

City of Montgomery
City Council Business Session Minutes
September 2, 2020

Present

Brian Riblet, City Manager
Terry Donnellon, Law Director
John Crowell, Police Chief
Gary Heitkamp, Public Works Director
Tracy Roblero, Asst. City Manager/Acting Comm. Dev. Dir.
Katie Smiddy, Finance Director
Matthew Vanderhorst, Community and Information Services, Dir.
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
Gerri Harbison
Lynda Roesch-Teleconference
Ken Suer

City Council convened its Business Session for September 2, 2020 at 6:57 p.m. as a hybrid meeting at City Hall and also 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

Mayor Dobrozsi asked for the roll to be called.

The roll was called with all members answering as present.

GUESTS & RESIDENTS

Mayor Dobrozsi explained that in an effort to better manage the teleconference meeting he would like to move this portion of the agenda to the end of the meeting and allow any public participating in the call to speak at that time. He stated that comments will be allowed but asked that all questions be forwarded by email to City Manager Brian Riblet. He stated that all comments will be limited to three minutes in total.

Vice Mayor Margolis made a motion to move the Guests and Residents item to after item #10 on the agenda. Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

LEGISLATION TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA

A Resolution Amending and Extending Resolution No. 4, 2020 Authorizing the Purchase of Certain Design and Engineering Services for The Development of The Montgomery Quarter Project

Mayor Dobrozsi explained that this legislation will need to be added to the agenda for consideration this evening and asked for a motion to add it to the agenda. Vice Mayor Margolis made a motion to add the legislation to the agenda for consideration this evening. Mrs. Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mayor Dobrozsi assigned the legislation to Mr. Suer.

Mayor Dobrozsi stated that he would recuse himself from the discussion and vote on this legislation. He explained that although he has no ownership interest in Neyer Properties, Inc. nor any in the limited liability companies in partnership to develop the Montgomery Quarter, he will continue to recuse himself from discussion and abstain from voting upon legislation related to the Montgomery Quarter project. He asked Vice Mayor Margolis to take over the meeting.

Vice Mayor Margolis assumed management of the meeting.

Mr. Suer moved to read the legislation by title only. Mrs. Harbison seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mr. Suer read the title and moved for passage of the Resolution. Mrs. Harbison seconded.

Mr. Suer explained that, if approved, this Resolution would authorize an amount not to exceed \$225,000 to purchase certain design and engineering services for the development of the Montgomery Quarter project from McGill Smith Punshon, Inc. (MSP) and MKSK Studios (MKSK). The services are consistent with the terms and conditions established under Resolution 4, 2020 and primarily include various items to complete Sequence II of Phase I construction and all of Sequence III of Phase I construction. Funds would be drawn from the Downtown Improvement Fund 480.000.5365. These costs will qualify as reimbursable expenditures associated with the Montgomery Quarter project and will be recovered through the Tax Increment Finance (TIF) agreement structured for the development.

Mr. Riblet added that within Phase III of the design there will be tweaks to the infrastructure that includes all finishes such as the streetscape which encompasses landscape, electrical, and lighting. He stated that all services are consistent with the original terms.

Vice Mayor Margolis asked City Council if there were any comments or questions. There were none.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Cappel, Bissmeyer, Harbison, Roesch, Suer, Margolis	(6)
NAY:	(0)
ABSTAIN: Dobrozsi	(1)

Mayor Dobrozsi resumed management of the meeting.

NEW LEGISLATION

A Resolution Establishing City Contributions for Health Care Benefits

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

Mrs. Harbison read the title and moved for passage. Vice Mayor Margolis seconded.

Mrs. Harbison explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will establish the City's maximum contribution limits (caps) for medical and dental insurance which determines 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. This practice allows for some increase in the cost of healthcare but also ensures that significant increased costs are shared between the City and its employees. The recommended caps for the upcoming 12-month period of October 2020 through September 2021 for medical and dental insurance are already in place in existing FOP and IAFF union contracts. AFSCME contract provisions are pending completion of collective bargaining negotiations.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Bissmeyer, Harbison, Dobrozsi, Roesch, Suer, Margolis, Cappel	(7)
NAY:	(0)
ABSENT:	(0)

A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into A Contract with Humana Health Plan of Ohio, Inc. To Provide Medical Insurance for Full-Time Employees

Mrs. Harbison moved to read the Resolution by title only. Mr. Margolis seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

Mrs. Harbison read the title of the Resolution and moved for passage. Vice Mayor Margolis seconded.

Mrs. Harbison explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Humana Health Plan of Ohio, Inc. for medical insurance coverage for the City's full-time employees. Each year, the City must seek quotes for its medical insurance coverage. The proposals are evaluated by the Health Care Benefits Committee, which takes into account benefit levels and coverage costs to make a recommendation as to the desired provider of medical insurance coverage, as well as any changes to current benefit levels to achieve cost savings. The health care plan being recommended would continue to provide full-time employees one High Deductible Health Plan with a Health Savings Account (HDHP/HSA) with deductible levels of \$3,000/\$6,000 (single/family) with four levels of coverage: single, employee with child(ren), employee with spouse and family. The Humana proposal represents a zero percent increase in premium costs for a 15-month period from October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021.

Mrs. Harbison asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Riblet replied there were none.

Mr. Suer stated that the process of staff being involved in health and dental negotiations was impressive. He stated that it was amazing to see the quality of work and hard to imagine that other cities have a process that works this well year in and year out. He gave kudos to staff for their hard work.

Vice Mayor Margolis thanked employees for being engaged in making the environment better for all staff,

Ms. Roesch concurred and stated job well done to the Health Care Benefits Committee.

Mrs. Bissmeyer, Mr. Cappel and Mayor Dobrozsi all echoed the comments of the other Council members and thanked staff for their work.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Harbison, Dobrozsi, Roesch, Suer, Margolis, Cappel, Bissmeyer (7)

NAY: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Enter into A Contract with Strand Associates, Inc. For Professional Services Related to Engineering Services for The Pfeiffer/Deerfield Road Intersection Modification Project

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

Mr. Cappel read the title of the Resolution and moved for passage. Vice Mayor Margolis seconded.

Mr. Cappel explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, will authorize the City Manager to enter into a Contract with Strand Associates, Inc. for professional engineering services associated with the HAM-CR284-1.33 Pfeiffer Road & Deerfield Road Roundabout Project. The proposed contract, which covers services from Stage 2 Design through Final Tracings, is anticipated to begin October 1, 2020 and is scheduled for completion April 1, 2022. The total contract for these services, which takes the project through

completion, is not to exceed \$165,031.00. The project is scheduled to be publicly bid for construction in April 2022, with construction beginning as early as July 2022.

Mr. Cappel asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Heitkamp replied there were none.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Dobrozsi, Roesch, Suer, Margolis, Cappel, Bissmeyer, Harbison (7)

NAY: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

A Resolution Authorizing A Contract with Patented Acquisition Corporation D/B/A Think Patented for Design and Production Services

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

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

Mrs. Harbison explained that information has been previously supplied on this Resolution that, if approved, would authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Patented Acquisition Corporation D/B/A/ Think Patented for design, production, printing, and mailing of the monthly newsletter and annual calendar for 2020-2021 for \$60,105.00. After reviewing several proposals, staff has recommended the work of Think Patented as meeting the high professional quality expected by the City at an effective price. Funds for these services are budgeted in 101.715.5390.

Mrs. Harbison asked if there were any updates.

Mr. Vanderhorst replied there were none.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Suer, Margolis, Cappel, Bissmeyer, Harbison, Dobrozsi, Roesch (7)

NAY: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

A Resolution Authorizing an Amendment to An Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City and The Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District

Mayor Dobrozsi stated that he would recuse himself from the discussion and vote on this legislation. He explained that although he has no ownership interest in Neyer Properties, Inc. nor any in the limited liability companies in partnership to develop the Montgomery Quarter, he will continue to recuse himself from discussion and abstain from voting upon legislation related to the Montgomery Quarter project. He asked Vice Mayor Margolis to take over the meeting.

Vice Mayor Margolis assumed management of the meeting.

Mr. Suer moved to read the legislation by title only. Mrs. Harbison seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

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

Mr. Suer explained that information has been previously supplied on this Ordinance that, if approved, would adopt an amendment to the 2019 Intergovernmental Agreement with Hamilton County Transportation Improvement District relative to House Bill 26 funds in the amount of \$250,000 for Fiscal Year 2021. The City was awarded an additional \$250,000 for fiscal year 2021 to offset construction costs for the Montgomery Road/Ronald Reagan Interchange Improvements Project. This Resolution authorizes an amendment to the prior Intergovernmental Agreement to allow the City to accept such funding and to commit the City to the specific requirements for receiving and using such funding for the Project.

Mr. Riblet explained that he was informed that Hamilton County has received the contract documents from ODOT and could execute the contract quickly as well as the reimbursement when submitted.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Margolis, Cappel, Bissmeyer, Harbison, Roesch, Suer	(6)
NAY:	(0)
ABSTAIN: Dobrozsi	(1)

Mayor Dobrozsi resumed management of the meeting.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Mr. Riblet reported the following items:

- City Council Work Session is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m.
- Staff would like to request a CIC meeting prior to the Work Session at 6:30 to provide an update on the Montgomery Quarter.

Vice Mayor Margolis made a motion to go into the Work Session immediately following the conclusion of the CIC meeting. Mr. Cappel seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

- The Financial Planning Committee will meet at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 8 as a hybrid meeting. The Law and Safety and Planning, Zoning and Landmarks Committees have cancelled their meetings for the month of September.
- The Parks and Recreation, Government Affairs and Public Works Committees have cancelled their meetings for the month of September.
- W.G. Stang LLC began construction of the Montgomery Road Sidewalk project this week, beginning with tree clearing, driveway removals, and preparations for the two retaining wall installations.
- This City received additional SB481 CARES funding released by the State in the amount of \$78,700.87. The same criteria and guidelines apply as with the initial distribution. Staff is meeting next week to review expenditures to date and make recommendations on future expenditures.
- On August 28, a contract with ProudCity was approved in the amount of \$5,230. ProudCity will be the host of the new website that the website team will be working on this fall.

As a reminder of scheduled events:

- The K-9 Kerplunk will be held on Monday, September 7, with two Sessions 4:00–5:30 and Session B – 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. All breeds and sizes of dogs are invited.

- The 2021 Budget Review Session is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Terwilligers Lodge. Dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m.
- A reminder, City offices will be closed on Monday, September 7, in recognition of the Labor Day holiday.
- Happy Birthday to Connie Gaylor and in the spirit of the occasion, *Roll Tide*.

Mr. Riblet request an Executive Session to discuss matters relative to compensation of a public employee and negotiations with public employees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Dobrozsi asked for a motion to approve the August 5, 2020 Business Session and the August 19, 2020 Work Session minutes.

Mr. Cappel moved to approve the minutes as written. Vice Mayor Margolis seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

MAYOR'S COURT REPORT

Mayor Dobrozsi asked to defer the disbursement of the August Mayors Court until the September 23 Work Session.

OTHER BUSINESS

Vice Mayor Margolis reminded Council that he would be out of town the week of September 14.

GUEST AND RESIDENTS

Mayor Dobrozsi asked if there were residents on the call who would like to speak. He asked for them to state their name and address. He reminded callers to limit their comments to three minutes and to send all questions to Mr. Riblet for follow up after the meeting.

Steve Silverman, 7504 Golf Green Drive- Mr. Silverman stated that he had a few comments.

Mr. Silverman stated the following:

1. Last week, there was construction at the roundabout on Montgomery Road in the southbound lane. The contractor put up a sign for Eddie Lane Jewelers pointing where the driveway was, and he felt that was a good thing to do.
2. If people want to get practice about the roundabout there is a good one that is confusing on Plainfield Road in Sycamore. He stated he has been going there to practice and thought it was a good comparison.
3. Regarding a Lucke home that was torn down and in the process of being rebuilt on Zig Zag Road, there was dirt in the street but that day there was dirt and large gravel in the street. He felt it was detrimental to the asphalt and cars too.

Mayor Dobrozsi thanked Mr. Silverman for his questions.

Roberto Rivera, 11936 Seventh Avenue, Cincinnati-Mr. Rivera identified himself as being on the line but stated he had no comments.

Mayor Dobrozsi stated that Mr. Riblet had requested an Executive Session to discuss matters relative to compensation of a public employee and negotiations with public employees.

Mr. Cappel made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss matters relative to compensation of a public employee and negotiations with public employees. Vice Mayor Margolis seconded.

The roll was called and showed the following vote:

AYE: Bissmeyer, Harbison, Dobrozsi, Roesch, Suer, Margolis, Cappel	(7)
NAY:	(0)
ABSENT:	(0)

Council adjourned in Executive Session at 7:29 p.m.

City Council reconvened into Public Session at 7:37 p.m. Mayor Dobrozsi asked if there was any further business to discuss in Public Session. There being none he asked for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Cappel moved to adjourn. Mrs. Bissmeyer seconded. City Council unanimously agreed.

City Council adjourned at 7:40 p.m.



Connie Gaylor, Clerk of Council