

Town of Montville Public Safety Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes – July 22, 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 Mickey Gillette, Victor Lenda, Jr., Jon Leonard, Karen Perkins, Stephen Stewart, and Chairman Robert Yuchniuk. Commissioner James Moran was absent. Also present were Fire Marshal Bundy, Lt. Dave Radford, and Town Council Liaison Jeff Rogers. A quorum was present.

4. Amendments to the Agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Perkins; seconded by Commissioner Lenda to add Item 9a, *Executive Session for discussion of a personnel issue* to the Agenda. Discussion: none. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

5. Communications:

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

Chairman Yuchniuk confirmed that all had received copies of the statistics reports.

6. Consideration and action to approve minutes.

- a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2019.

Motion by Commissioner Leonard; seconded by Commissioner Stewart to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2019. Discussion: Under Item 15, Commissioner Leonard noted that he *observed the training on social media* at the Oakdale and Chesterfield fire stations; he did not attend it. Under Item 9c, Commissioner Lenda stated the minutes should read *FTO for Field Officer Training*, not “FDO” and that he, not Town Councilor Rogers asked if the *troopers*, not the RST came into Town to take case numbers. Commissioner Lenda also noted the omission of the word “*for*” concerning road jobs. He also said the comments attributed to him under Item 9e is not what he intended to say concerning dissension regarding the school security subcommittee. Under Item 12, Commissioner Stewart noted the resident who spoke was “*Robert*” Forrester. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried to approve minutes, as amended.

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

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

8. Remarks from Department Heads.

Police Department Report

Lt. Radford reported to the Commission there were 985 total calls for service in May that included Type 1 calls (71), arrests (21), and juvenile arrests (0). The source for these calls were Troop E (193), PD (218), Walk-ins (47), and By Officer (527) as summarized in the PD June 2019 monthly report. As to staffing, Lt. Radford reported Officer Fazzino had successfully completed the FTO program and was on his own; Officer Kelly graduated the Police Academy and is currently in phase one of the FTO program; Officers Hagios and DiColella continue to do well in the Academy and are scheduled to graduate in late September; and Officers Cassidy and Kuckel have begun the commuter academy and all seems to be going well. Lt. Radford also said he was checking on the status of the PBT Policy since it was approved by the Commission and moved on to TARP. Chairman Yuchniuk confirmed that the policy was sent to TARP.

Fire Department Report

Fire Marshal Bundy reported on the statistics for June 2019 as follows: There were 243 calls for service of which 186 were medical or EMS calls, or 76.5% of all calls for service. There were zero vehicle fire investigations for a loss of \$0; AIN (113), of which 163 resulted in transporting by ambulance. EMD was present at the Montville Carnival. Fire Marshal Bundy also reported on approval by the Town Council for a lead dispatcher with a look toward filling the position in the near future. He also reported there were 683 emergency 911 calls and 1139 routine or admin calls for service. Also, the SAFER Grant for additional paid staff and the AFG Grant for two (2) more firefighters for Chesterfield and Oakdale are still in process. Additionally, a part-time firefighter, Louis Racicon, was hired and is currently being onboarded and will hopefully start training.

9. Committee and Liaison Reports.

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

Motion by Commissioner Perkins; seconded by Commissioner Lenda to go into Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. regarding a personnel issue and include Mayor McDaniel, Town Councilor Rogers, and Fire Marshal Bundy. Discussion: none. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried. *The Commission came out of Executive Session at 6:46 p.m. Chairman Yuchniuk stated no votes were taken.*

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

Commissioner Gillette reported on the Town and Salem Animal Control monthly reports submitted electronically to the Commission as seen below.

Animal Control Reports

Town of Montville Animal Control Report (June 2019)

	Month	YTD
# of Animals Impounded	14	140
# of Animals Sold as Pets	9	77
# of Animals D.O.A.	0	4
# of Animals Euthanized	0	4
Total Complaints Investigated	97	1180

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Total Animal Bites Investigated	2	26
Total Infractions/Summons	0	8

Town of Salem Animal Control Report (June 2019)

	Month	YTD
# of Animals Impounded	0	8
# of Animals Sold as Pets	0	1
# of Animals D.O.A.	0	0
# of Animals Euthanized	0	2
Total Complaints Investigated	6	103
Total Animal Bites Investigated	0	2
Total Infractions/Summons	0	0

c. Report from Police Department Liaison (*Lenda*)
 Commissioner Lenda stated he had no report and that everything is doing well.

d. Report from Building Department Liaison (*Leonard*)
 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	101	76	77	126	136	112
Open Permits	3104	3119	3167	3210	3254	3269	3099	2967	2876	2906	2883	2858
Inspections	91	136	115	136	119	116	99	66	88	122	110	106
Plan Reviews	21	24	17	13	19	29	22	16	8	23	28	17
CO's	7	11	17	8	8	1	9	4	3	15	8	11
Violations	0	1	3	2	0	3	1	0	4	4	2	3
Unsafe Notices	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	1	2	1
Blight Identified To Date	509	512	514	515	515	515	519	523	524	532	533	533
Blight Abated To Date	237	249	258	265	274	279	286	289	292	292	296	315

Commissioner Leonard read into the record a letter from Building Inspector Vesey referencing a revised schedule of Town fees and fees charged by several towns, and said the last review of the Town fees occurred in April 2012. A package of fee schedules for surrounding towns was distributed to the Commission for their review. The justification for the proposed fee increases as questioned by Town Councilor Rogers was said to insure that Town fees stayed in line with those of area towns. Mayor McDaniel stated a cap of \$150,000 was a concern as it may take more work and put a strain on the two (2) inspectors as current projects are large and a ton of work. He also said instead of hiring new staff or layoffs, hiring consultants was an option. Town Councilor Rogers spoke of reasonable change based on expense stating he did not want fees to deter development. Commissioner Leonard spoke of meeting with Building Inspector

Vesey who he described as gracious and having a lot to do. During the meeting, he viewed an Excel program developed by V. Vesey used to track and respond to blight complaints which the Building Inspector said are often anonymous and complainants are usually not satisfied with his response. He also reported there have been no cleanups as building permits and inspections take precedence. Commissioner Leonard reported on a blight visit made by Building Inspector Vesey that was problematic and Commissioner Lenda commented the PD could accompany him. Mayor McDaniel said for six (6) years he would not take anonymous blight complaints stating most were neighbor to neighbor who feared retribution; but said complaints were often addressed to him and he then wrote up the complaint.

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

Commissioner Lenda reported on having sent an email to Superintendent Palin for a meeting with her and the Board of Education Chair concerning school security and the plans of the Board. As well, he said he had invited them to the Commission meeting and commented that the Commission had initiated the subcommittee. Commissioner Lenda also spoke of information attained by Commissioner Leonard about monitoring and security measures.

10. Unfinished Business.

Town Councilor Rogers commented on the status of the PBT Policy commented on earlier by Lt. Radford. He explained that the TARP had the policy for several months and took no action on it so Town Council Chairman McNally took the policy and put it before the Town Council.

11. New Business – *None*

a. Consideration and action concerning Gardner Lake complaints.

Town Councilor Rogers stated he asked to have this item added to the Agenda to address Gardner Lake complaints per his conversation with Chairman Yuchniuk and a breakfast he attended on July 8. He said trash, the overflow of people, and boat and Jet Ski traffic were the concerns. He spoke of seeking legislative help for the concerns and confirmed with Mayor McDaniel that the Town was active in the Gardner Lake Authority. Per his question regarding the patrol boat, Lt. Radford responded the boat was not in the water due to a lack of manpower. He said certified staff for patrol boat coverage has been lost and newer staff have not been trained. Lt. Radford also said with the focus on increased staffing and shift coverage eased, getting staff trained for patrol boat coverage next year will be better. Town Councilor Rogers said a lot of people are taking advantage of the State park and recognized Town police coverage there as a good public relations tool. ENCON presence at a July 21 park accident was also mentioned. Mayor McDaniel spoke of ENCON coverage for extra duty assignments and of staff levels that precluded ongoing park presence. He also spoke of funding for a new patrol boat, the unreliability of the current one, and negotiations to up rates for funding a new boat in the police contract.

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

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

13. Remarks from the Mayor

Mayor McDaniel remarked on pushing for Authority presence at Gardner Lake.

14 Remarks from Town Council Liaison.

Town Councilor Rogers thanked the police and fire service for their participation at the Montville Carnival.

15. Remarks from Commissioners.

Commissioner Leonard remarked he noticed a lot of dead trees on roadsides and spoke of concern for the motoring public and responsibility for them. Mayor McDaniel said the budget has tripled to deal with Town property that has been costly; Town Councilor Rogers mentioned 60,000 trees killed due to gypsy moths; and Commissioner Stewart spoke of a number of tagged trees on Chesterfield Road but then referenced the manpower issue for fire service.

Commissioner Lenda remarked on the fire department at Fitch Hill Road, its condition and the professional, courteous, and helpful staff and mentioned the presence of the PD. He also spoke of spots and oil from a garbage truck that occurred two weeks ago in front of his home. He called Public Works concerning it and expressed his thanks to Mayor McDaniel and the PD. Commissioner Lenda also referenced his comments at the last meeting (mentioned earlier in the meeting) and said in his opinion there was dissension but said the rest was self-explanatory.

Commissioner Perkins remarked she would visit next the Chesterfield Firehouse and meet with Chief Truex and staff.

16. Adjournment.

Motion by Commissioner Perkins; Commissioner Stewart to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.
Discussion: none. Voice vote; 6-0; 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.