

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OCTOBER 14, 2024**

1. Call to Order: The October 14, 2024 action meeting of the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, 1001 Stump Road, Montgomeryville, PA. Chairwoman Candyce Fluehr Chimera called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chair Candyce Fluehr Chimera
Supervisor Tanya C. Bamford
Supervisor Annette M. Long
Supervisor Beth A. Staab
Township Solicitor John Walko, Esq.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Acting Police Chief William R. Peoples
Fire Chief William Wiegman
Director of Planning & Zoning Marianne McConnell
Director of Public Works Greg Reiff
Director of IT Richard Grier
Recording Secretary Deborah Rivas

ABSENT:

Vice-Chair Audrey R. Ware

2. & 3. Pledge of Allegiance and Announcements: Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Chimera announced the following: The Autumn Festival will be held on October 19th from Noon to 5 pm at the William F. Maule Park at Windlestrae. Ms. Long recognized National Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from September 15, 2024, through October 15, 2024, and October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Ms. Chimera also recognized October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

4. Public Comment: There was none when Ms. Chimera called for public comment.

5. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried (4-0), the minutes of the September 23, 2024 Board meeting, the ratification of the Payment of Bills on October 7, 2024 in the amount of \$693,339.41, Escrow Release No. 1 for Atlas Broadband Solutions, LLC, and Escrow Release No. 3 for Bharatiya Temple Phase 1 were approved as submitted.

Public Safety:

6. Recognition of Fire Prevention Week: Chief Wiegman reported that this year's theme for Fire Prevention Week is "Smoke Alarms: Make Them WORK for You." The Department of Fire Services and the F.D.M.T. will engage in various fire prevention activities throughout the month to promote fire safety in our community, including the Township's Autumn Festival, school presentations, fire inspections, business staff training, and other activities. The Department kicked off Fire Prevention Week by partnering with the American Red Cross for a Sound and

Alarm Event in Neshaminy Falls. During this event, the participants visited 100 homes, installing 226 smoke alarms for 146 township residents.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board recognized Fire Prevention Week in Montgomery Township and thanked the Department of Fire Services and F.D.M.T. for their work to promote fire safety throughout our Township.

Planning and Zoning:

7. Review of Zoning Hearing Board Application: Ms. McConnell identified the pending hearing application received for the November 6, 2024 Zoning Hearing Board meeting. Application 24090001 is for 309 Autovest Properties, LP / 1011 Bethlehem Pike for a second freestanding sign along Bethlehem Pike 20 feet in height, 60 square feet in size (sign area) where on freestanding sign is allowed per street frontage.

Board consensus was not to enter an appearance for the application, allowing the Zoning Hearing Board to render a decision based on the testimony presented.

Administration and Finance:

8. Purchase of AV Upgrades for Police Roll Call Room: Mr. Grier reported that \$15,000.00 was included in the 2024 budget for Roll Call Room AV upgrades to enhance the Police Roll Call Room's Video Conferencing capabilities. A quote was obtained from New Era Technology for the upgrade, including installation, totaling \$12,384.00. The project includes the integration of Microsoft Teams Room functionality, allowing for seamless video conferencing and remote participation. The current TV will be retained as part of the setup, with the new system enhancing the room's capability to support virtual meetings and improved communication for roll call briefings.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Staab, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board awarded the contract for the purchase and installation of the Roll Call AV upgrade (Video Conferencing) from New Era Technology under the CoStars Cooperative Purchase Program at a total cost of \$12,384.00, per their quote.

9. Purchase of Avaya IP Office Upgrade for Cloud Transition: Mr. Grier reported that \$26,000.00 was budgeted in 2024 for IP Phones Cloud Migration and Cloud Phones Upgrades. The current Avaya IP Office systems are running on version 10, which lacks the necessary features and capabilities for future cloud integration. Upgrading to version 12 will enhance functionality, improve performance, and better support for cloud-based services. This upgrade is the first step towards integrating cloud-based phones into the Township voice network. A quote from New Era Technology, totaling \$19,586.05, includes the costs for the IP Office upgrade, including upgrade preparation, remote engineering, onsite installation, and professional services.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board awarded the contract for the purchase and installation of the IP Office upgrade from New Era Technology under the Costars Cooperative Purchase Program at a total cost of \$19,586.05, per their quote.

10. Update to Authorized Bank Signers and Administration of Township Depositories – Ms. Chimera reported that on January 2, 2024, the Board approved Resolutions 2024-01 and 2024-02, which identified the approved Township Depositories and Authorized Bank Signers. The designated Township Depositories are Uninvest Bank and Trust Co. for Government Banking Accounts and Capital Projects Account; TD Bank for Government Banking Accounts; and U.S. Bank as Custodian of Investments for the Montgomery Township Police Pension Fund. The personnel authorized to sign checks on behalf of the Township include Chairwoman of the Board, Vice-Chairwoman of the Board, Township Manager and Finance Director. Ms. McCreary is recommending that the Board update the list of authorized bank signers and personnel allowed to administer and manage the Township Depositories as follows: 1. Remove Brian Shapiro as an authorized bank signer and administrator, 2. Authorize Carolyn McCreary to act as both an approved check signer and Administrator for all Township banking accounts and investments, and 3. Update the list of Authorized Bank Signers to include all current members of the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Bamford inquired if it was appropriate to give full approval and administration of the bank accounts to one individual. Mr. Walko stated that it was only for the interim until a new Finance Director/Treasurer is hired.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board authorized the updating of the authorized bank signers and administrators as outlined above.

11. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera and seconded by Ms. Long, the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary