

Town of Montville Public Safety Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – January 28, 2019 - 6:00 PM
Montville Town Hall – Town Council Chambers

1. Call to order.

Chairman Yuchniuk called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of allegiance.

All stood and pledged the flag.

3. Roll Call.

Present were Commissioners Mike Butterworth, Mickey Gillette, Victor Lenda, Jr., Jon Leonard, James Moran, Karen Perkins and Chairman Robert Yuchniuk. Also present were Mayor Ronald McDaniel, Fire Marshal Bill Bundy, RST Mark Juhola, and Town Council Liaison Jeff Rogers. A quorum was present.

4. Special Recognitions/Presentations:

a. Promotion of Detective David Radford to the rank of Lieutenant.

Motion by Chairman Yuchniuk; seconded by Commissioner Perkins to turn the meeting over to Mayor McDaniel for the Lieutenant Promotion ceremony with a recess of 10-15 minutes for celebration. Discussion: none. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor McDaniel thanked everyone for attending the ceremony that included Town Council members, the family of Detective Northrop, and community members. The Mayor spoke of his pride in Detective Radford summarizing his investigations with positive outcomes, his competence as a rookie officer and promotion to detective, and for being a certified child safety seat installer. Following Mayor McDaniel's remarks, Town Clerk Katie Sandberg administered the oath and Lieutenant Radford's wife pinned his badge. Mayor McDaniel then thanked the Commission for their due diligence and recognized legislators and brothers and sisters in arms. RST Juhola thanked the Town and the Commission for its support and congratulated Lt. Radford on his achievement.

The meeting recess briefly at 6:09 p.m. for refreshments and resumed session at 6:18 p.m.

5. Amendments to the Agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Leonard; seconded by Commissioner Perkins to move Item 10.f to Item 5.a on the Agenda. Discussion: none. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

5. a Report from Animal Control Facility Feasibility Subcommittee (*Gillette, Leonard, Perkins*)

Commissioner Leonard reported the Subcommittee met to review and discuss the floor plan and preliminary cost estimate for the proposed Animal Control Facility. He said the Subcommittee proposed to forward the building information to the Town Council for a bare bones, nuts and bolts proposal for a build, no build decision. The Commission discussed State required air quality for the building, the design for 16 kennels, and a cost for the same including

the covered runs. The Town Engineer Tom Cummings and Town Planner Vlaun were present for the discussion. Town Planner Vlaun explained the process stating request would go to the Town Council and they would appoint a building committee that would be given a charge to develop the next steps. She also reported that the proposed number of kennels is far less than the number proposed by The Humane Society or the ASPCA. She then said the next step would be preparation of a bid package and putting the project out to bid adding that a building of this size has had building committees in the past. Mayor McDaniel explained the Town must put funds to the project for a baseline budget so the project can go out to bid. ACO Swanson said the proposed facility was a far estimate for the future for Salem and the Town of Montville. Commissioner Butterworth asked about the number of animals processed last year (100-250) and the general number of dog licenses (1,400). The Commission then discussed the fees regarding roaming dogs (\$92 per ticket and \$15 per day for holding) and other infractions. Chairman Yuchniuk explained that ordinances can be adopted by the Town for additional charges. It was stated that the proposed facility was based upon a 50-year plan that should be housed within the Town given the time it requires to drive round trip to New London and the use of a police officer should the ACO be unavailable.

Motion by Commissioner Leonard; seconded by Commissioner Butterworth to push the proposal of an Animal Control facility to the Town Council for a build no build decision and ultimately the appointment of a building committee with a charge. Roll Call vote, in favor Commissioners Butterworth, Gillette, Moran, Lenda, Leonard, Perkins, and Chairman Yuchniuk. Opposed: none. Unanimous vote, 7-0. Motion carried.

Chairman Yuchniuk asked Commissioner Leonard to send him an email to forward to the Town Council.

6. Communications:

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

Chairman Yuchniuk confirmed receipt of the reports. Commissioner Butterworth said he did not receive the animal control proposal. Commissioner Leonard explained he sent to the Commission a month ago.

7. Consideration and action to approve minutes.

- a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2018.

Motion by Commissioner Butterworth; seconded by Commissioner Moran to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2018. Discussion: Commissioner Lenda made a correction to motion for Executive Session, Agenda Item 10.e as follows: *Commissioner Lenda noted that Assistant Superintendent Palin would not need Commission members to attend future meetings until further notice.* Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried and amended. Note: The minutes will also be amended for the following per a January 24 email from Commissioner Leonard to G Gathers: *I just reviewed the minutes to last month. I abstained from Fire Marshal budget vote due to the involvement of the dispatch department. I voted in favor of tabling the fire house budgets, I did not abstain.*

8. Remarks from the Public (Agenda items—three-minute limit).

Chairman Yuchniuk asked three times for remarks. There were none.

9. Remarks from Department Heads.

Fire Department Report

Fire Marshal Bundy reported there were 258 calls for service in December of which 137 were for medical EMS calls, 72.5% of all calls for service, a chimney fire investigation with no dollar lose, 18 completed inspections and a preplanning meeting for the Faria project. Per the 2018 Annual Report, there were 2945 calls for service of which 2020 were EMS calls or 68.6%. As to emergency management, the Nuclear Safety 2020 Grant application with DEHMS Region 4 was completed; the Cook Drive generator replacement and Region 4 approved appropriation from the NSEF Nuclear Grant for the entire amount; and the RESF 4 Fire Departments will host a monthly meeting on February 7th from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. Also, per the RESF 5 EMD meeting in November, a Ham Radio operation class here in Montville is still to be determined and winter assistance bags provided by the Montville Lions Club was distributed to each fire company. The bags contain hats, gloves, wool blankets, and toiletries that are on each truck and ambulance. The Fire Marshal also reported that a new part-time dispatcher, Steven LaGram, has been working shifts and the new Tanker M42 has been placed into service. As part of the capital project appropriation of \$17,000, new portable radios were order for paid firefighters.

Police Department Report

Per the December Report of Calls for Service, there 1012 total calls for November 2018. Of these calls, there were Type 1 (77), arrests (17), and juveniles (3). The source of these calls were Troop E (164), PD (271), Walk-In (56) and By Officer (5221).

Building Department Report

2018-2019 Building Department Report												
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Permits Issued	88	118	108	167	133	135						
Open Permits	3104	3119	3167	3210	3254	3269						
Inspections	91	136	115	136	119	116						
Plan Reviews	21	24	17	13	19	29						
CO's	7	11	17	8	8	1						
Violations	0	1	3	2	0	3						
Unsafe Notices	0	2	0	0	0	1						
Blight Identified To Date	509	512	514	515	515	515						
Blight Abated To Date	237	249	258	265	274	279						

Town of Montville Animal Control Report

Town of Montville Animal Control Report (December 2018)

	Month	YTD
# of Animals Impounded	8	68
# of Animals Sold as Pets	3	34
# of Animals D.O.A.	0	3
# of Animals Euthanized	1	2
Total Complaints Investigated	58	538
Total Animal Bites Investigated	3	13
Total Infractions/Summons	2	8

Town of Salem Animal Control Report

Town of Salem Animal Control Report (December 2018)

	Month	YTD
# of Animals Impounded	1	2
# of Animals Sold as Pets	0	0
# of Animals D.O.A.	0	0
# of Animals Euthanized	0	0
Total Complaints Investigated	3	46
Total Animal Bites Investigated	0	1
Total Infractions/Summons	0	0

10. Committee and Liaison Reports.

a. Report from Fire Department Liaison (*Perkins*)

Commissioner Perkins reported she met and reviewed the upcoming annual budgets with the fire chiefs. She said she got feedback on line item questions discussed at the last Commission meeting concerning equipment on the trucks, the confusion regarding truck terminology to which the chiefs agreed to use a template report; the tax audit that is done by a CPA on funds allotted by the Town (*She will obtain a copy of the audit from the Finance Department.*), and that the Commission needed clarification on what the Town does with the firehouses. Mayor McDaniel said he would be happy to sit with her and talk about the budgets. Each fire department has an annual budget of \$91,000 and per Mayor McDaniel each has different needs and uses their budget accordingly. Commissioner Perkins thanked the fire chiefs commending them on their importance to the Town.

Motion by Commissioner Perkins; seconded by Commissioner Leonard to accept the 2019-2020 Fire Department budgets of \$91,000 each and forward them on to the Town Council. Discussion: none. Voice Vote, 6-0-1 (Commissioner Butterworth abstained). Motion carried.

The Commission discussed the \$500 taken from each fire department budget relating to truck/equipment maintenance, Town owned equipment as explained by Mayor McDaniel. Commissioner Butterworth talked about a scenario of hiring three (3) firefighters and ambulance funds that would be used to pay for their needs, \$1,500 EMT class and \$6,000 for a firefighter Class 1 transitioning to a firefighter Class 2. He also spoke about part-time on

call service that will be asking for a pay stipend in addition to regular pay for calls. Mayor McDaniel responded to a question by Commissioner Perkins regarding fire department CIP. He explained the CIP comes from the Fire Chiefs. She said she would ask the Finance Director for a copy. As to the problematic town tanker, Commissioner Butterworth said it would be regenerated on January 29th.

b. Report from Animal Control Liaison (*Gillette*)

Commissioner Gillette reported on the monthly Town and Salem reports submitted electronically to the Commission.

c. Report from Police Department Liaison (*Lenda*)

Commissioner Lenda reported he had as usual reached out to the Department with no feedback this month. He congratulated Lt. Radford and said he was happy with the format of the new PD report. Commissioner Moran said he talked with Det. Radford concerning staffing who said he was all set. Mayor McDaniel reported there are three (3) pending applications.

d. Report from Building Department Liaison (*Butterworth*)

Commissioner Butterworth remarked that a blight enforcement complaint must be in writing and signed reporting there were four (4) last month. He also said there is not a hearing officer but said he cannot go onto a property without reasonable cause. Town Councilor Rogers asked why the Town cannot send a letter to the blight offender after checking with the Town Assessor on vehicles listed for a property. Commissioner Lenda commented on State statutes concerning abandoned vehicles. Mayor McDaniel stated the Town blight ordinance was rewritten and a new blight officer is now in place but said problems stem from absentee landlords who do not care. He suggested having V. Vesey come to the next meeting to explain the blight process. He also agreed to send a copy of the Town ordinance to the Commission.

e. Report from School Security Subcommittee (*Lenda, Butterworth*)

Executive Session:

Motion to approve an Executive Session for discussion of Agenda Item 9.e and invite in Mayor McDaniel, Fire Marshal Bundy, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, and Board of Education.

Commissioner Lenda asked that this agenda be removed from the agenda until he hears back from School Superintendent Palin who is waiting on a grant. He also asked that the executive session be removed.

f. Report from Animal Control Facility Feasibility Subcommittee (*Gillette, Leonard, Perkins*)

Commissioner Leonard asked if the Commission had received Town Planner Vlaun's email with the cost estimate and site plan for the proposed animal control facility. He reported the HVAC would be a huge cost at 35% of building cost required by statute and that the footprint or site work was a fixed amount. Town Councilor Rogers posed questions regarding the cost of the kennel, its interior dimensions, the number of dog runs, and the cost and dimensions of the building. Discussion included applying for federal and state grants and public contributions to defray the cost of the project. Commissioner Leonard asked if a list could be obtained of

Town bonds coming due and information from recently built ACO buildings and the materials used. He further commented on investigative visits and field trips conducted before the construction of the PSB. Commissioner Leonard reported the subcommittee would meet next on January 9.

11. Unfinished Business. -- *None*

12. New Business -- *None*

13. Remarks from the Public (non-agenda items—three-minute limit).
Chairman Yuchniuk asked three times for comments. There were none.

14. Remarks from the Mayor.
Mayor McDaniel remarked it was a difficult in Town and expressed condolences to the slain on Morgan Street that was isolated incident with response from EMS. Although many calls were received about the tragedy, no responses were made to the press due to the Town's RST status. He also expressed condolence to Mike Swanson on the passing of his father.

15. Remarks from Town Council Liaison.
Town Councilor Rogers remarked on the tragedy that took place today commenting the State will take control of prosecution of the case. He also congratulated Lt. Radford on his promotion and expressed his condolences to M. Swanson on his loss.

16. Remarks from Commissioners.
The Commissioners expressed condolences on the tragedy that occurred that day and to M. Swanson on his loss. As well, they congratulated Lt. Radford on his promotion. Commissioner Leonard also thanked Fire Marshal Bundy on the Facebook concerning the recent storm.

17. Adjournment.
Motion by Chairman Yuchniuk; seconded by Commissioner Leonard to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Discussion: none. Voice vote; 7-0; all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Gloria J. Gathers
Recording Clerk, Town of Montville

AN AUDIO RECORDING IS AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN'S WEBSITE.