

MINUTES FOR
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
September 19, 2019

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 Jaffer, Deputy Mayor Gural, Committeemembers Trzaska and Quraishi
Committeeman Schuldiner was absent

Also present were:

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY - Kevin Van Hise, Esq.

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATOR - Donato Nieman

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER - Michael Pitts

TOWNSHIP CLERK - Donna Kukla

2. Mayor Jaffer 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 Jaffer led the Salute to the Flag.

4. **RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE WALDORF SCHOOL OF PRINCETON**

WHEREAS, This September marks the 100th Anniversary of Waldorf Education, the fastest growing independent school movement in the world, with approximately 1,100 schools in 100 countries; and

WHEREAS, There is only one Waldorf School in New Jersey, the Waldorf School of Princeton, and it is located in Montgomery, New Jersey. The Waldorf School of Princeton (WSP), serving children through grade 8, has brought Waldorf education to hundreds of students since it was founded in 1983; and

WHEREAS, As written in the school's Mission Statement, WSP is "dedicated to igniting each child's unique potential and passions, instilling self-confidence, and inspiring achievement with a strong moral compass. The rich interdisciplinary curriculum is distinct in the way we integrate the academic, the artistic, and the practical in every lesson"; and

WHEREAS, The Waldorf School of Princeton has been committed to sustainability, land conservation and community engagement, and part of the school's mission is to foster each child to "become curious, caring and engaged citizens of their local and global communities." Both inside and outside the classroom, stewardship is part of the way of life at WSP; and

WHEREAS, WSP students care for the land on the 20+ acre campus in Montgomery, which is a National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitat. They learn about the history of the land and those who cared for it, from the Lenape tribe to the family who farmed the land for generations before the land became a school. Every day, the students play on the grounds, run on the paths through the woods, and explore the ecosystem of land and water.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Montgomery Township Committee recognizes the distinctive interdisciplinary teachings of the Waldorf School of Princeton and its dedication to children, sustainable earth, and community stewardship. The Township celebrates the 100 years of Waldorf education along with the thirty five years of the WSP's dedication to the education here in our community.

- 4-1. Deputy Mayor Gural moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Trzaska and carried unanimously.

5. **RESOLUTION - Kinship Care Month - September, 2019**

WHEREAS, The family is our most important resource for providing New Jersey's children with love, dignity and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, Over five thousand children throughout our State are raised in kinship families with grandparent or relative caregivers who have stepped forward out of love and loyalty to care for their young relatives providing them a sense of connection, security and ties to their cultural heritage, family and community; and

WHEREAS, Kinship caregivers reside in urban, rural and suburban households in every county of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Children, grandparents and other relatives in kinship families work in partnership with the education, legal, social services, mental health, justice and other systems to access services that can enable kinship youth to flourish in all facets of their lives; and

WHEREAS, Kinship Care Month provides an opportunity to showcase the accomplishments of countless youth throughout the Garden State who, with the unconditional support of grandparents and other relatives, have successfully navigated the emotional difficulties of separation from their parents.

(Item #5 Cont.)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Montgomery Township Committee does hereby proclaim September, 2019 as Kinship Care Month in Montgomery Township and encourages residents to raise awareness and understanding of the positive family environment that kinship families offer for many children.

5-1. Deputy Mayor Gural moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Trzaska and carried unanimously.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

6-1. Liz Palius, River Road, remarked on the following items:

- The County's use of defoliant along the guardrails in both Montgomery and Hillsborough Township's. She suggested that Montgomery and Hillsborough send an objection to the County as the other side of the guardrail is wetlands. She stated that she thought that they probably use Roundup which has been recently shown to possibly cause cancer and this is being washed into the stream and river.
- The planting along the bottom of River Road which was a joint effort between the River Road Association and Montgomery Township. The Scenic Byway has a Corridor Management Plan. The plan states that "the Flail Mower may not be raised to trim along the Byway. The mower must be used flat on the ground, up to two feet from the edge of the pavement." She stated that the County came by with the Flail Mower and they really attacked the hedgerow. The County should be told about this and be reminded that there is a Corridor Management Plan in effect.
- The Township's lack of concern for the old cemeteries. She asked if the Township could look into setting money aside for the preservation and maintenance of these cemeteries. Administrator Nieman responded that the Township does maintain the cemeteries that the town has taken over, but many of them are not in Township's possession.

6-2. Jack Garhart, Bayberry Lane, asked if there was a 20 year plan for the Municipal buildings of Montgomery, especially the Public Works relocation. Administrator Nieman stated that there is a 10 year capital plan that is posted on the Township's website. He explained that there had been discussion by a prior Governing Body as to whether or not to sell the existing Municipal Building and use the proceeds of the sale to off-set some of the debt service on the new Municipal Building. It is important for people to know that the Montgomery Public Works Department operates out of double wide trailers. The village of Harlingen would like Public Works to leave. The Public Works Department is on a holding tank because they don't have a functional septic system and there is not enough storage space or fuel capacity for emergencies beyond a week. He explained that the Township rents space all over town and out of town for the storage of equipment. Mr. Garhart spoke about the new Municipal Building and the funds to pay for this. He asked if there was going to be a review of the plans in the future. Mayor Jaffer stated that there would be a public meeting once the revised plans are completed.

6-3. Brett Borowski, York Drive, spoke about the energy aggregation program. He stated that PSE&G's billing rates are really complicated, especially during the summer months.

Mr. Borowski asked for a quick status report at Township Committee meetings on such things as the new Municipal complex, major road closures, project schedules and delays. He also asked when some of the subcommittees meet. Administrator Nieman stated that some of the subcommittees are held on an as-needed basis.

7. **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 #19-9-217 - REFUND OVERPAID 2019 TAXES**

BE IT RESOLVED That refunds be given to the following for the overpayment of 2019 taxes:

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
4022	4	Anto Mathu Jesu & Jeyaseelan Indra	\$2,554.90
16002	9.14	Jun Xing & Yun Shen	\$6,321.66

B. **RESOLUTION #19-9-218 - TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSING - Block Party - Van Zandt Road**

BE IT RESOLVED By the Montgomery Township Committee that authorization is hereby given for the temporary closing of a portion of Van Zandt Road to accommodate a neighborhood block party scheduled for October 20, 2019 from approximately 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. The Montgomery Township Police have no objection to the road closing provided that:

The roadway must be made accessible to emergency vehicles.

The roadway must be made accessible to traffic originating and terminating on the closed section.

Block party organizers should provide advance courtesy notification to those residents that will be affected by the closure.

(CONSENT AGENDA Cont.)

C. **RESOLUTION #19-9-219 - AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq., WITH THE BOROUGH OF ROCKY HILL FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

WHEREAS, The governing bodies of the Township of Montgomery and the Borough of Rocky Hill desire to execute a shared services agreement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq., for public health services; and

WHEREAS, A shared services agreement, setting forth the rights and responsibilities of Montgomery Township and Rocky Hill Borough, has been prepared and circulated for approval by the governing bodies of Montgomery and Rocky Hill.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, Somerset County that:

1. The Mayor and Clerk shall be and are hereby authorized to execute a Shared Services Agreement with the Borough of Rocky Hill for public health services for a 3 year period, beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2022.
2. A copy of said agreement shall be kept on file with the Township Clerk and available for public inspection during normal business hours.
3. This agreement is contingent upon both parties executing a resolution authorizing the agreement.

D. **RESOLUTION #19-9-220 - PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 (Chapter 159, P.L. 1948) - 2019-2020 Municipal Alliance**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special items of revenue in the budget of any County or Municipality when such item shall have been made by law and the amount thereof was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, Said Director may also approve the insertion of any item of appropriation for an equal amount.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery hereby requests the director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of items of revenue in the budget of the year 2019, in the amounts listed below, which item is now available as a revenue form the County of Somerset;

2019-2020 Municipal Alliance	\$19,700.16
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a like sum, be, and the same, hereby is appropriated under the above appropriation titles.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Chief Financial Officer shall file an electronic Special Item of Revenue Resolution submittal form to the Division of Local Government Services.

E. **RESOLUTION #19-9-221 - AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE - Estates at Montgomery, Phase 1 (Block 6001, Lots 40.01 to 40.03 and 40.15 to 40.18 {formerly Block 6001, Lots 39 and 40})**

WHEREAS, Gail Smith, Township Engineer, has certified on September 12, 2019 that all of the improvements for the above referenced project have been completed by the developer, Fleet Montgomery, LLC, with the exception of resolving operational issues with the stormwater management basin located on Block 6001, Lot 40.02. The developer has agreed to the Township retaining the cash portion of the guarantee until the stormwater basin matter is resolved. All other completed improvements are acceptable to this department. We are herein recommending that the Township Committee consider the release of the non-cash portion of the Performance Guarantee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Montgomery Township Committee that the performance guarantee in the amount of \$836,975.40 (Bond #S-295916 in the amount of \$832,175.40 and \$4,800.0 for changes) be released to Fleet Montgomery, LLC. and a maintenance guarantee be posted as follows:

Original Construction Cost Estimate	\$836,975.40
15% Maintenance Guarantee	\$125,546.31

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Township will retain the cash portion of the Performance Guarantee, in the amount of \$35,552.70, until operational issues of the stormwater management basin located on Block 6001, Lot 40.02 have been resolved to the satisfaction of the Township Engineer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the effective date of acceptance of the improvements shall be the date the Township Attorney confirms in writing that the maintenance guarantee is in the proper amount and acceptable legal format.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the release of the Performance Guarantee shall also be conditioned upon the posting of adequate escrow funds.

(CONSENT AGENDA Item E Cont.)

Upon satisfactory completion of these conditions, it is recommended that the **Township accept** the following:

Roads, Rights-of-Way, and public improvements - as follows:

- a. Estates Boulevard, located within a 50-foot-wide right-of-way as shown and described on **Reference A**¹, beginning at the intersection of Harlingen Road at approximately Station 0+00 to the Township's Pike Brook Wastewater Treatment Plant driveway at approximately Station 13+70.00 shown on **Reference B**².
- b. Remy Court, located within a 50-foot-wide right-of-way as shown and described on **Reference A**, beginning at approximately Station 0+00 to approximately Station 2+50 shown on **Reference B**.
- c. Road improvements in the aforementioned right-of-way including associated curbing (driveway depressed curbs excepted), sidewalk, and curb ramps.
- d. Sidewalk along Harlingen Road as shown on **Reference C**³.

Storm Sewers - Storm sewer structures, including but not limited to inlets, catch basins, and collections lines, completely contained within the aforementioned Estates Boulevard and Remy Court rights-of-way, and in the Drainage Easement located on Block 6001, Lots 40.16 and 40.17, shown and described in **References A and D**⁴.

Sanitary Sewers - Sanitary sewerage improvements as shown on **Reference B**:

- a. Along Estates Boulevard from approximately Station 1+65 to approximately Station 12+50.
- b. From the end of Estates Boulevard, beginning at approximately Station 12+50 and extending approximately 715 linear feet to the east side of the Pike Brook Wastewater Treatment Plant, as shown on **Reference E**⁵.
- c. Along Remy Court from approximately Station 0+00 to approximately Station 2+50.

The following improvements **will not be accepted** by the Township:

Driveways - all driveways, driveway aprons, driveway sidewalk, or associated depressed curbing shown on **Reference B** that egress onto Estates Boulevard and Remy Court. These shall be maintained by the property owners.

Public Utilities (e.g. water, electric, telecommunications, etc.) - shall be owned and maintained by the appropriate utility company.

Storm Sewers - Storm sewer collection pipes and structures not contained within the aforementioned Estates Boulevard and Remy Court rights-of-way, or contained within the Drainage Easement on Block 6001, Lots 40.16 and 40.17, will be maintained by the Homeowners Association. Furthermore, storm sewer collection pipes and structures connected to the Stormwater Management Facility will be maintained by the Homeowners Association. This includes but is not limited to headwalls, flared end sections, riprap/scour outlet protection, infiltration structures, and manholes.

Stormwater Management Facilities - the detention basin, recharge system, fountain, structures, and appurtenances located to the east of Remy Court, along the east side of Estates Boulevard, will be maintained by the Homeowners Association. The roof recharge systems on each lot shall be maintained by the property owners.

Retaining Wall - the retaining walls along the Stormwater Management Facility and Estates Boulevard will be maintained by the Homeowners Association.

Guide Rail - the wood guide rail along Estates Boulevard will be maintained by the Homeowners Association.

Berm - the landscaped berm situated upon Block 6001 Lot 40.03 will be maintained by the Homeowners Association.

Other Improvements - located in the aforementioned rights-of-way, if any, shall be considered privately owned.

¹ Reference A: Map entitled, "Final Map prepared for 'Estates at Montgomery', Phase I, Lots 39 & 40, Block 6001, (Tax Map Sheets No. 2 & 6), Township of Montgomery, Somerset County, New Jersey" prepared by TRC Engineers Inc., dated March 11, 2014, last revised July 22, 2014, filed in the Somerset County Clerk's Office as Instrument #2014044138, Deed Book 6756, Pages 2579-2580.

² Reference B: Plan entitled, "Preliminary and Final Construction Plans prepared for 'Estates at Montgomery', Block 6001, Lots 39 and 40, Montgomery Township Somerset County, New Jersey", prepared by Civil Engineering Corporation, TRC, dated March 15, 2005, last revised September 29, 2014.

³ Reference C: Plan entitled, "Harlingen Road Sidewalk Relocation prepared for Estates at Montgomery, Montgomery Township, Somerset County, New Jersey", prepared by Civil & Environmental Engineering, Inc., dated December 15, 2016.

⁴ Reference D: 20 foot wide drainage easement, filed in the Somerset County Clerk's Office as Instrument #2014036606, Deed Book 6745, Pages 1954-1957.

⁵ Reference E: Plan entitled, "Utility As-Built Plan prepared for Estates at Montgomery, Block 6001, Lots 40.01-40.18, Montgomery Township Somerset County, New Jersey", prepared by Civil & Environmental Engineering, Inc., dated September 12, 2017, last revised May 17, 2019.

(CONSENT AGENDA Cont.)

F. **RESOLUTION #13-9-222 - ACCEPTING COVERT DRIVE IMPROVEMENTS AND MUNICIPAL BUILDING LOT PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE, PATHWAY AND PARK IMPROVEMENTS - County Club Meadows**

WHEREAS, The improvements for the Country Club Meadows, LLC, Covert Drive improvements, Municipal Building Lot Pedestrian Bridge, Pathway and Park improvements project have been completed by the developer. The completed improvements are acceptable to the Township Engineering Department and the developer has posted a 2 year Maintenance guarantee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee that the Township accepts the following:

Public Improvements - located on Block 6001, Lot 12 (Municipal building property) described below and as shown on **Reference A**¹:

- a. Covert Drive improvements beginning at the southerly property line of Lot 1, a common boundary with Lot 12, continuing south to the Township's salt shed driveway. Said associated improvements include curbing, sidewalk, and curb ramps.
- b. Pathway from Covert Drive, continuing over Cruser Brook onto lot 5.02.
- c. Pedestrian Bridge over Cruser Brook, including retaining walls along the west abutment.
- d. Recreational play equipment and associated improvements west of the dog park.
- e. Storm sewer structures and collection system on Covert Drive and along pathway.
- f. Stormwater detention basin east of the dog park, including all appurtenances.

¹Reference A: *Plan entitled, "Application for Montgomery Township Pedestrian Path and Bridge Over Cruser Brook, Block 6001, Lot 12 & Portion of Lot 5.02, Township of Montgomery, Somerset County, New Jersey" prepared by PS&S, dated October 30, 2017, last revised August 2, 2018.*

7-1. Committeeman Trzaska moved the adoption of the **CONSENT AGENDA**. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Gural and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Quraishi, Trzaska, Gural, Jaffer
Nays - None
Absent - Schuldiner

8. **RESOLUTION #19-9-223 - AWARD OF BID - Mechanical Repair Services for Wastewater Treatment Plants**

WHEREAS, The following bid for a Mechanical Repair Service Contract was received and publicly opened on September 10, 2019:

BIDDER	AMOUNT				
	ON-SITE RATE		SHOP RATE		DISCOUNT FOR PARTS
MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE CO.	Year 1	Year 2	Year 1	Year 2	
Regular (7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 55.00	10%
Overtime (After 3:30 p.m.)	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	
Weekends and Holidays	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	

WHEREAS, The award is to be based on the lowest price of the total regular hours; and

WHEREAS, It is the recommendation of the Purchasing Agent and the Superintendent of Public Works that Municipal Maintenance Co. be awarded the bid; it being the lowest responsible bidder; and

WHEREAS, There exists accounts 07-201-55-542-232, 07-201-55-543-232, 07-201-55-545-232, 07-201-55-546-232, 07-201-55-547-232, and 07-201-55-548-232 which will fund this service at a not to exceed cost of \$150,000.00; and

WHEREAS, A certificate as to the availability of funds has been signed by the Chief Financial Officer and filed in the office of the Township Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By The Montgomery Township Committee that the contract for Mechanical Repair Services is hereby awarded to:

Municipal Maintenance Co.
1352 Taylors Lane
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the two-year contract period is September 19, 2019 to September 18, 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign said contracts.

8-1. Deputy Mayor Gural moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Quraishi and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Quraishi, Trzaska, Gural, Jaffer
Nays - None
Absent - Schuldiner

9. ORDINANCE #19-1619 - 2019 Salary & Wage Amendment - Public Hearing

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

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING A COMPREHENSIVE SALARY AND WAGE PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, SOMERSET COUNTY, AND PROVIDE FOR IT'S ADMINISTRATION IN 2019.

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

C. BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery that the foregoing ordinance be hereby adopted this 19th day of September, 2019 and that notice thereof be published in an official newspaper as required by law.

9-1. Committeeman Trzaska moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Gural and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Quraishi, Trzaska, Gural, Jaffer
Nays - None
Absent - Schuldiner

10. ORDINANCE #19-1621 - Multi-Way Stop Intersection - Public Hearing

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

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SUBSECTION 7-6.2 (STOP INTERSECTIONS) OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, IN SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY (1984) TO DESIGNATE ORCHARD ROAD AND OPOSSUM ROAD AS A MULTI-WAY STOP INTERSECTION.

B-1. Mayor Jaffer opened the hearing to the public.

B-2. Administrator Nieman explained that this was approved by the Transportation Advisory Committee and is the least costly solution to a major problem. This was done at the request of the Police Department due to the number of accidents that occur at that intersection.

B-3. The following people spoke about 4 way stop signs:

Jack Garhart, Bayberry Lane; Bill Forbes, Griggstown Road; Phyllis Bursh, Sunset Road; Brett Borowski, York Drive; Liz Palius, River Road; Patty Fox, Heather Lane;

B-4. Committeeman Trzaska moved that the public hearing be closed. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Quraishi and carried unanimously.

C. BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery that the foregoing ordinance be hereby adopted this 19th day of September, 2019 and that notice thereof be published in an official newspaper as required by law.

10-1. Deputy Mayor Gural moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Quraishi and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Quraishi, Trzaska, Gural, Jaffer
Nays - None
Absent - Schuldiner

11. ORDINANCE #19-1622 - Acquisition of Block 10001, Lot 8 (Spencer Property) on Hollow Road and Dutchtown-Zion Road - Introduction

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

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY IN SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF LOT 8, BLOCK 10001 "SPENCER PROPERTY," (HOLLOW ROAD & DUTCHTOWN-ZION ROAD) IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY.

B. BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery that the foregoing ordinance be hereby passed on first reading and that the same be published in an official newspaper as required by law together with a Notice of Pending Ordinance fixing October 3, 2019 at approximately 7:00 p.m. as the date and time when said ordinance will be further considered for final adoption.

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

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Quraishi, Trzaska, Gural, Jaffer
Nays - None
Absent - Schuldiner

12. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Regular Session minutes of September 5, 2019 were approved as printed.

13. **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.

13-1. Committeeman Trzaska moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Deputy Mayor Gural and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Quraishi, Trzaska, Gural, Jaffer
Nays - None
Absent - Schuldiner

14. **COMMUNITY GARDEN IN SKILLMAN PARK**

Deputy Mayor Gural spoke about the possibility of having a community garden in Skillman Park. She stated that Administrator Nieman and Open Space Coordinator Lauren Wasilauski reached out to Somerset County and they responded that they were interested in helping the Township. Administrator Nieman stated that the Director of the Somerset County Parks Commission referred this topic to a subcommittee and they liked the idea and want to discuss how it might be paid for because they would have to bring public water into the site. The Township has offered some alternatives to help offset the cost such as possibly charging for a small plot.

15. **RAILROAD**

Patty Fox, Heather Lane, inquired as to how long the railroad can have a train crossing down. Administrator Nieman stated that the crossings can be down for as long as it takes the train to get moving again. He stated that the Police communicate with the EMS and Fire Companies to let them know that the crossing is closed even before they go on any calls. Bill Forbes, EMS, stated that this was a critical issue when he was training new ambulance drivers. They had to learn house numbers and how to avoid all of the railroad crossings to get to a call promptly.

16. **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Deputy Mayor Gural and Administrator Nieman attended an EMS meeting where they discussed their structure and the kinds of calls they are getting. They stated that the Montgomery News is doing a fund raiser for EMS on November 15 at 7:00 pm at Playa Bowls.

17. **ROBINSON'S CHOCOLATES**

Mayor Jaffer stated that Robinson's Chocolates just celebrated their 40th Anniversary. She thought it was amazing for them to be operating in Montgomery for that long.

18. **MONTGOMERY FUNFEST**

Mayor Jaffer commended Jean Robinson and Cory Wingerter of the Montgomery Business Association for the success of the Montgomery FunFest. The Economic Development Commission was happy to help support this event.

19. **COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

19-1. **TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Committeeman Trzaska stated that the Transportation discussed the Crusier Brook Bridge project happening in front of the Municipal Building. They also discussed upcoming projects such as Sycamore Lane and Rolling Hill Road.

19-2. **RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Committeeman Trzaska stated that the Recreation Committee discussed finalizing some of the features of the Dog Park including the fence and the swing set. There was also discussion about the expansion of Bessie Grover Park with the land just purchased by the Township.

19-3. **VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE**

Deputy Mayor Gural stated that the Veterans Memorial Committee discussed the plans for a Veterans Day event. She stated that the Committee felt that Veterans Day should be a half day school holiday so people and students can attend the Memorial service.

(Item #19 Cont.)

19-4. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Deputy Mayor Gural stated that the Open Space Committee Chairman gave a presentation on "dottervine", which is strangling and killing all the mugwort in town. She stated that the Cherry Valley Co-Op will be closing mid October. There was also discussion about the Arborist and Assistant Arborist positions that will be forthcoming. There will also be a fall Volunteers Day in the future.

Patty Fox, Heather Lane, asked why there was a need for an Arborist at this moment as Montgomery Township is almost totally developed and she asked if the taxpayers would have any say in this position. Administrator Nieman explained that this is needed because the Township has 37 miles of trails and parks. He stated that volunteers have been maintaining these for years but no young people are replacing the older volunteers. This will be funded out of the Open Space Trust Fund.

19-5. BOARD OF HEALTH

Deputy Mayor Gural stated the Health Officer on behalf of the Board of Health received another Gold award for having a healthy workplace.

19-6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Mayor Jaffer stated she, Committeeman Schuldiner, the Planning Director, and members of the Economic Development Commission attended the Resilient Neighborhoods session at Somerset County. There was information available on how to make Montgomery an environmentally friendly community.

19-7. ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Mayor Jaffer stated that the Environmental Commission discussed the Natural Resource Inventory. A representative from the Watershed Institute was present to discuss runoff issues in town.

20. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

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

1. The Township Committee will now convene in a closed session that will be limited only to consideration of items with respect to which the public may be excluded pursuant to Section 7B of the Open Public Meetings Act.
2. The general nature of the subject to be discussed in this session is as follows:
 - Potential acquisition of properties for open space, farmland, conservation, municipal purposes;
 - Confidential advice of counsel with regard to Hunter Farms.
3. It is unknown precisely when the matter discussed in this session will be disclosed to the public. Approval of any agreements or acquisition of land shall be authorized by the Township Committee in a public session.

20-1. Committeeman Trzaska moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Quraishi and carried unanimously.

21. Meeting reconvened in Open Session and ADJOURNMENT was at 8:50 p.m. on a motion by Deputy Mayor Gural. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Quraishi and carried unanimously.

Date of Approval:

Donna Kukla, Township Clerk