

MONTROSE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
7:00 PM
May 6, 2024

President Randall Schuster called the regular meeting to order at 7:00PM

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Mayor Thomas LaMont said a prayer for guidance.

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 Sean Granahan 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: President Schuster inquired if there were any changes or corrections to the tabled March meeting minutes or the April meeting minutes. No questions or comments. Councilman Todd Chamberlain made the motion to accept both March and April's submitted meeting minutes. Councilwoman Tanya Bevilacqua 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Present for Roll Call: Randall Schuster, Ed Herd, Todd Chamberlain, Tanya Bevilacqua, Sean Granahan, Judi McHale

Absent: Ed Lucas

Other Officials Present: Secretary Alyssa Sprout, Mayor Thomas LaMont

Misc. Correspondence: President Schuster asked if there were any questions or comments regarding correspondence. President Schuster asked Mayor LaMont if he would like to continue his subscription to Association of Boroughs. Mayor LaMont stated yes. Motion was made by Councilman Todd Chamberlain to purchase one-hundred-dollar subscription to Association of Boroughs. Councilwoman Tanya Bevilacqua 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried. No other questions or comments at this time.

Fidelity
RE: Monthly report

Montrose EMC
RE: monthly report

Association of Boroughs

RE: Subscription

Briechle Law
RE: Cable Service Agreement

Montrose Zoning Hearing Board
RE: Minutes

Judy Kelly
RE: 100 Years Ago Article

Coterra
RE: Notification of Wells

FEMA
RE: Letter of approval Haz Mat Plan

Atlas
RE: Sewage Treatment Plant Addition

Recognition of Attendees: Sergeant Jim Smith, Carrie Scheer, Ella Scheer, Abigail Alexander, Robin Alexander, Frank Alexander, Gwen Smith, Aurora Branning, Alice Boot, Amy Boot, Tom Follert, Carol Canfield, Lynne Leininger, Cherly Alexander, Bernard Kinney

Speakers: Girls Scout Abigail Alexander came to present the Borough with sports equipment that she purchased for the Memorial Park, she received her Silver Award by raising money for the park to supply the park with more equipment for community use, Council congratulated Abigail and thanked her for her time.

United Way of Susquehanna County Representative Tom Follert came to speak on behalf of The Wine Walk to be held on May 18. Follert wanted to assure the council all pedestrian and safety concerns were being taken seriously and there would be measures put in place to make sure the event is safe for everyone.

Borough Resident Lynne Leininger came to voice her concerns with the speed of traffic on Chenango and Prospect Street, as well as the lack of cars stopping at the 4-way intersection. Sergeant Smith stated lines could be painted out there and he would work with the Street Department to get this started.

Approval of A/P: President Schuster inquired if there were any questions or comments on submitted Accounts Payable. Councilman Sean Granahan made the motion to accept accounts payable report. Councilwoman Judi McHale 2nd 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 Granahan motioned to accept the Payroll Report; Councilman Ed Herd 2nd 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. Councilman Chamberlain on page #62 he wanted to know what the unclear transactions were. President Schuster stated he would discuss them with Erin and get back to him. Councilwoman Bevilacqua stated on page #77 we were over budget with Office Supplies. President Schuster stated multiple necessities were purchased this year including the boroughs QuickBooks, a large shredder, as well as normal cost increase for all products. Motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report by Councilman Granahan. Councilwoman Bevilacqua 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Budget Report: President Schuster inquired if anyone had any questions or comments on the presented material. Motion was made by Councilman Granahan to accept the Budget Report; Councilman Herd 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Street Department: President Schuster inquired if anyone had any questions on the Street Department Report. President Schuster stated the Street Department needed to order playground mulch for the park. Councilwoman Bevilacqua stated she thought it was expensive and we should get mulch elsewhere. Street Department employee Bernard Kinney stated it is a special mulch specifically for playgrounds and we cannot just get it from anywhere. Motion was made by Ed Herd to purchase playground mulch at the cost of eight-hundred dollars and zero cents. Councilman Granahan 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Councilman Granahan stated the Borough's yearly flower delivery would be here this week and the driver would need a place to deliver. Bernard Kinner stated the old garage bays would be the best place for delivery. Mayor LaMont stated that curbing or rocks need to be put in place at the corner of Union Street and Cherry Street. He stated tractor trailers continue to make wrong turns and continue to do damage to the resident's yard. President Schuster stated the Street Department would work on this and get something in place before this continues to occur. Councilman Herd stated there seems to be young children playing in flood waters at the park after rainstorms. He stated this could be a health or safety risk and maybe the borough should consider putting signs in place for residents to stay out of floor waters. No other questions or comments at this time.

Zoning Report: None

Code Enforcement Report: None

Police Department: President Schuster asked if there were any questions or comments on the Police Report. Sergeant Jim Smith asked if there were any questions on the police report. No questions at this time. Sergeant Smith presented the Council with the quote options for a new borough police cruiser. Councilman Herd made the motion to purchase a 2023 Ram 1500 SSV at the cost of forty-three thousand eighty dollars, with the upfit of seventeen thousand seven hundred seventy-eight dollars and thirty-seven cents totaling sixty thousand seven hundred eighty-eight dollars and thirty seven cents. Councilwoman Bevilacqua second the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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 he had a few weddings coming up. He also met with Vince Birchard of the Montrose Minute Men to discuss workmen's comp insurance. With the rates as they are their insurance should be kept in case of any volunteers they may have. Nothing else to report.

Action Items:

1. **Parking Meter Updates:** President Schuster stated he would like a motion on the floor for one of the presented proposals for new parking meter rates. Councilwoman McHale made a motion to accept proposal 2. Twenty -five cents will receive 45 minutes time; ten cents will receive 20 minutes time and five cents will receive 10 minutes time. Parking ticket rates will go from five dollars to 10 dollars and the late fee will go from 10 dollars to twenty dollars. Councilman Todd Chamberlain 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
2. **Paving Project Bid Opening:** Councilman Granahan made the motion to accept Vestal Asphalts bid of one hundred fifty-two thousand nine hundred twenty-two dollars and seventy-five cents for the 2024 Paving Project. Councilman Chamberlain 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Review & Approve Engagement of Cohen Law Group:** Discussion was held this action item will be tabled until the next council meeting.
4. **Police Hire:** Councilman Herd made the motion to hire Jim Gulbin at the rate of twenty-dollars an hour until the completion of his 90-day probationary period. Councilman Chamberlain 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

5. **Police Cruiser:** Motion was made under Police Report discussion.

Discussion Items:

1. **Montrose 200 Year Anniversary:** Councilwoman Bevilacqua and Councilwoman McHale met and discussed ideas for the 200 year celebration. They would like to hold this event on September 20 & 21, 2024. Multiple ideas were brought to the floor. They will continue to work on this.
2. **Blueberry Festival 5K Race:** Councilman Granahan made the motion to approve the Blueberry Festival 5K Race. Councilman Herd 2nd the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Police Retirement Plan:** Councilman Herd stated he would like the opportunity to have Borough Bookkeeper Erin Jenner put together helpful information she had previously discussed with Councilman Herd. He would like to see better benefits for the borough police. He will work on this with Erin and ask Erin to possibly attend a meeting.
4. **Squatters Ordinance:** Councilman Granahan discussed concerns with squatters in different areas and we are starting to see this pattern begin here in the borough. Sergeant Smith stated borough police had a situation recently that involved a squatter's issue. Councilman Granahan stated the borough needs to begin a renters registration list and as well as create a squatter's ordinance that will allow police to have the authority to handle such issues. This will be tables until the next council meeting.

Executive Session:

President Schuster called an executive session at 8:48PM

President Schuster called the meeting back to order at 9:15PM

Councilman Chamberlain made the motion to adjourn meeting at 9:16PM. Councilman Herb 2nd the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alyssa Sprout

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Borough Secretary

