

MINUTES FOR
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
March 5, 2020

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 Schuldiner, Committee members Gural, Keenan and Huang

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. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- 4-1. Courtney Torres, Belle Mead, inquired if there were updates on the library issue. Committeewoman Keenan responded that the Mayor has set up an Ad Hoc Committee. This small group whose focus is very short term, will be about the transition timeframe when the Mary Jacobs Library closes its doors at the end of December.

- 4-2. Liz Palius, River Road, spoke about her concerns regarding stormwater management. She recently attended a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection program called "NJPACT" which stands for Protect Against Climate Threats. She stated that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is in the process of updating their regulations with regard to stormwater management. She explained the program, which does two things: 1. Cut emissions of greenhouse gases and short lived climate pollutants; and 2. Tailor land use and planning policies to adapt to unavoidable impacts; such as sea level rising, extreme weather and chronic flooding. She stated that the simple fact is that none of the detention basins hold water. All of that water is being dropped into the river and causing rivers to rise and flood over their banks. She stated that if the locations and capacities of all of these detentions basins could be found and arranged so they could hold water instead of dumping it, two things would be accomplished. Flooding would be mitigated, and the aquifer would be recharged. Mayor Jaffer stated that the Governing Body is very concerned about flooding and stormwater management. She also stated that there was thought about creating a committee with regard to flooding and would like to include Ms. Palius in that.

Committeewoman Gural asked Administrator Nieman to explain the difference between a retention basin and a detention basin. Administrator Nieman explained that a retention basin retains water, so it has water in it all the time. A detention basin handles runoff from a development or subdivision and is supposed to restrict its flow into the river by some specific length of time, which is usually a slow release over a period of 24 to 48 hours. The size of the subdivision dictates the size of sizes of the detention basins necessary to control the runoff. Irene Stein, Jamestown Road, recommended that people look at a YouTube video of the Staten Island Blue Belt when discussing the water issues in town. This is a natural way of dealing with floodwaters.

- 4-3. Brett Borowski, York Drive, spoke about the March reconciliation rates for PSE&G. He stated that PSE&G's rates were higher than the Community Energy Aggregation rates.

Mr. Borowski spoke about the discussion at the last meeting about Kid Connection regarding not turning people away and scholarships. He stated that Kid Connection Director Andrea McKenna is making it known right up front that assistance is available for those who need it.

Mr. Borowski asked about the grant for the Montgomery branch of Somerset County Library System. He inferred that a couple of years ago there was a vote on a State referendum for grant money and he remembers being told that the Township would be applying for grant money. He asked if this was the item on the Consent Agenda. Administrator Nieman answered in the affirmative.

- 4-4. Amanullah Said, Rip Van Dam Court, spoke about the major increase in the HOA fees in the Pike Run development. Homeowners have tried to reach out to the Board and the Management Company, but they feel that there is not a lot of transparency in the way the development is run. He explained that the concern is that this raise in HOA fees will put a financial strain on the residents and will be a problem when people try to sell their homes going forward. He asked the Governing Body for any suggestions or advice regarding this issue. Deputy Mayor Schuldiner explained that there are some costs that are factored in that the residents have no idea about. He suggested that they ask for what is factored into the HOA fees. He stated that the homeowners have the right to request and see the financials of the organization. He also suggested that they look at the Master Deed and By-Laws. Mr. Said asked if there was anything the town could do to help. Attorney Van Hise explained that this is between the homeowners and the HOA. Mayor Jaffer stated that she would be happy to attend the upcoming HOA meeting to learn more about the situation.

5. **CORONA VIRUS UPDATE**

Health Officer Stephanie Carey stated that the local Health Department is working with partners in the community, particularly with the school district and the emergency management community to make sure that the information is coming from one voice and is getting out to everyone. They have been working to make sure the first responders are protected against exposure to the virus by having training programs. She stated that the general public and healthy people should not be wearing masks, and sick people should stay home. They are also working with several school districts to recruit Surge nurses should it be needed for any kind of distribution of medications or for helping in an emergency. They are working with the municipality on briefing information for continuity of operations and organizational preparedness. She spoke about "social distancing" which includes keeping 6 feet distance between people; working from home, flexible scheduling; staggered work shifts; putting additional flexibility into sick time policies; virtual learning in schools; and enhanced cleaning. They have created a landing page on the Health Department website to list all of the links to all relevant information. She stated that everyone needs to practice smart hygiene to stop the spread of germs, and frequent cleaning of those things that are touched a lot. She urged people not to panic. She also urged people not to rely on social media. If anyone wants updates, go to the Township's website and go to the Health Department's page or the CDC's website. The Governing Body thanked Health Officer Carey for all of her hard work.

6. **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 #20-3-75 - REDEMPTION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATES #19-0004, #19-0005 AND #19-0013**

BE IT RESOLVED That a refund in the amount of \$146,805.79 be given to Christiana TC/F Firsttrust, P.O. Box 5021, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5021 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate #19-0004 on Block 13001, Lot 41.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a refund in the amount of \$232,537.72 be given to US Bank Cust for Pro Cap 8, US Bank Corp Trust - TLSG, 50 South 16th Street, Suite 2050, Philadelphia, PA 19102 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate #19-0005 on Block 15009, Lot 20.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a refund in the amount of \$4,517.63 be given to CCl NJ II, LLC, P.O. Box 123800, Dallas, TX 75312 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate #19-0013 on Block 37002, Lot 1.114.

B. **RESOLUTION #20-3-76 - AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE SOMERSET COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION - Delta Community Supports**

BE IT RESOLVED By the Montgomery Township Committee that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute an application on behalf of Delta Community Supports for a Somerset County Community Development Block Grant for enhancements and accessibility improvements to the kitchen area of the group home at 174 Opossum Road.

C. **RESOLUTION #20-3-77 - AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq., WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL FOR INTERIM HEALTH OFFICER SERVICES**

WHEREAS, The governing bodies of the Township of Montgomery and the Township of Hopewell desire to execute a shared services agreement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq., for interim Health Officer services; and

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

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 Township of Hopewell for interim Health Officer services for a 90-day period, beginning February 25, 2020 and ending May 25, 2020.
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.

(CONSENT AGENDA Cont.)

D. **RESOLUTION #20-3-78 - RELEASE OF MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE - JER/Herring Office Building Lot**

WHEREAS, Gail Smith, Township Engineer, has certified on February 28, 2020 that all public improvements in a project known as JER/Herring Office Building Lot, Case No. BA-07-09, Block 28001, Lot 5.02 (formerly lot 5) have been in satisfactory continuous use for a period greater than two years and therefore recommends the release of the posted maintenance guarantee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Montgomery Township Committee that the Maintenance Bond in the amount of \$16,164.54(cash) be released to JER/Herring Orchard, LLC, 23 Orchard Road, Suite 203, Skillman, NJ 08558.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the escrow funds (account BA-07-09) shall be retained until all other outstanding bonded work is completed, including the sidewalk along Orchard Road to the Route 206 bus shelter.

E. **RESOLUTION #20-3-79 - AUTHORIZING SEWER PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT - Fa Zhang and Guang Mei Li (Block 7007, Lot 25)**

BE IT RESOLVED By the Montgomery Township Committee that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a Sewer Participation Agreement with Fa Zhang and Guang Mei Li related to sewer capacity in the Pike Brook Wastewater Treatment Plant for Block 7007, Lot 25.

F. **RESOLUTION #20-3-80 - APPROVAL OF OUTDOOR ASSEMBLY PERMITS - Princeton Show Jumping**

BE IT RESOLVED By the Montgomery Township Committee as follows:

1. Princeton Show Jumping has requested approval of the Township Committee to conduct Outdoor Assemblies for Equestrian Events at 246 Burnt Hill Road, Skillman, NJ 08558 on April 15-19, April 22-26, April 30-May 3, May 6-10, June 26-28, July 2-5, July 15-19, July 22-25, and July 29-August 2 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.
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 as they are limited to nine (9) show events per year.
 - (b) These events shall be held subject to the provisions of the Montgomery Township Code, Outdoor Assembly, Chapter 4-2.1.
 - (c) Approval of these events is pending clearance by the Zoning Officer, Police Department, Health Department, Construction Department and Fire Prevention Department as stated below:
 - (1) The organizers will obtain the required approval from the Police Department regarding parking facilities, traffic plan and safety considerations.
 - (2) The organizers will obtain the required health certificates from the Township Health Department, if applicable.
 - (3) The organizers will obtain the required open flame and tent permits from the Township Fire Prevention Department.

G. **RESOLUTION #20-3-81 - APPROVAL OF OUTDOOR ASSEMBLY - Run with Rotary & Earth Day Fair 2020**

BE IT RESOLVED By the Montgomery Township Committee as follows:

1. The Rotary Club of Montgomery/Rocky Hill has requested approval of the Township Committee to conduct a 5-K race and 1-mile fun walk, and Earth Day Fair activities on May 3, 2020. The events will start on Main Boulevard and finish on Bergen Circle.
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 Township Committee approval.
 - (b) Portions of Main Boulevard, Bergen Circle, Larocque Circle, Morrow Road, and Lake Drive in Somerset County Skillman Park will be closed to vehicular traffic on Sunday, May 3, 2019 beginning at 9:45 a.m.
 - (c) This event shall be held subject to the provisions of the Montgomery Township Code, Outdoor Assembly, Chapter 4-2.1.
 - (d) Approval of these events is pending clearance by the Police Department, Health Department, Construction Department and Fire Prevention Department as stated below:

(CONSENT AGENDA Item G Cont.)

- (1) The organizers will obtain the required approval from the Police Department regarding parking facilities, traffic plan and safety considerations.
- (2) The organizers will obtain the required health certificates from the Township Health Department, if applicable.
- (3) The organizers will obtain the required open flame and tent permits from the Township Fire Prevention Department.

H. **RESOLUTION #20-3-82 - AUTHORIZING ADDITION OF GREEN ACRES RESTRICTION TO DEED FOR BLOCK 10001, LOT 8 ("SPENCER")**

WHEREAS, the Township of Montgomery acquired Block 10001, Lot 8 from the Estate of Stanford Spencer on November 25, 2019, by deed filed in the office of the Somerset County Clerk, deed book 7170, pages 3861-3869 with funds from the Municipal Open Space Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program ("Green Acres") has authorized a grant of approximately \$99,675 in reimbursement funds to the Township for the Spencer property, with the final amount subject to the review and approval of Green Acres; and

WHEREAS, the deed conveying the property to the Township did not include the restrictive language required by Green Acres in order to qualify for Green Acres funding, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:8C-1 et. seq. and N.J.A.C. 7:36; and

WHEREAS, the Township must add the Green Acres restrictive language to the deed.

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

1. The Township Committee hereby authorizes the addition of restrictive language to the deed for Block 10001 Lot 8, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:8C-1 et. seq. and N.J.A.C. 7:36.
2. The Mayor, Chief Financial Officer, Clerk, Township Attorney and other appropriate staff are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents as may be reasonably necessary.

I. **RESOLUTION #20-3-83 - APPROVING THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE MONTGOMERY BRANCH OF THE SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM**

BE IT RESOLVED That the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a grant application with the Somerset County Library Commission for the project entitled the New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act.

J. **TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT - Shade Tree Committee**

BE IT RESOLVED That Eileen Foti is hereby appointed to the Shade Tree Committee, replacing Dr. Kathy Haynie, 1 year unexpired term expiring December 31, 2020.

6-1. Deputy Mayor Schuldiner moved the adoption of the **CONSENT AGENDA**. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Huang and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Huang, Keenan, Gural, Schuldiner, Jaffer
Nays - None
Abstain - Schuldiner (Item F)

7. **RESOLUTION #20-3-84 - RESOLUTION OF MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SERVICES FOR PUBLIC USE ON AN ONLINE AUCTION WEBSITE**

WHEREAS, The Montgomery Township has determined to move forward with the EMEX Reverse Auction in order procure electricity for the and Montgomery Township

WHEREAS, The Local Unit Technology Pilot Program and Study Act (P.L. 2001, c. 30) (the "Act") authorizes the purchase of electricity supply service for public use through the use of an online auction service; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery Township will utilize the online auction services of EMEX, LLC, an approved vendor pursuant to the Act, waiver number EMEX LLC-1, located at www.energymarketexchange.com; and

WHEREAS, EMEX, LLC is compensated for all services rendered through the participating supplier that a contract is awarded to; and

WHEREAS, The auction will be conducted pursuant to the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Montgomery Township Clerk to New Jersey Division of Local Government Services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the Township Administrator, Donato Nieman of the Montgomery Township is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of the Montgomery Township any electricity contract proffered by the participating supplier that submits the winning bid in the EMEX Reverse Auction.

(Item #7 Cont.)

- 7-1. Deputy Mayor Schuldiner moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Keenan and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Huang, Keenan, Gural, Schuldiner, Jaffer
Nays - None

8. **RESOLUTION #20-3-85 - AUTHORIZING ROAD PAVING SERVICES THROUGH THE MORRIS COUNTY COOPERATIVE**

WHEREAS, Exemptions from competitive bidding are allowed for items/services purchased through a New Jersey State CO-OP per N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5) authorizes two or more contracting units to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement for the purchase of work, materials and supplies; and

WHEREAS, The Township of Montgomery has determined the following cooperative pricing system identifier MCCPC #6 - Road Resurfacing has provided the Township with the most competitive price for this item; and

WHEREAS, The roads to be paved under this contract are Dutchtown Road, Livingston Drive, Morris Place, Stockton Court, Adams Drive, Berkley Avenue, and Servis Road.

WHEREAS, The Chief Financial Officer has certified that there are sufficient funds available for this purchase in Account Number 04-215-55-901.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery that the Road Resurfacing Services at a not to exceed amount of \$637,000 shall be authorized through the utilization of the Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council to:

Schifano Construction Corporation
1 Smalley Avenue
Middlesex, NJ 08846

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

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Huang, Keenan, Gural, Schuldiner, Jaffer
Nays - None

9. **ORDINANCE #20-1631 - LDO-Regarding Performance and Maintenance Guarantees; Start of Construction; and Inspections - Public Hearing**

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

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER XVI "LAND DEVELOPMENT" OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY, IN SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY (1984) REGARDING PERFORMANCE AND MAINTENANCE GUARANTEES, START OF CONSTRUCTION AND INSPECTIONS.

- B. The Clerk read the following report from Planning Board:

"At the March 2, 2020 Planning Board meeting, the Board found the above referenced ordinance substantially consistent with the Master Plan and recommended adoption as written."

- C. Mayor Jaffer opened the hearing to the public. There being no comment, Deputy Mayor Schuldiner moved that the public hearing be closed. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Keenan and carried unanimously.

- D. BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery that the foregoing ordinance be hereby adopted this 5th day of March, 2020 and that notice thereof be published in an official newspaper as required by law.

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

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Huang, Keenan, Gural, Schuldiner, Jaffer
Nays - None

10. **ORDINANCE #20-1632 - Camp Meeting Avenue Property Acquisition (Fenton/Safro Tract) - Public Hearing**

- 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 20, BLOCK 12001 ON CAMP MEETING AVENUE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY.

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

- B-2. Open Space Coordinator Lauren Wasilauski explained the reason for the ordinance and the property location.

- B-3. Deputy Mayor Schuldiner moved that the public hearing be closed. The motion was seconded by Committeeman Huang and carried unanimously.

(Item #10 Cont.)

- C. BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery that the foregoing ordinance be hereby adopted this 5th day of March, 2020 and that notice thereof be published in an official newspaper as required by law.

10-1. Deputy Mayor Schuldiner moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Keenan and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Huang, Keenan, Gural, Schuldiner, Jaffer
Nays - None

11. **ORDINANCE #20-1633 - Authorizing Hetherington Quit Claim Deed - Public Hearing**

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

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY IN SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A QUITCLAIM DEED FOR BLOCK 4001, LOT 14 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY.

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

- B-2. Open Space Coordinator Lauren Wasilauski explained the reason for the ordinance and the property location.

- B-3. Deputy Mayor Schuldiner moved that the public hearing be closed. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Keenan and carried unanimously.

- C. BE IT RESOLVED By the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery that the foregoing ordinance be hereby adopted this 5th day of March, 2020 and that notice thereof be published in an official newspaper as required by law.

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

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Huang, Keenan, Gural, Schuldiner, Jaffer
Nays - None

12. **ORDINANCE #20-1634 - Kid Connection Enrichment Program - Introduction**

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

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY IN SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY SETTING FEES FOR KID CONNECTION AM & PM KINDERGARTEN ENRICHMENT AND AMENDING SECTION 2-18 OF CHAPTER II OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY (1984).

- 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 March 19, 2020 at approximately 7:00 p.m. as the date and time when said ordinance will be further considered for final adoption.

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

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Keenan, Schuldiner, Jaffer
Nays - None
Abstain - Huang, Gural

13. **ORDINANCE #20-1635 - 2020 Sewer Service Rates - Introduction**

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

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER XII SEWER AND WATER OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTGOMERY (1984) TO ESTABLISH 2020 SEWER SERVICE RATES.

- 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 March 19, 2020 at approximately 7:00 p.m. as the date and time when said ordinance will be further considered for final adoption.

13-1. Deputy Mayor Schuldiner moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Keenan and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Huang, Keenan, Gural, Schuldiner, Jaffer
Nays - None

14. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Regular Session minutes of February 20, 2020 were approved as printed.

15. **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.

15-1. Deputy Mayor Schuldiner moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Keenan and carried on the following:

ROLL CALL - Ayes - Huang, Keenan, Gural, Schuldiner, Jaffer
Nays - None

16. **DEER MANAGEMENT**

Administrator Nieman stated that White Buffalo was asked to complete their deer survey. They surveyed the northwest portion of the Township. He is now waiting to get the numbers from White Buffalo from the three evenings they went out and did their surveying.

17. **COMMITTEE COMMUNITY UPDATES**

17-1. **CENTRAL NEW JERSEY AGRO-TOURISM CONFERENCE**

Committeewoman Keenan stated she attended the Central New Jersey Agro-Tourism Conference along with Mayor Jaffer and several farmers from Montgomery. There were a couple of speakers who discussed Hudson Valley and what they had done in that area to make it a destination point.

17-2. **NEW JERSEY FUTURE REDEVELOPMENT FORUM**

Committeewoman Keenan stated that she, Deputy Mayor Schuldiner and Planning Director Lori Savron would be attending the New Jersey Future Redevelopment Forum on March 6.

17-3. **TALES OF BLAWENBURG**

Committeewoman Keenan stated that the "Tales of Blawenburg" program would be taking place on Saturday, March 7 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

17-4. **INNOVATION IN GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE**

Deputy Mayor Schuldiner stated that he would be attending an Innovation in Government conference on March 14. He attended the same conference in 2019 and found it to be very valuable.

17-5. **SCHOOL BOARD**

Mayor Jaffer reported that the School Board appointed two new Board members and announced the continuation of the Kindergarten Enrichment program partnership with the Township. There was some discussion about the School Board financials and why this year was particularly difficult for them to make a full day kindergarten work. They have it in their plan to implement a full day kindergarten in the future. She stated that the Montgomery Township Education Foundation had a presentation about the work that they do to help the schools with auxiliary types of playground materials, redoing facades and the like. The MTEF will be holding a Casino Night on Saturday, March 14 as a fundraiser.

18. **COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

18-1. **LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

Committeeman Huang reported that the Landmarks Commission discussed the Harlingen Historic District. It will be up for review by the State on March 26 at 10:00 a.m. A member of the Landmarks Commission will be in attendance. They also discussed the cell tower and its impact on the River Road Historic District.

18-2. **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

Committeewoman Keenan reported that the Environmental Commission held a public forum to review the Natural Resources Inventory. She stated that they are now looking into how this can be put into the Planning Board process in the Township. She explained that Open Space Coordinator Lauren Wasilauski was critical in getting this done.

18-3. **OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

Committeewoman Keenan stated that the Open Space Committee would be holding a pathways event on Sunday, March 8 on Spring Hill Road.

(Item #18 Cont.)

18-4. PLANNING BOARD

Deputy Mayor Schuldiner reported that the Planning Board administered two requests from the Governing Body. One is the designation of an area in need of redevelopment and the other was regarding the Land Development Ordinance which was voted on earlier in this meeting.

19. **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 (Block 11001 Lot 61) and (Block 7010 Lot 13);
 - Police Interviews.
3. It is unknown precisely when the matter discussed in this session will be disclosed to the public. Acquisition of land shall be authorized by the Township Committee in a public session. No appointment shall be authorized except by action of the Township Committee in open session.

19-1. Deputy Mayor Schuldiner moved the adoption of the foregoing resolution. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Keenan and carried unanimously.

20. Meeting reconvened in Open Session and **ADJOURNMENT** was at 10:20 p.m. on a motion by Deputy Mayor Schuldiner. The motion was seconded by Committeewoman Gural and carried unanimously.

Date of Approval:

Donna Kukla, Township Clerk