

MEETING MINUTES
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MAY 11, 2021

The May 11, 2021 Montgomery County Council Meeting was held at 9:00 am at the County Council Chambers. In attendance were Council President Tom Mellish and Councilmen David Hunt, Gary Booth, Don Mills, Mark Smith, Mark Davidson and Jake Bohlander. Auditor Jennifer Andel was present, along with County Commissioner John Frey and County Attorney Dan Taylor.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Council President Mellish called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer given by Mellish.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** April 13, 2021
 - a. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Davidson. Motion carried 7-0.
- III. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None.
- IV. **MONEY MATTERS:**
 - a. Councilman Booth made a motion to approve the Additional Appropriations, seconded by Councilman Hunt. Motion carried 7-0.
 - b. Councilman Booth made a motion to approve the Highway Transfer of Appropriations, seconded by Councilman Bohlander. Motion carried 7-0.
 - c. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the CCC Transfer of Appropriations, seconded by Councilman Mills. Motion carried 7-0.
 - d. Councilman Hunt made a motion to approve the EMA Transfer of Appropriations, seconded by Councilman Bohlander. Motion carried 7-0.
 - e. Councilman Booth made a motion to approve the Probation Transfer of Appropriations, seconded by Councilman Mills. Motion carried 7-0.

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS:								
Fund	Fund Description	Dept #	Department Description	Account	Account Description		Additional Amount Requested	
1000	County General	0380	Jail	20004	Meals	REIMBURSEMENT	\$750.92	
1000	County General	0380	Jail	24201	Office Supplies	REIMBURSEMENT	\$229.12	
8130	Bulletproof Vest Grant	0005	Sheriff	44500	Equipment	REIMBURSEMENT	\$563.30	
TOTAL:							\$792.42	
TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS:								
Fund	Fund Description	Dept #	Department	From Account	Account Description	To Account	Account Description	Transfer Amount Requested
1176	MVH	0529	Highway	11020	Truck Driver	11021	OT	\$33,293.00
1176	MVH	0529	Highway	11652	Truck Driver	11021	OT	\$20,000.00
4900	MC CCC	0303	CCC	11513	Dispatcher	44500	Equipment	\$5,000.00
4900	MC CCC	0303	CCC	12050	Group Insurance	12095	Worker's Comp.	\$80.00
4900	MC CCC	0303	CCC	20009	Clothing Allowance	44500	Equipment	\$1,738.94
4900	MC CCC	0303	CCC	30098	Recording System	44500	Equipment	\$2,346.00
8425	LEPC Grant	9655	EMA	30168	Data Management	21500	Training Supplies	\$7,000.00
9133	PSC Vet Court Grant	0235	Probation	30156	Treatment	30152	Chemical Testing	\$300.00
9133	PSC Vet Court Grant	0235	Probation	30156	Treatment	30184	Emergency Housing	\$272.35
9168	DOC Grant	0235	Probation	21000	Fuel Oil	21909	Staff Incentives	\$775.00
TOTAL:							\$70,805.29	

- V. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. JRAC Appointment: Council President Mellish volunteered for the JRAC appointment.
 - B. EMA Advisory Council: Council President Mellish clarified that Councilman Hunt is his designee for the EMA Advisory Council.
 - C. Van Purchase: Sheriff Needham requested permission to use Commissary funds towards the purchase of a new prisoner transport van and partition.
 - a. Councilman Mills made a motion to approve the Sheriff's request, seconded by Councilman

Hunt. Motion carried 7-0.

- D. ERPS Committee Report, Paralegal Licensing/Certification: Councilman Hunt reported on behalf of the ERPS Committee. The committee gave a favorable recommendation to the Prosecutor's request to change the Series/Grade for certified Paralegals from 3/2.45 to 3/2.7, resulting in a \$500/year increase. The Clerk's request was tabled by the committee and the EMA request denied.
 - a. County Attorney Taylor advised Prosecutor Buser to create a job description to go with the new Series/Grade.
 - b. Councilman Hunt made a motion to table the Prosecutor's request until a job description is provided, seconded by Councilman Booth. Motion carried 7-0.
- E. Wayfinding Presentation: Susan Lucas, Program Manager with Crawfordsville Main Street presented the Council with an opportunity to support Wayfinding signage in the City and throughout the County. Along with Heather Shirk, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Visitors & Convention Bureau, they laid out the multi-phase plan and requested \$41,500 to get the project started.
 - a. After much discussion, Councilman Booth made a motion to commit to \$41,500 for Wayfinding signage. Councilman Davidson seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.
- F. Finance/Tax Collection Update: Treasurer Laffoon provided a financial update to the Council.
 - a. She explained there is a significant decrease in interest earned due to decreased rates.
 - b. The new collection agency has been very successful in capturing delinquent taxes.
 - c. Property Tax collections are up \$1.35 MM from last year, as of May 10, 2021.

VI. OLD BUSINESS: None.

VII. STAFF & ELECTED OFFICIALS' REPORTS:

- a. Auditor Jennifer Andel had several updates to share.
 - i. County Administrator Tom Klein and County Attorney Taylor are working on a 2022 Budget Timeline handout.
 - ii. Andel needs compensation requests from department heads by July 1, 2021.
 - iii. She turned on the budgeting module in LOW about six weeks ago.
 - iv. Her office has started receiving CF1's from companies with abatements. These are due by May 17th. The Council will need to pass a resolution at the June meeting.

VIII. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

- a. Jake Lough, Highway Director, shared that work continues at CR 400 West and Camp Rotary Rd.
- b. Jim Peck, County Engineer, had several updates:
 - i. He stated Bridge 79 is currently under construction.
 - ii. He shared that the Commissioners approved projects for Bridge 47 and Jim Davis Bridge.
 - iii. In July, the Highway Department will begin paving 7 miles of road.
- c. Marc Bonwell, Building Administrator, provided an update on the county annex, stating we are currently under budget and might be able to add exterior lighting and landscaping to the project.
- d. Mike Davis, Mapping Director, announced he has hired a GIS Technician and is working with the Auditor on revised operating procedures. He is still looking for ideas and photos for the new plat books.
- e. Shari Harrington, EMA Director, stated two tornado sirens are not working in the county. Maintenance on the sirens will take a few months. She also shared that Lake Holiday is currently only covered by one siren and she is looking to add a second. She reminded everyone to use the Mass Notification System, but acknowledged sirens are the best defense, especially in areas with poor cell signals.
- f. Amber Reed, Health Department, announced the Pfizer vaccination for COVID-19 is now approved for the 12-15 age group. The county is struggling with vaccine hesitancy, so her office is working on a campaign to address that.

IX. FUNDED ORGANIZATIONS' REPORTS: None.

X. COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORTS:

- a. Mark Smith thanked the Highway Department, specifically driver Chris Meritt. He commented he felt the gravel roads looked better than they had in a long time.

XI. CLAIMS:

- A. \$1,060.00 to Taylor, Chadd, Minnette, Schneider & Clutter for services through 4/29/2021.
 - a. Councilman Bohlander made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Hunt. Motion carried 7-0.
- B. \$3,983.26 to Peters Municipal Consultants, LTD for services through 4/26/2021.
 - a. Councilman Mills made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Smith. Motion carried 7-0.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

- XIII. COUNCIL CALENDAR:
- A. Next regular meeting – June 8, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at County Council/Commissioners Chambers, Courthouse.
 - B. Council/Commissioner Joint meeting with Jeff Peters regarding Financial Plan – TBD
 - a. Council President Mellish to coordinate with County Administrator Klein to arrange this meeting.
- XIV. ADJOURN: Councilman Bohlander made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Hunt. Motion carried 7-0.

Tom Mellish, President

David Hunt, Vice President

Jake Bohlander, Councilman

Don Mills, Councilman

Gary Booth, Councilman

Mark Davidson, Councilman

Mark Smith, Councilman

Attest:

Jennifer Andel, Auditor