

MEETING MINUTES
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
August 8, 2023

The August 8, 2023, Montgomery County Council Meeting was held at 9:00 am at the Community Meeting Room of the Montgomery County Government Center. In attendance were Council Members Jake Bohlander, Gary Booth, Brett Cating, Joyce Grimbale, Steve Loy and Matt Nelson. Auditor Mindy Byers was present, along with Attorney Dan Taylor, Commissioner John Frey, and County Administrator Tom Klein.

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Council Vice President Bohlander called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a prayer by Council Member Nelson. This was followed by a moment of silence in memory of former Council Member Richard Chastain, who had recently passed away.
- II. CONSENT AGENDA: Council Member Grimbale moved to approve the June and July meeting minutes; seconded by Council Member Loy. The motion passed 6-0. Council Member Nelson moved to approve the attorney and financial advisor claims. This was seconded by Council Member Booth, and passed 6-0. Council Member Loy moved to accept receipt of the same-series transfers and Q2 fiscal report from Auditor Byers. This was seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion carried 6-0.
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.
- IV. MONEY MATTERS:

| ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS: | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|----------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <u>Fund</u> | <u>Fund Description</u> | <u>Dept #</u> | <u>Department Description</u> | <u>Account</u> | <u>Account Description</u> | <u>Additional Amount Requested</u> |
| 1000 | County General | 0068 | Commissioners | 30123 | Rent | \$12,000.00 |
| 1148 | Drug Free Montgomery County | 0610 | Health Department | 30042 | Meals | \$1,000.00 |
| 1168 | Local Health Maintenance | 0610 | Health Department | 21925 | Water Lab Supplies | \$10,000.00 |
| 4905 | Court Referral | 0235 | Probation | 11525 | Salary | \$10,754.34 |
| 4930 | Treasurer's Dog Tax | 0003 | Treasurer | 24201 | Office Supplies | \$790.41 |
| 8130 | Bulletproof Vest (REIMBURSEMENT) | 0005 | Sheriff | 44500 | Bulletproof Vests | \$618.00 |
| 8130 | Bulletproof Vest (REIMBURSEMENT) | 0005 | Sheriff | 44500 | Bulletproof Vests | \$1,032.00 |
| 9119 | 23-24 LCC Mini Grant DrugFree | 0235 | Probation | 30902 | MRT/Juvenile Cognitive Behavioral Programs | \$3,000.00 |
| 9119 | 23-24 LCC Mini Grant DrugFree | 0235 | Probation | 30179 | Juvenile (& Young Adult) Drug Screens | \$2,240.00 |
| 9119 | 23-24 LCC Mini Grant DrugFree | 0235 | Probation | 30181 | Drug Court Participant Incentives | \$3,500.00 |
| 9119 | 23-24 LCC Mini Grant DrugFree | 0235 | Probation | 30184 | Emergency (& Transitional) Housing | \$3,000.00 |
| 9119 | 23-24 LCC Mini Grant DrugFree | 0235 | Probation | 31221 | Veteran Treatment Court Participant Incentives | \$1,500.00 |
| 9119 | 23-24 LCC Mini Grant DrugFree | 0235 | Probation | TBD | A&D Education & Intervention Program | \$2,500.00 |
| 9109 | Community Crossing Matching Grant | 0529 | Highway | 41551 | Community Crossing Project | \$910,618.53 |
| 9188 | DOC Grant | 0235 | Probation | 33500 | Seminars & Training | \$40.00 |
| TOTAL: | | | | | | \$962,593.28 |

- A. Council Member Grimbale moved to approve the Commissioner's additional appropriation request; seconded by Council Member Cating. Motion carried 6-0.
- B. Council Member Cating moved to approve the Health Department's additional appropriation requests; seconded by Council Member Loy. Motion carried 6-0.
- C. Council Member Grimbale moved to approve the Probation Department's user fee fund additional appropriation request; seconded by Council Member Nelston. Motion carried 6-0.
- D. Council Member Nelson moved to approve the Treasurer's additional appropriation request; seconded by Council Member Grimbale. Motion carried 6-0.
- E. Council Member Loy moved to approve the Sheriff's additional appropriation requests; seconded by Council Member Grimbale. Motion carried 6-0.
- F. Council Member Nelson moved to approve the Probation Department's LCC grant fund additional appropriation requests; seconded by Council Member Cating. Motion carried 6-0.
- G. Council Member Cating moved to approve the Highway Department's additional appropriation request; seconded by Council Member Grimbale. Motion carried 6-0.
- H. Council Member Booth moved to approve the Probation Department's DOC grant fund additional appropriation request; seconded by Council Member Loy. Motion carried 6-0.

[illegible]

- A. Council Member Nelson moved to approve the Central Communication Center's transfer requests; seconded by Council Member Cating. Motion carried 6-0.
- B. Council Member Grimble moved to approve the Probation Department's transfer requests; seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion carried 6-0.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Auditor Byers presented the 2023 second quarter financial report. This covered Spring Settlement receipts as well as miscellaneous receipts for several County funds. The presentation also covered expenditures from the same funds, and where those were at the halfway point of the year. Most were within expected or better ranges, and the report showed continued fiscal stability for the major County funds.
- B. County Administrator Klein opened the discussion regarding the Courthouse renovation project. There are several repair needs, as well as a desire to update the interior layout of the facility. The latest estimate, received in March of 2022 was \$2.8 million and that included work done internally and externally. The fiscal plan to pay for these costs involves a Lease/Rental Bond. Council Member Booth suggested that the County obtain an updated and detailed list of and costs of the urgent repair needs as well as a breakdown of the requested interior design changes so the Council could make a more informed decision on the funding of the project. This was agreed upon by all Council Members, so Administrator Klein agreed to reach out to DLZ for an updated estimate to be provided at the next regular Council meeting, if possible.
- C. Attorney Taylor initiated the first reading of Ordinance 2023-1 – Wheel & Surtax Rate. The initial draft of the ordinance increases both taxes to 75% of the maximum rate. Financial Advisor Jeff Peters, had stated that 75% of max would net the County an additional \$440,074. After some discussion, the Council Members asked Attorney Taylor to amend the Surtax to \$40 per applicable vehicle and the Wheel tax to \$60 per applicable vehicle. Attorney Taylor will present the updated ordinance with corrections at the second reading of it at the special Council meeting on August 29th.
- D. Council Vice President Bohlander touched upon the levy recommendation and tax cap warnings for all Montgomery County local taxing units. The advice was to budget accounting for loss of revenue from the tax caps and to stay within the 4% growth quotient limitations.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. The Animal Welfare League's request for an additional \$4,000 funding had been tabled at the last meeting due to the possibility of another claim for Dog Tax funds. Seeing that the current fund balance was \$5,368.90, Council Member Booth moved to approve a payment for \$2,000 to the Animal Welfare League; seconded by Council Member Cating. Motion carried 6-0.

VII. REPORTS:

- A. Commissioner Frey announced that he had been asked to serve on the State Road Funding Task Force, and was enjoying the opportunity.
- B. Council Member Cating remembered Richard Chastain, noting fiscal responsibility lessons he had learned from him earlier in his career.
- C. Council Member Loy reported that he and Council Member Grimble had attended Veteran's Treatment Court and had really had a great learning experience from it. He also suggested that the Council closely monitor cash balances as well as budgets, and will be looking into efficient ways of doing so.
- D. Attorney Taylor also took a moment to memorialize Richard Chastain, and praise his expert leadership.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- A. Deantha Wright-Thornburg read a memorial piece for Richard Chastain, detailing his military, civic and familial contributions to our country and county.

IX. NEXT MEETING: 2024 Budget Hearings for Montgomery County and Montgomery County Solid Waste Management District as well as Regular Council Meeting, September 12 at 9:00 a.m. at the Montgomery County Government Center, 1580 Constitution Row – Room E109.

- X. ADJOURN: Council Member Nelson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Grimble. Motion carried 6-0.

David Hunt, Council President

Jake Bohlander, Council Vice President

Gary Booth, Council Member

Brett Cating, Council Member

Joyce Grimble, Council Member

Steve Loy, Council Member

Matt Nelson, Council Member

Attest:

Mindy Byers, Auditor

