

**Town of Montville Town Council  
Special Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, April 13, 2011  
6:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers – Town Hall**

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Jacobson called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor and support of our troops.

3. Roll Call

Present were Councilors Beetham, Buebendorf, Caron, Hillman, Jacobson, McFee and Murphy. Also present was Mayor Jaskiewicz and Finance Director, Terry Hart.

4. Special Recognitions/Presentations – none.

5. Executive Session – none.

6. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three minute limit.

Chairperson Jacobson asked three times if there was anyone from the public who would like to come forward to address the Council regarding matters on the agenda.

7. New Business

a. To consider and act on a motion to receive the Mayor's budget proposal for fiscal year 2011-2012.

Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion; Mayor Jaskiewicz read the letter from his office dated April 13, 2011 addressed to the Town Council members regarding the 2011-2012 budget. (Schedule A, attached) He stated the proposed 2011-2012 budget is a very lean budget that will serve the residents of Montville well. He stated he was in contact with OPM for clarification regarding the responsibilities of the town if the money the Governor is requesting from Union concessions does not happen. He indicated OPM stated they know of no changes in the money the towns will receive as of today. Because of this information he has used the numbers he received from OPM and CCM and there has been no change and his numbers reflect anticipated revenue from the State. Councilor Beetham stated you can not trust the State and he does not want to pass a budget until the State passes a budget so the Town of Montville knows exactly how much money the town will have in their hands. He suggested the Mayor contact the State Representatives and Senators to urge them to pass a budget so the town will know better how to proceed. Mayor Jaskiewicz stated the Governor is asking for a May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline to pass a budget. He thanked the Finance Director, Terry Hart for all her hard work on the budget this year. He thanked the Council and the Finance Committee for all their hard work in the near future to pass this budget. Councilor Beetham inquired how Mayor Jaskiewicz feels the town will do between now and June 30<sup>th</sup>, and Mayor Jaskiewicz stated there is a spending freeze in place now and the town may come in with a lower shortage than anticipated. The numbers may not be as bad as originally anticipated. Councilor Beetham stated he went through the 2009-2010 Annual Report and stated revenues were short about one million four hundred thousand dollars. Mayor Jaskiewicz stated all departments are required to

come to the Finance Director or the Mayor if they want to purchase anything during the spending freeze. Councilor Beetham discussed page 89 of the Annual Report states Government activities last year was fifty seven million, six hundred and twenty three thousand dollars and consequently it is now up to one hundred and fourteen million dollars worth of Government activity. Finance Director Hart stated new assets were added and many of the schools were construction in process last year and have since been added as full value to the Capital list.

Roll call vote; 7-0, voting in favor were Councilors Beetham, Buebendorf, Caron, Hillman, McFee, Murphy and Jacobson. All in favor, motion carried.

b. To consider and act on a motion to receive the Mayor's proposed five year Capital Plan for fiscal year 2011-2012.

Motion made by Councilor Buebendorf, seconded by Councilor Caron, discussion, Mayor Jaskiewicz stated the towns cost breakout is fifty one thousand two hundred dollars. He discussed a potential lease/purchase of trucks this year as proposed in the Capital Plan. He looked into the interest rates and they are very good and the payments can be spread out over a three or four year period. A lease purchase may require a town meeting. Councilor Beetham stated a lease is considered to be borrowing against the town and by Charter a lease must be presented at a town meeting.

Roll call vote; 7-0, voting in favor were Councilors Beetham, Buebendorf, Caron, Hillman, McFee, Murphy and Jacobson. All in favor, motion carried.

#### 8. Remarks from the Public

Mr. Jon Leonard, 24 Chestnut Hill Road discussed the lease/purchase of trucks, stating it is going to cost the town more money than it would to buy the vehicle outright. He has heard talk of reducing town employees' hours and potentially laying some of them off and stated the town should look at reducing assets vs. what the town is doing to the employees. He inquired if the town needs everything listed on the Capital list, stating there are a lot of fire trucks in town already.

Mr. Joel Ferrier, President of the Montville Education Association, 33 Corey Lane, Niantic, reminded the Council that the MEA recently negotiated a contract and in those negotiations in mediations a zero freeze was accepted and reminded the Council there currently are teachers that are laid off with non-renewal letters. The teachers gave zero percent and it is a fair contract, he reminded the Council they have done their job to make the town better.

Chairperson Jacobson inquired if there was anyone from the public who would like to come forward to address the Council.

#### 9. Remarks from the Councilors

Councilor Buebendorf thanked the Mayor and the Finance Director for all their hard work, stating this is a thankless process and it is very time consuming.

Councilor McFee did not have anything to comment on at this time.

Councilor Beetham inquired if the Board of Education receives their own Capital money. Mayor Jaskiewicz stated the Board of Education is not requesting any Capital Improvement money this year.

Councilor Hillman did not have any comment.

Councilor Murphy stated the Capital Improvement Plan is a guideline for the town to go by, it is not set in stone, its more of a wish list of items the department heads feel they need to move on, there is nothing that says the town has to buy the items requested, or fund anything that is requested, it is a wish list of items. Things change year to year and new items are added to the plan, but many of the items are not purchased. He thanked the Mayor and Finance Director for a great job putting a budget together, and thanked them for the synopsis included in the budget as requested last year by Councilor Hillman. He stated this information will be helpful in considering the budget requests this year. He stated he hopes the State comes through with their obligations.

Councilor Caron thanked the Finance Director and the Mayor for working very hard on the budget and also thanked each of the departments for working hard on their individual budget requests.

#### 10. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Murphy, seconded by Councilor Caron to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Discussion, none, voice vote, 7-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville.