

1 City of Montgomery
2 City Council Organizational Meeting and Business Session Minutes
3 December 6, 2023
4

5 Present

6 Brian Riblet, City Manager
7 Terry Donnellon, Law Director
8 John Crowell, Police Chief
9 Kevin Chesar, Community Dev. Director
10 Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director
11 Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager
12 Maura Gray, Finance Director
13 Matthew Vanderhorst, Communications and Information Service Director
14 Paul Wright, Fire Chief
15 Amy Frederick, Communications and Engagement Coordinator
16 Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council
17

City Council Members Present

Lee Ann Bissmeyer
Chris Dobrozsi
Craig Margolis
Ron Messer
Catherine Mills Reynolds
Sasha Naiman
Ken Suer

18 City Council convened in Council Chambers at 5:15 p.m. with Terry Donnellon, Law Director, presiding.
19

20 **SWEARING IN OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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22 Supreme Court Justice Patrick K. Fischer conducted the swearing in of the City's incumbent Council Members
23 Margolis and Suer and new Council Member Catherine Mills-Reynolds.
24

25 **APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR**

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27 Mr. Donnellon asked if there were any nominations for Mayor.

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29 Mr. Suer moved to nominate Mr. Messer as Mayor. Mr. Margolis seconded.
30

31 Mr. Donnellon asked for a voice vote.

32
33 AYE: Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Messer (6)
34 NAY: Bissmeyer (1)
35

36 Mr. Donnellon asked if there were any nominations for Vice Mayor.

37
38 Mr. Dobrozsi nominated Mrs. Naiman as Vice Mayor. Mr. Margolis seconded.
39

40 Mr. Donnellon asked for a voice vote.

41
42 AYE: Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Messer (6)
43 NAY: Bissmeyer (1)
44

45 Mr. Donnellon invited Justice Fischer to administer the oath of office to Mr. Messer and Mrs. Naiman.
46

47 **SWEARING IN OF MAYOR AND VICE MAYOR**

48
49 Justice Fischer conducted the swearing in of Mayor Messer and Vice Mayor Naiman.
50

51 Mayor Messer thanked his family, former Mayor Margolis and all of Council for their support. He stated that
52 becoming Montgomery's Mayor is not only an honor and privilege, but also a responsibility to which he will
53 enthusiastically dedicate his time and energy. He stated that he looks forward to working with all of the talented
54 volunteers and excellent city employees and colleagues in keeping the City of Montgomery the safe and thriving
55 city it is today and for future generations.

56

57 Vice Mayor Naiman stated that she was truly grateful for the opportunity to serve this City as Vice Mayor, and
58 she looks forward to working together with her colleagues on Council. She stated she is grateful for the City Staff,
59 who improve residents' lives, day in and day out. She stated that the city has great parks and activities and is in a
60 strong financial position. She stated that she is really excited to continue partnering with Council and Staff to step
61 into the Vice Mayor role.

62

63 Mayor Messer asked to take a brief recess to celebrate the swearing in of the Council Members.

64

65 Mr. Margolis moved to adjourn into recess. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.
66 Council adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

67

68 Mayor Messer called the Business Session to order at 6:00 p.m.

69

70 **ROLL CALL**

71

72 Mayor Messer asked for a motion to dispense with the roll call since everyone was in attendance.

73

74 Mr. Margolis moved to dispense with the roll call. Mrs. Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

75

76 **PENDING LEGISLATION**

77

78 **An Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of**
79 **Montgomery, State of Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024**

80

81 Mr. Riblet asked to move the legislation to New Business as item J.

82

83 Mr. Margolis made a motion to move the legislation to Item J under New Business. Vice Mayor Naiman
84 seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

85

86 **NEW LEGISLATION**

87

88 Mayor Messer explained that since all following legislation has been made available to the public before this
89 evening's meeting, he would like a motion to accept the legislative agenda and read all legislation by title only.

90

91 Mr. Margolis moved to accept the legislative agenda and read all legislation by title only. Vice Mayor Naiman
92 seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

93

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

95

96 Mr. Dobrozi recused himself from voting on the budget as it includes funds for the Montgomery Quarter, and he
97 is abstaining from any vote related to the development project and exited the dais.

98

99 Mr. Suer moved to read the title and moved passage of the Resolution. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded.

100

101 Mr. Suer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will adopt
102 the City's proposed Five-Year Capital Improvement Program. This was reviewed by City Council as a companion
103 piece to the proposed 2024 Operating and Capital Budget with Four Year Forecast and represents a
104 comprehensive planning tool for capital investment in the community over the next five years.

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106 Mr. Suer asked if there were any updates.

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108 Ms. Gray replied there were none.

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The roll was called and showed the following vote:

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

Mr. Dobrozsi returned to the dais.

A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract with Community Insurance Company d/b/a Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield to Provide Medical Insurance and Dental Insurance for Full-Time Employees

Mr. Dobrozsi read the title and moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Margolis seconded.

Mr. Dobrozsi explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, would authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Community Insurance Company d/b/a Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield for both medical and dental insurance coverages for the City's full-time employees for the January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 benefit period. The Anthem proposal for medical insurance represents a 12.2% percent increase from the 2023 plan year premium and also requires bundling group dental insurance with Anthem. The Anthem dental insurance proposal for 2024 represents a 3.63 percent decrease from current premium rates.

Mr. Dobrozsi asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer (7)
NAY: (0)

A Resolution Establishing City Contributions for Health Care Benefits

Mr. Dobrozsi read the title and moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Margolis seconded.

Mr. Dobrozsi explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will establish the City's maximum contribution limits (caps) for a 12-month period beginning January 2024 for medical and dental insurance. The caps determine the amount of money the employees must contribute toward the cost of their health and dental insurance coverages. Typically, the City has increased these "caps" annually by six percent (6%) for medical insurance and three percent (3%) for dental insurance. It should be noted that the recommended caps for medical and dental insurances are already in place in AFSCME, FOP and IAFF collective bargaining agreements.

Mr. Dobrozsi asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds (7)
NAY: (0)

162 **A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract with CT Associates, Inc. For**
163 **Professional Services Related To General Engineering And Architectural Services For Calendar Year 2024**
164

165 Mayor Messer reassigned the legislation to Mr. Margolis. Mr. Margolis read the title and moved for passage of
166 the Resolution. Mrs. Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.
167

168 Mr. Margolis explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will
169 authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with CT Consultants, Inc. for professional engineering and
170 architectural services for calendar year 2024. The City has contracted with CT Consultants to provide civil,
171 traffic, structural, electrical and storm water engineering services.
172

173 Mr. Margolis asked if there were any updates.
174

175 Mr. Heitkamp replied there were none.
176

177 The roll was called and showed the following vote:
178

179 AYE: Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi (7)

180 NAY: (0)
181

182 **A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Contract With National Inspection Corporation For**
183 **Professional Services To Serve As Building Official And To Provide Plan Review And Field Inspection**
184 **Authority And Services For The City's Building Department For The Calendar Year 2024**
185

186 Mayor Messer reassigned the legislation to Mr. Margolis. Mr. Margolis read the title and moved for passage of
187 the Resolution. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.
188

189 Mr. Margolis explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will
190 authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with National Inspection Corporation for professional services
191 to serve as Building Official and to provide plan review and field inspection authority and services for the City's
192 Building Department for the calendar year 2024.
193

194 Mr. Margolis asked if there were any updates.
195

196 Mr. Chesar replied there were none.
197

198 The roll was called and showed the following vote:
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200 AYE: Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer (7)

201 NAY: (0)
202
203

204 **A Resolution Declaring A Moratorium On The Collection Of Building And Zoning Permit Fees For Solar**
205 **Installations**
206

207 Mrs. Bissmeyer read the title and moved passage of the Resolution. Mr. Margolis seconded.
208

209 Mrs. Bissmeyer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will
210 declare a moratorium on the collection of building and zoning permit fees for solar installations. City Council
211 approved Resolution 31 2021 waiving building and zoning fees for solar installations with a cap of \$1,000 for
212 2022 and 2023. Staff requests to renew this moratorium beginning on January 1, 2024 and ending on December
213 31, 2025. The waiver would be promoted as an incentive to our residents and businesses to adopt a more

214 environmentally friendly source of power and to continue to promote Montgomery as a progressive community in
215 the region and the State.

216

217 Mrs. Bissmeyer asked if there were any updates.

218

219 Mr. Chesar replied there were none.

220

221 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

222

223 AYE: Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman (7)

224

224 NAY: (0)

225

226 **A Resolution Accepting A Bid And Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Contract With**
227 **Rumpke Of Ohio, Inc. For Waste Collection Services within the City Of Montgomery For Calendar Years**
228 **2024, 2025, and 2026**

229

230 Mr. Dobrozsi read the title and moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Margolis seconded.

231

232 Mr. Dobrozsi explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, would
233 authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Rumpke for all current waste collection services for 2024
234 through 2026. A bid opening was held on November 2 with Rumpke being the only bidder. The results of the bid
235 reflect an overall increase of 25% in 2024 and 6% increase for the subsequent years. Adjustments to increase the
236 general fund budget for waste collection will be reflected in the 2024 Budget Appropriation Ordinance.

237

238 Mr. Dobrozsi asked if there were any updates.

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240 Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

241

242 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

243

244 AYE: Margolis, Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer (7)

245

245 NAY: (0)

246

247 **An Ordinance Modifying the List of Conditions and Exceptions for the Vintage Club Planned Unit**
248 **Development District and Rezoning a Portion of the District from a Multi-Family D-3 District to a Limited**
249 **Business L-B District**

250

251 Mrs. Bissmeyer read the title of the Ordinance and moved to suspend the second and third readings of the
252 Ordinance. Mr. Margolis seconded.

253

254 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

255

256 AYE: Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis (7)

257

257 NAY: (0)

258

259 Mrs. Bissmeyer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Ordinance that, if approved,
260 would authorize a zone change to a portion of the Vintage Club Planned Development from 'D-3' – Multi-family
261 to 'LB' – Limited Business. The project was unanimously recommended for approval by the Planning
262 Commission, and a motion made for approval at the November 1, Public Hearing by City Council.

263

264 Mrs. Bissmeyer moved passage of the Ordinance. Mr. Margolis seconded.

265

266 The roll was called and showed the following vote:

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AYE: Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer (7)

NAY: (0)

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 44.1, Income Tax, To Comply With Mandates Required By The Ohio General Assembly

Mr. Suer read the title and moved to suspend the second and third readings. Mr. Margolis seconded.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Dobrozsi, Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds (7)

NAY: (0)

Mr. Suer explained that this Ordinance would amend the Income Tax Ordinance to comply with changes made at the State level. An overview of the changes was discussed by the Law Director at the November 15 Work Session. To come into accordance with the State it is requested that the second and third readings of the Ordinance be suspended and passed as an emergency.

Mr. Suer moved for passage of the Ordinance as an emergency. Mr. Margolis seconded.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Messer, Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Dobrozsi (7)

NAY: (0)

An Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of Montgomery, State of Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024

Mr. Dobrozsi recused himself from voting on the budget as it includes funds for the Montgomery Quarter, and he is abstaining from any vote related to the development project and exited the dais.

Mr. Suer read the title and moved to amend the Ordinance to reflect the amended budget detail. Mr. Margolis seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Suer moved for passage of the Ordinance as amended. Mr. Margolis seconded.

Mr. Suer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Ordinance that, if approved, would establish the City's budget for fiscal year 2024. These documents were presented to and reviewed with City Council at the September 14 Budget Review meeting.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Naiman, Suer, Margolis, Bissmeyer, Mills-Reynolds, Messer (6)

NAY: (0)

ABSTAIN: Dobrozsi (1)

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Riblet gave the following report:

- City Council Work Session is scheduled for December 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

- 319 • Mr. Riblet reported that it was previously requested that the Financial Planning Committee be moved to
320 Monday, December 11. He asked if the Committee would be available to meet at 4:00 p.m. All
321 Committee members agreed.
- 322 • The Parks and Recreation, Government Affairs and Public Works Committees have cancelled their
323 meeting for December.
- 324 • As a reminder, a Menorah lighting ceremony will be held in City Council Chambers on Monday,
325 December 11 beginning at 5:30 p.m. This year's event will be officiated by Rabbi Samantha Schepera in
326 conjunction with the City's Diversity Commission.
- 327 • Mr. Riblet thanked staff for their generosity in the annual Christmas gift drive that supports the Midwest
328 Childrens Home and Operation Give Back. He stated that this year staff supported 27 children from the
329 Midwest Childrens Home along with stocking six houses with supplies. He adds that there were 20
330 requests filled to provide for children at Operation Give Back.
- 331 • Mr. Riblet thanked Public Works, Recreation and staff for their work in making the Holiday in the Village
332 event special for the community.

333
334 Human Resources

- 335
- 336 • Firefighter/Paramedic – The Civil Service Commission certified five candidates on the eligibility list.
- 337 • Patrol Officer – The first round of candidate interviews has been completed and six candidates are moving
338 on in the process.
- 339 • Service Worker I – The first round of interviews was conducted with five candidates moving on in the
340 process.
- 341 • Front Desk position (Customer Support/Community Development Specialist) – The first round of
342 interviews with five candidates has been scheduled for December 15.

343
344 Events

- 345
- 346 • As a reminder the Holiday Luncheon will be held this Friday at Terwilliger Lodge from 11:00-2:00.
347 Council members are a special part of this holiday celebration. This year's theme is a "Ho-Down" so
348 please come expecting great food, fun and conversation with staff.
- 349 • The very popular Breakfast with Santa will be held Saturday morning at Terwilligers Lodge. Officer Paul
350 Payne will once again be Santa. Thank you to all the staff that made this event possible and so special for
351 the kids.

352
353 Mr. Riblet requested an Executive Session to discuss compensation of a public employee and the appointment of a
354 public official.

355
356 MINUTES

357
358 Mr. Margolis moved to approve the November 15, 2023 Work Session minutes as amended. Mrs. Bissmeyer
359 seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

360
361 MAYOR'S COURT REPORT

362
363 Mayor Messer asked for a motion to disburse the November Mayors Court collections in the amount of \$7,905.

364
365 Mr. Margolis moved to disburse the November Mayors Court collections in the amount of \$7,905. Vice Mayor
366 Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

367
368 OTHER BUSINESS

369
370 Mayor Messer asked if there was any further business to discuss in Public Session. There being none he asked for
371 a motion to adjourn.

372

373 Mr. Margolis moved to adjourn. Vice Mayor Naiman seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

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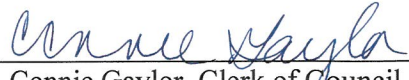
375 City Council adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

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Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council