MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025
7:00 P.M.

AGENDA TO THE EXTENT KNOWN

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL** – Singh ( ), Barragan ( ), Taylor Todd ( ), Ahn ( )

   ALSO PRESENT – Rubinstein Quiroga ( ), Savron ( ), Fania ( ), Pitts ( )

3. **NOTICE OF MEETING** – In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was provided on January 10, 2025 to the Courier News and the Star Ledger, posted on the municipal bulletin board, and filed with the Township Clerk.

4. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

5. **OATH OF OFFICE – Township Committee Member for the Unexpired Term to December 31, 2025**

6. **PROCLAMATION – Recognizing Eagle Scouts Frederick Allen, Akarsh Gokina, Jensen Lin and Ethan Shlossberg**

   WHEREAS, Frederick Allen, Akarsh Gokina, Jensen Lin and Ethan Shlossberg of Troop 46 have attained the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America; and

   WHEREAS, the standards established for this honor are high and very difficult to achieve; and

   WHEREAS, those who have worked diligently to achieve this rank have exhibited excellence in leadership and a deep commitment to their community; and

   WHEREAS, Frederick Allen's renovations to the rear decking and stairs at the Griggstown School is an outstanding and innovative use of community resources, ensuring safe and secure building access for visitors along with improved aesthetics.

   WHEREAS, Akarsh Gokina's initiative and collaboration with the Township for the removal of the Callery Pear tree, an invasive species, and the installation of interpretative signage throughout Hobler Park is an outstanding and innovative use of community resources, protecting local ecologies and native plants along with providing information on the importance of park wetlands; explanation of the significance of bat boxes throughout the park; and details of the tree removal project to visitors of the Park.

   WHEREAS, Jensen Lin's installation of updated signage for the soccer fields at Mill Pond Park is an outstanding use of community resources providing field identification and notification for when the fields are open or closed due to weather conditions including a mechanism permitting only Township personnel to change the signage.

   WHEREAS, Ethan Shlossberg's construction and installation of a Colony, housing for the Purple Martin, at the Watershed Institute, is an outstanding and innovative use of community resources supporting the preservation of the bird population by providing a safe haven utilizing a solar powered songbird magnet to attract the birds to the Colony, as well as offering visitors an opportunity to learn about one of America's most well-loved songbirds.

   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, on this Twentieth Day of February, Two-Thousand Twenty-Five, that with great pride, the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, New Jersey hereby extends sincere congratulations to Frederick Allen, Akarsh Gokina, Jensen Lin, and Ethan Shlossberg on this milestone achievement and offers best wishes for continued success.

7. **PRESENTATION – Eagle Scout Project, Daniel Leopold**

8. **PRESENTATION – Finance Update – CFO, Michael Pitts**

9. **PRESENTATION – Health Department Re-accreditation, Health Officer, Devangi Patel**

10. **PUBLIC COMMENT –** Members of the public wishing to address the Township Committee on matters pertaining to the Township will be limited to three minutes per person. If comments are similar to those already stated, please indicate your support or opposition. Groups are asked to select a spokesperson.

11. **ORDINANCES – INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING**

A. ORDINANCE #25-1749 – An Ordinance of the Township of Montgomery, Somerset County, New Jersey to Exceed the Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits Providing for a 3.5% "Cap" for the 2025 Budget and to Establish a Cap Bank Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.15

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 according to law with a public hearing and a vote scheduled for the meeting of March 6, 2025.

MOTION to introduce Ordinance #25-1749 _____ Second _____

ROLL CALL VOTE:

COMMITTEE MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ahn				
Taylor Todd				
Barragan, Deputy Mayor				
Singh, Mayor				
Vacant				

12. **ORDINANCES – PUBLIC HEARING/FINAL ADOPTION**

There are no ordinances for adoption.

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13. **CONSENT AGENDA** – All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.

MOTION to adopt Consent Agenda, **Resolutions #25-2-82 to #25-2-86 _____** Second _____

ROLL CALL VOTE:

COMMITTEE MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ahn				
Taylor Todd				
Barragan, Deputy Mayor				
Singh, Mayor				
Vacant				

A. **RESOLUTION #25-2-82 – Authorizing Redemption of Tax Sale Certificate (Block 37002, Lot 5.43)**

WHEREAS the Township received payment for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate #24-00022 in the amount of $2,299.60.

BE IT RESOLVED that a refund in the amount of $2,299.60 be given to Luke Daus, 903 Timberbrooke Drive, Bedminster, NJ 07921 for the redemption of Tax Sale Certificate #24-00022 on Block 37002 Lot 5.43.

TAX LIEN REDEMPTION

Certificate Amount	$	693.98
Redemption Penalty	$	13.88
Subsequent Charges	$	807.14
Interest	$	17.40
Recording Fee	$	55.00
Search Fee	$	12.00
PREMIUM	$	700.00
TOTAL	$	2,299.40

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B. **RESOLUTION #25-2-83 – Authorizing 2025 Professional Services Agreement – Bright View Engineering**

WHEREAS, there exists a need for professional services related to various matters for the Township; and

WHEREAS, the professional firms listed below have provided for a quotation for services without bidding as per N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a))i); and

WHEREAS, the Township has procured these various professional firms in a non-fair and open manner in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, all professional firms named below have provided a Business Entity Disclosure and Political Contribution Disclosure in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 indicating the professionals have not made any reportable contributions in the past twelve months and will be prohibited from making reportable contributions in the coming year; and

13. **CONSENT AGENDA (CONT.)**

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the contract for professional services are listed below; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that there are sufficient funds available as referenced in the accounts below:

FIRM/PURPOSE	NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT	TERM
Bright View Traffic Engineering Services Account #01-201-20-165-000	$15,000.00	1/1-12/31/25

; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(i) et seq.) requires that a resolution authorizing the award of contracts for "Professional Services" without competitive bids and the contract itself must be available for public inspection.

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

1. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute the above agreements with the above professionals for annual services.

2. The contracts are awarded without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" under the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 40a:11-5(1)(a) as a contract for services to be performed by persons authorized by law to practice recognized professions that are regulated by law.

3. The Business Entity Disclosure and Political Contribution Disclosure will be on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk and available for inspection.

C. **RESOLUTION #25-2-84 – Authorizing Release of Street Opening Permit Guarantee – 32 Otter Creek Road (Block 31009, Lot 54)**

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, has recommended the release of a cash performance guarantee to Kenneth Jacob, Sr. because all work has been satisfactorily completed with respect to a street opening permit at Block 31009, Lot 54.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, New Jersey that the cash performance guarantee in the amount of $675.00 be released to Kenneth Jacob, Sr., 32 Otter Creek Road, Skillman, NJ (Block 31009, Lot 54).

D. **RESOLUTION #25-2-85 – Authorizing Release of Street Opening Permit Guarantee – 4 Hunters Path (Block 30001, Lot 16.25)**

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, has recommended the release of a cash performance guarantee to Robert Jorgensen because all work has been satisfactorily completed with respect to a street opening permit at Block 30001, Lot 16.25.

13. **CONSENT AGENDA (CONT.)**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, New Jersey that the cash performance guarantee in the amount of $1,340.00 be released to Robert Jorgensen, Twin Oaks Landscape Design, LLC, P.O. Box 6868, Hillsborough, NJ 08844 for 4 Hunters Path (Block 30001, Lot 16.25).

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E. **RESOLUTION #25-2-86 – Authorizing Release of Street Opening Permit Guarantee – 9 Ascot Lane (Block 4027, Lot 2)**

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, has recommended the release of a cash performance guarantee to Ganesh Pai because all work has been satisfactorily completed with respect to a street opening permit at Block 4027, Lot 2.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, New Jersey that the cash performance guarantee in the amount of $760.00 be released to Ganesh Pai, 9 Ascot Lane, Belle Mead, NJ 08502 (Block 4027, Lot 2).

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14. **RESOLUTIONS**

A. **RESOLUTION #25-2-87 – Authorizing Appointments, Promotions**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, New Jersey, that the following new hires/promotions are hereby authorized:

Joseph Lee, IT Director, effective January 27, 2025 at an annual salary of $115,000.00; and

Pavel (Paul) Balucha, promoted to Conservation Stewardship Technician, effective February 10, 2025 at an annual salary of $68,663.

Michael Greco, promoted to Building Maintenance Foreman, effective February 10, 2025 at an annual salary of $71,834.00/year.

MOTION to adopt Resolution #25-2-87 _____ Second _____

ROLL CALL VOTE:

COMMITTEE MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ahn				
Taylor Todd				
Barragan, Deputy Mayor				
Singh, Mayor				
Vacant				

14. **RESOLUTIONS (CONT.)**

B. **RESOLUTION #25-2-88 – Authorizing Appointment of Michael Krupsky as Construction Official and Fire Subcode Official**

WHEREAS, due to the retirement of Roy Mondi effective January 31, 2025, there is a need to fill a vacancy for the positions of Construction Official and Fire Subcode Official.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, New Jersey, Michael Krupsky is hereby appointed Construction Official and Fire Subcode Official, effective February 1, 2025, for a 4-year term to January 31, 2029, at an annual salary of $145,000.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the annual salary includes the position of Plumbing Subcode Official for which Michael Krupsky was appointed to August 31, 2011 this position is tenured and requires no further reappointments.

MOTION to adopt Resolution #25-2-88 _____ Second _____

ROLL CALL VOTE:

COMMITTEE MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ahn				
Taylor Todd				
Barragan, Deputy Mayor				
Singh, Mayor				
Vacant				

C. **RESOLUTION #25-2-89 – Authorizing Award of Contract to Motorola Solutions, Inc. for First Responder Radios Through New Jersey State Contract**

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 is in need of radios and communications devices for first responders in Montgomery Township; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Montgomery has determined the following state contract pricing system identifier #83909 radio communications equipment & accessories has provided the Township with the most competitive pricing; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that there are sufficient funds available for this purchase in account number 02-213-41-802-000.

14. **RESOLUTIONS (CONT.)**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, New Jersey that first responder radios and communications devices, at an amount not to exceed $57,760.61, shall be authorized through NJ State Contract #83909, for the term effective January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025 to:

Motorola Solutions, Inc.
C/O Wireless C&E
153 Cooper Road
West Berlin, NJ 08091

MOTION to adopt Resolution #25-2-89 _____ Second _____

ROLL CALL VOTE:

COMMITTEE MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ahn				
Taylor Todd				
Barragan, Deputy Mayor				
Singh, Mayor				
Vacant				

D. **RESOLUTION #25-2-90 – Authorizing the Purchase of Electricity Supply Services for Public Use on an Online Auction Website**

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

WHEREAS, the Local Government Electronic Procurement Act (P.L. 2018, c. 156) (the "Act") authorizes the purchase of electricity supply service for public use through the use of an online auction service; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery Township will utilize the online auction services of EMEX, LLC, a division of Mantis Innovation an approved vendor pursuant to the Act; 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 the Chief Financial Officer.

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

14. **RESOLUTIONS (CONT.)**

MOTION to adopt Resolution #25-2-90 _____ Second _____

ROLL CALL VOTE:

COMMITTEE MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ahn				
Taylor Todd				
Barragan, Deputy Mayor				
Singh, Mayor				
Vacant				

E. **RESOLUTION #25-2-91 – Authorizing the Purchase of a Ford F-550 Mason Dump Truck Through the Morris County Cooperative Pricing System**

WHEREAS, Montgomery Township is a member of the Morris County cooperative pricing system, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11- 11(5); and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law authorizes a municipality to acquire goods and services through a duly formed cooperative pricing system without advertising for bids; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery Township has a need to purchase a Ford F-550 Mason Dump Truck from Ciocca Dealerships, located at 215 Route 202, Flemington NJ, for the Township's Parks & Recreation Department through the aforesaid cooperative pricing system using Co-Op #15-C in the amount of $93,449.25; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available using Account #22-288-56-000 in the amount of $93,449.25.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, New Jersey hereby authorizes the purchase of one Ford F-550 Mason Dump Truck for the Township's Parks & Recreation Department, through the cooperative pricing system with the Morris County Co-Op #15-C, in the amount of $93,449.25.

MOTION to adopt Resolution #25-2-91 _____ Second _____

ROLL CALL VOTE:

COMMITTEE MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ahn				
Taylor Todd				
Barragan, Deputy Mayor				
Singh, Mayor				
Vacant				

15. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a. ***MOTION*** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2025 ____Second ____Favor ____Opposed _____Abstain_____

b. ***MOTION*** to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2025 ____Second ____Favor ____Opposed _____Abstain_____

c. ***MOTION*** to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2025 ____Second ____Favor ____Opposed _____Abstain_____

d. ***MOTION*** to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2025____Second ____Favor ____Opposed _____Abstain_____

16. **RESOLUTION #25-2-92 PAYMENT OF BILLS – POSTED**

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

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial 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, County of Somerset 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.

MOTION to adopt Resolution #25-2-92_____ Second _____

ROLL CALL VOTE:

COMMITTEE MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ahn				
Taylor Todd				
Barragan, Deputy Mayor				
Singh, Mayor				
Vacant				

17. **CORRESPONDENCE**

a. Adam Verducci, OEM Coordinator – OEM Deputy Coordinator 2025 Appointments

b. Somerset County Board of Taxation – State Approval: Order of Revaluation – Montgomery Township

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18. **RESOLUTION #25-2-93 – Authorizing 2025 Appointments of Deputy OEM Coordinators in the Office of Emergency Management**

WHEREAS, the Township of Montgomery is required to have an Emergency Operations Plan to provide for actions to be taken to mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from the effects of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of Montgomery Township's Office of Emergency Management Coordinator, Adam Verducci, to appoint the following individuals for the year 2025 as follows:

Thomas Connell, Deputy OEM Coordinator
Sean Devlin, Deputy OEM Coordinator

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Montgomery, County of Somerset, New Jersey that the aforementioned individuals are hereby appointed for a one-year term effective January 1, 2025.

MOTION to adopt Resolution #25-2-93 _____ Second _____

ROLL CALL VOTE:

COMMITTEE MEMBER	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Ahn				
Taylor Todd				
Barragan, Deputy Mayor				
Singh, Mayor				
Vacant				

19. **NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

a. 2026 Township Committee Reorganization Meeting Date

b. Township Shredding Event

c. Change in Polling Location Voting Districts 16 and 19

d. Commemorative Street Sign

20. **TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS**

21. **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

22. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

23. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There are no matters for closed session.

24. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION to adjourn _____ Second _____ Favor_____ Opposed _____