

Minutes of the Regular Meeting, of the Board of Trustee, of the Village of Montgomery, was held in the Montgomery Senior Center, 36 Bridge Street, Montgomery, NY 12549, on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, at 7:30 pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Brescia, Deputy Mayor Scheels, Trustee Andolsek, Trustee Hembury, Trustee Lindner, Atty. Will Frank, Village Clerk Rivera-Fernandez, DPW Supt. Nelson, Police Chief Herlihy, PB Chrmn Conero, PB Mbr. Romano, Fred Flood, Maria Beltrametti, Frank Pettine, Mary Pettine, Bill and Jo-Ann Corrigan, Lori Polesel, Vic Polesel, Bibi Latif, Don Berger, Anne Lake, Johanna Sweikata, Jim Sweikata, Barry Schnipper, John Tracy, Dianna Sanchez, Juan Ramos, Sibyl Librani, Marge Bullis, Cynthia Richichi, Thomas Dziedzic, Susan Brewer, R. Aponte, Margaret Bussigel, Marguerite Flood, Grace Broere, Carol Freeman, Melanie Rode, Evelyn Carrasquillo, Vinni Murphy, Susan Gilies, Elizabeth Battaglia, Debra Frank, Jay Upchurch, Jill Upchurch, Teresa Dobbertin, Fred Dobbertin, Marie Garrido, Glenn Wolk, Brian & Barbara Maher, Margaret Alphonse, Carol Daley, Rosanne Magrane, Joan Christiano, Bill Bergen, Kenneth Blake, Tom Steed, Joan Miller, Dominic S. Bonas, Wanda Pagan, Terri Losito, Patty Wiley, Eileen Kane, Donald G. McCrossen, Mary Ann Lindner, Randi Picarello, Robert White, Terumi Blake, Meredith Zeiger, Steve Cooney, Cindy Gleeson Cooney, Jacobi Ward, Maria Amenguial-Michaud, Judy Lozier, Ed Hagerty, Dylan Gillespie.

RE: CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Brescia opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES

Moved by Trustee Hembury, seconded by Deputy Mayor Scheels, the Board approved the minutes of August 2, 2022. Motion carried, 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

REQUEST TO MEET WITH THE BOARD

Helen Budrock with Delaware Engineering, D.P.C. presented the Board with a power point on NY Forward Grant Information Session.

What is NY Forward? It's a companion grant program to the sum of \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), which has been around since 2017. While DRI funding has focused on cities and urban communities, NY Forward will focus on smaller rural communities, particularly hamlets and villages. Similar to the DRI program, NY Forward applicants must submit a vision for the downtown and slate of developable projects to achieve that vision. Applications are due on September 23rd and will be received by the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council (MREDC).

What is the Grant Process?

The Pre-Application begins by:

- submitting a letter of intent
- participating in Capital Building workshops
- Receive Technical assistance.

Apply:

- Communities prepare and submit applications
- REDC's nominate downtowns

Plan:

- Local Planning Committees created
- State and consultant teams work with the community on Strategic Investment Plan
- Community engagement

Implement:

- Strategic Investment Plan submitted
- Projects evaluated for readiness and catalytic potential
- Selected projects awarded funding

\$10 Million will be awarded in each region with either (2) \$4.5 Million dollar awards, OR (1) award of \$4.5 Million dollars, and (2) awards of \$2.25 Million dollars for each.

RE: NY FORWARD TARGET AREA

Our Downtown Vision is based on four focus groups such as:

(A) Park and Green Spaces - Our vision for downtown Montgomery is one where our parks and green spaces are connected to each other and to the downtown business district. We envision a new pedestrian bridge over the Wallkill River, enhancements to Veterans Memorial Park, and a river walk that connects to City Winery.

(B) Complete Street and Connections - We envision a Village that is walkable, safe and accessible to all. We plan to take a "complete streets" approach to improving the downtown and our gateway corridors through improved sidewalks, crosswalks, signage, lighting and bike lanes.

(C) Downtown Redevelopment – We envision Enhancing our historic downtown by updating our design guidelines, restoring historic anchor buildings, and helping downtown property owners renovate their buildings. We also hope to improve the making streetscape improvements (sidewalks, trees, benches, signage) and exploring opportunities for creative placemaking.

(D) Gateway Enhancement – Guiding growth in our gateways through design guidelines tailored to commercial and industrial uses, and instituting zoning changes will ensure that new development is in keeping with our historic character. New sidewalks and gateway signage will provide safe travel corridors through the Village.

Our vision for the Village of Montgomery is to see that the community character is preserved, civic pride is sustained and quality of life is enhanced.

The next step is to apply; applications are due on Friday, September 23rd. The grant awards are announced at the end of 2022, and the planning process would be the first six months of 2023. During the implement with multiple grant contracts with more than one state agency are possible. The typical timeframe is two to three years.

If you have any questions, contact either of the following:

Village Officials: L. Stephen Brescia, Mayor, or Brian Fitzpatrick, Village Historian at 845-457-9661, Email: info@villageofmontgomery.org

Grant-Writer: Michael T. Dziuba, Millennium Strategies at 973-997-5946, Email: MDziuba@m-strat.com

Downtown Planner: Helen Budrock, Delaware Engineering at 845-791-7777, Email: hbudrock@delawareengineering.com

Mayor Brescia thanked the committee and is excited about the possibility of adding parking in the downtown area through this grant process.

RE: CONSIDER APPROVING LIGHTING FOR THE PICKLE BALL COURT LOCATED IN THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

Ms. Lori Polesel spoke on behalf of the Pickle Ball community; we ask the Board to consider approving lighting for the Pickle Ball Court located in the Veterans Memorial Park. She also provided pictures of the Pine Bush Pickle Ball Court with the lights on and shows the lights are downcast with little to no lighting spilling out past the court area. If granted this is how they would have the lighting installed.

Mayor Brescia thanked Lori for her presentation. He mentioned asking the DPW Supt. Nelson to look into the pricing for the lighting. Furthermore, the lighting would be used four months out of the year. Of which, he also asked the Pickle Ball Committee to fundraise for the lighting.

The residents neighboring the Veterans Memorial Park expressed their concerns of noise, and kids gathering at with the feature of lights added to the park. The Park has been known to be open from dawn to dusk, which has always been of the

understanding that park opens at first light of the day and closed when night falls. They want peace and tranquility that everyone experiences when darkness falls.

The hours for the park are established by the Board of Trustees, of the Village of Montgomery are as follows:

§ 80-3 PARK Operating policy.

[Amended 12-19-1978 by L.L. No. 4-4978]

A. Except by permission granted by the Board of Trustees or by acts of the Mayor in case of emergency, the park shall be open to the public every day of the year during the following hours.

[Amended 6-28-1984 by L.L. No. 3-1984]

(1) From 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., prevailing time, during the period from April 1 through September 30.

(2) From 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., prevailing time, during the period from October 1 through March 31.

A question arose about who is responsible for the expenses incurred by the lighting.

Mayor Brescia replied the electrical expenses occurred from the lighting, if they are installed would be a Village expense.

Mr. Jim Sweikata said the noise is annoying and suggested the possibility of moving the Pickle Ball Court to the Tennis Court.

Trustee Lindner suggested a sound abatement solution with a line of trees.

Mayor Brescia said there is a lot of money invested in the Pickle Ball Court as it is, it cost \$50,000. It would it cost a lot to move it.

Trustee Hembury stated he is in support of the lighting as long as the park neighboring residents want it. His decision is based on the people who have to live with the changes. He votes in their favor.

A dome was also suggested to mitigate the sound.

One of the residents neighboring the park said a structure would obstruct their view, therefore, that's not a viable option.

APPROVE LIGHTING FOR THE PICKLE BALL COURT

Mayor Brescia called for a motion to approved the lighting for the Pickle Ball Court, with the conditions of the cost not to exceed \$15,000 and obtaining three quotes and engineers to do the lighting design.

Moved by Mayor Brescia, seconded by Trustee Lindner, the remaining Boards members did not approve the Pickle Ball Lighting. Motion carried, 2-Ayes, 3-Nays (Deputy Mayor Scheels, Trustee Andolsek, Trustee Hembury).

Deputy Mayor Scheels said she truly did not have enough evidence to vote for the lighting.

Mayor Brescia asked the DPW Supt. Nelson to obtain the Pickle Ball Lighting and noise abatement cost estimates for the first meeting in October.

DPW Supt. Nelson reminded Mayor Brescia that he has a lot of ongoing projects at the moment and asked for additional time to devote to his request.

RE: OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE ON THE TRIATHLON EVENT

Ms. Picarello updated the Board on the events leading up and for the Triathlon scheduled on October 15th; currently 50 teams have registered and the cutoff is at 150, 3 person teams.

A safety meeting is scheduled for October 4th. Eat, Play, Stay Montgomery events begin with:

- Friday, October 14th, Spaghetti Dinner held at the Senior Center starting at 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm (Dine in or Take Out) at \$10:00 per person.
- Tentative Sip & Paint at the ArtBox Studio, 4 Union Street starting at 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm.
- Saturday, October 15th, Triathlon Day, events begin at 6:30 am to 7:30 am with a Bike Drop Off and late bid pick up at Bradley Park.
 - Kayak Drop Off is to be done before the race at Benedict Farm Park between 7 am and 8 am.
 - Opening Remarks at Benedict Farm and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag begins at 8:15 am to 8:30 am.
 - The Race begins Benedict Farm Park at 8:30 am.
 - Vendors & cheering at Bradley Park starts at 9:00 am to 10:00 am.
 - Community Events at Benedict Farm Park (stop by and meet Montgomery Businesses, purchase local products and food. Featuring activities for the whole family, pony rides and more from 11 am to 3 pm.
 - Pubic Art demonstration by Joseph Sundwall at Wallkill River School, at 12:00 Noon.
 - Plein Air Festival Reception at Wallkill River School from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.
 - The day ends with a Family Movie Night at Empanada Nirvana at 75 E. Main Street, Walden, NY, at 6:30 pm.
- Sunday, October 16th begins with a Pancake Breakfast at the Montgomery Fire House at 7:00 am to 11:00 am.
 - Yoga on the Wallkill River at City Winery at 10:30 am to 11:30 am
 - Community Concert & Harvest Feast at City Winery from 12:00 Noon to 5 pm
 - Last call to capture local art and culture through the Plein Air Display at the Wallkill River School from 12:00 pm to 5 pm.
- For more information, call 845-217-4450 or email: thebcgm@gmail.com

FIRST RESPONDERS' WAY

Trustee Hembury mentioned First Responders Way event was well received. In addition, on 9/11 flags were posted at Veterans Corner.

Mayor Brescia said it was an exceptional program and hopes to get Trustee Hembury more help for next year.

RE: ABSTRACT – NO. 08 – 2022

Moved by Deputy Mayor Scheels, seconded by Trustee Andolsek, the Board approved all bills listed on ABSTRACT NO. 08-2022 were audited and approved for payment with \$ from the General Fund, \$ from the Water Fund, \$ from the Sewer Fund and totaling \$. Check No: -. Motion carried 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

Treasurer Griffith reported a CASH BALANCE for the month of August 31, 2022, as follows: General Fund \$, Water Fund \$, Sewer Fund \$.

RE: REPORTS – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

DPW Supt. Nelson mentioned starting on the sidewalk projects and hopes to start pouring in a month. Furthermore, the dismantling of the Basketball Courts will begin soon.

Mayor Brescia commended everyone for doing a great job on General Montgomery Day.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Herlihy mentioned scouring social media Apps about comments regarding an individual walking around wearing a cape, for clarification the so-called cape was in fact a robe from the Knights of Templar. There was some concern that it may have been affiliated with another organization and this is not the case.

Furthermore, regarding the fight in the park on General Montgomery involved two young females and it was rectified before the fireworks. The Police Officers tied it up quickly.

A traffic study was completed on Route 211 and River Road for approximately eight and a half days, and resulted in 3,764 vehicles traveling at 25 mph on average, with 78 to 373 reportable violations.

He asked if anyone had any questions or concerns to be addressed, with no responses he ended with nothing further to report.

RE: NEW BUSINESS

ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$308,000 BOND OF THE VILLAGE OF MONTGOMERY TO PAY FOR THE COST OF VARIOUS WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Moved by Trustee Andolsek, seconded by Deputy Mayor Scheels, the Board adopted a resolution authorizing the issuance of \$308,000 bond of the Village of Montgomery, Orange County, NY, to pay the cost of various water system improvements, in and for the said Village. Motion carried, 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$367,000 BOND OF THE VILLAGE OF MONTGOMERY TO PAY FOR THE COST OF VARIOUS SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

Moved by Deputy Mayor Scheels, seconded by Trustee Andolsek, the Board adopted a resolution authorizing the issuance of \$367,00 bond of the Village of Montgomery, Orange County, NY, to pay the cost of various sewer improvements, in and for said Village. Motion carried, 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

Atty. Will Frank has stated for the record, per bond counsel no public hearing are required based on the amount of the bonds, but are subject to a permissive referendum and the period of time has elapsed for the submission and filing of a petition for a permissive referendum and a valid petition has not been submitted and filed, which is twenty days after the date of publication of the Notice of Estoppel.

ADOPT A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE COMPLETION OF THE ANNUAL AUDIT CHECKLIST FOR THE VILLAGE OF MONTGOMERY JUSTICE COURT RECORDS

Moved by Trustee Andolsek, seconded by Trustee Lindner, the Board adopt a resolution acknowledging the completion of the annual audit checklist for the Village of Montgomery Justice Court records on August 17, 2022, conducted by Deputy Mayor Scheels. Motion carried, 4-Ayes, 0-Nays, 1-Abstain (Deputy Mayor Scheels).

APPROVE THE IRS INCREASED MILEAGE RATE EFFECTIVE JULY 1st THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022

Moved by Trustee Hembury, seconded by Trustee Andolsek, the Board approved the IRS increased mileage rate effective July 1st through December 31, 2022, from 58.5 cents to 62.5. Motion carried, 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

APPROVE THE NEW DAISY TROOP #403 REQUEST TO USE THE RECREATION CENTER THE SECOND AND FOURTH WEDNESDAY FROM SEPTEMBER THROUGH JUNE 2023 TO HOST THEIR MEETINGS

Moved by Trustee Andolsek, seconded by Deputy Mayor Scheels, the Board approved the New Daisy Troop #403 request to use the Recreation Center on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from September through June, 2023, to host their meetings, with the proper certificate of insurance provided, listing the Village of Montgomery as the additional insured. Motion carried, 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

EVENTS:

- The Wall That Heals, September 13th Escort through the Village of Montgomery ETA 1:00 pm.
- Clinton Street Car, September 17th, 10 am to 3 pm – Registration upon arrival.
- Fall Concert - Jimmy Sturr, September 24th, 4 pm to 6 pm at Clinton Street Bandstand.
- Friends of the Library Indian Summer Picnic and Raffle Fund Raiser, October 1st, 1 pm to 3 pm, at the Montgomery Museum Gardens, \$30.00 pp.
- Village Wide Yard Sale – October 8, 2022, 10 am to 5 pm.

Trustee Lindner mentioned the CDBG has been approved for the Senior Center expansion after a site visit was conducted by Nicole Anderson.

PUBLIC PORTION

Mr. Berger expressed his concerns of a proposed warehouse to be built in the Town of Montgomery, off Route 211 on East Kaisertown Road and how it will affect the flow and the type of traffic traveling through the Village of Montgomery. He is also concerned about the continued increase of the school taxes; what incentives are being offered to the property owners building all of these warehouses. Finally, what happened to the kiddie rides on General Montgomery Day.

Mayor Brescia mentioned a land trust was recently proposed as farmland in perpetuity. The Town IDA will seek local input, but should not be crippled from doing their job. He will call Fred Reichle to inquire. The carnies canceled on Friday, the day before General Montgomery Day, not leaving enough time to get anyone else to come in.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Trustee Andolsek, seconded by Deputy Mayor Scheels, the Board entered into Executive Session at 9:09 pm, under the open meetings law §7 (f) for matters leading to the possible appointment of a particular individual, with the Police Chief Herlihy and the Village Clerk Rivera-Fernandez in attendance. Motion carried, 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

EXITED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Deputy Mayor Scheels, seconded by Trustee Andolsek, the Board Exited Executive Session at 9:22 pm. Motion carried, 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

HIRE THREE PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS

Moved by Trustee Hembury, seconded by Trustee Lindner, the Board hired Frank Pettine, Andrew Bellotto, and Michael Sink, as Part Time Police Officers, pursuant to the CBA between the Village of Montgomery and the Village of Montgomery Police Department, effective immediately. Motion carried, 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Trustee Lindner, seconded by Trustee Andolsek, the Board adjourned the meeting of September 13, 2022 at 9:23 pm. Motion carried, 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

Monserate Rivera-Fernandez, Village Clerk