

**MONTROSE BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**Reorganizational Meeting followed by Regular Meeting**  
**7:00 PM**  
**January 2, 2024**

**Mayor Tom LaMont called the meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m.**

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

Mayor Tom LaMont read a prayer for guidance.

Mayor LaMont swore in newly elected officials: Ed Lucas, Tanya Bevilacqua, Ed Herd

Mayor LaMont stated he would take nominations for Council President at this time. Councilman Sean Granahan motioned Councilman Randall Schuster as President; Councilman Craig Reimel 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Council President Schuster stated he would take nominations for Council Vice-President. Councilman Granahan motioned for Councilman Todd Chamberlain as Vice President of Council; Councilman Reimel 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Council President Schuster stated he would take nominations for Council President Pro-Temp. Councilman Granahan motioned for Councilman Ed Herd as President Pro-Temp; Councilman Reimel 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Reimel motioned to appoint Michael Briechele as Solicitor for the Montrose Borough; Councilwoman Tanya Belivacqua 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Reimel motioned to appoint Erin Jenner and Heather Brewer as Treasurer's; Councilman Granahan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Granahan motioned to appoint Alyssa Sprout Brace as Secretary/Open Records Officer; Councilman Herd 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Reimel motioned to appoint Dorothy Thomas as Vacancy Board Chair; Councilman Lucas 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Granahan motioned to appoint Benjamin Curley to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term; Councilwoman Bevilacqua 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Granahan motioned to appoint Sharyn Powers to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term; Councilwoman Bevilacqua 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Council President presented Council committees with changes for 2024. No questions or comments.

**Adoption of Agenda:** President Schuster questioned if anyone would like to make any changes or additions to the agenda. Motion was made by Councilman Ed Herd to adopt agenda as presented; Councilman Granahan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** President Schuster inquired if there were any changes or corrections to the December meeting minutes. Motion was made by Councilman Granahan to accept the minutes; Councilman Reimel 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**Present for Roll Call:** Randy Schuster, Ed Herd, Craig Reimel, Ed Lucas, Sean Granahan, Tanya Bevilacqua

**Absent: Todd Chamberlain**

**Other Officials Present:** Mayor Thomas LaMont, Secretary Alyssa Sprout Brace

**Misc. Correspondence:**

PA American Water  
RE: Rate increase

Spectrum  
RE: Quote & charter information

Briechle  
RE: Legal Fees

Coterra  
RE: Notification of Interest

President Schuster inquired if there were any questions or comments, Schuster stated the Budget for gas royalties changed for 2024 and it will be utilized towards the new loan. No other questions or comments.

**Recognition of Attendees:** Mara Baldwin, Lizzie Farley, Michael Herd, Anthony Herd, Hunter Johnson, Macy Johnson, Deb Reimel

**Speakers:** None

**Approval of A/P:** President Schuster inquired if there were any questions or comments on submitted Accounts Payable. Councilman Sean Granahan, motioned to approve payment of outstanding bills; Councilman Reimel 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**Approval of Payroll:** President Schuster inquired if there were any questions or comments on submitted Payroll report. Councilman Reimel motioned to accept the Payroll Report; Councilman Granahan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**Accounts Receivable/Deposits:** President Schuster inquired if there were any questions or comments associated with the submitted Accounts Receivable/Deposit Report. No questions or comments.

**Treasurer's Report:** President Schuster asked if anyone had any questions or comments on the submitted Treasurer's Report. Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Councilman Granahan; Councilman Reimel 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**Budget Report:** President Schuster inquired if anyone had any questions or comments on the presented material. Councilwoman Bevilacqua stated she had questions regarding the budget. President Schuster stated a meeting will be set up with the Treasurer to go over any questions anyone may have. No other questions or comments.

**Street Department:** President Schuster inquired if anyone had any questions on the Street Department Report. No questions or comments at this time.

**Zoning Report:** President Schuster inquired if anyone had any questions on the Zoning Report. No questions or comments.

**Code Enforcement Report:** President Schuster inquired if anyone had any questions or comments on the submitted Code Enforcement. No questions or comments.

**Police Department:** President Schuster asked if there were any questions or comments on the Police Report. Councilman Herd stated police cruisers are in need of replacement and he has been in contact with sources that could potentially help get cheaper rates and assist with the grant and loan process. No other comments at this time.

**Municipal Authority:** President Schuster asked if there were any questions or comments on the Municipal Authority Report. No questions or comments.

**Mayor's Report:** Mayor LaMont stated there was nothing major to report other than the United Fire Company Officers would be sworn in on January 13, 2024.

**Action Items:**

1. **Approve Newspaper of Choice as well as back up newspaper:** Council Herd made the motion to approve The Independent as Councils newspaper of choice and Times Tribune as the backup newspaper. Councilman Granahan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
2. **Approve Advertisement of Meeting Dates:** Councilman Ed Herd made the motion to allow Secretary Alyssa Sprout Brace to advertise meeting dates for 2024. Councilman Ed Lucas 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Employee Pay Rates**

President Schuster called an Executive Session at 7:37PM

Meeting back to order 8:00PM

Councilman Schuster made the motion to give a one dollar pay raise to all Borough employees. Councilman Bevilacqua 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**Discussion Items:**

1. **Spectrum Phone/ Cell Services:** President Schuster stated the Borough Building has been having ongoing problems with the phone systems, Tech will be here Thursday to review issues, if issues continue we will look further into new phone systems.

Councilman Reimel made motion to adjourn meeting. Councilman Lucas 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 8:08PM

Respectfully Submitted,

*Alyssa Sprout Brace*

Alyssa Sprout Brace

Borough Secretary

