

Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, October 14, 2015
7:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order
Chairman Jaskiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:00 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, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations
 - a. Recognition of Mr. Albert Daigle for his many years of Fire Service
Mayor McDaniel presented Mr. Daigle with a Certificate of Appreciation for his volunteerism and many years of dedicated service to the Town as a member of the Fire Department and Fire Police. Mr. Daigle thanked everyone for the recognition.
 - b. Business Recognition Award to The Brown Derby
Economic Development Commission Chairman Karl Butzgy presented Mr. Doug Adams, owner of The Brown Derby, with a plaque in recognition of their commitment to the Town of Montville and for 20 (twenty) years of business prosperity. Mr. Adams thanked everyone for the recognition.
5. Alterations to the Agenda
Item 16(c) was removed from the agenda. Because the item involves the leasing of Town property, a §8-24 review by the Planning & Zoning Commission will need to be conducted and an Ordinance drafted soon thereafter.
6. To Consider and Act on a motion to approve:
 - a. The Special Meeting Minutes on Monday, September 14, 2015
Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Pollard. Motion carried.
 - b. The Regular Meeting Minutes on Monday, September 14, 2015
Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, 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 Building Code Board of Appeals, Community Center Building Committee, Economic Development Commission, Public Safety Commission, and Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: The following candidates were interviewed: William Pieniadz, Building Code Board of Appeals; Ellen Abutin, Community Center Building Committee; Christopher Napierski, Economic Development Commission; David Jetmore, Public Safety Commission; Karen Perkins, Public Safety Commission, and; Gary Murphy, Southeastern CT Water Authority. Christina Dimick Zelates, Economic Development Commission, was unable to attend. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried. Invited parties exited Chambers for Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. Chairman Jaskiewicz resumed the meeting at 7:33 p.m. No formal votes were taken during Executive Session.

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8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit – *none*
9. Communications
 - a. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of August 2015
 - b. Copy of the September 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 he, along with many of the Councilors, attended the Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony as well as the Grand Opening of the Wide World of Indoor Sports, who is also offering free league time to the community to allow them to acquaint themselves with the facility. He also attended a meeting at the SUBASE (Naval Submarine Base New London) for their upcoming Centennial Celebration to celebrate the location of the submarines and the base in New London. Area events will be planned around the Centennial events to encourage public participation, including the Town's annual Memorial Day Parade. He also attended the Christening of the U.S.S. Illinois in Groton.

A SCCOG (Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments) Legislative Meeting was held to discuss the restoration of recent cuts instituted by the Governor. At the meeting, the Mayor impressed upon and reminded them that, as a host community, a law was passed to ensure that the PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) funds derived from land would be reinstated. In Montville, there is over \$80,000.00 in PILOT funds being cut. In addition, as published in a recent newspaper article, approximately \$212,000.00 will be eliminated from the Town's tax rolls due to the approval of land being taken into trust by the Mohegan Tribe.

Four streetlight LED retrofit bids were received and interviews will take place. Once selected, a presentation will be made to the Town Council regarding the program, costs, etc. The submitted estimates are based on a per fixture cost price and a physical audit of the streetlights will be conducted to determine the true and final cost of the project. Eversource is currently in the process of contacting property owners with easements to obtain their permission as part of a program to cut back/down trees located along the main transmission lines in an effort to avoid any future problems during any upcoming storms. During Hurricane Sandy, an estimated 5,200 transmission lines went down in Southeastern Connecticut, approximately 19 of which were located in Montville.

Phase I of the Fitch Hill Road Drainage Road Project has been completed. The same company has been awarded the Maynard Road improvements project. The Town of Montville is a proud recipient of a \$475,000.00 STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) Grant for upgrades to the transfer station. The funds will be utilized for Phase I of a two-phase project to improve the facility's traffic flow. He, along with Public Works Director Donald Bourdeau, will be providing the New London Economic Development Commission with a presentation regarding the operation, set-up, and traffic flow of the transfer station.

In response to Councilor Longton, Mayor McDaniel stated that, he was unsure if the "island" which currently exists along the middle of Maynard Road is included in the project, as he has not yet seen the final specs of the bid and was under the impression that the project had been vetted through the Public Works/Solid Waste Subcommittee. With regards to the STEAP Grant for the transfer station, Councilor Longton added that, with the exception of the composting area, the DEEP (Department of Energy and Environmental Protection) had stated during a visit that Montville's Transfer Station is the model of how a transfer station should be throughout the State.

Mayor McDaniel was proud to announce that Montville was awarded the Clean Energy Community Program Award, Silver Level. He looks forward to hanging the plaque in Town Hall in celebration of all the residents have done to embrace clean and efficient energy.

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12. Reports from Standing Committees.

a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – Councilor Longton

A lively discussion regarding the dispatchers' communication policy was held with the presence of the Police Lieutenant and Fire Marshal. Discussion ensued regarding the existing issues between the Police Department, Fire Department, and Dispatchers that will, hopefully, be addressed in the upcoming contract talks. In addition, dissatisfaction was expressed by the public regarding their treatment by the dispatchers, which, he trusts, will also be addressed during the upcoming contract negotiations.

b. Finance – Councilor Tanner

Discussion was held regarding item 16(b) on this evening's agenda regarding the Senior and Disabled Tax Relief Plan.

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

With the cold weather coming upon us, several energy applications have been received and, as always, the Center is in need of assistance with raising funds and collecting non-perishable items. Councilor Caron thanked the Mohegan Tribe for their help and past skybox donation benefitting The Veterans in Need Fund, which is now depleted. The Tribe has agreed to donate another skybox for an upcoming concert to benefit the Fund. He announced and congratulated Kathie Doherty-Peck for serving as the Town's Senior and Social Services Director for the past 20 years. He commended her for her ongoing diligence, dedication, and hard work. Councilor Longton added that the Food Pantry runs very smoothly and reiterated its dependence on the generosity of the citizens of the Town.

b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education

Councilor Jaskiewicz reported on an interesting meeting, which included a PowerPoint presentation by Director of Special Services Mark Johnson on the IEP (Individualized Education Program) Process for Special Needs and Special Education students and a report by Assistant Superintendent Laurie Pallin regarding the improvement of the students' scores in English, Mathematics, and Science.

c. Councilor Longton: Library; Planning & Zoning Commission

The Planning & Zoning Commission approved the following:

- two lot subdivision on a property located on Chesterfield Road, Oakdale
- construction of a 10,000 SF building on a property located on Maple Avenue, Uncasville, with conditions
- special permit application for the processing and crushing of gravel on a property located on Leffingwell Road, Uncasville, with conditions

d. Councilor May: Water Pollution Control Authority; Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee

The presentation by the Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility regarding their findings was postponed and will be rescheduled following the local elections.

e. Councilor McNally: Economic Development Commission

The Commission is planning to re-design the EDC website and will be reviewing a proposed design at their next meeting. The website may include a Question and Answer section as well as a list of available properties. They may also be investigating the possibility of revising the Town's Blight Ordinance.

f. Councilor Pollard: Youth Services Bureau (YSB) and Advisory Board

The CT Youth Services Association recently celebrated 43 years of representing Youth Services Bureaus at a sold out Conference. The Mayor's Orange Ribbon Coalition Suicide Prevention billboard will be installed on Route 32 and Maple Avenue this month.

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The New London County YSB billboard, designed by Montville's YSB Director Barbara Lockhart and shared costs by all New London County YSBs, has received positive feedback from the community and over 5,000 hits have been received on their Suicide Prevention Campaign on Facebook. Several other prevention-based billboards, designed by Montville's YSB and funded by the State DMHAS (Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services) Grant, will be installed in different locations throughout Montville and surrounding areas. The YSB has partnered with Montville High School's YES (Young Educators Society) Club for a mentoring/tutoring program for the afterschool program and has applied for a mini-grant from the Montville Education Foundation to help support this program. They have also applied for a grant from the Eastern Connecticut Community Foundation to support the One Circle Support Group for Adolescent Girls.

The YSB's 12th Annual Pancake Breakfast will be held on Sunday, October 18, 8:00 a.m. to noon, at the Mohegan Firehouse and Lights On After School, a celebration highlighting the importance of after-school programs will be held on Thursday, October 22, 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.

g. Councilor Tanner: Parks & Recreation Commission; Public Safety Commission; Non-Profit Organizations

The Parks & Recreation Commission held a successful Summer Concert with an estimated 750-800 people in attendance. They are currently discussing the possibility of hosting two such events next year and will be looking into purchasing a stage for their future events. They have approved the purchasing of three (3) additional benches to be placed at Camp Oakdale. The Trick or Trunk event will be held on October 24, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Tyl Middle School. Vendors will include Rolling Tomato, Faddy's Donuts, and Rollinred's. In addition, the Girl Scouts will be selling drinks and the Rotary Club will be selling hot chocolate. The Commission raised \$287.00 at their third tag sale of the year and have raised over \$900.00 from all three of their Tag Sales combined. To date, the Dog Park Committee has raised over \$1,200.00.

Public Safety Commissioners Karen Perkins and Elizabeth Adams have been working with the Fire Department, reviewing the Public Safety Report. The Commission has also been conducting a number of interviews for the Police Department and addressed an e-mail received from Councilor McNally regarding the purchasing of an old pick-up truck by the Chesterfield Fire Company that was previously owned and sold by the Fire Company.

14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Ms. Margaret Skinner to the Commission on Aging with a term to expire November 9, 2018.

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

- b. To Consider and Act on a motion to accept the resignation of Ms. Marilyn Williams from the Youth Advisory Board effective December 10, 2015.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Having actively served on the Board for a number of years, Ms. Williams' resignation was accepted by Chairman Jaskiewicz and Councilors Tanner and Longton with great regret. Roll Call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

15. Unfinished Business – *none*

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16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2015-63. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$3,320.52 (three thousand three hundred twenty and fifty-two cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

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

- b. **Resolution #2015-64. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to accept the report from the Senior Tax Relief Committee regarding the Senior and Disabled Tax Relief Plan as presented to the Finance Committee. (Councilor Tanner)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Councilor Tanner referred to the letter submitted by the Tax Relief Committee regarding their recommended changes to the report and asked that the Councilors vote to accept the report as submitted. Mayor McDaniel thanked the Committee for quickly turning the report around. Roll Call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- c. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** that Mayor Ron McDaniel be and hereby is authorized to execute a with Cellco Partnership a Delaware general partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless with its principal offices at One Verizon Way, Mail Stop 4AW100, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920, for the lease of space on the town owned communications tower located at 911 Norwich-New London Turnpike, Uncasville, CT, and further, to approve the Mayor to execute any and all documents that may be necessary. (Mayor McDaniel)

Item was removed from the agenda.

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

Gary Murphy, 6 Carolina Drive, who currently lives in a condominium complex behind which extensive clear-cutting was taking place, expressed his concern regarding the destruction of the stream, brooks, and run-off caused by the heavy equipment as well as the filling up of the strain drains with debris. In addition, a noticeable amount of oil and hydraulic fluid has been spilled into the streams, for which he has notified the DEEP and the Town's authorities. Furthermore, the workers, with blatant disregard for area residents, began working very early on the weekend mornings. Mayor McDaniel, in response, confirmed that a cease and desist order was issued once the company was in violation of their wetlands crossing permit and the company has been ordered to restore the area.

Speaking as the Oakdale Fire Company Fire Chief and on behalf of the Fire Companies, he clarified that the fire truck being purchased by the Montville Fire Company is a heavy-duty rescue truck. The Town currently owns only one certified heavy-duty truck that is equipped with stabilization equipment and has the ability to lift such heavy items as cranes and vehicles. Though designated as rescue trucks, the Chesterfield and Mohegan Fire Companies each own uncertified rescue trucks and Oakdale does not own a rescue truck. None of these trucks are heavy-duty. He agreed that the Town should not be duplicating their equipment, with the exception of tankers. Chairman Jaskiewicz thanked him for the clarification.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor May reported that he, too, attended the Christening of the U.S.S. Illinois and found it to be a moving and interesting event coinciding with the U.S. Navy's 240th birthday, of which he is a veteran.

Councilor Tanner thanked everyone for a good two years and wished everyone luck in the upcoming election.

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Councilor McNally also expressed his appreciation and commented on the respectful manner in which the Councilors behaved and that it was a pleasure to serve on the Town Council with them.

Councilor Pollard agreed with Councilors Tanner and McNally and commented on the quick passage of time.

Councilor Longton, who has been a Town Councilor for two terms, felt that a lot of work was accomplished over the past two years, expressed his pleasure in working with everyone, which he hopes will continue, and wished everyone luck in the upcoming elections.

Councilor Caron, who has been a Town Councilor for five terms, thanked everyone for listening to his concerns regarding the Senior Center and stated that, even if he is not re-elected, he will continue to be involved with the Senior & Social Services Department and Youth Center. He, too, wished everyone luck.

Chairman Jaskiewicz, who, as Chairman, has had the opportunity to work with all of the Councilors on various levels and issues, thanked everyone for being respectful of each other's opinions and stated that it has been a privilege to serve the Town as both a Councilor and a former Mayor. He expressed his appreciation to the Mayor and Town Council for working together in the best interest of the Town, which is their ultimate goal.

Mayor McDaniel commented on the civility and respect of the Town Council, wished everyone luck, and a Happy Halloween.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. 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