

**Town of Montville Public Safety Commission
Meeting Minutes of Monday, July 25, 2011
Town Council Chambers – 7:00 p.m. – Town Hall**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jetmore called the regular meeting of the Public Safety Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. after establishing a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Allyn, Jetmore, Loiler, McNally, Moran, and Wehner. Absent was Commissioner Butterworth. Also present was Mayor Jaskiewicz and Town Council liaison, Candy Buebendorf.

4. Amendments to the Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner McNally, seconded by Commissioner Loiler to add agenda item 12 (b) Discussion regarding a sidewalk ordinance to the agenda. Discussion, none, voice vote, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Communications

All Public Safety related communications were added to the Commission packet for review.

6. Approval of the Minutes of;

- a. June 27, 2011 regular meeting;
- b. July 18, 2011 special meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner McNally, seconded by Commissioner Wehner to approve the June 27th and the July 18th meeting minutes as submitted. Discussion, none, voice vote, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

7. Executive Session – none.

8. Remarks from the Public

Chairman Jetmore asked three times if there was anyone from the public who would like to come forward to address the Commission.

9. Remarks from Department Heads

Mr. Ray Occhialini, Fire Marshal, distributed copies of his monthly report for the Commission to review. He stated for the month of June there were two hundred and fifteen dispatch calls, Montville had ninety first due, Mohegan had eighty one, Oakdale had twenty four and Chesterfield had seventeen calls. Seventy five point three percent of the calls were EMS calls. He discussed fiscal year totals and total losses over the past year. He received a letter from the State stating his Millstone grant for equipment, Millstone drill related items and reimbursement of three months of salary and benefits would be in the amount of twenty seven thousand dollars this year, this is a seven thousand dollar increase over last year. The Oakdale Plaza began cleanup last week and has an anticipated finish date of the end of this week. He is looking at fee schedules for the Department and he hopes to have a proposed fee schedule for the September meeting. He hopes the new fee schedule will generate revenue for the Department. He thanked the Commission for its attendance at the interviews for the firefighter, stating they were conducted in a professional manner. The final interviews will be scheduled with the Mayor with a hire in the near future. Last Friday there was a four hour power outage from St. Bernard's hill at Woodland Drive to the casino. He thanked Lt. Bunnell for all his help with traffic control on a busy Friday night. He thanked the Mayor for being there and it all worked out. He stated the grid can not hold the power and the outage was a result of the overload of power caused by the heat. The Regional Dispatch Committee is waiting until September to have its meeting and there is a pre-construction meeting scheduled for the Public Safety Building on August 4th.

Chairman Jetmore commended Mr. Occhialini on his speech to the Town Council regarding the Regional Dispatch, stating it was very professional.

Chairman Jetmore stated there are still some department heads who are not submitting their monthly reports to the Commission and he asked that they be contacted and reminded to do so.

Mr. Bryce Wilkins, Deputy Chief of the Oakdale Fire Department, reported on the monthly report. He stated he has met with the Chief of the Gardner Lake Fire Department regarding mutual aid agreements while the bridge was closed on Oxoboxo Lake. The Gardner Lake Fire Department would be contacted for first due calls while the bridge was closed to get someone to the scene faster. They are going to add them to the normal responses as an R-1 to get to the scene to give emergency care as soon as possible. They will be added for help with structure fires and motor vehicle accidents and ambulance calls and he will give the Fire Marshal the information needed to update the CAD response system at the 911 center this week. This will enhance safety and protection to the citizens in the area. This week he will speak with the Finance Department regarding the bonding for the new fire engine.

Mayor Jaskiewicz stated the closing of the bridge worked out to be a benefit to the Town as they now have mutual aid with the Town of Salem.

Commissioner Allyn inquired regarding the final specifications for the fire truck and Mr. Wilkins stated he will email the specifications out to the Commission secretary for distribution to the Commissioners.

10. Reports from Committees and Public Safety Liaisons

There were no reports to discuss.

11. Unfinished Business

a. Update/Discussion regarding progress of the Public Safety Building complex.

Chairman Jetmore stated the ground breaking was held and the pre-construction meeting is scheduled for August 4th. Mayor Jaskiewicz stated he was impressed with the number of people in attendance at the ground breaking and he stated the Committee did a great job. He thanked the people of the Town of Montville for supporting the building and thanked the State for the seven hundred thousand dollars. He is happy the people in the town supported the six million dollar project.

Commissioner Loiler stated it was nice to see the Public Safety Commissioners at the ground breaking ceremony.

b. Update/Discussion regarding the hire of a firefighter for the Town of Montville.

Commissioner Allyn stated the interviews were held last Monday evening and out of the interviews there were final scores for each person and they were forwarded to the Mayor with three recommendations for hire. The Mayor will conduct an interview with the top three candidates and the Fire Marshal. Mayor Jaskiewicz stated he has scheduled two of the interviews and is hopeful of setting up the third. By the end of the week there will be a hire. He thanked the Commission and everyone involved and stated the process was long and drawn out but from this point forward there is a precedent and a policy for future hires. He thanked the Commission for approving the policy.

c. Discussion regarding the M-41 fire truck purchase for Oakdale Fire Company.

This item will be continued until the Commission receives the specification for the truck.

d. Public Safety Plan

Commissioner Allyn stated he will be sending a note to the Commission secretary to send out to the stake holders that will be a part of the plan so they can decide who their representative will be. He is trying to schedule a meeting in the next few weeks. He has

the RFP almost completed, he needs to finish the scope of work that is going into the RFP and get it out for review. He stated this will be a six month project with the hope it will be returned by February. He is requesting representation from Emergency Management, the fire service, the fire chiefs, dispatch and the other agencies outlined in the Charter to sit and go over the scope of work.

12. New Business

- a. Discussion regarding the new Town Risk Insurance carrier.

Commissioner Allyn stated he understands there is a new town risk insurer, HD Segur, and he asked if they provide all the same services CERMA provides and Mayor Jaskiewicz stated the Commission will be impressed with the savings and the services provided by the company. Commissioner Allyn expressed concern, stating he hopes the town is not getting the same services for the same money and Mayor Jaskiewicz stated there is considerable savings by using HD Segur. Councilor Buebendorf stated it would be informative for a few commissions to set up a meeting to listen to the presentation. It was the consensus of the Commission to schedule a special meeting at 6:00 p.m. prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting to discuss the benefits of the services provided.

- b. Discussion regarding a proposed sidewalk ordinance.

Councilor Buebendorf stated she spoke with the Public Works Director regarding the proposed sidewalk ordinance and because this was initiated in the Public Works sub-committee and she told him this commission was interested in a sidewalk ordinance and he suggested having a member of the Public Safety Commission involved in the drafting of the ordinance so that it will have perspective from the Commission from the beginning. Commissioner Loiler volunteered to work with the Public Works Director and Councilor Buebendorf on the ordinance. Mayor Jaskiewicz stated the sidewalk ordinance has been a touchy issue over the years but after last years storms there is a need for one. If there is not ordinance the town remains liable for every sidewalk in the town. There has to be a solution to the problem and he will support an ordinance that requires homeowners to shovel the sidewalks in front of their homes. He stated it is time for the town to step up on a sidewalk ordinance and he stated the intent is not to hurt seniors in any way, he is in favor of homeowners maintaining their sidewalks and he hopes the Town Council will enforce the ordinance as well, stating it is time to move forward and establish an ordinance for the town. Councilor Buebendorf stated she has several sample ordinance from CCM so the committee is not starting from scratch, they can pick and choose items from existing ordinance that will work best for Montville.

13. Remarks from the Public

Chairman Jetmore asked three times if there was anyone from the public who would like to come forward to address the Commission.

14. Remarks from the Mayor

Mayor Jaskiewicz thanked Commissioner Allyn and the Public Safety Commission for the hiring process procedure. He hopes to have a firefighter hired by the end of the week after the final interviews. He will contact the Commission with his choice for hire. Friday night there was a power outage at 5:00 p.m. He stated the State would not help out with policing the area, and he made the decision to man the intersections to avoid public safety issues on a busy Friday night. The outage was caused by usage due to the heat. The supervisor from CL&P helped out with restoring the power at 8:00 p.m. There were over two thousand customers without power that evening in the extreme heat. The ground breaking was a success and he was impressed with the turnout overall, it has been a long time coming and he thanked the people of the Town of Montville for supporting the project. He thanked the State for the seven hundred thousand dollar grant.

15. Remarks from Town Council Liaison, Candy Buebendorf

Councilor Buebendorf stated the ground breaking for the Public Safety Building was a huge success and the town owes the citizens of Montville a great debt of gratitude for voting on the building in this economy. It is proof positive the building is necessary and the committee that has been working on the project since 2008 is one of the most extraordinary groups who meet every week to get this done in a very professional manner and she thanked them all for all their hard work.

16. Remarks from Commissioners

Commissioner Moran did not have any comments.

Commissioner Allyn stated he will be adding an item to the agenda next month regarding the Charter Section 1.408 of the Public Safety Commission, there is an ability for the Commission to add Department Heads, making a recommendation to the Council and having them pass an ordinance so the Commission can add department heads. He would like to add the Uncas Health District as a Department Head because as of now they do not report to anyone other than the Mayor and they are a public safety function. This would give the Commission the ability to coordinate activities in the Public Safety Plan as well. This will tie all the public safety assets together. He will have more information for the Commission next month. He stated there was a great showing at the ground breaking and he is happy to see the involvement of the townspeople.

Commissioner McNally stated there was a great effort between the police and volunteer firefighters at the power outage last week. The roads were clear and a good job was done by all. He inquired regarding the sex offender facility status. Mayor Jaskiewicz stated the meeting for Wednesday may not take place because the Attorney General's office is on vacation and he want to have a done deal, when there is a final MOU he wants a final MOU without amendments and the townspeople deserve security.

Commissioner Wehner discussed a complaint he heard regarding the firefighters spraying children at summer camp. A discussion was held regarding spraying the water in the air instead of at the children. Mayor Jaskiewicz stated he did recommend the water be sprayed in the air.

Commissioner Loiler did not have any comments.

Chairman Jetmore thanked all the Commissioners for their great attendance over the years and thanked them all for doing such a great job. He thanked the Commission secretary for all her hard work.

17. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Loiler, seconded by Commissioner McNally to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Discussion, none, voice vote, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville.