

MINUTES FOR
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
August 2, 2018

1. Montgomery Township Committee met at the Municipal Building, 2261 Van Horne Road, Belle Mead, NJ at 7:00 p.m. on the above date. Those present were:

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE: Mayor Conforti, Deputy Mayor Madrid, Committeemembers Trzaska, Graham and Jaffer

Also present were:

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY - Kevin Van Hise, Esq.

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR - Donato Nieman

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER - Michael Pitts

TOWNSHIP CLERK - Donna Kukla

2. Mayor Conforti stated the following: "Under the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of the time and place of this meeting has been posted and sent to the officially designated newspapers."

3. Mayor Conforti led the Salute to the Flag.

4. **RESOLUTION HONORING FORMER MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP COMMITTEEMAN ROBERT KRESS**

WHEREAS, A community possesses no greater treasure than the dedicated service of its citizens and volunteers; and

WHEREAS, Robert Kress, passed away on April 17, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Bob was Mayor of Montgomery in 1989 and 1990; and served three terms on the Township Committee from 1984 to 1992; and

WHEREAS, Bob possessed a wealth of knowledge about Montgomery Township's past and present and a determination to make Montgomery a better place for all its residents; and

WHEREAS, Bob will be missed by all who knew him and served with him on the following committees in the Township:

Township Committee - 1984-1992	Mayor - 1989-1990; Deputy Mayor - 1988
Recreation Committee - 1984	Sewer Committee - 1984
Board of Health - 1985	Cross Acceptance Ad Hoc Committee - 1989
Planning Board, Class I - 1990	Emergency Services Committee - 1992
Planning Board, Class III - 1991	Environmental Commission - 1985-1990
	Transportation Advisory Committee - 2001-2006, 2010-2016
	Veterans Memorial Ad Hoc Committee - 1991-2003, 2014-2016

WHEREAS, Each appointment was served in a distinguished and professional manner, which affirmed his deep dedication to public service; and

WHEREAS, During his many years of service Robert Kress gave his utmost to the citizens of Montgomery who benefited from his experience, knowledge and love of this community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Montgomery Township Committee recognizes the dedicated, selfless contribution of time and talent made by Robert Kress and extends its sincere condolences to his family and friends on this 2nd day of August, 2018.

- 4-1. Committeeman Trzaska moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Graham and carried unanimously.
- 4-2. Mayor Conforti stated that Bob would find him in the parking lot of Shop Rite and they would spend an hour talking about the roads, bridges and budget issues. They always walked away from each other with smiles on their faces. He stated that Bob was missed in the Township.
- 4-3. Don Matthews, former Mayor, remembered Bob arguing with him to the point where he would then say "Bob, I'm not smart enough, I'm just a farmer". He stated that Bob was a great guy who worked hard to complete the Veterans Memorial and fought the widening of Route 206.
- 4-4. Administrator Nieman read the following letter from former Mayor Louise Wilson:

"I'm so sorry not to be there in person as Bob Kress is remembered. He loved Montgomery and was as passionate a defender as the Township has ever seen. Whether focused on a specific project like the Montgomery Veterans Memorial or a cause like traffic safety and traffic relief, he was determined, tireless and incredibly generous with his time. He brought a keen intelligence to his public service. He relished a good fight and despised NJDOT. He had a soft spot for kids. Bob had an abiding respect for those he considered the town fathers, no matter their political party. It was Bob, a proud Democrat, who suggested that the community center be named for Otto Kaufman, a rock rib Republican and also an immigrant who came to America with nothing for the record. It was Bob who created Montgomery's Open Space Committee in 1989 and recruited its Chairman Clem Fiori, establishing the foundation on which Montgomery's outstanding and enduring land preservation effort was built.

Bob was not perfect sadly. He was a Red Sox fan, but Montgomery is truly better for his term on the Township Committee and as Mayor and for his contributions throughout the many years that he and his beloved family lived at the corner of Opossum Road and Meadow Run Drive. He is missed.

Louise"

(Item #4 Cont.)

4-5. Committeeman Trzaska stated that he had the pleasure of serving with Bob on the Transportation Advisory Committee for six or seven years and he is certainly missed. Traffic issues, traffic safety and the infrastructure of the town were his true passions. He was always good natured and his conversations were always productive.

5. **PRESENTATION BY RARITAN VALLEY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

5-1. Meg Holmes, resident of Montgomery and President of Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity, stated that she would be delighted if Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity could start a relationship with Montgomery Township. The business model for Raritan Valley Habitat is that they make affordable housing for people who are working but cannot afford to live in Somerset and Hunterdon County. This is done in a very responsible way. She is hoping they can do the first of hopefully many homes in Montgomery because there is a real need and it would be a wonderful place for these families to live.

5-2. Jan Holmstrup, Executive Director of Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity, gave a brief background of the organization. She explained the many benefits of partnering with Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity.

5-3. David Dunham, Site Supervisor for Raritan Valley Habitat and Montgomery resident, explained the process of the home building and stated that there are volunteers from all walks of life who help in the construction.

5-4. Committeewoman Graham stepped away from the dais.

5-5. Mayor Conforti asked how Habitat for Humanity interjects itself in the whole affordable housing process. Jan Holmstrup stated that they would be willing to work with the Township in that regard within their business model. They have worked with municipalities who have donated or sold municipal land to Habitat for a nominal fee. Habitat is also interested in learning how they might get involved in discussions with developers who are building some affordable units that they might look to develop for them. They also restore and revitalize foreclosed or abandoned houses. Administrator Nieman stated that staff has been consulted and have identified some pieces of property that may be appropriate.

Deputy Mayor Madrid inquired if there was an opportunity for members of the community to take part in this. Ms. Holmstrup explained that there was absolutely that opportunity. There is already a "Habitat Youth" group at Montgomery High School.

Committeewoman Jaffer asked how many units the organization worked on at any given time. Ms. Holmstrup stated that they build two units a year on average. There are other affiliates across the state who would be able to help build more units if need be. She stated that they also have stores that sell donated items at affordable prices to the community which helps with funding of projects.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

6-1. Brett Borowski, York Drive, he appreciated the Habitat for Humanity presentation. He felt this was a great idea and would benefit not only families who needed affordable housing but also the Township.

6-2. Committeewoman Graham returned to the dais.

6-3. Brett Borowski, York Drive, inquired as to the status of Cherry Valley Road. Administrator Nieman explained that Princeton and Montgomery will be responding to comments from New Jersey Department of Transportation and once DOT is satisfied the project will move forward.

7. **RESOLUTION #18-8-176 - RESOLUTION REJECTING REFRESHED PRICE PROPOSALS RECEIVED AUGUST 2, 2018 FROM THIRD PARTY POWER SUPPLIERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE MCEA**

WHEREAS, The Government Energy Aggregation Act of 2003 (P.L. 2003, c.24; N.J.S.A. 48:3-93.1 et seq.) ("Act") and rules promulgated by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (N.J.A.C. 14:4-6.1 et seq.) ("Rules") govern the establishment and implementation of a government energy aggregation program, which is a government-operated purchasing cooperative through which multiple energy consumers join together for the purchase of electric utility services by a government aggregator; and

WHEREAS, By Ordinance No. 13-1434 adopted on April 4, 2013, the Township of Montgomery ("Township") created a Government Energy Aggregation Program in the Township of Montgomery, New Jersey, known as the Montgomery Community Energy Aggregation ("MCEA"); and

WHEREAS, the Township is the Lead Agency of the MCEA; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Montgomery Township are included in the MCEA on an "opt-out" basis, as set forth in the Rules; and

WHEREAS, on August 9, 2013 the Township publicly noticed and issued a Request for Proposals for electric generation service and government energy aggregation services under the MCEA, and on September 5, 2013 awarded a contract to a third-party supplier for a 24-month contract running from December 2013 to December 2015 which resulted in significant energy cost savings for Township residents participating in the MCEA; and

(Item #7 Cont.)

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 15-1500 adopted on December 3, 2015, the Township of Montgomery authorized the continuation of the MCEA; and

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2016 the Township publicly noticed and issued a Request for Proposals for electric generation service and government energy aggregation services under the MCEA, and on March 3, 2016 awarded a contract to a third-party supplier for a 18-month contract running from June 2016 to December 2017 which resulted in significant energy cost savings for Township residents participating in Round 2 of the MCEA; and

WHEREAS, by Ordinance No. 17-1547 adopted on June 1, 2017, the Township of Montgomery authorized the further renewal and continuation of the MCEA; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of Ordinance Nos. 13-1434, 15-1500 and 17-1547 and in accordance with the Act and Rules, the Township is authorized to award a contract or contracts for the Provision of Electric Generation Service and Government Energy Aggregation Services on behalf of participating residential customers; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2018, the Township, in its capacity as Lead Agency of the MCEA, publicly noticed and issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Provision of Electric Generation Service and Government Energy Aggregation Services for Round 3 of the MCEA ("MCEA-Round 3") by New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU)-licensed and qualified electric power suppliers in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the RFP provided for a two-stage process that included: Stage 1 for the submission of supplier questions and comments and the submission of qualification documents by interested, NJBPU-licensed electric power suppliers; and Stage 2 for the submission of price proposals; and

WHEREAS, the RFP provides for the submission of separate pricing for electric generation service for one pricing group, Participating Residential Accounts, for several potential contract durations (terms), and for two different contract language options: Option A) using the form of Master Performance Agreement attached to the RFP; and Option B) using the form of MPA attached to the RFP except that subsection 3.2 (a) (iii) (C) is removed, and a new subsection 2.1.5 as set forth in the RFP is added to the MPA; and the RFP provides for the award of a contract, including contract term and contract language option, at the discretion of the Township of Montgomery and in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP; and

WHEREAS, during Stage 1 non-binding Notices of Intent and other qualification documents were received from four (4) NJBPU-licensed electric power suppliers whose qualifications were evaluated and who were determined to be qualified to submit Stage 2 price proposals; and

WHEREAS, a number of supplier questions and comments were received and, as a result, on March 26, 2018 a document entitled "Responses to Supplier Questions and Addendum No.1," which supplemented and amended the RFP, was issued and distributed to all suppliers that had submitted a Notice of Intent to Propose and/or requested a copy of the RFP; and

WHEREAS, an Addendum No. 2 to the RFP was issued and distributed to all suppliers that had submitted a Notice of Intent to Propose and/or requested a copy of the RFP on April 3, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Stage 2 price proposals and accompanying Transmittal Letters were submitted by two (2) NJBPU-licensed electric power suppliers by the 2:00 p.m. April 19, 2018 deadline set forth in the RFP; and

WHEREAS, On April 19, 2018 the Township Committee approved Resolution No. 18-4-96 rejecting price proposals received on that date and resolving that the RFP be held open for a period of up to 120 days during which the Township may accept refreshed price proposals; and

WHEREAS, an Addendum No. 3 to the RFP was issued and distributed to all suppliers that had submitted a Notice of Intent to Propose and/or requested a copy of the RFP on July 20, 2018 announcing that refreshed price proposals would be accepted on August 2, 2018 by no later than 2:00 p.m. prevailing time, for a contract starting December 2018 and running for a term of either 12, 18 or 24 months; and

WHEREAS, refreshed price proposals and accompanying Transmittal Letters were submitted by two (2) NJBPU-licensed electric power suppliers by the 2:00 p.m. August 2, 2018 deadline set forth in Addendum No. 3; and

WHEREAS, the Township, in consultation with its energy agent, has conducted an in-depth evaluation of qualifications and analysis of refreshed price proposals, in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP and Addendum Nos.1, 2 and 3; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the RFP, the Township reserved the right to make an award to a supplier, or to make no award at all; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Rules, the Township shall base its award of a contract to a NJBPU-licensed electric power supplier for the Provision of Electric Generation Service and Government Energy Aggregation Services for the MCEA upon the most advantageous proposal, price and other factors considered; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the evaluation of qualifications and proposals and analysis of price proposals submitted on August 2, 2018, the Montgomery Township Committee has determined that no contract award shall be made at this time.

(Item #7 Cont.)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Montgomery Township Committee shall make no contract award as a result of the refreshed price proposals submitted on August 2, 2018; said price proposals are hereby rejected on the basis that the award of a contract based thereon is not in the Township's best interests.
2. The RFP shall be terminated, and the Township may issue a new RFP for Round 3 of the MCEA, with service to commence some time in 2019, at a time to be determined by Township, consistent with applicable law.

7-1. Deputy Mayor Madrid moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Trzaska and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Jaffer, Graham, Trzaska, Madrid, Conforti
Nays - None

8. **CONSENT AGENDA** - All matters listed hereunder are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted in one motion. Any Township Committeeperson may request that an item be removed for separate consideration.

A. **RESOLUTION #18-8-177 - REFUND OVERPAID 2017 TAXES**

BE IT RESOLVED That a refund in the amount of \$192.56 be given to Thomas Goeman & Robert Palmer, 111 Kingsway Commons, Princeton, NJ 08540 for the overpayment of 2017 taxes on Block 35003, Lot 1.11 CONDO.

B. **RESOLUTION #18-8-178 - REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE #2015-19**

BE IT RESOLVED That a refund in the amount of \$4,628.92 be given to TWR as Cst for Ebury Fund 1 NJ LLC, P.O. Box 37695, Baltimore, MD 21297-3695 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate #2015-19 on Block 37002 Lot 4.13.

C. **RESOLUTION #18-8-179 - TO CANCEL CHECKS FROM THE TOWNSHIP'S BANK OF AMERICA ENGINEERING ESCROW CHECKING ACCOUNT**

WHEREAS, There exists outstanding unpaid checks on the books for the Township's Bank of America Engineering Escrow Checking Account; and

WHEREAS, The checks are over ten-months-old and should be cancelled.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee and the Chief Financial Officer that the following check be cancelled from the Bank of America Escrow Checking Account:

CHECK #	AMOUNT
1055	\$2,976.00
1056	\$7,260.00
1596	\$ 601.00
1647	\$4,255.79

D. **RESOLUTION #18-8-180 - APPROVAL OF OUTDOOR ASSEMBLY PERMIT - David Tormey - Car Show**

BE IT RESOLVED By the Montgomery Township Committee as follows:

1. David Tormey has requested approval of the Township Committee to conduct a car show event at Princeton Airport on October 13, 2018.
2. The Township Committee has considered the application and hereby grants the same subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) This approval is for the period specified and is not to be considered approval to conduct similar events without Committee approval.
 - (b) This event shall be held subject to the provisions of the Montgomery Township Code, Outdoor Assembly, Chapter 4-2.1.
3. The organizers will obtain the required approval from the Police Department regarding parking facilities, traffic plan and safety considerations and shall employ four (4) Private Duty Police Officers at the event.
4. The organizers will obtain the required fire permit from Township Fire Marshall, Roy Mondì.
5. The organizers will obtain the required health certificates from the Township Health Department.

E. **RESOLUTION #18-8-181 - AUTHORIZING CROSS EASEMENT - Block 7008, Lot 18 Mark and Susan Kuminski**

BE IT RESOLVED That the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a Cross Easement agreement with Mark and Susan Kuminski for maintaining the previously constructed and currently existing fence in the drainage easement on Lot 18, Block 7008, subject to the Township Engineer's approval and the Township Attorney's approval of the Cross Easement agreement.

(CONSENT AGENDA Cont.)

F. **RESOLUTION #18-8-182 - AUTHORIZING FIRST AMENDMENT TO CONSTRUCTION SEQUENCE AGREEMENT - E1004A, LLC (Jaguar Land Rover Princeton) - PB-06-17**

BE IT RESOLVED That the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a First Amendment to a construction sequence agreement with E1004A, LLC (Jaguar Land Rover Princeton) with respect to Block 34001, Lots 60, 61 and 62, subject to review and approval by the Township Engineer and Township Attorney as to form and content.

G. **RESOLUTION #18-8-183 - TO AUTHORIZE AUCTION OF USED TOWNSHIP VEHICLES**

WHEREAS, The Township of Montgomery has determined that certain personal property as described below, is no longer needed for public purposes; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-36 requires that such personal property be sold at public auction to the highest bidder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery in Somerset County, New Jersey as follows:

1. The below listed schedule of Township property is declared surplus and no longer needed for public purposes;
2. The Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized and directed to advertise public sale of said personal property to be sold on GovDeals.com, a State of New Jersey authorized web based auction. Said sale shall commence within ten (10) days of approval by the Township Committee.
3. The Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids if it determines such rejection to be in the public interest.
4. Said sale shall be in the manner of a public auction and in accordance with the procedure to be announced.

VEHICLES

8 Meyer Snow Plows	
1990 Ford E350 4x2 DLV8	1FKE30M0LHB73193
2013 Chevy Caprice Patrol	6G1MK5U20DL806585
2013 Chevy Caprice Patrol	6G1MK5R28DL829539
2013 Chevy Caprice Patrol	6G1MK5R26DL829796
2005 Ford F250 Diesel 4x4 with Snow Plow	1FTSX21P85EA01774
2003 Ford Explorer Wagon	1FMZU72K73UA38918
2002 Chevrolet Blazer LT 4x4 GUV6 A4	1GNNDT13W62K192795
2001 Ford Focus Sedan 4x2 Guild A4	1FAFP363X1W369056
2002 Chevrolet Blazer LT4x4 GUV A4	1GNNDT13W12K223807
2007 Dodge Durango 4x4 SUV from EMS	1D8HB38P17F537453
1997 Ford Escort LT Sedan 4x2	3FALP15P5VR172414
2001 Ford F250 LT Pickup 4x4 GUV8 A4	1FTNX21L01EC66435
1995 Toro 455-X Mower	
2001 Ford Crown Vic Detective	2FAFP71W81X123958

- 8-1. Deputy Mayor Madrid moved the adoption of the **CONSENT AGENDA**. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Jaffer and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Jaffer, Graham, Trzaska, Madrid, Conforti
Nays - None

9. **MAYORAL APPOINTMENT - Board of Health**

BE IT RESOLVED That Alexander Wolfson be appointed Board of Health Advisor, 1 year appointment expiring December 31, 2018.

10. **RESOLUTION #18-8-184 - RESOLUTION AWARDING AGREEMENT FOR FINANCE SOFTWARE**

WHEREAS, The Township of Montgomery has a need to purchase finance software that is compatible with the Township's new budget system; and

WHEREAS, The Chief Financial Officer has solicited proposals and recommends the award of a contract to PFM Solutions LLC for use of its Whitebirch™ Service Software to satisfy the Township's needs for a not to exceed contract amount of \$20,000 and initial term of three (3) years; and

WHEREAS, The Chief Financial Officer has certified that sufficient funds are available to pay for said services in 04-215-55-901-1542J and 04-215-55-901-1576J; and

WHEREAS, This contract award is exempt from public bidding pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3(a) and 40A:11-6.1(a) because the contract amount does not exceed the bid threshold; and

WHEREAS, The Township has a need to acquire these services without a "fair and open process" as defined by P.L. 2004, c.19, the "Local Unit Pay-to-Play Law" and in connection therewith, PFM Solutions LLC has completed and filed with the Township the required Campaign Contributions Affidavit pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.8 and Certification Regarding Political Contributions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26 (collectively, the "Pay-to-Play Forms").

(Item #10 Cont.)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery as follows:

1. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to enter into a contract with PFM Solutions LLC for procurement of the Whitebirch™ Service Software for an initial term of three (3) years and not to exceed contract amount of \$20,000.00.
2. A copy of this Resolution, the Pay-to-Play Forms and the agreement shall be placed on file in the Office of the Township Clerk.

10-1. Committeewoman Graham moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Trzaska and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Jaffer, Graham, Trzaska, Madrid, Conforti
Nays - None

11. **RESOLUTION #18-8-185 - AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR MONTGOMERY VETERANS PARK THROUGH EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY**

WHEREAS, Exemptions from competitive bidding are allowed for items/services purchased through counties, municipalities, school districts and authorities per N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11; and

WHEREAS, The Township of Montgomery has determined the following Contract identifier ESCNJ 17/18-20; Co-Op #65MCESSCCPS has provided the Township with the most competitive price for these items/services; and

WHEREAS, The Chief Financial Officer has certified that there are sufficient funds available for this purchase from Accounts #04-215-55-901-1494I, 04-55-901-1576K and 15-288-56-854-802.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery that the following purchase for playground equipment for Montgomery Veterans Park at a not to exceed amount of \$202,605.04 be authorized through the utilization of ESCNJ 17/18-20, expiring June 30, 2019, to:

Ben Shaffer Recreation, Inc.
P.O. Box 844
Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849

11-1. Committeeman Trzaska moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Madrid and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Jaffer, Graham, Trzaska, Madrid, Conforti
Nays - None

12. **ORDINANCE #18-1588 - Cable Television Refranchise - Public Hearing**

A. Mayor Conforti read the title of the ordinance as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY
GRANTING RENEWAL OF MUNICIPAL CONSENT TO COMCAST
OF CENTRAL NEW JERSEY II TO CONSTRUCT, CONNECT,
OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION AND
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM.

B. Mayor Conforti opened the hearing to the public. There being no comment, Committeeman Trzaska moved that the public hearing be closed. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Madrid and carried unanimously.

C. BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery that the foregoing ordinance be hereby adopted this 2nd day of August, 2018 and that notice thereof be published in an official newspaper as required by law.

12-1. Deputy Mayor Madrid moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Graham and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Jaffer, Graham, Trzaska, Madrid, Conforti
Nays - None

13. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Regular Session minutes of July 19, 2018 were approved as printed.

14. **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

WHEREAS, The Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery has received bills to be paid as listed; and

WHEREAS, The Chief Finance Officer and the Township Administrator have reviewed these bills and have certified that these bills represent goods and/or services received by the Township, that these are authorized and budgeted expenditures and that sufficient funds are available to pay these bills.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery as follows:

1. That these bills are hereby authorized for payment; and
2. That checks in the proper amounts are prepared and that necessary bookkeeping entries are made; and
3. That the proper Township Officials are authorized to sign the checks.

14-1. Deputy Mayor Madrid moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Trzaska and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Jaffer, Graham, Trzaska, Madrid, Conforti
Nays - None

15. **COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

15-1. **NOT IN OUR TOWN**

Committeewoman Jaffer stated that the next Not In Our Town community workshop will be on August 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Blawenburg Reformed Church Fellowship Hall. The workshop is entitled "Dismantling the Racism Machine" with Professor Karen Gaffney.

15-2. **BOARD OF HEALTH**

Committeewoman Graham stated that she participated in the accreditation process for the Board of Health. This was a two day process where a national group came in and met with various departments and groups.

15-3. **RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Committeeman Trzaska stated that the Recreation Committee talked about some of the plans for the pathways and for Montgomery Veterans Park.

16. **KID CONNECTION AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT STAFF**

Deputy Mayor Madrid complimented the Kid Connection and the Recreation Department staff for their great work in the camps they run.

17. **RESIGNATION OF MAYOR CONFORTI**

17-1. Mayor Conforti stated the following:

"I have always said repeatedly about how I've always considered this and these positions a volunteer job. I have always given it everything I could. That is, unfortunately, my personality. I did work this as a full time job. However, I have had changes on the home front and I'm going to have to step down. I will be resigning immediately. I will be heading south to Florida. So, my pontification, if I may, is it has been an honor to serve. I look forward to the next person coming and picking up the torch. I've enjoyed working with all of the people I have worked with on the committee, present and past.

This is a great group of professionals and its one of the significant advantages we have in this town. Unlike other towns that change professionals like they change their underwear, we've had people here for long periods of time. Attorney Hadinger was here for 34 years. Administrator Nieman is here over 20 years. Township Clerk Kukla is here 25 years. Regardless of party, we have always treated those jobs as sacred and we've treated these people with respect. I think that is the greatest single asset that we've had here is continuity.

My only regret is that I won't be here when our financial plans come to fruition. In 2021 we'll have a new town hall and a new library. If the credit agency finally gets off their duff, we'll finally have a AAA credit rating. We'll have the first zero tax increase in decades. All of this is because we've been planning this for years. Kudos to Administrator Nieman, Chief Financial Officer Pitts and everybody. We've done a five (5) year plan and we've been doing a five (5) year plan and this comes with me saying NO a lot. Because of that, those are three accomplishments. Some towns will claim one, some will try to claim two, and good luck finding one that can claim all three. I'm pleased that I was able to help a little.

I'll always be a phone call away, but I won't be around much. I'm sorry to drop this on you but if I can't do something 100%, I'm cheating the public. If I can't live up to the standards I set, then I can't do it. I'm not going to embarrass myself or anyone else.

Thank you all for your time. I'm sorry to leave it until the last item, but I thought it would be more appropriate. I didn't want to take away from any of the other things that have happened."

(Item #17 Cont.)

- 17-2. Attorney Van Hise explained that the meeting will now be turned over to the Deputy Mayor who will assume all of the power and responsibilities in the Acting Mayor role.

Committeeman Trzaska asked if the Deputy Mayor automatically becomes the Mayor. He also asked if there was any action the Governing Body would have to take at this meeting or at the next meeting.

Attorney Van Hise thanked former Mayor Conforti for his very nice remarks and appreciation of the staff. He explained the process now that the office of Mayor is officially vacant. Deputy Mayor Madrid has stepped in and will assume all of the power, functions and responsibilities in the Acting Mayor role. The process is as follows:

- The municipal republican committee will forward to the Governing Body, three names for consideration. They have fifteen (15) days to do so;
- Within fifteen (15) days the Township Committee vacancy must be filled;
- Then there would be motions entertained for the appointment of Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

If those names are received before the next Township Committee meeting, the process will be on the next agenda for action.

- 17-3. Committeewoman Graham stated that the Governing Body was really going to miss former Mayor Conforti. She is sad to see him moving away but she is happy because she knew he was moving with his family. The Governing Body will certainly miss his wisdom, his knowledge, his experience and they may be calling him to keep the budget in line. She thanked him for his hard work.
- 17-4. Committeeman Trzaska stated that Mr. Conforti has the distinction of being the only resident, to his recollection, to ever serve on the Zoning Board of Adjustment, the Planning Board, the Board of Education and the Township Committee. It is a big loss and the Governing Body is sad to see him go, but he is doing it for the best reason possible.
- 17-5. Acting Mayor Madrid stated she understood that he is leaving to be with his family and especially his little granddaughter. She is sad to see him go, both professionally and personally. He has given so much to this town. He definitely made Montgomery a better place. We all appreciate all of his hard work, especially on the budget.
- 17-6. Administrator Nieman stated that as a Red Sox fan, he'd deal with it. The staff really appreciated Mr. Conforti's efforts and wish him well.
- 17-7. Chief Financial Officer Pitts thanked Mr. Conforti and stated that it was going to be really lonely during budget time.
- 17-8. Township Clerk Kukla stated that the next time she visits a house that is being foreclosed, she will make sure to invite Mr. Conforti and his wife.

ADJOURNMENT was at 8:04 p.m. on a motion by Committeewoman Graham. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Trzaska and carried unanimously.

Date of Approval:

Donna Kukla, Township Clerk