

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JANUARY 6, 2025**

REORGANIZATION MEETING

1. Call to Order: The January 6, 2025 reorganization meeting of the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors was held at the Montgomery Township Municipal Building, 1001 Stump Road, Montgomeryville, PA. Supervisor Candyce Fluehr Chimera called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Supervisor Tanya C. Bamford
Supervisor Candyce Fluehr Chimera
Supervisor Annette M. Long
Supervisor Beth A. Staab
Supervisor Audrey R. Ware-Jones
Township Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, Esquire
Township Manager Carolyn McCreary

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Police Chief William R. Peoples
Fire Chief William Wiegman
Director of Public Works, Greg Reiff
Director of Information Technology, Rich Grier
Recording Secretary, Deborah A. Rivas
Public Information Coordinator, Derek Muller

2. & 3. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Chimera was appointed to serve as the Temporary Chair upon motion by Ms. Long, seconded by Ms. Bamford, and unanimously carried. Ms. Chimera thanked everyone for their hard work over the past year and for supporting her as Chairwoman.

4. Nomination and Election of Chairwoman:

Upon nomination by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long, Ms. Ware-Jones was nominated to serve as Chairwoman. No other nominations were presented, and the Board unanimously elected Ms. Ware-Jones to serve as Chairwoman for 2025.

5. Nomination and Election of Vice Chairwoman:

Upon nomination by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Chimera, Ms. Long was nominated to serve as Vice Chairwoman. No other nominations were presented, and the Board elected Ms. Long to serve as Vice Chairwoman for 2025 by a vote of 4 to 1, with Ms. Bamford voting Nay.

6. Resolution 2025-01 – Establish Holidays, Meeting Dates, Official Appointments & Treasurer’s Bond:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Chimera, and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board approved Resolution 2025-01 – a resolution establishing the Township Holidays for 2025, the Board of Supervisors meeting dates, the official Township appointments and setting the Treasurer’s Bond for 2025.

7. Resolution 2025-02 – Acknowledgement of Professional Appointments, Appointments to Boards, Committees & Commissions, Qualifying Depositories, Authorized Signers, Approval of Authorized Drivers and Mileage Reimbursement.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board adopted Resolution #2025-02, acknowledging the professional appointments, appointing the Volunteer Committee and Board members to new terms, qualifying the depositories, authorizing bank signers, approving the list of authorized drivers and setting the mileage reimbursement.

8. Approval of 2025 Fee Schedule:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board adopted the 2025 Fee Schedule as amended, effective January 6, 2025.

9. Township Consultant Fees:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board approved the fees for 2025 for the appointed Township consultants effective January 6, 2025.

10. Certify Delegate to Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board certified Supervisor Beth A. Staab as the voting delegate to represent Montgomery Township at the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) Conference for 2025.

11. Appointment of Board Liaisons to Township Committees:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board appointed the following Board members and staff to serve as liaisons to the following committees, boards and agencies for 2025:

- Business Development Partnership – Beth Staab
- Community & Recreation Center Committee – Annette Long
- Environmental Advisory Committee – Beth Staab
- Finance Committee – Audrey Ware-Jones
- Human Relations Commission – Tanya Bamford
- Open Space Committee – Carolyn McCreary
- Park and Recreation Board – Tanya Bamford
- Planning Commission – Candyce Chimera
- Police Pension Committee – Carolyn McCreary
- Public Safety Committee – Annette Long
- Ready for 100 Committee – Beth Staab
- Senior Committee – Audrey Ware-Jones
- Sewer Authority Board – Tanya Bamford
- Shade Tree Commission – Candyce Chimera

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried (5-0), the reorganization meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING

1. Call to Order: The January 6, 2025 action meeting of the Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairwoman Ware-Jones at 7:13 p.m.

2. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

3. Consent Agenda:

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried (5-0), the minutes of the December 16, 2024 meeting, the Payment of Bills List dated January 6, 2025 in the amount of \$655,740.66, and Escrow Release #9 and End of Maintenance for Montgomery Realty Associates LLC were approved as presented.

4. Announcement of Executive Session: Township Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, Esquire, announced that the Board of Supervisors met in Executive Session earlier this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Township building to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Walko stated that the topics discussed are legitimate subjects of an Executive Session under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Sunshine Law.

Presentation:

5. Appointment and Swearing in of Police Recruit Joseph Coates: Chief Peoples reported that a recruit hiring process was initiated on July 27, 2024 to fill a vacancy within the department's Patrol Division. Forty-six applicants competed for the position of Recruit Police Officer in this hiring process. The process includes a written examination, a physical agility test, two police oral review boards, and a background investigation. Joseph Coates was selected as the top candidate and is before the Board this evening for consideration for appointment as Recruit Police Officer. A Warrington resident and Council Rock North High School graduate, Joseph was active in football, wrestling, and volunteering as a Special Olympics coach. After high school, Joseph served seven years as an infantryman in the United States Army, achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant and leading his unit as a squad leader. He completed a deployment to Baghdad, Iraq, and was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington, and Fort Drum, New York. Following his honorable discharge, Joseph graduated from the Montgomery County Police Academy, where he earned the distinction of Class Lieutenant for his exemplary leadership and dedication. Chairwoman Ware-Jones administered the oath to Police Recruit Coates.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board appointed Joseph Coates as a Recruit Police Officer in the Montgomery Township Police Department, effective January 7, 2025.

Planning and Zoning:

6. Advertisement of Proposed Cell Tower Text Amendment Ordinance: Ms. McCreary reported that staff is requesting the authorization to advertise for proposed amendments to the Montgomery Township Zoning Code, Chapter 230, Article XXX, Wireless Telecommunications Facilities to update our current local regulations in order to remain consistent with current technologies, policies, state and federal regulations, and laws associated with wireless communications. In addition, the ordinance will provide Tower-based Wireless Telecommunications Facilities by right within Municipal or Municipal Authority owned properties meeting specific criteria set forth in the regulations. The proposed ordinance is scheduled for review and recommendation at the January 16, 2025 Planning Commission meeting. It will be forwarded to the Montgomery County Planning Commission for their review prior to advertisement.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board authorized staff to advertise proposed Ordinance No.25-347 to amend Chapter 230, Article XXX of the Code of Montgomery Township as presented.

Administration and Finance:

7. Approval of Trustees for Delaware Valley Trusts: Ms. McCreary reported that the Township is a member of all three Delaware Valley Trusts, including Health, Workers Compensation and Property and Liability. Trustees are to be appointed for each Trust. Ms. McCreary currently serves as an Executive Board member of the Health Trust and Trustee to the Health Trust for the Township. Ms. McCreary is recommending that the Board approve the appointment of trustee for the Workers Compensation Trust to Kristine Willard, who serves as the workers compensation coordinator for the Township, and appoint Deborah A. Rivas to serve as the Trustee for the Property and Liability Trust as she has been the liaison for all property and liability claims for the Township for many years.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board appointed Kristine Willard as the Delaware Valley Workers' Compensation Trust Trustee, Deborah A. Rivas as the Delaware Valley Property and Liability Trustee, and Carolyn McCreary to continue to serve as the Trustee for the Delaware Valley Health Trust.

8. Ratification of Terms for Montgomery Township Professional Firefighters IAFF Collective Bargaining Agreement: Ms. McCreary reported that she met with members of the Montgomery Township Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 4890 over the last few months to discuss proposals for a new collective bargaining agreement. The current contract expired on 12/31/24. Representatives of the IAFF has informed the Township that the members have unanimously agreed to the terms of the new agreement. The new agreement is for four (4) years. The changes

have been incorporated into the 2025 budget and also take into account the anticipated transition to a fully-paid career staff in 2026.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Long and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board approved the terms of the collective bargaining agreement with the International Association of Firefighters effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2028.

8. Formation of Municipal Consortium for Wissahickon Water Quality Improvement Plan: Ms. McCreary reported that the regulatory agencies are seeking more details on the governing structure of the Wissahickon Stormwater Group once the alternative watershed improvement plan is approved. The Management Committee explored options and discussed them at recent meetings with input from the consultants, the members and attorneys from Kilkenny Law. In order to ensure the successful implementation of the plan, completion of projects, and sharing of costs, the committee recommends the group transition to a municipal consortium. This Consortium is recognized by the Pennsylvania Code which allows for intergovernmental cooperation.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Chimera, seconded by Ms. Bamford and unanimously carried (4-0), the Board accepted the recommendation of the Management Committee of the Wissahickon Water Quality Improvement Plan to form a municipal consortium to further carry out the projects identified in the plan and apply for available funding.

9. Sale of Municipal Equipment by Online Auction: Chief Wiegman reported that the Fire Services Department has eight (8) key secure Knox boxes ready to be auctioned online at the Municibid auction website.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Staab and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board authorized the sale of the above-listed equipment through the online auction company Municibid.

Public Works:

10. Bid Results for Township Administration Parking Lot Lights: Mr. Reiff reported that the Township solicited for bids for the Township Administration Site Lighting. Bids were opened on December 11, 2024 and one bid was received from AJM Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$77,200.00. The bid came in approximately 19% over budget. Staff is recommending that the Board reject the bid and authorize the re-advertisement of the project.

MOTION: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones, seconded by Ms. Chimera and unanimously carried (5-0), the Board rejected the bid from AJM Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$77,200.00 for the Township Site Lighting and authorize the project to be rebid.

Other Business:

Under other business, Ms. Long thanked the Public Works Department for handling the recent snowstorm and told Mr. Reiff that he and his team are appreciated.

7. Adjournment: Upon motion by Ms. Ware-Jones and seconded by Ms. Long, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Rivas, Recording Secretary