

City of Montgomery
City Council Work Session Minutes
September 23, 2020

Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager
Terry Donnellon, Law Director
Tracy Roblero, Asst. City Manager/Acting Comm. Dev. Dir.
John Crowell, Police Chief
Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director
Katie Smiddy, Finance Director
Paul Wright, Fire Chief
Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council

City Council Members Present

Chris Dobrozsi, Mayor
Craig Margolis, Vice Mayor
Lee Ann Bissmeyer -teleconference
Mike Cappel - teleconference
Gerri Harbison
Lynda Roesch - teleconference
Ken Suer

City Council convened its Work Session for September 23, 2020 at 7:17 p.m. in a hybrid meeting at City Hall and by telephone conference with Mayor Dobrozsi presiding. This remote access meeting was allowed by emergency legislation adopted by the Ohio General Assembly and approved by the Governor. The emergency legislation added language to RC Section 121.22 allowing public meetings by telephone conference during the current pandemic and declared State of Emergency. As required by the statute, notice of the telephonic meeting was publicized more than 24 hours in advance to allow public access through the same conference call in service. The public was also given a backup number to call in the event there were technical difficulties. This Notice was posted on the City's website and a similar Notice was sent to The Cincinnati Enquirer.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called, and all Council Members answered as present either in person or on the phone line.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Jim Mayer was presented with a Proclamation honoring his retirement as Executive Director at Twin Lakes, Life Enriching Community, and his friendship to the City.

City Council, staff and those in attendance all extended their appreciation for Mr. Mayer's contributions to the Twin Lakes community as well as in Montgomery.

GUESTS & RESIDENTS

Mayor Dobrozsi asked for a motion to move the Guests and Residents portion of the agenda to the end of the agenda after Other Business.

Vice Mayor Margolis made a motion to move the Guests and Resident portion to after Other Business on the agenda. Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

ESTABLISHING AN AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 7, 2020 BUSINESS SESSION

PENDING LEGISLATION

There is no pending legislation.

NEW LEGISLATION

A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Penn Care Incorporated for the purchase of a 2020 Braun E450 Chief XL Type III Ambulance

Mayor Dobrozsi assigned the legislation to Mrs. Bissmeyer.

57 Fire Chief Wright explained that, if approved, this Resolution would authorize the City Manager to enter into a
58 contract with Penn Care Inc., for the purchase of a 2020 Braun E450 Chief XL Type III Ambulance. He explained
59 the ambulance will be purchased through the bid process conducted through the State of Ohio Cooperative
60 Purchasing Program. The base bid for the ambulance with STS options totals \$187,399.90, with additional Non-
61 STS options totaling \$21,996.25, a chassis rebate of \$4,600.00 and a contingency amount of \$1,203.85. These
62 numbers, when combined, total \$206,000.00. In light of budget revisions due to Covid-19, the planned 2020 Capital
63 Improvement purchase of a new Rescue Pumper has been deferred and the 2021 planned purchase of an ambulance
64 to replace a 2006 Horton ambulance was moved into this year's Capital Improvement program in account
65 223.000.5405. He added that the proposed 2021 expense for the ambulance was \$280,000 so the purchase of this
66 ambulance is well under that estimate.

67
68 Mr. Suer asked what color the ambulance would be.

69
70 Chief Wright replied it would be the same as the existing squad, red and black.

71
72 Mrs. Bissmeyer asked how much old ambulances are typically auctioned for.

73
74 Chief Wright replied that while the old ambulance is being kept as a backup squad, that they typically resale for
75 between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

76
77 **An Ordinance Modifying Section 132.14, Noise, of The Montgomery Code of Ordinances**

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

80
81 Ms. Roblero explained that, if approved, this Ordinance would enact modifications to the noise ordinance which
82 includes differentiating between general noise and construction noise, by defining "construction work" as "any type
83 of work which requires a building and/or zoning permit". Times for construction work would be limited to 7:00
84 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday) and 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The proposed
85 modifications maintain the hours of 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. for all other types of noise outside of construction work.
86 In addition, the proposed modifications limit the sound permitted outside these hours to 60 decibels, as measured
87 from the complainant's property line. The Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committee of Council met on March
88 2, 2020 to discuss the proposed modification. After discussion, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend
89 approval of the amendments to the noise ordinance with the condition that work by utility companies, such as Duke
90 Energy, Cincinnati Bell, Greater Cincinnati Water Works, etc. be included in the list of exemptions.

91
92 Mr. Cappel asked with the emphasis being placed on construction if these changes applied to residents as well.

93
94 Ms. Roblero replied that the changes apply to any work that requires a Zoning or Building permit.

95
96 Vice Mayor Margolis stated that he felt the Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committee was very aware of the
97 residents needs and that he felt this ensured the wellbeing of the residents.

98
99 **An Ordinance to Make Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of The City of
100 Montgomery, State of Ohio, During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2021**

101
102 Mayor Dobrozsi assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.

103
104 Mrs. Smiddy explained that, if approved, this Ordinance would establish the City's budget for fiscal year 2021. She
105 explained that the documents were reviewed with the Financial Planning Committee at their September 8 meeting
106 and with all of Council at the September 9 Budget Review Session. She stated that as a result of these discussions,
107 any changes to the budget will be forthcoming and will be presented to City Council in the packet for the October
108 7, Business Session.

110 **A Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by The Hamilton County Budget Commission**
111 **and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to The County Auditor**
112

113 Mayor Dobrozsi assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.
114

115 Mrs. Smiddy explained that, if approved, this Resolution would accept the rates and amounts determined by the
116 Hamilton County Budget Commission. She explained that as a State of Ohio taxing authority and pursuant to the
117 Ohio Revised Code, the City is required to adopt an annual tax budget. She stated that City Council adopted the
118 Tax Budget on July 1, 2020, and then submitted it to the Hamilton County Auditor for review by that office and the
119 Hamilton County Budget Commission. She added that those reviews did not generate any questions and the
120 proposed Tax Budget was accepted by the Budget Commission and Auditor. City Council is requested to act to
121 accept the Budget Commission's rates and amounts, which would result in the estimated collections as specified in
122 the City's 2021 Tax Budget. This action will then permit the Budget Commission to collect property taxes at the
123 rates established for the upcoming year.
124

125 **A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into A Contract with Cargill, Inc. For the Purchase of**
126 **De-Icing Rock Salt for the 2020-2021 Season**
127

128 Mayor Dobrozsi assigned the legislation to Mr. Cappel.
129

130 Mr. Heitkamp explained that, if approved, this Resolution would authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract
131 with Cargill, Inc. pursuant to a joint purchasing bid with Hamilton County for 2020-2021 de-icing rock salt. The
132 purchase of de-icing rock salt for the 2019-2020 winter season is included in the City budget in the 261.000.5380
133 Street Maintenance, 266.000.5380 Permissive MVL Fund and 265.000.5380 State Highway Fund. He stated it is
134 requested to purchase 200 tons at \$58.87 per ton. The total cost for this contract shall not exceed \$11,774.
135

136 **A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into A Labor Agreement with The American Federation**
137 **of State, County and Municipal Employees, Ohio Council 8, AFL-CIO for Wages and Benefits for Employees**
138 **within the Department of Public Works from September 1, 2020 Through August 31, 2023**
139

140 Mr. Riblet explained that, if approved, this Resolution would authorize a labor agreement with the American
141 Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Ohio Council 8, AFL-CIO ("AFSCME") from September
142 1, 2020 through August 31, 2023. The City and AFSCME have reached an agreement on a new three-year labor
143 contract that includes wage and benefit modifications, pending City Council's approval.
144

145 **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**
146

147 Mr. Riblet reported the following items:
148

- 149 • The City Council Business Session is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m.
150
- 151 • The Financial Planning Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 7 in a hybrid meeting at City Hall and
152 also using teleconferencing at 4:30 p.m. The Law and Safety and Planning, Zoning and Landmarks
153 Committees have cancelled their meetings for the month of October.
154
- 155 • The Parks and Recreation and Government Affairs Committees will meet Monday, October 14 in a hybrid
156 meeting at 3:30 and 4:30 p.m. respectively. The Public Works Committee has cancelled their meeting for
157 the month of October.
158
- 159 • On Tuesday, September 22, the Fire Department met with the Insurance Services Office (ISO) for the
160 required five-year audit of community protection. This audit sets the basis of the Community Rate

161 Classification for insurance companies as they set fire insurance rates for businesses and residents. It is
162 anticipated to have the final report back to us in seven months.
163

- 164 • Ford Development is repairing/replacing three locations of the Heritage District paver crosswalks, one
165 location on Main Street and two on Montgomery Road. The Main Street replacement was completed
166 Tuesday, September 22 and they are currently working on the Montgomery Road location by Kotsovos.
167 They should be complete with the last location by Neuilly Plaisance early next week.
168
- 169 • The City received news from the State of Ohio that our DORA application was approved. Staff is currently
170 reaching out to the liquor permit holders in within the DORA area for confirmation of their participation,
171 signage and DORA cups are being ordered and maps are being printed. We are targeting a November 1
172 date to officially kick off the DORA and we will be working with the Montgomery Chamber of Commerce
173 as well.
174
- 175 • The State has indicated Trick or Treat activities will be on a community by community basis this year. We
176 have received guidance and safety recommendations from Hamilton County and see no reason to cancel
177 this event for our community. Citizens and residents have the ability to participate or opt out as they with
178 any other year. We will be pushing this out via the website and social media for Saturday, October 31 from
179 6-8 p.m. along with the safety recommendations.
180
- 181 • In Legislative news, SB357 has been rolled into HB614 and if approved will provide Federal CARES
182 funding to go directly to local municipalities and townships through their counties. Hamilton County would
183 receive the approximate \$30MM and distribute accordingly. Also, we would not need to pass additional
184 legislation as we would be covered under the Resolution, we passed for previous CARES funds as part of
185 HB481.
186
- 187 • A reminder that National First Responder Day will be recognized on Wednesday, October 28 with a
188 recognition breakfast for the City's Fire & Police staff. The breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m. and will be
189 held in the Mayor's Court/Training Room at the Safety Center.
190
- 191 • Mr. Donnellon has once again graciously offered to hold the Smokin' Irish Barbecue. A suggested date to
192 hold this event is on Friday, October 30. The event will be held at the Public Works Facility to provide a
193 safe dining environment for staff and Council.
194

195 **LAW DIRECTOR REPORT**

196
197 Mr. Donnellon reported that the Montgomery Quarter was still progressing with very few details left to be finalized.
198

199 **CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

200 **Mr. Cappel**

201
202
203 Mr. Cappel reported that the EAC One Stop Drop Recycling Event is scheduled for Saturday, September 26 from
204 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. He stated that Goodwill, Habitat for Humanity, Operation Giveback and Matthew 25
205 Ministries would be there to collect items as well as Royal Document to conduct onsite shredding.
206

207 **Mrs. Bissmeyer**

208
209 No report.
210
211
212
213

214 **Mrs. Harbison**

215
216 Mrs. Harbison explained that she would like to appoint Bonnie Pendleton to the Arts Commission for a term ending
217 on January 31, 2024. She explained that this appointment did not go through a Committee so she would need a
218 second. Mr. Suer seconded the motion. City Council unanimously agreed.
219

220 Mrs. Harbison provided an update on the following Committee and Commission meeting agenda items:
221

- 222 • Arts Commission
 - 223 ○ Two Live at the Uni Zoom concerts were scheduled and are as follows:
 - 224 ■ October 26- featuring Carolyn Bowman and Austin Colby
 - 225 ■ November 9- featuring Allen Wiggins.
 - 226
- 227 • Sister Cities Commission
 - 228 ○ Bands are being booked for Bastille Day 2021
 - 229 ■ Ricky Nye and the Swinging Bed Bugs
 - 230 ■ Naked Karate Girls
 - 231 ■ The Mistics
 - 232 ○ Dinner Around the World is anticipated to be held on January 31, 2021 if COVID conditions allow.
 - 233 ○ Marcellene Shockey will participate in a National Sister Cities Zoom Meeting
 - 234

235 Mrs. Harbison explained that First Suburbs Consortium will hold a joint meeting with Hamilton County Municipal
236 League on October 29 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., via Zoom, featuring Liz Blume speaking about affordable housing.
237

238 Mrs. Harbison stated that the Law Director Evaluation process has begun.
239

240 Mrs. Harbison explained that City Council will participate in the Haunted Trail which is also a reverse parade being
241 held on Saturday, October 17 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. She asked Council members to let her know if they can
242 participate.
243

244 **Ms. Roesch**

245
246 Ms. Roesch provided an update on the following meeting agenda items:
247

- 248 • The Parks and Recreation Commission was provided a lesson in pickleball at their last meeting.
- 249 • The Beautification and Tree Commission are working on the April 2021 Tree City Luncheon in the hopes
250 that they can hold it.
- 251 • BAMSO held a meeting at which the Blue Ash Veterans Day program was cancelled however there will be
252 comments recorded by various community members and veterans to be added to a livestreamed concert that
253 will be broadcast from November 11 to November 13. She added that the licensing agents have agreed to
254 allow them to incorporate as much of the old program as they want. She stated that the holiday concert will
255 likely be recorded at the Montgomery Assembly of God and be broadcasted in similar fashion.
256

257 **Mr. Suer**

258
259 No report.
260

261 **Vice Mayor Margolis**

262
263 Vice Mayor Margolis relayed his condolences to the family of Michael Currin, Montgomery resident.
264
265
266

267 **Mayor Dobrozi**

268
269 Mayor Dobrozi added that he too wished to relay his condolences and planned a moment of silene during the Other
270 Business portion of the agenda.

271
272 **MINUTES**

273
274 Vice Mayor Margolis moved to approve the September 2, 2020 Public Hearing and September 2, 2020 Business
275 Session minutes as written. Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

276
277 **MAYORS COURT**

278
279 Mayor Dobrozi stated that he would need a motion to dispense of Mayors Court collections for the month of
280 August.

281
282 Mr. Suer made a motion to dispense of Mayors Court collections for the month of August in the amount of \$10,925.
283 Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

284
285 **OTHER BUSINESS**

286
287 Mayor Dobrozi asked for a moment of silence in recognition of the passing of Michael Currin, recent graduate of
288 Moeller High School and Montgomery resident.

289
290 Mayor Dobrozi asked if there was any other business to discuss. There was none.

291
292 **GUESTS AND RESIDENTS**

293
294 Mayor Dobrozi stated that as there were no guests or residents present at City Hall, he would open the floor to
295 those who are present on the line. He asked for anyone on the line to state their name and address and to adhere to
296 the three-minute speaking rule.

297
298 Mayor Dobrozi asked if there were any other guests or residents on the line. There was no response.

299
300 Mayor Dobrozi closed the floor to public comment.

301
302
303 **ADJOURNMENT**

304
305 Mayor Dobrozi asked if there was any further business to discuss in Public Session. There being none he asked for
306 a motion to adjourn.

307
308 Vice Mayor Margolis moved to adjourn. Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

309
310 City Council adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

311
312
313
314



Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council