

Town of Montville Public Safety Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 27 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order.

Commissioner Jetmore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

All stood and pledged the flag.

3. Roll Call.

Commissioners present were Elizabeth Adams, Gary Allyn, Joseph DePasquale, James Moran, Karen Perkins, and David Jetmore. Also present were Mayor Ronald McDaniel, Town Council Liaison Laura Tanner, and Fire Chief Keith Truex. Lt. Leonard Bunnell and Fire Marshal Ray Occhialini were absent. A quorum was present.

Town Councilor L. Tanner commented that Lt. Bunnell was attending a police department golf tournament in the town of Putnam. Fire Marshal Occhialini was on vacation.

Note: There is one vacancy (1) on the commission.

4. Amendments to the Agenda. – None

5. Communications: Copies of monthly statistics reports from Fire Departments, Fire Marshal, Police, Animal Control, and Building Official.

Commissioner Jetmore stated that all reports were submitted to the Commission electronically with the exception of the Animal Control report that Mayor McDaniel said was emailed later this day.

Commissioner Jetmore reported that Officer Ryan T. Spring would be honored as Police Officer of the Year on Wednesday, August 12, 2015.

Mayor McDaniel reported on a letter he received from New London Police Chief Margaret Ackley regarding the “mutual aid assistance” provided and the “professionalism” shown by the Montville police staff at the Sailfest Event in New London last month.

Commissioner Jetmore also noted from the Fire Marshal's monthly report that the Chesterfield Firehouse had a busy month due to motor vehicle and fire incidents.

6. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2015.

Motion made by Commissioner Adams; seconded by Commissioner Moran to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2015, as presented. Discussion, none -- voice vote, 6-0; all in favor -- motion carried.

7. Remarks from the Public (agenda items only – three-minute limit).

Commissioner Jetmore asked three times for remarks. There were none.

8. Remarks from Department Heads. -- None

9. Reports from Committee and Public Safety Liaisons.

Commissioner DePasquale reported that the Feasibility Committee is in the process of editing and proofing the final draft of its report for submission to the Town Council.

Commissioner Jetmore stated that interviews were conducted with nine (9) entry-level police department candidates. Five (5) good candidates were recommended to move on to the next step in the process. Commissioner Jetmore added that an agenda was posted for each meeting, but there was not a quorum present. After the meetings, he sent a letter to Mayor McDaniel with his recommendations that sufficed as minutes.

10. Unfinished Business.

a. Status update on interview for lateral transfer police applicants. -- None

b. Update on meetings with fire stations regarding the Public Safety Plan/Almont Study (Adams/Perkins).

Commissioner Adams reported that she learned after the last Commission meeting that in order for her and Commissioner Perkins to meet with the fire chiefs that they would have to file a special meeting agenda, as a subcommittee, along with the subsequent minutes with the Town Clerk. Commissioner Perkins added that two (2) of the fire stations have agreed to meet with them. Fire Chief Truex made a correction stating that all of the fire chiefs have agreed to meet as a group.

Mayor McDaniel also clarified that the meetings do not have to take place at the Town Hall but that the location for the meeting must be noticed on the filed agenda.

11. New Business. -- None

12. Remarks from the Public (non-agenda items—three-minute limit).

Commissioner Jetmore asked three times for remarks from the public. Fire Chief Truex stated that he wants to see an increase in career staffing at the Chesterfield Fire Company to mirror that at the other district fire companies. He added that his request for staffing is warranted given increased activity at the Dinosaur Place with its new buildings that have no sprinklers nor a traffic light in front of it; as well as, an indoor soccer field at Lombardi's with two (2) bars and no traffic light in front of it planned for opening in August. Fire Chief Truex asked that the Commission add his request to its Commission agenda for review and consideration.

Commissioner DePasquale asked the Fire Chief if there is a way to review man hours at the Chesterfield Fire Company based upon the data from the Fire Marshall's monthly report. Robert Forrester, Assistant Fire Chief, Chesterfield Fire Company, responded that "paid days" is not counted and will be different from what Fire Marshall Occhialini reports. Chief Truex added that paid days are only counted for companies for which a tone is sounded. Asst. Chief Forrester said he would pull together man-hour data for the last 12 months.

Town Councilor Tanner asked Fire Chief Truex how the new data software system was working for them. The Chief responded that the company has transitioned to the system used by the Town and also being used by the other three (3) fire companies. He added that they and the other fire companies are using the "I am Responding" an emergency responding system that allows dispatch to send out calls and text messages to individuals. He said that he hopes that its cost will be included in the Fire Marshal's budget as presently the cost is paid by each individual fire company.

Commissioner Allyn asked if you can print from the TriTech system to which Asst. Chief Forrester replied that it can and that when problems with reporting occur they call Fire Marshall Occhialini.

Town Councilor Tanner also asked Fire Chief Truex about the maintenance on its faulty truck to which he responded that it is still built into the system but that the "I am Responding" system has cut down on radio calls. The chief also replied to Commissioner Allyn as to whether the fire company went to Mohegan yesterday. He said that some areas in Montville are "dead zones" for cellular phone use, that communication is not at 100%, and although they use high-band frequency, low-band frequency is sometimes used.

13. Remarks from the Mayor.

Mayor McDaniel remarked that interviews were conducted with the five (5) entry-level police applicants on July 22nd and 23rd. He also reported that the Montville Firefighters Relief Fund will meet on August 10th.

14. Remarks from Town Council Liaison.

Town Councilor Tanner thanked Lt. Bunnell, police staff, and firefighters for the presence at the event at Camp Oakdale where close to 800 people attended.

15. Remarks from Commissioners.

Commissioner Jetmore thanked everyone for attending the meeting this evening.

16. Adjournment.

Motion made by Commissioner Jetmore; seconded by Commissioner Moran to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. Discussion, none -- voice vote, 6-0; all in favor, -- motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria J. Gathers
Recording Secretary, Town of Montville