

Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for October 11, 2017
7:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jaskiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of our military.

3. Roll Call

Present were Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

4. Special Recognitions/Presentations

a. Montville Youth Services Bureau Chairman Daniel Dunn

Due to a scheduling conflict, the special recognition of MYSB Chairman Dunn will be re-scheduled.

b. Town Planner Marcia Vlaun regarding the Hidden Heroes Program for Military Caregivers
Town Planner Vlaun thanked the Chairman and Mayor for agreeing to include the item on this evening's agenda. While the country has promised to take care of those who serve/have served the country, the service does not always extend to their caregivers. The Hidden Heroes Foundation was founded by Senator Elizabeth Dole to raise awareness for those family members who take care of our veterans and who often do not receive the necessary resources. Since her appointment as one of Montville's Veterans Municipal Representatives, they have been able to help approximately 45 veterans receive a variety of aid. Montville, with a population of approximately 18,000, is home to 1,479 veterans, constituting over 8% of its population. Many of these veterans, she added, served the Vietnam or Korean Wars and are now entering a phase of their lives where they may require additional care. She introduced Jessica Rodriguez, the Elizabeth Dole Caregiver Fellow for Connecticut, who provided a brief background of herself and the program.

A Dole Fellow since December 2017, Ms. Rodriguez, has been a caregiver for her husband, who was injured in Iraq, since 2011. She thanked the Town Council and Mayor for pledging their support by allowing her to speak with them this evening and Town Planner Vlaun for bringing the Program to their attention. She also expressed her excitement, honor, and privilege at having Montville be the first town in the State to consider the Hidden Heroes Initiative. She provided the Council with her background and experience as a caregiver for her husband, who continues to be an inspiration for her and her family and her lack of knowledge of the available resources and preparation in handling his injuries. According to a RAND study, commissioned by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation, there are approximately 5.5 million military caregivers currently serving wounded, ill, and injured veterans in the United States. A positive vote will make Montville a pioneer in spotlighting, honoring, and recognizing these caregivers. The Initiative, which began last year, has excelled to reach 108 cities that have dedicated themselves to supporting and spotlighting those behind the scenes. On behalf of the Initiative and the Foundation, she thanked the Town Council and the Mayor for allowing her to speak and hopes that this will be the beginning of a movement in the State of Connecticut.

Mayor McDaniel thanked her for sharing her touching and personal story and commented on her admirable advocacy for her husband and other military caregivers. He hopes that a positive vote by the Town Council this evening will spark a revolution to honor those who are/will serve the country as caregivers. He also expressed his gratitude to both Town Planner Vlaun and Town Clerk Lisa Terry, both of whom did not hesitate to volunteer to serve as the Veterans Services Liaisons.

Town Planner Vlaun stated that the Dole Foundation is requesting that two (2) points of contact be appointed and she, along with Social and Senior Services Director Kathie Doherty-Peck, would be honored to serve as the Town's points of contact. They have taken

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the liberty to develop a rough plan to deploy information regarding the Program on the Town website and possible events/activities in support of the Initiative. In response to Councilor Rogulski, she stated that while the establishment of a committee is presented as an option, two points of contact is being initially requested as well as reaching out to various leaders and organizations.

Chairman Jaskiewicz thanked Dole Foundation Fellow Rodriguez for her presentation and related his personal experience as a caregiver for his brother who served three tours in Vietnam. Councilor Caron also thanked her and her husband for serving the country and is very pleased to have both Director Doherty-Peck and Town Planner Vlaun serve as the points of contact. Councilor May, as a veteran, also expressed his gratitude. Councilor Longton stated that he is not surprised that Montville would be the first to support the Initiative in the State of Connecticut, being that the average number of veterans in the U.S. constitutes approximately 1% of the population and the average number of veterans in the Town of Montville constitutes 8% of its population.

5. Alterations to the Agenda – *none*
6. Executive Session
To Consider and Act on a Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing candidates for the Water & Sewer Commission and Public Safety Commission. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
Due to a scheduling conflict, the interview for the Public Safety Commission candidate will be re-scheduled. Ms. Deborah Schober, who has been a member of the Water & Sewer Commission for well over ten years, opted to be interviewed publicly. She stated that the Commission's role has dramatically improved since she first joined the Commission and she is hoping and looking forward to being part of its continued progress. Councilors May, who currently serves as the Commission Chairman, Longton, and Caron expressed their appreciation for her continued willingness to serve on and the value she adds to the Commission.
7. To Consider and Act on a motion to approve:
 - a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2017
Motion made by Councilor Rogulski, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
 - b. The Special Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2017 (Candidate Interviews)
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
 - c. The Special Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2017 (YSB Building)
Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 5-0-2. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilors Gladue and Pollard. Motion carried.
8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit – *none*
9. Communications
 - a. Copy of the September 2017 budget report from Ms. Terry Hart, Finance Director
In response to Councilor Caron, Finance Director Hart stated that they are still waiting for the final budget from the State. A Policy is currently in place and the Town has been smart with their budget, resulting in a healthy unassigned fund balance. In addition, both the Mayor and the Board of Education recently implemented a spending freeze.
10. Report from the Town Attorney on Matters Referred
The Fire Services Agreement and a re-draft of the Blight Ordinance are in progress.

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11. Remarks from the Mayor and/or Administrative Department Heads to include Matters Referred
Mayor McDaniel announced that Oakdale Elementary School was recently named a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School and, thanks to the efforts of Director of Facilities Steve Carroll, Montville High, Oakdale Elementary, and Tyl Middle Schools recently received its Energy Star[®] certification. A commercial advertisement highlighting his achievements and educating students on his efforts was created. Joshua Cushing was recognized as the Teacher of the Year at the Board of Education's September Meeting. The Mayor's office, in conjunction with the Planning & Zoning Department, is continuing to work on the JLUS (Joint Land Use Study), ensuring that developments taking place along the waterfront are in harmony with the Subbase and the Department of Defense initiatives. The Town was also involved with a Critical Infrastructure Study at the Council of Governments and has gained awareness regarding the climate changes and its effects on the Town's infrastructure(s). While the issues are minor, the Chesterfield Fire Department is the only department affected. A nice retirement dinner was held for Oakdale Fire Chief Gary Murphy, who was admirably recognized for his service.

Montville Police Department Lt. Leonard Bunnell reported that positive feedback has been received from both the public and the officers regarding the new streetlights, which should result in a very safe Halloween.

12. Reports from Standing Committees.

a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – Councilor Jaskiewicz – *no meeting*

b. Finance – Councilor Longton – *no meeting*

c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – Councilor Caron

While no meeting was held, Councilor Caron reported that they, too, have received positive feedback regarding the new streetlights. He commended the Public Works Department on a tremendous job with the Kitemaug Orchard Project, which was recently completed.

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

a. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging; Social Services; Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund

A productive Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund meeting was held with the Mayor and Fire Chiefs; another meeting will be held in the near future to discuss various outstanding items.

Both the Senior Center and Social Services have been very busy and are in the process of soliciting donations of non-perishables as well as turkeys and ham for the holiday season. He commended Senior and Social Services Director Doherty-Peck on a fantastic job and, again, thanked her and Town Planner Vlaun for their support of the veterans.

b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education (BOE), Parks & Recreation Commission, Public Safety Commission

Councilor Jaskiewicz commended Mr. Cushing, who was named Teacher of the Year.

The Parks & Recreation Commission held a very productive meeting during which the members of the Carnival Committee were selected as well as those who will be helping with the upcoming Trick or Trunk event.

The Public Safety Commission honored Fire Marshal Ray Occhialini for his 37 years of service. Also discussed was Safety Day, which was recently held at The Home Depot; a Police Department Evaluation Policy, which will be sent to the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Sub-Committee, was proposed by Lt. Bunnell, and; the proposed agreement with the Fire Houses. Councilor Gladue will be the Commission's future liaison.

c. Councilor Longton: Library – *no meeting*

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- d. Councilor May: Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA); Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board

The WPCA is working on increasing the BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand) limit from 4,000 to 6,000 BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand)/day, which will allow the Plant to greatly increase its capacity and accommodate any future expansions within the Town. Since the institution of the Electronic Payment System two years ago, the WPCA has been able to dramatically reduce the number of delinquent and late payments.

The Youth Service Bureau will be hosting their Annual Pancake Breakfast this Sunday, October 15, 8:00 a.m. to noon, at the Mohegan Fire House. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

- e. Councilor Rogulski: Economic Development Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission
Due to lack of a quorum, the Economic Development Commission held an informational meeting and discussed the website and enrollment.

The Planning & Zoning Commission discussed a proposed subdivision for property located on Oakland Drive as well as a Site Plan Modification for a property located on Pequot Road. In response to Councilor Caron, there is no news regarding the sale of the former Drive-In.

- f. Councilor Pollard: Non-Profit Organizations – *no meeting*

14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Mr. David Turner to the Niantic River Watershed Committee with a term to expire December 14, 2021.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz commented on an interesting interview regarding the progress that the Committee has made over the years. Roll Call vote, 6-0-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Gladue. Motion carried.

- b. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Ms. Karen Doherty to the Commission on Aging with a term to expire on November 20, 2020.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Gladue. Motion carried.

- c. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Mr. Louis Ziegler to the Commission on Aging with a term to expire on December 14, 2020.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Gladue. Motion carried.

- d. To Consider and Act on a Motion to reinstate Mr. Ryan Hartman to the Parks & Recreation Commission with a term to expire on May 11, 2019.

Motion made by Councilor Rogulski, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that Mr. Hartman previously served on and recently resigned from the Commission to serve on the Town Council. Unfortunately, due to his military obligations, he is unable to serve on the Town Council at this time and has expressed his interest in being reinstated to the Commission. Roll Call vote, 6-0-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Gladue. Motion carried.

15. Unfinished Business – *none*

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16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2017-71. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$2,164.08 (two-thousand one hundred sixty-four dollars and eight cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Gladue, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

- b. **Resolution #2017-72. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to set the 2018 regular monthly meeting dates of the Town Council on the second Monday of every month, excluding holidays that will be scheduled on the Wednesday of that week. The scheduled meeting dates are as follows: January 8, February 12, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, August 13, September 10, October 10 (Wednesday), November 14 (Wednesday), and December 10 to be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Gladue, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

- c. **Resolution #2017-73. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve and adopt the Ordinance titled “An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 2017-004 Regarding Sale and Conveyance of Real Property Located at 289 Route 32 (former Youth Services Building)” as heard at the public hearing held on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 6:30 PM in the Town Council Chambers at Montville Town Hall. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Gladue, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

- d. **Resolution #2017-74. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve and adopt the Hidden Heroes Resolution in support of Montville’s military and veteran caregivers. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

WHEREAS, the series of wars in which our nation has been engaged over time, since World War II, has resulted in 5.5 million military and veteran caregivers who are parents, spouses, siblings and friends, caring for those wounded, ill or injured who have served our nation, as documented by the 2014 RAND study commissioned by the Elizabeth Dole Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the daily tasks of these military and veterans caregivers can include bathing, feeding, dressing, and caring for the grievous injuries of wounded warriors, administering medications, providing emotional support, caring for the family and the home, and working outside the home to earn essential income; and

WHEREAS, the nation provides multi-faceted support to our wounded, ill and injured veterans and service members through public, private and philanthropic resources, but their caregivers receive little support or acknowledgement; and

WHEREAS, most military and veteran caregivers consider the challenging work they do as simply carrying out their civic and patriotic duty, without realizing they are, in fact, caregivers, and do not identify themselves as such; and

WHEREAS, an alarming number of military and veteran caregivers, according to research, are suffering numerous debilitating mental, physical and emotional effects as a result of their caregiving duties; and

WHEREAS, the **TOWN OF MONTVILLE** desires to recognize and support those who are serving in these vital roles in our own community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the **TOWN OF MONTVILLE** as follows:

- I.** That the **TOWN OF MONTVILLE** become a **Hidden Heroes Town** in support of military and veteran caregivers.
- II.** That the **TOWN OF MONTVILLE** seek to identify military and veteran caregivers residing in our **TOWN**.
- III.** That the **TOWN OF MONTVILLE** works to ensure that our government, organizations, employers and non-profits are aware of the unique challenges of military and veteran caregivers and are encouraged to create supportive environments and opportunities for assistance.
- IV.** That the **TOWN OF MONTVILLE** plan an observance each May, during Military Appreciation Month, to honor and recognize the city's military and veteran caregivers in partnership with the Elizabeth Dole Foundations' national Hidden Heroes campaign.
- V.** That the **TOWN OF MONTVILLE** encourage all who care for and support veterans and service members to extend that support to their caregivers.
- VI.** That the **TOWN OF MONTVILLE** designate a point of contact for our **TOWN**, from the public or private sector, for citizens and organizations wanting to offer support, and caregivers who need that support.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: Per the Resolution, Mayor McDaniel will designate the points of contact and ensure that the Town's veterans organizations are informed about the Initiative. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Gladue, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

17. Remarks from the Public with a three-minute limit – *none*

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor Rogulski congratulated Oakdale School and commended and expressed his pride in Montville Public School's Facility Director Carroll, the significant savings gained through his efforts, and suggested inviting Director Carroll to speak about the accomplishment. He also expressed his appreciation to the Councilors for a great two-year term, thanked them for their support, and wished them all good luck in the upcoming election.

Councilor Pollard echoed Councilor Rogulski's remarks and thanked Town Planner Vlaun and Dole Foundation Fellow Rodriguez for their presentation and bringing the initiative forward, having provided care for two veteran brother-in-laws as well as working with hospice and caring for the elderly.

Councilor Longton also echoed Councilor Rogulski's comments regarding the School's recent designation as an Energy Star[®] School, having had the opportunity to personal experience it. He thanked the Town for their support and for providing him with the privilege and honor to serve them; he hopes to be able to continue serving them in the near future.

Councilor Caron also thanked the Town Council, Mayor, Town Planner Vlaun, Social and Senior Services Director Doherty-Peck, and Dole Foundation Fellow Rodriguez for their support of the Hidden Heroes Resolution. He also congratulated and commended Fire Marshal Occhialini. Having served with a number of Councilors through the years, he felt that the current Council is a very classy group that has been able to work together over the past two years with great respect for each other. He thanked the public for allowing him to serve this great Town.

Councilor May expressed his pride in their enactment of the Hidden Heroes Resolution. He commented on Dole Foundation Fellow Rodriguez' very emotional and compelling story with which he felt a very personal connection. He also commented on the need for the Councilors to

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thank themselves for their many accomplishments and services they have been able to provide to the townspeople over the past two years. He is very pleased that they were able to work together.

Councilor Gladue expressed her pride in the being the first town to pass the Hidden Heroes Initiative and stated the importance of respecting and ensuring the care of our veterans. She wished everyone good luck and hopes to be able to serve as a member of the Town Council in the very near future.

Chairman Jaskiewicz agreed with the Councilors ability to work well together and respect each other's opinions. He also agreed that the Town Council has achieved a great number of accomplishments and thanked the townspeople for allowing him to do so. He wished everyone good luck and good health.

Mayor McDaniel apologized for neglecting to mention the recent Fire Prevention Day at The Home Depot — a very well organized, well-attended event that has received nothing but positive reviews — and thanked everyone for their support. He also commended Facilities Director Carroll for a tremendous job, adding that the Town is blessed to have him work for them. He urged the Town Councilors to be true to themselves and the facts during this election season. Having been the Mayor for nearly six years, he stated that this was the best Town Council with whom he has had the pleasure to work. He commented briefly on the spending freeze and the past frugality of the Town resulting in a healthy unassigned fund balance. He wished everyone the best of luck and thanked them for their service to the Town.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by all of the Councilors to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville

**AN AUDIO RECORD OF THE MEETING CAN BE FOUND ON THE TOWN'S WEBSITE
LOCATED UNDER RESOURCES – FORM REPOSITORY – MEETING RECORDINGS**