

**Town of Montville Public Safety Commission
Meeting Minutes of Monday, September 26, 2011
Town Council Chambers – 7:00 p.m. – Town Hall**

1. Call to Order

Vice Chairman McNally called the regular meeting of the Public Safety Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. after establishing a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Allyn, Butterworth, Loiler, Moran, Wehner and McNally. Absent was Chairman Jetmore. Also present was Town Council Liaison, Candy Buebendorf and Mayor Jaskiewicz.

4. Amendments to the Agenda – none.

5. Presentation given by Lt. Bunnell to Officer David Rowley, Sgt. Collins and the family of Officer Dennis Monahan.

Lt. Bunnell thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting and thanked Commissioner Wehner for all his help with the Public Safety Building because he left him out of the thank you speech at the ground breaking ceremony. He explained he has three awards to present at this meeting and stated the presentations have been a long time coming and he is happy to finally have the opportunity to present them.

The first presentation was for Officer David Rowley who retired this year after twenty four years of part time service for the Town of Montville. He read a summary of Officer Rowley's resume and his accomplishments and achievements as well as exemplary service over the years with the Town of Montville Police Department over his twenty four years of service. Mayor Jaskiewicz stated Mr. Rowley is an asset to the Town and his service has been greatly appreciated over the years. Mr. Rowley, his wife Carol and son came forward to accept the plaque.

Lt. Bunnell discussed Sgt. Collins and his service to the Town of Montville between June, 2007 through August 2011. He has now retired but he supported the Montville Police Department over the years and has been a great asset with the Public Safety Building, and was instrumental in getting the project moving along as well as speaking at the informational meetings along the way. Lt. Bunnell gave Sgt. Collins his plaque and Mayor Jaskiewicz said a few words and explained Sgt. Collins did a great job for the town during his time of service. Mr. William Buckle, co-chairman of the Town of Montville Public Safety Building Committee thanked Sgt. Collins for his service provided during the Public Safety Building planning process in a very professional

manner. Sgt. Collins accepted his plaque and thanked all of the men and women of the Montville Police Department for all they do and stated they are a professional group of people who dedicate their lives to law enforcement for the good of the town. He thanked Lt. Bunnell and stated it has been an honor to work with him over the past four years.

Lt. Bunnell invited the entire Monahan family to accept a shadow box on behalf of Officer Dennis Monahan. He discussed the life and accomplishments of Officer Monahan over the years and stated he made the town proud to know him. He was a committed SRO officer and volunteered on many organizations to better the town. He discussed his career as a police officer and all of his awards he accumulated during his service. Mayor Jaskiewicz thanked the Monahan family for attending the meeting to accept the shadow box on behalf of the town.

Lt. Bunnell thanked everyone for attending the ceremony and stated there are sixty five different acts of heroism, bravery and service awards to be handed out at a future date and he looks forward to each and every one as they all deserve it.

Vice Chairman McNally thanked all the police officers for their service past and present.

6. Communications

7. Approval of the Minutes of August 22, 2011 regular meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Loiler to approve the meeting minutes of August 22, 2011 as submitted. Discussion, none, voice vote, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

8. Executive Session – none.

9. Remarks from the Public

Vice Chairman McNally asked three times if there was anyone from the public who would like to come forward to address the Commission.

10. Remarks from Department Heads

Chief Truex, Chesterfield Fire House inquired to the status of the hire of a firefighter for the Chesterfield Fire House and he stated he has applied for two fire act grants this year. Mayor Jaskiewicz answered he has not moved forward with the hire as of yet but he recommend the new Town Council and the Public Safety Commission work together after the election to resolve the issue. Vice Chairman McNally stated he will put the item on the agenda for next month for discussion.

Chief Murphy, Oakdale Fire House, discussed the retirement of Sgt. Collins and stated the town will miss him, he is a force and he commands himself when he speaks and

people listen to him. He is personable and an asset to the Town and will be missed when he leaves. He stated he is a good man who will be an asset to the town in some capacity in the future.

Lt. Bunnell discussed his monthly report of activity. There are currently twenty two officers with one in training until November when he is out on his own. The interviews were held for the SRO position, there is a new procedure in place and an interview is required for selection. He stated Officer Moorehead would be a great asset to the SRO position as she has done a great job with the DARE position for the Town of Montville and she has the ability to establish great relationships with the students. He discussed Capital Improvement for next year and would like to suggest the replacement of police issued firearms next year because the current equipment is ten years old and starting to show signs of disrepair and use. A discussion was held regarding the type of firearms he will be requesting for the police officers. He introduced the new hire Resident State Trooper, Sgt. Gelinis to the Public Safety Commission, and stated he has seventeen years of experience recently in the Town of Old Lyme. He has a good work ethic and welcomed him to the position. Mr. Gelinis introduced himself and stated he looks forward to working with the Town of Montville and is looking forward to the challenges he will be presented with.

Monthly reports were submitted to the Commission from Animal Control, the Building Official, Montville Fire Co., Oakdale Fire Department, Chesterfield Fire Company and Mohegan Fire Company.

11. Reports from Committees and Public Safety Liaisons – none.
12. Unfinished Business
 - a. Discussion regarding progress of the Public Safety Building complex.

Lt. Bunnell discussed the Public Safety Building in the absence of Chairman Jetmore and indicated there is a tentative date of completion and work will be ongoing during the winter months. Progress is ongoing and he looks forward to the completion of the project.

- b. Discussion regarding progress made to date regarding the Public Safety Plan.

Commissioner Allyn distributed a draft Public Safety Plan for the Commission to review. He reviewed the document page by page and gave a description of each and suggested the Commission members submit and recommendations for amendments they may have before he submits the Plan to the Mayor and Finance Department to take the project out to bid by the end of the week. The Plan calls for a six month planning process with a final document prior to the next fiscal year.

13. New Business

- a. Discussion regarding adding the Uncas Health District to Department Heads under the Public Safety Commission.

Commissioner Allyn discussed adding the Uncas Health District as a department head in order to get monthly reports/updates at the Commission meetings. Councilor Buebendorf suggested requesting the monthly reports as a starting point. It was the consensus of the Commission to send a letter to Patrick McCormick at the Uncas Health Department requesting a monthly status report.

- b. To consider and act on a motion to review and approve the draft job description of the School Resource Officer and to forward to the Mayor with a recommendation for approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Loiler, seconded by Commissioner Butterworth, Discussion, Mayor Jaskiewicz stated he is in favor of an established policy. Lt. Bunnell stated it is a good policy that will last for a long time. Commissioner Wehner discussed the two year experience requirement and how it may limit candidates that are qualified for the job. A discussion was held regarding waiving qualifications on a case by case basis and based on qualifications with exception for extenuating circumstances. It was the consensus of the Commission the candidate should have some experience working within the Town of Montville and wording should be considered for a back up plan for consideration of the position. The Commission discussed the best wording for the document.

Motion made by Commissioner Loiler, seconded by Commissioner Butterworth to amend the draft job description as follows;

Remove wording from page 3 of 7, Section 5. a. "with the Montville Police Department" from line 5.

Voice vote on the amendment, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Voice vote on the original motion as amended, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

- c. To consider and act on a motion to approve the 2012 Public Safety Commission meeting schedule.

Motion made by Commissioner Loiler, seconded by Commissioner Butterworth to approve the 2012 meeting schedule. Discussion, none, voice vote, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

14. Remarks from the Public

Vice Chairman McNally asked three times if there was anyone from the public who would like to come forward to address the Commission.

15. Remarks from the Mayor

Mayor Jaskiewicz discussed the Public Safety Building and stated the construction is on schedule. He had the SRO position meeting today and stated Officer Moorehead would be a great candidate for the position. He discussed the DARE program, stating it may not get started until January, 2012.

16. Remarks from Town Council Liaison, Candy Buebendorf

Councilor Buebendorf thanked Commissioner Allyn for dedicating time to preparing the RFP and stated it was an honor to be a part of the awards ceremony and looks forward to attending more of them in the future.

17. Remarks from Commissioners

Commissioner Moran thanked Lt. Bunnell for the awards ceremonies and welcomed and congratulated Sgt. Gelin as the Resident State Trooper for the Town of Montville.

Commissioner Allyn reminded the Commissioners to submit to him any changes they have regarding the RFP to him as soon as they can and he welcomed Sgt. Gelin as the Resident State Trooper.

Commissioner Wehner stated it was nice to have the awards ceremony and welcomed Sgt. Gelin as the team.

Commissioner Butterworth discussed Hurricane Irene preparations and clean up, stating all emergency responders did a great job during and after the storm. He welcomed Sgt. Gelin and thanked Lt. Bunnell for initiating the awards ceremony.

Commissioner Loiler thanked Commissioner Allyn for all his work with the RFP and welcomed Sgt. Gelin as the Resident State Trooper for the town.

Commissioner McNally thanked Lt. Bunnell for initiating the awards ceremony, thanked Commissioner Allyn for taking the initiative with the RFP and welcomed Sgt. Gelin.

18. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Loiler, seconded by Commissioner Moran to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., discussion, none, voice vote, 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville