

Town of Montville Town Council
Special Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2016
6:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jaskiewicz called the meeting to order at 6:00 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, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

4. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit

Shaun Radgowski, 251 Gay Hill Road, a Montville High School Senior, who will be attending Yale University, spoke on the importance of funding education. Having conducted a statistical study comparing 13 schools within New London County in 14 different areas, including SAT scores, AP scores, teacher attendance, computer to student ratio, etc., he found that, at face value, Montville is rated in the middle. But, based on how well the Town is doing in relation to their funding and resources, Montville's ranking is raised from number 8 or 9 to number 2. He commented on the apparent stigma that exists throughout the country against the "extra" material – material that goes beyond the core curriculum, e.g., music, art, etc. – where the magic happens. The elimination of these programs is immeasurably detrimental to the students and their families, in particular, and the community, in general. Investing in education is an investment in an educated society. Not doing so results in delinquency, an idle population, an uneducated workforce, low-level occupations, and lack of business growth within the Town.

Bob Manfredi, 9 Heather Brook Road, estimates that approximately \$17,000.00-\$18,000.00 is spent each year on the education of each child in the Town. In reviewing the Town Annual Report, one will find that over 500 residents were unable to pay their taxes, totaling over \$2 million. He felt that the Town should begin working on next year's financial plan in anticipation of the additional State cuts. Due to poor paying jobs and high taxes, young people with families are moving away, resulting in an aging community. He believed that, due to the declining school age population, one of the three elementary schools should be closed, which would result in a better education for our students, as only the best teachers would be retained.

James Lariviere, 50 Massachusetts Road, spoke on the emotional and physical effects of not adequately funding education, stating that he would not be where he is today had he not received the support and encouragement of his teachers who helped both him and his brother through some troubled times.

Lori Dragoo, 251 Gay Hill Road, a paraprofessional, parent, and resident of the Town, felt that either cutting funds from or not adequately funding the education budget would be, in essence, giving up on their children. As stated previously, the funding goes beyond academics and, as the signs throughout the Town state, if we're "proud of our schools", we need to show that we're proud of our schools. Not properly funding education will result in a rise in delinquency and idle teenagers conducting negative acts – we should show that we believe in them by investing in their education.

Andrew Meislitzer, 52 Pheasant Run, noted that if they do not allocate additional funds, this would be the third time in eight years the Town Council would be passing a flat budget. As the result, valuable teachers and programs will be lost and the schools will not be able to recover from the continuing "cut and slash" mentality. Referring to a 2014 demographics report, the decision(s) made by the Town Council tonight would directly affect approximately 4,200 children or 21% of the Town's population. In addition, the population of the Town is expected

to grow from 19,500 in 2014 to 24,000 in 2020 and in order to attract more families, it would be necessary to invest in the education budget.

Bill O'Neill, Information Systems Director, Town of Montville, respectfully requested the Town Council maintain the Mayor's original line item in the budget for a full-time IT Technician, adding that all of the department heads who depend upon the IT Department for continuous support have also expressed their support of the line item. The Department's scope of duties include the computer systems, phones, network, servers, security, camera systems, hardware and software, access control, e-mails as well as dealing with vendors, projects, and routine maintenance and inspections. If a full-time position is not possible, he requested at least a 32-hour position be approved, as the option of hiring of two part-timers in its stead would be counter-productive. He recognizes that times are tough, but feels that it is a necessary expense as technology continues to grow.

Jacqueline Meislitzer, 52 Pheasant Run, Oakdale, a kindergarten teacher and Oakdale Elementary PTO President, spoke in support of the additional funding to the Board of Education budget. Studies have shown the importance of low class sizes, i.e., less than 20 children per classroom in elementary school and less than 25 students per class in middle school. Teachers no longer teach one level of students, but to various levels based on each child's needs; herself, preparing four to five lesson plans for one reader's workshop or one 45-minute period/day. In addition to Common Core and STEM programs, a small class size to enable teachers to spend time and work one-on-one with each student is as necessary to ensure the success of the students as the funding of such programs as Project Oceanography. She urged them to think carefully about the teachers, class size, and what is best practice.

Brian Levesque, Superintendent, Montville Public Schools, thanked everyone, especially Councilor Longton with whom he had long discussions regarding the budget. He requested the Town Council strongly consider restoring the budget, feeling that a zero percent budget would be devastating to the schools and their programs and would result in reductions/eliminations in the school administration, staffing, sports, Pay to Participate, field trips, professional development, and the late bus, among others. The suggested reductions to the regular education budget exceed the MBR (minimum budget requirement) and are only avoided by the addition of the Special Education funds, which is mandated by law. The children of Montville are the future of Montville and the Town Council, Board of Education, and community have an obligation to the children of the Town. Restoring the budget would ensure the same great education they have been able to provide the students and cutting the education budget would be shortsighted. With a number of options offered to families with regards to the education of their children, more and more families will choose magnet schools and other programs. They may also choose to move from or not move to Montville. While recognizing that it has been a tough year, he felt that now is the time to raise taxes, honor their commitment, and provide their children with the quality education the children deserve.

Howard R. Beetham, Jr., 60 Riverview Road, Uncasville, congratulated them for the meetings they held and the cuts that they have made realizing that the residents are hurting, financially, due to their taxes. The State does not schedule a Public Hearing for the public to voice their opinions when reviewing the budget, they simply make the cuts and the municipalities must bear the costs. Residents, especially those with good incomes, are departing from Montville due to the growing taxes. In addition, a number of people have been laid off over the years, including United Nuclear, Electric Boat, AES Thames, Pfizer, and Stone Containers. The Town has funded education to the fullest and is no longer able to fund an increase. An increase in the education budget resulting in a mil rate increase will result in a petition and a temporarily frozen budget.

5. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2016-29. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to adopt the Town's five-year capital improvement plan in the total amount of \$28,476,870.
(Councilor Jaskiewicz)

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

- b. **Resolution #2016-30. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to adopt the fiscal year 2016-2017 Budget.**

Whereas, the Mayor has presented the budget to the Town Council; and

Whereas, the Board of Education has presented a budget to the Town Council; and

Whereas, the Town Council has caused to be published in a newspaper having circulation in the Town, a Notice of Public Hearings and a summary of the proposed budget estimates; and

Whereas, the Town Council held Public Hearings of the Board of Education proposed budget on April 26, 2016, and the General Government proposed budget on April 27, 2016, in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Charter of the Town of Montville.

Now Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the following budget on the estimated cost of current expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, and ending on June 30, 2017, to be adopted as follows:

General Government	20,102,863
Board of Education	37,889,631
Capital Improvement	1,626,669
	59,619,163

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

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, to amend the capital improvement plan line item by line item. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to move sixty eight thousand three hundred dollars (\$68,300) for the All Purpose Field at Camp Oakdale in the Capital Improvement Plan (#10960-54011) to the 2018 Fiscal year. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to purchase the 3-Cubic Yard Loader for one hundred seventy five thousand dollars (\$175,000) in the Capital Improvement Plan (#10960-54014) out of General Fund balance. Discussion: Public Works Director Donald Bourdeau, Jr., stated that the item would replace what he believes is a 1985 Loader that is used for loading sand and salt and road work and has safety issues. A used good 2000 or newer Loader would cost approximately \$100,000.00 and while one may be purchased for approximately \$50,000.00, it would, most likely, require repairs deeming it fiscally irresponsible. Funds have been invested in the current Loader for repairs over the years, but, due to its age, parts are no longer available. Roll Call vote, 6-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: Councilor Pollard. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, to take a brief recess. Recess was taken at 6:35 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 6:40 p.m.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to move the fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for the Turnout Gear/SCBA Cylinders in the Capital Improvement Plan (#10960-54131) to the 2020 Fiscal year. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that \$15,000.00 is currently allocated in the rollover account and recommends moving the remaining \$35,000.00 to the 2016-17 fiscal year budget so the item can be purchased this coming fiscal year. Councilor Longton stated that, based upon the testimony provided by Oakdale Fire Company Chief Gary Murphy, the Finance Committee decided that it would not be detrimental to move the item from the 2016-17 to 2019-20 fiscal year, when the Cylinders expire. Mayor McDaniel stated that, to his knowledge, the Mohegan Fire Company currently has five (5) expired cylinders and 17 that are due to expire in April 2017. Each cylinder has a 15-year life span that cannot be extended. It was noted that the item should not be included in the Capital Plan in the future as each cylinder costs approximately \$1,000.00. Roll Call vote, 5-2, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Tanner. Voting in Opposition: Caron and Jaskiewicz. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the amount for the for Police Car Replacement in the Capital Improvement Plan (#10960-54006) by one hundred fifteen thousand seven hundred forty six dollars (\$115,746). Discussion: Councilor Tanner recommended allocating funds for at least one vehicle and replacing at least one car per fiscal year. A Car Replacement Policy is currently being drafted in which all Town vehicles are under the responsibility of the Public Works Department. Public Works Director Bourdeau stated that none of the police vehicles have been deemed unsafe at this time, but recommended regularly replacing cars due to the increasing number of officers, which will result in increased usage and to avoid having to replace multiple cars at one time. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to add the amount for the for Police Car Replacement in the Capital Improvement Plan (#10960-54006) by thirty three thousand thirty seven dollars (\$33,037.00). Discussion: The funds will provide funding for one detective vehicle. Roll Call vote, 4-3, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Tanner. Voting in Opposition: Caron, Longton, and Jaskiewicz. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to allocate twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to purchase a vehicle for the ACO to line item 10960-54076 in the Capital Improvement Plan. Discussion: Councilor Tanner stated that, after hearing the testimony of the ACO Officer and Lt. Leonard Bunnell, the additional costs for converting an ACO vehicle into a police vehicle would not be cost effective. Roll Call vote, 2-5, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton and Pollard. Voting in Opposition: Caron, May, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to approve all amendments to the main motion and to adopt the Town's five-year capital improvement plan. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to amend the general government budget line item by line item. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in

favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to reduce the Public Safety Building Electricity (10890-52000) in the Mayor's proposed budget by ten thousand (\$10,000) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to reduce the Public Safety Building Natural Gas (10890-52013) in the Mayor's proposed budget by two thousand (\$2,000) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to increase Part-Time Youth Workers (10750-51073) in the Mayor's proposed budget by five thousand (\$5,000) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to increase the DMHAS expense (10750-52146) in the Mayor's proposed budget by eight hundred thirty eight (\$838) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Mayor's Advertising (10310-53008) in the Mayor's proposed budget by seven hundred (\$700) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to increase the Town Council Misc. Supplies (10330-53019) in the Mayor's proposed budget by two thousand two hundred fifty (\$2,250) dollars. Discussion: Councilor Tanner stated her opposition to the increase due to cuts they are making to other line items. Councilor Caron stated the need for the Town Councilors to have the adequate working materials to conduct Town business. Councilor Longton stated that the cuts that were made to the budget were based on comparisons made between the 2015 and 2016 actuals as well as any anticipated expenses. Roll Call vote, 4-3, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Pollard, Rogulski, and Tanner. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Town Hall/Central Services Electricity (10370-52000) in the Mayor's proposed budget by eleven thousand (\$11,000) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the IT Internet/Cable Services (10440-52056) in the Mayor's proposed budget by five thousand (\$5,000) dollars. Discussion: The fees have been reduced due to their enrollment into the Nutmeg Network. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Longton, to reduce the Part-Time IT Technician (10440-51078) in the Mayor's proposed budget by thirty two thousand (\$32,000) dollars. Discussion: Based upon the unsolicited testimony of the various department heads, the department's growing demand, and to ensure the quality and continuity of service, Councilors Tanner and Rogulski and Mayor McDaniel felt that the position should be full-time. The reasoning behind the recommendation of hiring two part-timers over one full-timer is based on the cost of the benefits. Roll Call vote, 3-4, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, and May. Voting in Opposition: Councilor Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to reduce the Town Clerk Consulting Services (10560-53002) in the Mayor's proposed budget by four hundred (\$400) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to reduce the Town Clerk Training and Conferences (10560-53004) in the Mayor's proposed budget by two hundred fifty (\$250) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Town Clerk Printing (10560-53014) in the Mayor's proposed budget by four hundred (\$400) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Town Clerk Misc. Supplies (10560-53019) in the Mayor's proposed budget by three hundred (\$300) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Town Clerk Equipment Maintenance and Repairs (10560-53021) in the Mayor's proposed budget by four hundred (\$400) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Land Use Office Consulting Services (10610-53002) in the Mayor's proposed budget by two thousand (\$2,000) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to reduce the Inland/Wetlands Training and Conferences (10640-53004) in the Mayor's proposed budget by two hundred fifty (\$250) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to reduce the Economic Development Secretary (10650-51016) in the Mayor's proposed budget by four hundred (\$400) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in

Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz.
Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to reduce the Social Services Electricity (10720-52000) in the Mayor's proposed budget by two hundred fifty (\$250) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Social Services Fuel Oil (10720-52005) in the Mayor's proposed budget by one thousand (\$1,000) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Social Services Training and Conferences (10720-53004) in the Mayor's proposed budget by fifty (\$50) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to reduce the Sr. Center Building Maintenance (10740-52011) in the Mayor's proposed budget by seven hundred fifty (\$750) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Dispatchers Salaries (10870-51044) in the Mayor's proposed budget by forty nine thousand (\$49,000) dollars. Discussion: Councilor Tanner stated that the dispatchers' contract has not yet been negotiated/approved and recommended the item will be revisited after the contract has been finalized. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Dispatchers PT Salaries (10870-51070) in the Mayor's proposed budget by twenty three thousand (\$23,000) dollars. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that the reduction is based on staffing levels to ensure that two dispatchers are on staff during most periods. Funding is being reduced down to the 2015-2016 actual salary levels. Roll Call vote, 5-2, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Pollard and Rogulski. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Dispatchers Overtime (10870-51100) in the Mayor's proposed budget by fourteen thousand four hundred (\$14,400) dollars. Discussion: Related to the previous line item regarding the reduction of the Dispatchers Salaries, this line item will be also be revisited following the contract negotiations. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Board of Education (10950-53051) in the Mayor's proposed budget by two hundred ninety thousand nine hundred sixty three (\$290,963) dollars. Discussion: Councilor Longton stated his support of the students and the education budget, adding that the Board of Education budget is not being cut. Rather, they are not allocating additional funds to that budget due to the

State's budget cuts and, as the result, the Finance Committee was forced to make a business decision. The Mayor updated the Town Council regarding additional anticipated cuts from the State. Superintendent Levesque stated that, while the previous cuts were difficult, this particular reduction would be devastating. Chairman Jaskiewicz stated, on behalf of the Town Council, their support of the students and the education budget and recommended reducing the line item by \$190,000.00. Roll Call vote, 5-2, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Pollard and Rogulski. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to increase the Board of Education (10950-53051) in the Mayor's proposed budget by one hundred thousand (\$100,000.00) dollars. Discussion: Discussion ensued regarding the remaining amount and the caution required when utilizing funds from the fund balance. The Board of Education's budgetary process, which takes place in February, was explained. Superintendent Levesque stated that the remaining funds due to unexpected staffing departures resulting in a surplus of funds in their salary line were included in his request. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Youth Services Electricity (10750-52000) in the Mayor's proposed budget by four thousand seven hundred (\$4,700) dollars. Discussion: Councilor Longton stated that Youth Services will be moving from their current building to Fair Oaks and a minimal amount of funds will remain in this and the following (fuel oil) line item to provide the building with heating. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to reduce the Youth Services Fuel Oil (10750-52005) in the Mayor's proposed budget by five thousand eight hundred (\$5,800) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to increase the Special Education revenue line (10100-45015) in the Mayor's proposed budget by one hundred thousand (\$100,000) dollars. Discussion: It was clarified that these funds are included in the Town's budget rather than that of the Board of Education. Roll Call Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to use \$360,000 from fund balance surplus to offset the 2016/17 budget. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz expressed his concern regarding the utilization of moneys deriving from the fund balance and its effect on the budget in the following year(s). Roll Call vote, 5-2. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Pollard and Rogulski. Motion carried.

A short recess was taken at 8:00 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:13 p.m.

Motion by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor May, to approve all amendments to the main motion and to adopt the 2016/2017 budget as follows:

General Government	\$ 19,978,901
Board of Education	\$ 37,698,668
<u>Capital Improvement</u>	<u>\$ 1,250,659</u>
	\$ 58,928,228

Roll Call Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- c. **Resolution #2016-31. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to set the mill rate for the 2016/2017 fiscal year at 30.61 mills using at collection rate of 98.7%. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: The mill rate reflects an interest of 0.52 mills. Roll Call Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

7. Remarks from the Public with a three-minute limit

Howard R. Beetham, Jr., 60 Riverview Road, Uncasville, commented on a good job by everyone.

Robin Salvatore, Montville Police Department, President, Montville Police Union, thanked Councilor Tanner for making the motion to approve the purchase of a police vehicle for the detectives and the Councilors who supported the item.

8. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor Rogulski applauded everyone's efforts, and, at the same time, expressed his disappointment with the education budget, believing it was shortsighted and stating that, with the anticipated rise in hiring by Electric Boat, many will be looking to reside in Montville, which may now appear less desirable. Citing that the State is the second in the nation in revenue and 41st in population, he implored the public to speak with the Legislatures and State Representatives, where much of the funding issues derive.

Councilor Pollard also applauded everyone, including the department heads, for their efforts during this difficult process and felt that additional funds should be requested from the Mohegan Sun Casino to help alleviate some of their budgetary issues.

Councilor Longton thanked the public for attending the meeting, being civil, and acting with respect for each other during this contentious budget process. He reiterated the difficulties of the Finance Committee in making the proposed cuts, but that it was necessary to view the budget in terms of a business by reviewing and balancing the Town's revenues/income and expenditures. The Mayor, Town Council, and Finance Committee have worked hard to present what they believe is a responsible budget.

Councilor May thanked the Councilors for making difficult budgetary decisions and stated that this has been a particularly tough year and ensured the public that the Councilors do listen to the public and their concerns and did their best to make responsible decisions, challenging each dollar in the budget, recognizing that each dollar derives from each resident's pocket.

Councilor Tanner thanked everyone for attending both the Finance Committee and Town Council budget meetings and her fellow Councilors for their hard work. Though they made their best efforts to keep the budget flat, she is satisfied with the 0.52 mil increase and feels they were very responsible with the budget. She also addressed a slanderous remark regarding her personal life, stating that she is passionate about her job and will continue to maintain her commitment to do what's right for the citizens of the Town as a resident and member of the Town Council of the Town of Montville.

Councilor Caron commented on a very heartening and tough budget process. He commended Mr. Radgowski and his accomplishments – evidence as to the success of the school system. The Town Council works very hard with the Superintendent to create an agreeable budget, but was faced with some difficult decisions this year. He values the opinions of the Superintendent and hopes they will be able to continue their relationship, keeping in mind that they all work for the people.

Chairman Jaskiewicz congratulated the Finance Committee on a good job and working hard on the budget and the public for their comments and attending the meetings. He looks forward to meeting with Superintendent Levesque to discuss their differences and thanked him, the Town Councilors, and the various Town Departments – all of whom have worked hard and was forced to make some tough decisions. He also congratulated Mr. Radgowski.

Mayor McDaniel thanked everyone for their hard work and those in the public who actively engaged in the process. While they did not have a perfect budget, it will have to be livable. He will continue to work with the Legislatures and urged the State to provide the municipalities with the proper tools and allowances to regionalize so as to help with some of the expenses. He wished Mr. Radgowski well.

9. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 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 IS ON FILE IN THE MONTVILLE TOWN
CLERK'S OFFICE**