Town of Montville Rules & Procedures Standing Committee Meeting Minutes for August 25, 2009

Call to Order – Chairman Geary called the meeting to order at 2:13 PM.

<u>Roll Call</u> – Present were Councilors Geary and Jones, and Town Clerk Lisa Terry. Absent was Councilor Beetham.

There was a brief discussion regarding Ms. Terry's recent memo advising of some parliamentary issues, which since have been incorporated in the proposed version.

Councilor Geary stated it was unclear whether the Town Attorney's renaming the title of the document to "Rules of Procedures", if accepted by the Council, would require Town boards and Commission to follow suit. The matter should be left to the September Council meeting.

The major focus was the proposed Rule 6 (J) and Rule 16, as submitted by Attorney Bruce Chudwick.

The Committee restated issues mentioned at the prior meeting that Council members must rely on the entire Charter for understanding their responsibilities and restrictions as Councilors. Pages C. 1 and C.2 of the Code Book provide specific Charter references for procedures, prohibitions, forfeiture of office, Ethics Code, etc. The Rules and Procedures document is a helpful guide in respect to meetings and procedures, but should not take on portions of the Charter. Councilors should rely on the Charter as their document for comprehensive reference.

<u>Recommendation</u> – Adoption of the revised Rules of Procedures (with some minor revisions), but omitting the proposed Rule 6 (J) and Rule 16.

Respectfully Submitted by:

John Geary Chairman Rules and Procedures Standing Committee