

Town of Montville Town Council  
**Regular Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, August 12, 2015**  
7:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order  
Chairman Jaskiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. after establishing a quorum.
2. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of our military.
3. Roll Call  
Present were Councilors Caron (7:50 p.m., due to an emergency), Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations
  - a. Special Recognition of 2014 Officer of the Year Ryan Spring  
Montville Police Department Lt. Leonard Bunnell presented Officer Spring with a plaque in recognition and appreciation of his commendable service. A compassionate Officer who is actively involved with the Town's youth, including the teen suicide prevention program and summer youth activities, Officer Spring also played "Santa Claus" by recognizing and providing residents in need with gift cards, which he purchased himself, during the holiday season. Mayor McDaniel recited and presented a Certificate citing Officer Spring's extensive involvement, acts of kindness, and accomplishments during the past year.  
  
Motion made by Chairman Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to take a short recess at 7:06 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried. The meeting reconvened at 7:11 p.m.
5. Alterations to the Agenda  
The following item was added to the Agenda:
  - 16(g) **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to designate the bridge on Montville Road as "The Montville Veterans Memorial Bridge" in honor of the veterans of Montville. (Chairman Jaskiewicz)
6. To Consider and Act on a motion to approve:
  - a. The Special Meeting Minutes on Monday, July 13, 2015  
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
  - b. The Public Hearing Minutes on Monday, July 13, 2015  
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor McNally. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 5-0-1, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Pollard. Motion carried.
  - c. The Regular Meeting Minutes on Monday, July 13, 2015  
Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
7. Executive Session
  - a. To Consider and Act on a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing candidates for the Community Center Building Committee. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.  
  
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to skip item 7(a) as the candidate was not present. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit  
Tony Siragusa, 39 Hillcrest Drive, Uncasville, who questioned the need for Roll Call votes at last month's meeting, was informed that the Roll Call votes are in accordance with Robert's

Rules of Order. He has since researched the matter and distributed an excerpt from Robert's Rules of Order indicating that Roll Call votes are only necessary for essential/important items.

Lt. Bunnell, Montville Police Department, expressed his embarrassment at not recalling being informed about the Dog Ordinance at the previously held Public Hearing. His memory has since been refreshed and, based on his experience, he expressed his support of the Ordinance, adding that the areas may be modified at a later date, if necessary. The Ordinance, he added, is enforceable, in accordance to CT State Statute §7-148.

9. Communications

- a. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of June 2015
- b. Copy of the July budget report from Ms. Terry Hart, Finance Director

10. Report from the Town Attorney on Matters Referred – *none*

11. Remarks from the Mayor and/or Administrative Department Heads to include Matters Referred  
Mayor McDaniel reported that the Town has been released from a lawsuit brought against the Town and the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority (SCWA) by John and Kimberly Diamantini. The Town may be required to provide testimony on the case.

He was pleased to announce that the Town was recently awarded a \$400,000.00 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) allowing qualified lower income residents to apply for housing rehabilitation. The paperwork is currently being reviewed by the Consultant and Town Attorney.

The culvert portion of the Montville Road Bridge is scheduled for paving and the naming of the Bridge is on this evening's Agenda. Funding for the paving of the bridge portion to the end of the road is currently being investigated. The Old Colchester Road Culvert Project (between Fellows and Chesterfield Roads), which will be 80% Federal/10% State/10% Town funded, has grown in cost from its original estimate of \$600,000.00 to \$2 million. He is currently working to reduce the scope of the project. The area is prone to closures due to heavy flooding. There are no available grants for the Town's portion of the project.

At the direction of the Town Council, a Senior Tax Relief Committee has been formed. Members include Senior & Social Services Director Kathie Doherty-Peck, Tony Siragusa, Wills Pike, Monica MacNeil, and Irene Taylor. The Committee has not yet met, but a preliminary agenda has been provided and they have been informed that the staff is available for any questions they might have.

By request, he has been researching the creation of a Vehicle Replacement Policy and has discovered, through the Connecticut Council of Municipalities (CCM), that, while there are no towns with any specific policies, there are guidelines. He has also found national and regional databases indicating the average life spans of certain-type vehicles. He will be forwarding the information to the Public Works Director for further discussion with the Public Works/Solid Waste Standing Committee for review.

He reported that the Town will be receiving \$56,000.00 from the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRA) due to a recent reduction of tonnage, which is based on a 5-year rolling average. In addition, approximately \$3,800.00 will also be received by SCRRA in E-Waste Recycling Rebates. He encouraged everyone to bring their hazardous waste to Household Hazardous Waste Day this Saturday, August 15, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Tyl Middle School. Paper shredding will also be available. Though a record number of 517 vehicles attended the event in Montville last year, Groton reported a total of 545 vehicles last week, which he hopes to exceed this Saturday.

12. Reports from Standing Committees

- a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – Councilor Longton

The Committee requested the input of the Mayor, Public Works Director, and Lieutenant for the creation of a draft of a Vehicle Replacement Policy, which, as the Mayor stated, is

underway. In accordance to the Town Council Rules & Procedures, Rule 11, Section A, the Committee is not authorized to create Town policies, but is tasked with reviewing draft policies, as provided, and providing recommendations. The most recent Dispatcher Job Description was requested and will be reviewed by the Committee at this month's meeting with Lt. Bunnell. The Job Descriptions for the Zoning/Wetlands Officer and Assistant Town Planner were reviewed and is on this evening's Agenda for approval. Also on this evening's Agenda is the wage increase for the Part-Time Information Systems Technician.

- b. Finance – Councilor Tanner – *no meeting*
- c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – Councilor Longton – *no meeting*

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

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

Mayor McDaniel reported that the stipends have been approved for the Fire Companies.

- b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education – *no report*
- c. Councilor Longton: Library; Planning & Zoning Commission – *no report*
- d. Councilor May: Water Pollution Control Authority; Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee

The WPCA's most recent meeting was held in the new training room located in the old Headworks building. The Woodland Sewer Line Project, which consisted of the replacement of 300 - 400 feet of piping, is coming to a close.

Councilor May introduced Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee Chairman Wills Pike, who would like to provide a presentation of their findings to the Town Council after Labor Day. Councilor May added that the Committee has been working diligently for the past year, holding three to four hour meetings. Chairman Jaskiewicz concurred and looks forward to reviewing their findings.

- e. Councilor McNally: Economic Development Commission – *no report*
- f. Councilor Pollard: Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board
- g. Councilor Tanner: Parks & Recreation Commission; Public Safety Commission; Non-Profit Organizations

The Youth Center is currently making plans for their End of Summer Ice Cream Social, hosted by Ben and Jerry's, and the 2015-2016 After-School Program. She encouraged everyone to keep an eye out for the Fall/Winter Community Booklet, which will cover all of their events and activities from September to December, information regarding their upcoming Penny Drive, any special events, and the prevention-based billboards.

The Parks & Recreation Commission recently installed a bench at Camp Oakdale, which she encourages everyone to enjoy. She reported on a very successful Summer Concert, which was attended by approximately 750-800 people. The bathrooms at the Camp Oakdale Pavilion are scheduled for demolition and replacement in the Fall. Summer Camp recently came to a close.

Chairman Jaskiewicz commended the Commission on the success of their recent concert, but favors a series of concerts and suggested the possibility of charging an admission and/or parking fee to help offset the costs.

The Public Safety Commission provided a recommendation for five (5) of the nine (9) entry-level Police candidates. The Fire Departments are in the process of reporting to a uniform TriTech system and a new emergency responding system, entitled "I Am Responding", allowing dispatch to send and receive text messages, is being utilized.

14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Mr. Joseph Berardy, to the Parks & Recreation Commission with a term to expire October 12, 2019.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Councilor Tanner reported that Mr. Berardy is a long-standing member of the Commission and has been doing a great job. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- b. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Ms. Eileen Cicchese, to the Parks & Recreation Commission with a term to expire October 12, 2019.

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Councilor Tanner reported that Ms. Cicchese, also a long-standing member of the Commission and has been doing a great job, brings a lot to the table due to her involvement with the Groton Parks & Recreation Department. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- c. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Ms. Karen Perkins, to the Parks & Recreation Commission with a term to expire October 12, 2019.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

15. Unfinished Business – *none*

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2015-47. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$2,263.63 (two thousand two hundred sixty-three dollars and sixty-three cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel reported that Jerl Casey, Assessor's Clerk, was recently promoted to the Tax Collector position and will be a real asset to the Department, along with the Assistant Tax Collector Ellen Horne. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- b. **Resolution #2015-48. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve and adopt the Ordinance titled, "ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS FROM CERTAIN PUBLIC PLACES" as read at the public hearing on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: Councilor Longton addressed the comments heard at the Public Hearing regarding the Animal Control Officer (ACO) not having been consulted and the lack of non-restricted areas. To his understanding the ACO, while his/her input is valued, does not enforce Ordinances. Secondly, he stated that maps have been made available to the public and the Committee confirmed that only the playing field and spectator areas where children play are prohibited. He has witnessed and heard a number of complaints of children stepping and/or falling into dog waste and, while many responsible dog owners do pick up their pet's waste, some do not. Councilor McNally, who agrees with the concept, felt that the Ordinance is not well-written, noting that it does not note the Basketball Courts as a prohibited area; is concerned with the enforcement of the Ordinance and the lack of manpower in the Police Department to enforce the Ordinance, and; the low amount of the fine. Chairman Jaskiewicz felt there is some validity to the Ordinance, reiterating Lt. Bunnell's statement that the Ordinance is enforceable. In addition, a map indicating the restricted and non-restricted areas will be

attached to and included as part of the Ordinance. Councilor May reviewed the history of the Ordinance from its introduction by the Parks & Recreation Commission and the citizens of the Town and added that the Ordinance takes into account the exclusion of service dogs and allows for some flexibility with regards to special events, e.g. dog shows. The Committee also worked to ensure that the areas are not too restricting. The cost of the signage, which will be placed in relevant areas, is unknown at this time. The Ordinance was also reviewed by the Town Attorney. Councilor Longton added that the Ordinance is a two-part effort, the other being the Dog Park. Councilor McNally suggested the incorporation of the school's rules, in addition to the inclusion of the Basketball Courts, into the Ordinance. Mayor McDaniel felt that the Dog Park should be established prior to placing restrictions. Councilor Tanner agreed, but felt that immediate action is necessary to help remedy the issue at hand and added that the Dog Park Committee is currently working diligently to raise funds. Furthermore, the Commission viewed the issue from all aspects and is responding to public response. Councilor Caron, who arrived during the discussion, stated that he is in favor of the Ordinance for the health and safety of the children. Roll Call vote, 6-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: Councilor McNally. Resolution passed.

- c. To Consider and Act on a Motion to review the request for an hourly rate increase of the current part-time Information Systems Technician. (Councilor Longton)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Councilor Longton recited the letter of request as written and received by Director of Information Systems William O'Neill, for the addition of \$1,000.00 to the relevant line item to cover any necessary overtime. While the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Standing Committee is in favor of the raise, he questions their ability to recommend an increase in the line item. Mayor McDaniel clarified that the request is for the Committee to recommend the wage rate. Following the approval of the wage rate, the item will be referred to the Finance Committee for their approval and recommendation to increase the line item. It was agreed that the request should have been made during the budget season. Roll Call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

*Councilor Jaskiewicz departed from the meeting at 8:02 p.m., due to a family emergency.*

- d. **Resolution #2015-49. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to pay a one-time stipend to the Democratic and Republican Registrar of Voters in the amount of \$350.00 (three-hundred and fifty dollars) each as compensation for the newly required 26 hour training class to maintain state certification. Payment will only be made provided they show proof of completion of said training. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor McNally. Discussion: Councilor McNally stated that the Registrar of Voters are now required to attend a training class and is proposing providing them with a one-time stipend of \$350.00 each as compensation for their time and travel. The Town will pay for the course, but the training will be held outside of their current 19-hour work week. Roll Call vote, 5-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, and Pollard. Voting in Opposition: Councilor Tanner. Resolution passed.

- e. **Resolution #2015-50. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize Mayor Ronald K. McDaniel to execute a contract on behalf of the Town of Montville with the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of State Police for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017 and any documents related thereto. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that the item was delayed due to the late completion of the State's budget process. Changes include revisions made to some of the IT requirements and the

appointment of an IT Liaison Officer. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, and Tanner. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- f. **Resolution #2015-51. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the position descriptions for the Assistant Town Planner and Zoning/Wetlands Officer. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: Councilor Longton stated that the Job Descriptions essentially combine the positions of the Zoning and Wetlands Officers into one position in an effort to increase the efficiency of the Department and better serve the public. Revisions were also made to the language of the position descriptions to conform with the other descriptions in the Town. Councilor May concurred. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, and Tanner. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- g. **Resolution #2015-52. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to designate the bridge on Montville Road as “The Montville Veterans Memorial Bridge” in honor of the veterans of Montville. (Chairman Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that the town of Norwich has instituted a new program to name Public Works projects in honor of a Norwich Veteran. After conferring with the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the American Legion, it was agreed to name the bridge after all of the Montville Veterans. Councilor Caron supports this expression of respect to the Town’s Veterans. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, and Tanner. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

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

Montville Police Officer Robin Salvatore, 43 Lake Drive, Oakdale, requested the status of the study of the reasoning behind why people are leaving the Police Department. The Councilors believed a discussion was held regarding a study, but no action has been taken to date. The Mayor stated that, though he has requested an exit interview from the departing Officers, only two (2) have granted an interview. She thanked them for recognizing Officer Spring.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor Pollard recognized and thanked Councilor Longton for his hard work.

Councilor Longton thanked the Councilors for passing the Dog Ordinance, approving the Job Descriptions and the raise for the part-time Information Systems Technician.

Councilor May echoed Councilor Longton’s sentiments and thanked Councilor Pollard. He also attended the Summer Concert and reported on a good time and hopes for and looks forward to more events.

Mayor McDaniel thanked the Councilors for their work tonight and congratulated the Waterford Little League in their recent success in reaching the semi-finals in the New England Regional Tournament.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Longton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Voice vote, 6-0, 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**