

Town of Montville  
**Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee**  
**Organizational Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, September 2, 2014**  
6:00 p.m. – Meeting Room – Public Safety Building

1. Call to Order

Town Council Chairman Jaskiewicz called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

He congratulated and thanked everyone for their willingness to serve on the Committee and introduced their Town Council Liaison, Tim May, and Public Safety Commission Liaison, Joseph DePasquale. While the Committee was given a six-month timeframe, he noted that additional time may be requested should they deem it necessary. He urged the Committee to not only investigate the costs, but also the effectiveness and necessity of an independent Police Department for the Town of Montville. He also reminded them to include dispatching in their report. Lt. Leonard Bunnell and Resident State Trooper Sgt. Smith will be available for reference. Councilor May and Minutes Clerk Agnes Miyuki will be available for any clerical needs they might have.

2. Roll Call

Present were Members William Bucko, Jeffrey Buebendorf, Robert Giffen, Victor Lenda, Wills Pike, Town Council Liaison Tim May, and Public Safety Commission Liaison Joseph DePasquale (6:21 p.m.). Also present were Town Council Chairman Joseph Jaskiewicz, Lt. Leonard Bunnell, and Resident State Trooper Sgt. James Smith.

At the request of Lt. Bunnell and Councilor May, the members introduced and provided some background information:

Mr. Vic Lenda, a 38-year resident, began his police career in 1977 as a part-time officer in Montville. He continued to work as an officer with the State Police for 29 years, has held three (3) Resident Trooper posts and supervised and ran a police department with a \$2 million budget and 15 officers.

Mr. Bill Bucko works in construction management and currently owns a construction company. He also worked for Northeast Utilities for 25 years maintaining and building nuclear power stations. Chairman Jaskiewicz added that Mr. Bucko also served on the Public Safety Building Committee.

Mr. Jeff Buebendorf worked in commercial aviation and industrial real estate development before becoming an attorney with Brown Jacobson, P.C., in Norwich. He is looking forward to working with the Committee.

Mr. Bob Giffen, an 8-year resident, has a background in banking, primarily in commercial lending. He, too, is looking forward to serving on the Committee.

Mr. Wills Pike, a 20-year resident of Oakdale, is a retiree of the Navy's submarine force. He currently works at Pratt & Whitney supervising a staff of 32 individuals and a \$13.2 million budget. He looks forward to contributing and working with the Committee.

Councilor Tim May also served in the Navy on a submarine. A graduate of UConn and a licensed engineer, he currently works for Electric Boat supervising 15 people. Striving to be active in the community, he has served on the Planning & Zoning Commission, Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA), and, most recently, the Town Council. He welcomed and congratulated the members and looks forward to working with them.

Commissioner Joe DePasquale a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA, recently retired from a 32-year career in law enforcement, in which he worked his way up to commanding officer in the detective bureau in Waterford. He is currently working with the U.S. Marshal Service in Hartford and is looking forward to serving on the Committee.

In response to Mr. Pike, Chairman Jaskiewicz felt that the best kind of presentation would be one that is simple and easy for everyone to understand, be it a PowerPoint presentation or a written report.

Councilor May and Commissioner DePasquale stated that both a written report and PowerPoint should be presented. Mr. Pike stated the importance of a visual presentation to help keep the attention and interest of the public.

In response to Mr. Lenda, Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that the Town Council does have the authority to approve or deny their recommendation(s). A public meeting will be held prior to sending the item to referendum. He urged the Committee to review the previous 1999/2000 report and reiterated the necessity of looking into not only the costs, but also dispatching services as well as its necessity.

### 3. Election of a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson

Discussion ensued regarding the attributes, qualifications, and election of a Chairperson.

Nomination made by Mr. Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor May, to elect Mr. Pike as Chairperson.

Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Mr. Wills Pike was elected as Chairperson of the Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee.

Nomination made by Mr. Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor May, to elect Mr. Bucko as Vice-chairperson. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Mr. Bill Bucko was elected Vice-chairperson of the Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee.

Mr. Pike stated that he enjoys challenges and looks forward to chairing the Committee. He felt that all of the members are highly skilled with qualities that will make for a successful group.

### 4. Determination of meeting dates and frequency of meetings.

Chairman Pike stated that, given the initial six-month timeframe of the charge and Town Council Chairman Jaskiewicz' statement regarding that timeframe, he would like the Committee to re-evaluate whether they will need to request additional time in three-months.

The Committee agreed to hold the meetings at 6:30 p.m., every other Tuesday, with the exception of the month of October. The following meeting dates were scheduled for the remaining year: September 9, September 23, October 7, October 28, November 4, November 18, December 2, and December 16, 2014. The meetings will be held in Room 203 at Montville Town Hall.

Motion made by Mr. DePasquale, seconded by Mr. Bucko. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion passed.

5. Any other business proper

A mail slot will be requested and copies of the following reports will be made available for pick-up on the morning of Friday, September 5:

- 1) Independent Police Department Proposal dated December 27, 1999
- 2) Comparison Study on the Projected cost of a Municipal Police Department for the Town of Montville dated January 26, 2000
- 3) 2008 Report from The Police Chiefs Association, Police Support Committee
- 4) Public Safety Plan dated September 2012
- 5) Safety Commission Report from Lt. Bunnell and Sgt. Martinez dated March 19, 2013

Mr. DePasquale will also e-mail everyone a document created by the Public Safety Commission containing bullet points regarding changes that will need to be made to maintain functionality should they recommend the Town adopt an independent police force.

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Mr. Bucko, to hold an open discussion regarding the materials the above materials at their next meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the process and distribution of the agenda and minutes.

Councilor May stated that the language is included in the Charter such that it will not be necessary to change the Charter should the Town decide to support an independent police department.

With respect to the budget, Lt. Bunnell stated that the Police Department budget does not include their benefits and vehicle and building maintenance. Councilor May will contact Finance Director Terry Hart to obtain a copy of the budget report and suggested inviting her to a future meeting to discuss the Police Department's budget.

With regards to dispatching, Commissioner DePasquale noted that, currently, all police calls are dispatched through the State Police. Should they decide to recommend an independent Police Department, they will need to join forces with the Fire Department for emergency dispatch services.

6. Remarks by the Public — none.

7. Adjournment

Motion made by Mr. Giffen, seconded by Councilor May, to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 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