301.82, advanced notice has been published in
101 the Cincinnati Enquirer of Council’s proposed modification to the DORA by this Resolution. This Resolution
102 will reaffirm all other terms and conditions of the DORA enacted in Resolution No. 26, 2020, and simply
103 modify the authorized hours for DORA operations on Fridays. Mr. Riblet added that staff has received
104 requests from area business that adjustments to the hours on Fridays are needed.

105
106 Mr. Suer asked if other communities also had similar schedules.

107

108 Mr. Riblet replied that it varies but the feedback provided to the City was based on customer requests at the
109 businesses.

110
111 **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

112
113 Mr. Riblet reported the following items:

- 114
- 115 • City Council Business Session is scheduled for July 5 immediately following the conclusion of a Public
116 Hearing scheduled at 5:45 p.m.
- 117
- 118 • The Law & Safety, Financial Planning, and Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committees have cancelled
119 their meetings for the month of July.
- 120
- 121 • The Committee meetings for Monday, July 10 will be confirmed at the July 5 Business Session meeting.

122 **Human Resources**

- 123
- 124 • Patrol Officer – Candidate interviews with the City Manager/Police Chief are scheduled for this Thursday,
125 June 22.
- 126
- 127 • Firefighter/Paramedic – The Civil Service Commission met on June 14 and certified exam results and the
128 eligible list. Interviews with six candidates are scheduled for June 26 through 28.
- 129

130 **Events**

131
132 In follow up to a previous email, City Council is asked to confirm if there is interest to attend the General
133 Montgomery Day event in the Village of Montgomery, NY on Saturday, September 9 so that room reservations can
134 be made, and we can confirm with the Village of our participation in the parade. City Council responded with no
135 interest to attend this year. Mr. Riblet suggested that Staff reach out to the Village to discuss a future meeting
136 between the City and the Village outside of the General Montgomery or Bastille Day celebrations. He stated he felt
137 this would allow both entities to meet at a date and time that would be less busy and more productive.

138
139 With the July events around the corner, a reminder of the Independence Day events:

- 140
- 141 • July 3rd Concert begins at 7:30 in Montgomery Park-The theme this year is Salute to the States
- 142
- 143 • July 4th parade line up begins on Delray Drive. The parade begins at 10:00 a.m. The Festival held in
144 Montgomery Park will run from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- 145

146 **LAW DIRECTOR REPORT**

147
148 Mr. Donnellon stated he had no report.

149 **CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

150
151 **Mr. Cappel**

152
153 Mr. Cappel reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee met and discussed the topic of pickleball with several
154 residents. He stated he would defer the discussion to Mrs. Naiman to report on.

155
156
157
158

159 **Vice Mayor Bissmeyer**

160
161 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer stated that she attended a Montgomery Fire Department fundraiser at the Montgomery
162 Public House and was happy to meet and socialize with so many of our firefighters for a good cause.

163
164 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer reported that the Planning Commission met to discuss three cases: the remodeling of the
165 Bethesda North Emergency Room, the Vintage Club and the replat of the Montgomery Quarter Phase II.

166
167 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer reported that the Board of Zoning Appeals met and reviewed three cases: Joseph Audi
168 regarding the construction of a 3,500 sq. ft. maintenance building and Legendary Homes with a variance request.

169
170 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer reported that along with Mr. Messer, she had completed an FBI Training course for
171 municipal officials. She stated it was a very educational program and would recommend anyone who can attend to
172 do so.

173
174 **Mr. Dobrozsi**

175
176 Mr. Dobrozsi reported that he attended an OKI Board meeting and encouraged all to visit their website as there is
177 large amount of information regarding regional projects on the site.

178
179 Mr. Dobrozsi reported that at the recent Sister Cities Commission they discussed Bastille Day planning. He reported
180 that Forno, Artemis and Stone Creek restaurants have all committed to being present as food vendors.

181
182 Mr. Dobrozsi reported that at the Government Affairs Committee meeting that a new event request was approved.
183 He stated the new event was a request from the Parks and Recreation Commission and will be a Montgomery version
184 of the Amazing Race leading participants into all the parks. He stated that also discussed at the meeting was the
185 approval of surplus equipment from the Public Works Department and a motion to support the recommendation of
186 a contract with Think Patented for graphic arts and production services of the City Bulletin and Calendar for the
187 2024 year was made.

188
189 Mr. Dobrozsi stated that he felt the recent 80's Party DORA Event was awesome and a great success.

190
191 **Mrs. Naiman**

192
193 Mrs. Naiman reported that pickleball was the topic of discussion at the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.
194 She explained that there were several players and neighboring residents at the meeting. She stated that they all had
195 valid points and stressed the importance of living in a community that supports sports and enjoyment of the parks.
196 She stated that discussion around the hours and looking at different days slated for pickleball play was held. She
197 explained that the long term solution was around Weller Park, but staff were working on compiling the costs to do
198 this. She stated that no recommendations were made at the meeting and that the Committee stated that more
199 conversations would be held with all of Council and staff.

200
201 Mr. Riblet stated that he would reach out to residents to broker a meeting between neighboring residents and the
202 players. He added that the long term solution would be to move the courts. He stated he was saying this to make
203 Council aware that there could be a 2024 request in the budget as a result of the issue.

204
205 Mrs. Naiman reported that the Beautification and Tree Commission was working on the Garden Tour scheduled for
206 June 25.

207
208 Mrs. Naiman added that she loved the idea of the Amazing Race event as requested by the Parks and Recreation
209 Commission.

210

211 Mrs. Naiman reported that the Diversity and Inclusion Commission was hosting a Know Your Neighbor discussion
212 on June 27 presented by Scott Knox, a Civil Rights Attorney.

213
214 **Mr. Suer**

215
216 Mr. Suer stated that Vice Mayor Bissmeyer had circulated an article regarding a gentlemen who was doing research
217 related to the sound effects from pickleball. He stated that this would be an ongoing debate.

218
219 Mr. Suer asked about the “No-Semi’s” sign on Montgomery Road for the Pfeiffer Roundabout construction and if
220 they were prompted by an issue.

221
222 Mr. Heitkamp replied that since the roundabout is under construction and not all concrete is complete that
223 technically a semi could not operate through it. He explained that once the truck apron and pavers are installed that
224 semis will be allowed through.

225
226 **Mayor Margolis**

227
228 Mayor Margolis stated his appreciation for the DORA event as well. He stated it was well attended and enjoyable.

229
230 Mayor Margolis reported that Fire Fighter Mike Henderson conducted a CPR training at the Montgomery Chamber
231 of Commerce meeting that was very well done.

232
233 Mayor Margolis reported he would be out of town from June 22 through June 28 and that Vice Mayor Bissmeyer
234 would be Acting Mayor during that time.

235
236 **MINUTES**

237
238 Mr. Cappel moved to accept the June 7, 2023 Business Session minutes as written. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer
239 seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

240
241 **OTHER BUSINESS**

242
243 **Liquor License Permit Request**

244
245 Police Chief John Crowell explained that staff received the attached request from the State of Ohio Liquor Control
246 Board to issue a D1, D2, D3 license for Kaizenone Inc. dba Kozue Sushi & Ramen at 9310 Montgomery Road.
247 He stated these licenses would allow Kozue to sell beer, wine and liquor until 1:00 a.m. He stated that as this is a
248 new restaurant at the Montgomery Quarter, he has no record of any issues and recommends that City Council not
249 request a hearing with the Board of Liquor Control regarding this request.

250
251 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer made a motion to not request a hearing regarding this liquor license request. Mr. Cappel
252 seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

253
254 **ADJOURNMENT**


255
256 Mayor Margolis asked if there was any further business to discuss in Public Session. There being none he asked for
257 a motion to adjourn.

258
259 Vice Mayor Bissmeyer moved to adjourn. Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

260
261 City Council adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

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Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council