

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, of the Village of Montgomery, held at the Montgomery Senior Center, 36 Bridge Street, Montgomery, NY 12549, on Wednesday, December 19, 2023, at 7:30pm.

Present: Mayor Brescia, Deputy Mayor Andolsek, Trustee Hembury, Trustee Picarello, Trustee Conero, Atty. Will Frank, Deputy Village Clerk Murphy, DPW Supt. Nelson, Sargeant Guarneiri, Chief Herlihy, Historian Fitzpatrick, Stacy Brescia-Spreer, Carolyn Hoffman of Toys for Tots, Rudy Garbely of Toys for Tots, Robert Saladin, Skip Chamber, Jack Smith, Bruce Yancewicz, Sr., Assemblyman Brian Maher, Senator Rolinson, Jim DiSalvo, Joe Minuta, William Murray, John Tracy, Pat Kelleher Jr., Pat Kelleher Sr., Mary Lippincott, Grady Schenck, Marion Schenck, Rags Rosenberg, Johanna Sweikata, Bobby Huff, Tim & Claudette Schaad, Lucy Rosenberg, Brian Quinn, Robert Reynolds Jr., Michael Giranda, John Vero, Brian Quinn, Michael & Dana Mondello, Don Berger, Janet & Russell Doolittle, Carol & Scott Monroe, Sid & Karan Vanderly, Al Baty, James & Jacqueline Bell, Marguerite & Fred Flood, Laurie Ellison, Bob & Antoinette Oakes, Amy Frisbie, Phil Apap, T Rivera, Kenn Hunt, Randy Wilbur, Bob & Cindy Reynolds Sr., John & Cynthia Nokland, Mary Ann Lindner, Jim Taylor, Lilly Ellison, William Quinn, Madison Greene, Nick Picarello, Tina Fassnacht, Mark & Sally Guido, Nick Thompson, Kaylee Thompson, Scott Meyer, John & Rae Fallon, Denise Quinn, Allison Roper, Jeff VanZandt, Kevin & Barbara Conroy, Jeanne Mueller, Jordan Martin, Emily Gies, Kori Geis, Mary McClintock, Tom Steed, Acquisitions Marketing Videographer Jose Rojas.

CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Brescia opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR HERB LORENZ

Mayor Brescia – Please continue standing I'd like to offer a moment of silence for Herb Lorenz who was a great guy, very benevolent. He helped Brian Fitzpatrick and Mike Hembury out tremendously with the car shows over the years and he is the reason that we had The Great Race a year and a half ago. He just passed away a short time ago and we want to remember him tonight, so please bow your heads. Thank you. Please be seated.

Mayor Brescia - We've got a short agenda tonight and then we have the house decorating contest award winners. That was a contest that was implemented years ago, even before I became mayor by the previous mayor, and we continued it and improved it and expanded it and it's still going strong today. Thank you. Many of you are here tonight for that; for your house decorating prize awards and I thank Debbie Delgado and Tina and the other people that were involved with the donations. Thank you. We have great prizes tonight from the Village businesses.

MINUTES

Moved by Deputy Mayor Andolsek, seconded by Trustee Hembury, the Board approved the minutes of November 21, 2023. Motion carried 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

Moved by Trustee Picarello, seconded by Trustee Hembury, the Board approved the minutes of December 6, 2023. Motion carried 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

OLD BUSINESS

CONSIDER THE BID AWARD FOR SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO PURCHASE A FORD F450 DUMP TRUCK

Mayor Brescia - Consider bid award for DPW dump truck. We need a motion to approve, the bid is coming out of various funds that are all allocated properly for purchase of a truck, 2023 Ford F450, 4x4 Regular Chassis Truck, sorely needed. Purchase price: \$67,650 total.

Atty. Frank - That's after the RFP went out.

Moved by Trustee Hembury, seconded by Trustee Conero, the Board authorized the Superintendent of Public Works to Accept a Bid for the Purchase of a Ford F450 Truck. Motion carried 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

NEW BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF TOYS FOR TOTS PLAQUE

Trustee Hembury - Good evening, everybody. Real quick. For what started out as an idea several years ago, the possibility of bringing a full-size passenger train into this Village, it's impossible. It's a freight line, how do you bring passenger trains in here? Well, it was for the United States Marines Toys for Tots, toys for the needy. Well, we're now in our 11th year of doing this. 11 years we've raised, we've got over 9,000 toys just in this Village, and every year we seem to come out on top because we have so many volunteers and we are such a cool community. I know Steve is big on Tennessee and Tennessee is the volunteer state but we're the volunteer Village. Sue and I, my wife Sue the elf, we have worked closely with Carolyn Hoffman and her husband Rudy Garbely, stand up please, these folks live in Pennsylvania, they run the Toys for Tots. We work with them from March to the end of the year planning this out. It's really running a railroad. They do the whole northeast and then they come into the Village of Montgomery with antique cars; the stuff that came through here was from Barnum & Bailey Circus. The train may have a locomotive but they're the locomotive to the train. Next year we're already coming in first in Toys for Tots because people are still donating. They're up here, so we're already ahead of the other communities, it's a friendly thing and we still like to win. I'd like to present this plaque to Rudy and Carolyn, Sue, come up here, she's the elf:

- Village of Montgomery Presents to Rudy and Carolyn with sincere gratitude, recognition and appreciation for outstanding community service and dedication and bringing the United States Marines Toys for Tots to the Village of Montgomery. December 19, 2023. Steve Brescia, Mayor, Deputy Mayor Darlene Andolsek, Trustee Michael Hembury, Trustee Randi Picarello and Trustee Kevin Conero. Thank you for all you do.

Carolyn Hoffman - Thank you very much. Montgomery makes such a big deal of this every year for us. It's such a wonderful feeling to pull in and see that whole lot all set up and the DJ going. Montgomery is the most enthusiastic small town that we come to every year, and we just enjoy every minute of it. Thank you so much. We appreciate all this support.

Mayor Brescia - Thanks again, that really was amazing. The weather was the only thing that didn't cooperate but everything else...and what they did at the Airport Inn was phenomenal.

This is the fun part of the meeting, our annual celebration meeting, which is the second one in December, the House Decorating Contest Winners. I would ask my friend Terry Latasa to come up, Pat Toranzo and Linda, you want to come up, too, because I know you're usually part of this. These three ladies are extraordinary, and I can't thank them enough. They were involved with The Great Race which we had a

year and a half ago and they did a phenomenal job on General Montgomery Day with the food vendors. The most food vendors we've had in years. They're my soldiers. Whatever I ask them to do they do it. Diane Karsten also helped with the house decorating judging.

36TH ANNUAL HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

MOST BEAUTIFUL

3rd Place - Brian & Denise Quinn, 48 Sycamore Drive
2nd Place - Robert & Antoinette Oakes, 191 Union Street
1st Place - Tim & Claudette Schaad, 53 Sycamore Drive

MOST TRADITIONAL

3rd Place - Kenn Hunt, 90 Railroad Avenue
2nd Place - Harry Mills Jr, 109 Union Street
1st Place - Steven & Denise Marra, 194 Union Street

OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS

3rd Place - Marc & Colleen Devitt, 146 Union Street
2nd Place - Mark Guido & Sandra Regis, 86 Union Street
1st Place - Michael & Gale Buchholz, 87 Madison Avenue

MOST ORIGINAL

3rd Place - James Rodney Bell, 194 Oriole Drive
2nd Place - Nick Thompson, 204 Tompkins Road
1st Place - Philip & Rita Apap, 137 Blue Bird Drive

MOST EYECATCHING

3rd Place - Patrick Kelleher, 177 Pleasant Avenue
2nd Place - Adolfo & Susi Mota, 1 Tyler Street
1st Place - James & Quinn McAnney, 10 Oakley Street

CHILDREN'S DELIGHT

3rd Place - Robert & Jill Winter, 9 Conroy Avenue
2nd Place - Mike & Sue Hembury, 89 Madison Avenue
1st Place - Nicholas & Catherine White, 83 Weaver Street

JUDGE'S: Teri Latasa, Patricia Toranzo and Diane Karsten

Thanks to our generous Village & Town Businesses for making this event possible!

88 Charles Street Restaurant, All Bar Steel, Antonio's Family Restaurant, ArtBox Studio, Boiler King, Borland House, Steve Brescia, Catania Mahon & Ryder PLLC, City Winery, Copperfield's Kildare Pub, Corey's Pickles, Delessio's Barber Shop, Deborah Delgado, Devitt Management, Dragon City Restaurant, Iron Café, Java Blue Coffee & Food Market, Lanc & Tully, Le Peche, Montgomery Book Exchange, Montgomery Jeweler, Montgomery Mercantile, Tina Murphy, Scott's Corner Sunoco, Vic's Pizzeria, Wallkill Valley Federal, Ward's Bridge Inn, Wildfire Grill, Yoga on Wallkill

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE TO MAYOR BRESCIA

Deputy Mayor Andolsek – Reading plaque:

- Village of Montgomery presents to L. Stephen Brescia in recognition and appreciation for 37 years of dedicated service, 34 as Mayor to the Village of Montgomery and its residents. We will miss you. December 19, 2023. From, Darlene Andolsek Deputy, Mayor, Michael Hembury, Trustee, Randi Picariello, Trustee, Kevin Conero, Trustee.

Stacy Brescia-Spreer – We have our own agenda and are taking over the meeting right now.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION FROM ROB ROLISON AND ASSEMBLYMAN BRIAN MAHER

Senator Rob Rolison - I'm glad to be here today in Montgomery because I love Montgomery and it's an honor to represent this community in the State Senate but it's really an honor to have you as my friend. As a former mayor myself of seven years in the city of Poughkeepsie, not your almost 34 years in the Village of Montgomery, which I was told this evening you were the longest tenured serving mayor in the State of New York. So, I heard. One of the things that I learned after becoming a mayor and before that I was a County Legislator and I was a Town cop for 26 years, is that mayors lookout for mayors regardless of what political side of the aisle you're on, because whether you're the mayor of the City of New York, the Village of Montgomery, the city of McKenzie, the city of Albany, the city of Buffalo, being a mayor is a tough job. It's the same challenges for the most part, just a little bigger or a little smaller and what I can say, and in my time in this office and seeing this great Village, you have done one remarkable job as this mayor, and you deserve all of our admiration. Brian, my good friend, has prepared a wonderful proclamation for you that I had the honor of actually signing today, right here in this Senior Center. So, Steve, congratulations on your new role as a supervisor. You get to bring all of your knowledge and your other positions, still in the same community, still with that same drive and desire, but also most importantly, because you love this community and that's why you're going to be a great Supervisor to Town Montgomery.

Brian Maher – Steve, this is a joint Senate and Assembly Proclamation and for me it's really special because yes, you've been mayor for almost 34 years and that was part of my upbringing and education. So, as a young person, as somebody who is an elected official here and so many more in the room feel this way, our goal is to bring good role models and make sure that we give young people the ability to pursue their dreams. You are part of that cloth of elected leaders that I got to witness over the last several decades that helped allow me to be in the position that I'm in today. So, I really appreciate that and as Rob said, when I became of age and got elected and became in the position, you didn't just work with me and just answer the phone, you gave me guidance, you did give me mentorship, you allowed me to learn from your mistakes some of which I did not listen to and made my own, but you gave me such value in terms of being able to be the best public servant that I could be and in so many ways that no other folks will know, they should know now that you have done so much to guide me and be a mentor and I'm always willing to acknowledge that publicly and here in this moment where we're honoring you I feel such a privilege to be able to be in a position representing the State Assembly, the Village of Montgomery and the Town, to be here to honor you. The last thing I will say is a little bit of foreshadowing. I think it's really important at the Town of Montgomery level that we have a Village person to understand how important it is for the Town to value its three dynamic beautiful historic Villages. I'm so excited that you'll be able to be there for the perceivable

future because it's so important that us four municipalities work together, and I know how important that is to you. Thank you for your service and we look forward to your continued service.

Kathy Barnett representing The Director of the Orange County Office for the Aging, Anne Marie Maglioni-Butler – On behalf of Anne Marie Maglioni and Assistant Director Danielle Diana-Smith, we would like to present you with this outstanding award for your dedication to the Village of Montgomery Seniors and also Orange County as a whole. We appreciate everything you've done, and we know you're going to do a great job as Supervisor. Thank you.

Orange County Sheriff Paul Arteta - So do I have a lot of stories about Steve for you. I've known Steve for over 30 years and I'm only 35 so that's at least half of Steve's life. I had the absolute pleasure to work here in the 90s as a police officer and a Sergeant investigator and then I came back after I retired from the Sheriff's Office and I worked as Deputy Chief with Chief Herlihy, and I can honestly say this is probably one of the best villages in Orange County, New York State, probably in the nation. Safety wise, this guy here, Steve cares about the police, the fire, EMS, he takes care of all of our folks throughout the county. I've had to deal with for 30 years in the county so, and he's taken care of us at the Sheriff's Office for several years. We wouldn't have the contracts that we have today without the help of Steve. He's just a great man. Just go around this Village; what other Villages have a crowd of people they're giving awards to for decorating their houses? What other Village goes out when people move into the Village and visits their homes and gives them different things to acclimate them to the Village? This Village is great. It's a great place to live and raise your children. I give kudos to Steve, 37 years of service on the Village of Montgomery Board, 34 years as mayor. He is going to be sorely missed in the Village but welcomed in the Town. As a token of our appreciation from the Sheriff's office, I have a certificate:

- Certificate of Recognition for L. Stephen Brescia, 37 years of service in the Village of Montgomery, for 34 years as mayor this 19th day of December 2023. From Sheriff Paul Arteta.

And a pin; don't get pulled over with this stuff. I have a funny story. In the 90's when I worked here, Montgomery Day was always a nightmare for us and the mayor wanted a police radio, so we got him a police radio. We just made sure it didn't have any of our channels in it so every time he called for us, he couldn't figure out why the radio didn't work, and we told him it's because you're not a police officer. Now, today he knows.

Stacy Brescia-Spreer - Debbie Delgado and I enjoyed making these videos for Steve. Let's take a look at some of the highlights of his history as legislator. (Slideshow begins)

Town of Montgomery Supervisor Ron Feller - I have to follow that? You know what they say, they saved the best for last. I moved into this town 50 years ago when Steve was only about 11 or 12. I spent 15 years in the Village of Montgomery and we had four little kids, and the kids were playing baseball. We had one field out here, field one behind the backstop. There was a little concession stand and one field. Boys, everybody played there. Then, we got field two, then Steve became mayor. We got field three, we got field four, we got field five, we got the dog pond, we got the pavilion, we got this beautiful building. Okay, we have so much stuff that Steve initiated in my 50 years of being up here. I can't say thank you enough for me and my family. We even have the trails out there that cut down to the river.

Steve supports the veterans. Every year they have the Veteran's Day ceremony here, supported by Steve. We went on December 7th, Pearl Harbor Day, Steve is out there.

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So, on a personal note, I've known Steve for probably 35-40 years. I let him come over to my house one night after a night at Copperfield's. I was about 45 years old, and he was about 30, and we were talking at Copperfield's, and he was telling me how great a football player he was. He could throw the ball. We got into a, why don't you come over to my house and show me how you can throw a football, but I'm going to throw a football against you, and then you're going to do what I'm going to do. So, we get to the house and it's about 2:00 in the morning. So, I woke up my son who's now 22, and told him he had to be the judge. We put the spotlight on in the back, down to the right lane and much to my chagrin, Steve threw the football farther than I. My son asked if he could go back to bed now. I said no, we're going to do some diving off the board. I did a back flip off the board at 2:30 in the morning, Steve said why don't we call it a draw. Anyway, Brian was young when he met Steve, I was older when I met Steve, as far as political. I'm not a politician. Steve says, you're retired from Con Ed, you're building houses, why don't you get involved in the community, you're living in the town? I said no thank you. I'll leave that to you guys. Steve calls me up again, hey you know what we need a town Councilman, why don't you do that? You know he's very persuasive, so the rest is history. He and I are going to swap positions, I guess, maybe if we get things worked out. I can't leave the Town in any better hands than Steve. We've spent the last 2-3 weeks doing transition every day, we go over everything that he's going to inherit and things that he doesn't want to inherit. He's already taken over my staff. He's a great guy. I love him like a son and I'm proud to give him this little token of our appreciation from the Town of Montgomery:

- Certificate of appreciation presented to: L Stephen Brescia for your dedication and service as Mayor for the Village of Montgomery for the last 33 years. Approved and presented December 19, 2023, by Montgomery Town Board Deputy Supervisor Cindy Voss, Kristin Brown, Mike Sennicota, Jerry Miller, Supervisor Ron Feller and Tara Stickle.

Steve, I love you and I know I'm leaving the Town in good hands, and we'll be fine. Thank you.

First Commander of the American Legion Post 521, Graldy Schenck - Good evening. I'm the 1st Vice Commander of Post 521 American Legion and I'm here representing our Commander Mark Merring, who is on a very important mission this week, he's visiting his grandchildren. For over 100 years the American Legion Post 521 has worked with the Village of Montgomery to host events honoring our veterans. I've seen people line the streets for parades, standing quietly for memorial services and attend special events to show our veterans that they are appreciated. In short, I've seen people who are actively involved with the community that they are proud of. At each of these events, I also see a small group of people armed with clipboards and golf carts scurrying around and greasing the wheels to make sure that these events and Village life in general, runs smoothly. At the center of this team is our Mayor, Steve Brescia, who has spent years working for Montgomery. My Commander, Mark Merring, and I would like to thank you Steve for your vision and commitment which is made possible for this team to make our Village, and this event, something to be truly proud of. now on behalf of our commander and all of my fellow Legionnaires I'd like to present you with this certificate:

- This Certificate of Appreciation is gratefully presented to Steve Brescia and recognition and sincere appreciation of outstanding service and assistance which has been contributed to the advancement of the American Legion programs and activities dedicated to God and country. Presented by the American Legion Montgomery Post 521, Department of New York this 19th day of December 2023. Singed by Mark Merring, Commander.

Montgomery Fire Department, President Mike Gironda, Chief, Brian Quinn and First Assistant Bob Reynolds, Jr. - Good evening. Even not being the Chief anymore, I still have to talk for these two. I came

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in as a very young Fire Chief and dealt with a lot of stuff, four years of being Chief. I was faced with the pandemic, the air show and then they wanted to throw a little thing called a tornado on top of it, that came through the Village of Montgomery. During the tornado, I don't know if you remember this or not, you and Brian showed up on our doorstep, but I believe Brian, it was your campaign trail you were on. You had on fluorescent yellow shirts, and you said you've been out directing traffic. We have cars off the road at 211 and 416 and we helped some citizens. Is there anything you need us to do? For the years that I've known Steve, it's boots on the ground. hard worker Brian, yourself also. Steve, you did a short stint as an active firefighter, I'm told, before my time, but I did see the dedication that your family had, your father being a Fire Commissioner and also anything that we needed you've been there for us, so on behalf of the Montgomery Fire Department, Chief Brian Quinn, President Michael Gironda presented to Mayor L. Stephen Brescia for your years of dedicated service to the Village of Montgomery, heartfelt thanks from the officers and members of the Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department. Thank you very much.

Trustee Hembury - [Under 3 chairs in the audience will be a sticker and its house prize. You will win a Montgomery history book signed by the Mayor. We didn't plan for the crowd to be this big even though we knew it was going to be this big.

Stacy Brescia-Spreer – During the years, Montgomery has grown and changed under your leadership, Steve, with the help of the Village Board and our Montgomery community. Let's take a look. (Slideshow begins)

Mayor Brescia – I wasn't going to shed a tear here, but you guys are too much. It's very bittersweet. It really is, leaving after 37 years; and it's 33 3/4 years as Mayor. It seems like I like to leave on the 3/4 years, so it seems I like to leave just a hair earlier than an even number. This is overwhelming. I'm taken aback by the overwhelming support here in friendship and love and this is apropos that my farewell is on the night of the day of my Aunt Nancy 's birthday she's in heaven looking down. Also, it's Pat Imbriani's birthday today, Stacey Hillman's birthday is today and tomorrow would have been my father's 90th birthday. I was going to read some of the accomplishments, some of the things we've accomplished together over the years, but you really saw it, a picture says 1000 words. I'm really not going to read that but I'm not retiring, I'm still going to be around. Stacy's probably going to retire from General Montgomery Day and maybe a couple other things. She says she is, but we'll see how it goes. It is exhausting, depleting and it's tough to be in public office because you get attacked all the time and those that say it doesn't bother you, it does bother you, it really does sometimes, and it affects your families, and you just have to fight on. When they keep raining on the parade, you just have to keep marching, that's all there is to it because if we gave up years ago, we wouldn't be where we are today. You know, people give me credit for a lot of stuff, and I played quarterback many times over the years. But, like we talked about Little League, I mean Wayne Vetro was President of Little League forever. And he had volunteers like you (to someone in the audience) and Marty Imbriani and Pat Imbriani, God bless her. They just dedicated themselves to this community and that's what everybody coalesces in this community. That's why everybody wants to be here; it's one of the fastest growing communities in the State of New York, because we want to keep the Village the way it is. And we don't want exponential growth whether it be industrial or residential, we want to keep our community the way it is because that's what it's all about.

I have many friends here tonight from the legislature. Steve Neuhaus was supposed to come and give me my 30-year pin tonight because I've got 30 years in the legislature. That's the second longest. I would have been tied with the longest if I didn't leave two years earlier with Tony Moreno. Lee Benton's been there with me forever, he's right behind me, coming up on his 30 years. John Vero, former legislator, Jimmy

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DeSalvo, former legislator. I really enjoyed my time in the legislature. We got a lot accomplished; we built the government center, got the taxes stable and it's just been fantastic, it really has. Joe Minuta is here, another County legislator, Courtney Greene and Dominic help keep the County strong. But just our whole community, all the people here; Tracy Palumbo Richards and her family, the Kelleher's, our Historian, Brian Fitzpatrick and his family. I don't know what to say here. Eddie Diana has been a friend forever since Diana's restaurant, a good leader, too. He really has been, that the county did so well with Eddie and now with Steve Neuhaus, keeping taxes stable and infrastructure improvements second to none. We've done that in the Village; the infrastructure improvements here have been awesome. I mean, it's not just me, it's the Board and it's the Planning Board, it's the volunteers who put on the Memorial Day parades. And the Floods are always involved too, and Mary Ann Linder and Allie are here tonight. Walt, we're praying for him every day. He gave so much of his heart and soul to this Village, and you know we know what you're going through. We love you guys. I don't know what else to say. Buddy and Jessica Nelson; Buddy, he's really made me look good over the years, right? When I've asked him to do something over the years and he's always been, you know, but just the whole sense of community. Sid, Karen and Skip with the Tractor Parade with them, they brought to Montgomery, it just gets bigger and better every year. Just all the events. I didn't expect this tonight. I'm sorry guys, I just expected a quick... you know, say goodbye. But it's really good to have a little validation and appreciation for the things that I've done over the years. Lucy and Bill and Bobby Lee over there, hiding. I don't get too big for my britches, I don't get too high on my horse because first and foremost, my family and my friends especially the ones in the front row there, the Presuttis and the Monroes, I thought you were here to heckle tonight, and you tried a little bit. They bring me back to reality and they bring me back to who from which I came, and my family came. I still have desire to serve, and I will, and I'll still help the Village out any way I can. Darlene and I talked about the addition that's going back here, we're signed sealed and stamped and you guys are ready to approve in the New Year and I'm leaving the Board in capable hands of a very capable Deputy Mayor to run things for three months, good hard working Trustees like Randi, Kevin and you're perfect to take on after Walt because he's a lot like you; same temperament and accomplishment. And Tina, Deputy Clerk, thank you for all you've been doing lately. Am I rambling on a little bit too much, yes, I don't know what to do because I tried to get it over easily. I do have one more item of business...Yes, Russell; their wedding, they got me to dress up as Elvis for their wedding ceremony. I did a pretty good job. That was really fun. Does anyone else have any comments, say goodbye, get the hell out? Paul Satkowski, my Polish prince friend back there, Notre Dame, good guy, too. He joins a good business, his heart and souls here too. Rusty Fassnacht, I see back there and Smitty, what'd you have, 70 years as a cop? Rags is back there, the Conroy's, the Guidos, Dick Tracy, of course, my right-hand guy. There's just so much fun and I'm going to miss it in a sense, but you know I have to move on a little bit. And by the way, I knew 3 weeks ago what I was going to do as far as resigning but we just let it play out a little bit because The Wallkill Valley Times and the rumors and all, and sometimes the malice, the criticism and all this other stuff, but you know I thought about it because some people say you can wait till the 4th and you can be sworn in as supervisor on the 4th, but I started to think about it and I said you know that's really not the right thing to do; to start out as Town Supervisor and wait. There were a fair amount of people that wanted me to do that because they thought the transition would have been easier but I thought my girlfriend told me not a good idea, my sister told me not a good idea, the Deputy Mayor told me not a good idea, the Supervisor told me not a good idea, the Village attorney, who sometimes we don't listen to, but he told me not a good idea so I will be resigning effective almost midnight on the 31st of this month. I trust the Village of Montgomery residents to make the right choice for Mayor and Trustee and it'll hopefully to be a clean fought campaign whoever runs, which we'll know very soon, so I wish the candidates all the best, and the Village Board, we're in good financial shape, we're a very safe Village, clean Village, Historic Village, hardworking Village, one of the best Villages in the state of New York. So, without further ado and rambling on anymore, thank you so much. I love you guys.

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ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF MAYOR L. STEPHEN BRESCIA

Mayor Brescia -

- It is with deep regret that I resign my position of Village of Montgomery Mayor effective 11:59 pm on December 31, 2023. My years as Mayor have been the most rewarding of my life. I consider the Village employees as my family, and I wish everyone success, happiness and peace in the years to come. Respectfully, L. Stephen Brescia.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Andolsek, seconded by Trustee Hembury, the Board motioned to accept Mayor Brescia's resignation. Motion carried 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Deputy Mayor Andolsek, seconded by Trustee Hembury, the Board adjourned the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 8:38pm. Motion carried 5-Ayes, 0-Nays.

Tina Murphy, Deputy Village Clerk