

City of Montgomery  
City Council Business Session Minutes  
November 1, 2023

Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager  
Terry Donnellon, Law Director  
Tracy Henao, Asst. City Manager  
Kevin Chesar, Community Dev. Director  
Greg Vonden Benken, Asst. Police Chief  
Maura Gray, Finance Director  
Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director  
Matthew Vanderhorst, Community and Information Services Dir.  
Paul Wright, Fire Chief  
Amy Frederick, Community Engagement Coordinator  
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council

City Council Members Present

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

Council Members Absent

Chris Dobrozsi

City Council Convened its Business Session for November 1, 2023 at 6:10 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Margolis presiding.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Cappel made a motion to excuse Mr. Dobrozsi's absence as already reported. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

LEGISLATION FOR CONSIDERATION THIS EVENING

Mayor Margolis asked for a motion to add the following legislation to the agenda for consideration.

**A Resolution Authorizing The City Manager To Enter Into A Labor Agreement With The American Federation Of State, County And Municipal Employees, Ohio Council 8, AFL-CIO For Wages And Benefits For Employees Within The Department Of Public Works From September 1, 2023 Through August 31, 2026**

Mr. Suer made a motion to add the Resolution to the agenda for consideration this evening. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mayor Margolis assigned the legislation to Mr. Cappel.

Mr. Cappel moved to read the Resolution by title only. Mr. Messer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Cappel read the title and moved for passage of the Resolution. Mrs. Naiman seconded.

Mr. Cappel explained that this Resolution, if approved, would authorize the City Manager to enter into a labor agreement with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Ohio Council 8, AFL-CIO ("AFSCME") from September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2026. The City and AFSCME have reached an agreement on a new three-year labor contract that includes wage and benefit modifications, pending City Council's approval.

Mr. Riblet added that the City reached a tentative agreement with the labor union on October 5 who unanimously ratified it on October 9. He explained that it included a wage increase over 3 years. He added that staff recommends approval that would be retroactive to September 1, 2023.

Mayor Margolis asked for questions. There were none.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

57  
58 AYE: Cappel, Bissmeyer, Margolis, Naiman, Suer, Messer (6)  
59 NAY: (0)  
60 ABSENT: Dobrozsi (1)  
61

62 **PENDING LEGISLATION**

63  
64 **An Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the City of**  
65 **Montgomery, State of Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024**

66  
67 Mr. Suer moved to read by title only. Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.  
68

69 Mr. Suer read the title and moved for passage of the second reading.  
70

71 Mr. Suer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Ordinance that, if approved, establishes  
72 the City's budget for fiscal year 2024. These documents were presented to and reviewed with City Council at the  
73 September 14 Budget Review meeting. As a result of these discussions, any changes to the budget will be  
74 forthcoming and will be presented prior to the final reading of the Ordinance at the December 6 Business Session.  
75

76 Mr. Suer asked if there were any updates.  
77

78 Ms. Gray replied there were none.  
79

80 The roll was called and showed the following vote:  
81

82 AYE: Bissmeyer, Margolis, Naiman, Suer, Messer, Cappel (6)  
83 NAY: (0)  
84 ABSENT: Dobrozsi (1)  
85

86 **NEW LEGISLATION**

87  
88 Mr. Cappel stated that since all following legislation has been made available to the public before this evening's  
89 meeting it is moved that Council accept the legislative Agenda and read all legislation by title only. Mr. Messer  
90 seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.  
91

92 **A Resolution Adopting the Hamilton County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan**

93  
94 Mr. Messer read the title and moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Cappel seconded.  
95

96 Mr. Messer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, would  
97 adopt the Hamilton County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan to comply with the Federal Emergency Management  
98 Agency (FEMA) established rules and regulations under 44 CFR Parts 201.6.  
99

100 Mr. Messer asked if there were any updates. Chief Wright replied there were none.  
101

102 The roll was called and showed the following vote:  
103

104 AYE: Margolis, Naiman, Suer, Messer, Cappel, Bissmeyer (6)  
105 NAY: (0)  
106 ABSENT: Dobrozsi (1)  
107

108 **A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into a Contract with SwimSafe Pool Management, Inc.**  
109 **for Professional Services Related to the Operation and Management of the Montgomery Municipal Pool**

Mrs. Naiman read the title and moved for passage of the Resolution. Mr. Cappel seconded.

Mrs. Naiman explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, would authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with SwimSafe Pool Management, Inc. for professional services including management of the pool, all staffing (including guards, swim lesson instructors and swim team coaches) and concessions for the 2024 and 2025 swim seasons and includes option years for 2026-2027. Funds for this contract have been programmed into the 275.000.5365 account for the 2024 budget cycle.

Mrs. Naiman asked if there were any updates. Mr. Heitkamp replied there were none.

Mr. Cappel stated he felt SwimSafe was a fantastic firm that rode the waves with us during Covid and worked with us to prove their professionalism and commitment to the City.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

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

#### **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

Mr. Riblet reported the following items:

- A Council Work Session is scheduled for November 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- As a reminder an Open House is scheduled prior to the November 15 Work Session meeting from 5:00-6:00 to honor Mr. Cappel's time on City Council as this will be his last meeting.
- The Law and Safety, Financial Planning and Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committees have cancelled their meetings for the month of November.
- The following Committee meetings are scheduled for Monday, November 13: Parks and Recreation, Government Affairs and Public Works at 3:30, 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. respectively.
- The bid opening for waste collection is scheduled for Thursday, November 2 at 10:00 a.m.

#### **Human Resources**

- Civil Service Commission met and certified the eligible list for patrol officer. Nine candidates will be scheduled for interviews. We have three openings to fill due to resignations and retirements.
- Service Worker I – Applications have been reviewed and initial interviews with 10 candidates are scheduled.
- Firefighter/Paramedic – The Civil Service written, and agility tests were administered today. Five candidates participated in the testing. We have two open firefighter/paramedic positions.

#### **Events**

- Saturday, November 4 - the American Legion Post 630 will once again be holding a Veteran Grave marking ceremony at Hopewell Cemetery. Please plan to arrive by 10:00 a.m. to participate.
- Saturday, November 4 - The EAC will hold a Catch Basin Labeling event. Volunteers are meeting at Weller Park to meet with a Hamilton County Soil and Water representative before traveling to the north end of town to inspect and replace the worn labels. This project is done every 5-7 years

depending on the condition of the labels that informs of "No Dumping Allowed" into the storm sewer drains.

- Saturday, November 11 –The Blue Ash Veterans Day ceremony is on Saturday, November 11. The ceremony begins at 10:30 and will last approximately 1 hour.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Cappel moved to approve the October 18, 2023 Work Session minutes as written. Mr. Messer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

### **MAYOR'S COURT REPORT**

Mayor Margolis stated the October Mayors Court Report would be added to the November 15 Work Session Agenda.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mayor Margolis reported on the Kevin Hines presentation sponsored by the City and how impactful it was for those in attendance. He thanked the Mental Health Team who worked to plan and coordinate Mr. Hines presentation.

Mayor Margolis reported a meeting held at Public Works facilitated by Mr. Heitkamp with Sycamore High School students who are learning the process of the Street Resurfacing program and how it works through the process of becoming a bid, through the legislative process and into completion. He thanked Mr. Heitkamp for working with the students on this collaboration with the School.

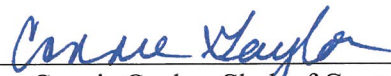
Mayor Margolis reported that he would be out of the country from November 2 through November 10 and asked Vice Mayor Bissmeyer to be acting mayor during that time.

Mayor Margolis asked if there was any other business to discuss in Public Session.

There was none.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Cappel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Mayor Bissmeyer. City Council adjourned at 6:32 p.m.



Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council