

**Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, March 11, 2013
7:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order
Chairperson Buebendorf called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. after establishing a quorum.
2. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of our military.
3. Roll Call
Present were Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf.
Absent was Councilor Jones. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

4. Special Recognitions/Presentations

- a. Review of 2012 Audit by the auditors

Rob Howard and Amanda Backhaus of Grant Thornton presented a review of their 2012 Audit. Mr. Howard discussed the responsibility of the Town with regards to the Financial Statements, which is comprised of the numbers and disclosures, the federal single audit, and the state single audit, and an overview of the contents of the Audit. Audited items include the government-wide financial statements, which include the governmental and business activities of the Town, the General Fund, the Bonded Projects, Public Safety, and Water & Sewer. It was determined that while there was no material of non-compliance recorded, there was one significant deficiency relating to the WPCA, who took over their accounting during the year and did not conduct their year-end closing. The Auditors are confident that this will not be an issue in the following year(s). It was also determined that the Town is in compliance with accordance to both the federal and state programs and no control deficiencies were identified. Mr. Howard reviewed the recent pronouncements that were issued by the governmental standard core including the financial reporting of deferred outflows and inflows of resources and net position, items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities, and the accounting and financial reporting of pensions.

Ms. Backhaus reviewed the financial highlights. Overall, in the government-wide financial statements, there was an overall increase of \$5.8 million from the previous year and the overall combined ending fund balance for the short-term obligations of the governmental funds increased approximately \$6.2 million, the largest increase being due to the bonding which occurred at the beginning of the year. The unassigned fund balance was approximately \$2.5 million or approximately 4.3% of the total general fund expenditures and is on the low end of the recommended 5-15%. Driven by the budget adopted during the year, there was an overall decrease of \$866,000 primarily due to the bankruptcy of AES Thames. There is no fund balance currently assigned for the 2013 budget. As noted by Mr. Howard, there was one significant deficiency due to the lack of the year-end closing by the WPCA. To this end, the auditors will be working with the WPCA to develop some closing procedures; the deficiency is not next year. In addition, the auditors provided a few management recommendations including dealing with unresolved matters from the previous year, reconciling the budgetary fund balance, and the close of net assets in the internal service fund. She noted that, while these items are currently in progress, they had not been completed as of year-end. While they did not find any unreasonable entries, they are also recommending a more formal journal review entries that are made by the top management by the Mayor and the Superintendent on a monthly basis to ensure that all of the entries are reasonable. They also recommended the Town update their passbook accounts for performance bonds.

5. Alterations to the Agenda

The following items were change was made to the Agenda:

- a. 16(e) “To Consider and ~~Act on a motion to~~ discuss the scheduling of a public hearing regarding a proposal for townwide trash pickup (Councilor Longton).

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: none. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Item was changed on the Agenda.

6. To consider and act on a motion to approve:

- a. The Special Meeting Minutes of Thursday, February 7, 2013

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

- b. The Special Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, February 13, 2013.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Executive Session

- a. To Consider and Act on a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing Mr. Robert Mastrandrea for the Building Code Board of Appeals. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Councilor McFee suggested moving the Executive Session to follow the remarks from the public due to the heavy public attendance, but since there is only one short interview, Councilor Buebendorf felt it unnecessary. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried. Invited parties exited Chambers for Executive Session at 7:20 p.m., returning at 7:24 p.m. Chairperson Buebendorf resumed the meeting and stated that no formal votes were taken during the executive session.

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

Lynda Jean, 1583 Route 163, 1583 Bozrah Road, Number 8, and Maynard Road, Number 8, expressed her dismay with Councilor McFee, who would not take her telephone call to discuss her opposition to the town-wide trash pick-up. Because it is based on the mill rate, the proposal would result in a tax increase for both her home and businesses, the former of which is located on an abandoned road where she receives only emergency services; the proposal would not, in any way, help her nor save her any money.

Carol and Patrick Richardson, 164 Fellows Road, who became vendors following their retirement, spoke in favor of the Vendors Ordinance. Their goal is not to take over, but to enhance the business environment of the Town. They have been overwhelmingly welcomed by the towns of Norwich and Groton and felt that Montville should be equally welcoming and encouraging. She noted that New London has a map indicating designated areas that are open to vendors while Norwich will investigate whether a vendor-proposed location is available, taking into consideration the traffic and public safety of the area.

Peggy Ryan, 16 Glendale Road, spoke on behalf of many senior citizens in opposition of the town-wide trash pick-up. As seniors, the little trash they accumulate is taken to the transfer station. In addition, the Transfer Station’s many recyclables are given to various community organizations who auction/sell the items. She questioned the eventual cost of replacing the trucks, which would lead to yet another mill increase.

Al Skulczyck, 238 Derry Hill Road, Uncasville, spoke in support of the vendors ordinance and in opposition to the town-wide trash pick-up. As a vendor, he has researched the vending policies of other towns and found that all of their policies are similar with the exception of the

distance rule. He felt that large, established businesses should not be threatened by smaller businesses and questioned the initial reason behind the rule's establishment by a former business owner/Board of Selectmen member. With regards to the town-wide trash pick-up, Mr. Skulczyk spoke of the town's seniors who are on a fixed income, some living in homes with long driveways. He expressed his love of the dump as a place for people to feel connected with each other and added that, without the dump, the local politicians would lose one of the best campaign locations.

Paul Sapia, 57 Lathrop Road, spoke in opposition to the tax increase which would result from the establishment of town-wide trash pick-up. He commended the Transfer Station for maintaining a well-run station and providing excellent service and noted its additional benefits including the ability to drop off recyclables, metals electronics, burnables, non-burnables.

Sandie Gregory, 59 Jerome Road, who is retired and living on a fixed income with her husband, felt that town-wide trash pick-up would not benefit anyone, but would hurt everyone through the resulting tax increase. She asked the Council to consider the Transfer Station's unique recycling program that depends on the donations of household items which are sold by local non-profit organizations and schools generating approximately \$20,000 per year. Limiting the hours of the Transfer Station would result in fewer donations for these sales and the program will disappear.

Joseph Hage, 1422 Route 163, spoke in opposition to the town-wide trash pick-up and the sense of isolation he would feel as the result. He and his family look forward to making their weekly trips to the Transfer Station with their friends; he enjoys visiting with Flo and feels that it is a wonderful opportunity to meet other townspeople; it is a piece of Montville that maintains its small town feel.

Florence Turner, 204 Route 163, an employee at Transfer Station, spoke against the resulting tax increase from the town-wide trash pick-up and in support of the Vendor's Ordinance and the Historical Society's request. Aside from collecting trash and recyclables, the Station provides many other services including their re-use program and free area for items that can be given another life and taken out of waste stream. These programs not only save money in disposal costs, but also generate funds through the sorting of metals and contribute to the betterment of the environment by ensuring their safe disposal. She expressed her pride and love for the job and finds the Station to be a friendly environment. She reiterated her statement by reading her recently published letter in *The Day*. Ms. Turner later stated her support for the preservation of history in which she feels she plays a daily role at the Transfer Station and her support for small businesses in hopes that a Vendor will locate themselves across from the Station with the name "Hot Diggity Dump Dogs".

Susan Perkins, 421 Raymond Hill Road, a 25-30 year resident of Montville spoke of her enjoyment in visiting the Transfer Station stating that its existence results in a cleaner, safer, and more fun environment for those who like to meet people. She questioned what will happen to the refrigerators and metals and the resulting trash on street from garbage cans being damaged or knocked down by snow plows and animals.

Walter Subotkowski, 209 Norwich-New London Turnpike, a 67 year resident of Montville, recalled when the dump was a big hole. He questioned whether Councilor McFee contacted the state controller stating that the Town was not in need of a Capital Improvement and scolded Councilor Longton for using the Montville Patch to conduct an opinion poll when two large newspapers exist in the area.

Patrick Richardson, 164 Fellows Road, Oakdale, commended the staff at the Transfer Station noting that it is probably the cleanest in the state. He has experienced curbside pick-up and found that there was always garbage being left behind and felt that politics should not change what is working.

Janet Moody, 19 Haley Road, a Montville resident for 60 years, questioned the costs of the garbage trucks in relation to that of the Transfer Station. She is happy with the Transfer Station, their re-use program, and the ability to correctly separate her garbage in an environmentally safe manner. She felt that town-wide trash pick-up would result in garbage sitting alongside the road as in the major cities as well as littered on the street due to scavenging animals. She felt that the residents should maintain the choice of either having curbside pick-up or transporting their own garbage to the Transfer Station.

Leonard Trinqué, 736 Raymond Hill Road, is happy with the current situation and finds the tax increase based upon the mill rate unfair. Based upon the assessment of one's property, a neighbor with the same amount of garbage but a lower assessment would pay less in taxes for the same service.

Jon Chase, 1011 Route 163, Municipal Historian, urged the support of the Historical Society's request for the use of the former Town Clerk's office and fireproof vault in the Old Town Hall as a repository of Montville's archival materials, which are currently stored in detrimental conditions. They have spoken with the Department of Social Services who is currently using the building and believes there are reasonable ways in which both the Historical Society and the DSS can be accommodated. The Society acknowledges and plans to meet the needs of any costs incurred from any necessary possible electrical re-wiring and can coordinate their volunteer efforts to accommodate the moving of items currently stored in the area. While he is aware that the issue is not on the Agenda for action, he would like to seek their support and would be happy to discuss the issue with any of the Council members and the public.

Lt. Leonard Bunnell, 5 Little John Drive, spoke in opposition of the Vendor's Ordinance noting that one of unintended advantages of the one-mile rule is the reduction/elimination of the resulting congestion created by limiting the number of available locations. In addition, he noted that the Ordinance change does not provide any solutions to such issues as parking and speed limits nor does it limit the products for sale. Speaking from a law enforcement perspective, the Ordinance should include the input of the Planning & Zoning Commission. Additionally, as a taxpayer, he finds the fact that the vendors do not have to pay taxes unfair.

John Geary, 11 Depot Road, spoke in support of Mr. Chase's presentation regarding the Historical society's need for a fire-proof vault. The Historical Society has had a history of fire and water issues and a number of items have been damaged and disposed. The permanent assignment of the former Town Clerk's office and vault to the Montville Historical Society would create a suitable location for the preservation of these archival materials.

Frank Florio, 10 Cottonwood Lane, brought along his son, Vinnie, and four Scouts to work on their Citizenship and Community badge. With the support of former Mayor Jaskiewicz and Mr. Don Bordeau, his son earned his Eagle Scout badge by creating a Flag Retirement Box at the Town's Transfer Station on Flag Day 2012. The number of interactions his son received over the three-weeks he spent building the Box proves that the Transfer Station is a meeting place. He added that he also personally uses and enjoys the Transfer Station.

Ron Romeo, 12 Crandall Hill Road, spoke in opposition to town-wide trash pick up. He felt that the streets would become littered and questioned when those who work weekends would be able to visit the Station when the hours are reduced. Mr. Romeo commended Flo and did not understand why they seek to fix a program that is working.

Dan Almeida, 300-F Maple Avenue, noted that visits to the Station would still be necessary in order to dispose of waste oil, coolant, fluorescent lamps, batteries, and large items. With trash pick-up, many may dispose some of these items in the trash creating an environmental hazard. In addition, leaving trash on curb will allow criminals to rummage their trash and freely review any personal documents, an event which is less likely to occur if one personally took their trash to the Station. He also noted that the recycling was not picked up for at least two weeks following the storm and questions if the same would happen for the trash.

Angela Chihocki, 10 Starr Road, who noted that while she knows everyone at dump, she does not know any of the Council members, spoke in agreement with the previous statements in opposition to curbside trash pick-up.

Karl Margolis, 274 Maple Avenue, a 30-year resident, recalled the state of the roads being full of trash when the Town did have trash pick-up. He commended the workers for maintaining the Station.

Matthew Lamothe, 15 Massachusetts Road, in opposition of town-wide trash pick-up, expressed his concern with the growth of what is now being presented as a small tax increase of .45 mill, but will be likely increase to 1 mill in the next few years, and 2 mills in five years.

Gary Obern, 20 Dock Road, a 72-year resident, spoke in opposition of town-wide trash pick-up and in favor of the Vendor's Ordinance. He reiterated the previous statements concerning the privacy of trash and the amount of trash seniors accumulate, adding that those who recycle tend not to accumulate a lot of trash. He further added that, while the tax increase appears small, it is a lot of money for some people as every little bit takes more away from the homeowner. Regarding the Vendor's Ordinance, Mr. Obern stated that he has not seen any traffic issues resulting from roadside stands of people selling flowers and vegetables on their own property and felt that limiting them from doing so is a violation of their freedom.

Rick Mowan, 32 Webb Drive, who once had trash pick-up, spoke in opposition to the proposal stating that residents should have a choice as to whether they wish to have their trash picked up or transport it themselves to the Transfer Station.

Gary Murphy, 6 Carolina Drive, spoke in opposition to town-wide trash pick-up and in support of the Vendor's Ordinance. He stated that it would be a no-win situation for the residents of, especially, apartments, condominiums, and businesses who will see a raise in both their fees and taxes; the only positive, he noted, would be that the local politicians would not be able to hold up traffic as they campaign at the Station. As to the Vendor's Ordinance, while he is not disagreeing with Lt. Bunnell regarding the traffic issues which may arise, he raises the issue in the case where the owner of a given property, that has already been approved and zoned for business, chooses to rent his property to a vendor. He finds it unfair to impose these restrictions on the property owner.

Danielle Stauble, 131-A Kitemaug Road, a resident of Montville since 1973, stated that she would like to maintain the choice to have her trash picked up or to transport it to the Transfer Station herself adding that their taxes should be raised for more important things.

Roger Guyas, 2 Wyndwood Road, who resides in a retirement community and currently has his roads plowed and his trash picked up under his land lease, would not be able to afford the tax increase resulting from town-wide trash pick-up.

Dana McFee, 27 Crestview Drive, stated that he worked in the best interest of and sought to benefit the citizens of Montville by supporting the proposal for town-wide trash pick-up. He spent over three years reviewing town-wide trash pick up as a member of the Solid Waste sub-committee and found that the majority of residents pay approximately \$250.00-\$300.00 a year to have their trash picked up and found that a .45 increase in the mill rate would equate to less than the \$55.00 that most people pay for a Transfer Station sticker. He noted that he, alone, does not make decisions for the Town. As a Councilor, he makes suggestions on items which he feels may improve the lives of the residents, the Councilors discuss the issue, the public voices their opinions, and they vote on it. He continues to believe it is a good idea and would support it should it go to referendum.

Bill Rodenburg, 60 Fielding Terrace, presented a "lesson in democracy" by asking the supporters and opposers of town-wide trash pick-up to raise their hands; the entire public raised their hands in opposition to the proposal.

Chairperson Buebendorf asked three times if there were any additional persons from the public who would like to speak regarding items on the agenda.

Councilor Tanner suggested a five-minute break. Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Councilor Buebendorf thanked everyone for coming out to speak. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried. A five-minute break was taken at 8:27 p.m. Chairperson Buebendorf resumed the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

9. Communications
 - a. A copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of December 2012.
 - b. A letter of appreciation for donation of \$3,000.00 from Ms. Catherine Zall, Executive Director, New London Homeless Hospitality Center, Inc.
 - c. A letter from the Montville Historical Society

10. Report from the Town Attorney on Matters Referred — none.

11. Remarks from the Mayor and/or Administrative Department Heads to include Matters Referred.

Mayor McDaniel stated that the Water Utility Coordinating Council (WUCC), which last convened approximately ten years ago, is in the process of reconvening to discuss the regional water supply. The New London-East Lyme Water Project is moving forward. The water tower siting is before the Planning & Zoning Committee for approval of the construction of an 115,000 gallon water tank which will provide fire protection for the industrial park. Fire hydrants will also be available. The Project will, hopefully, spur some economic development in the area.

12. Reports from Standing Committees.
 - a. **Town Administration/Rules of Procedure** – Councilor Tanner.
Councilor Tanner reported that the Administration reviewed the Town Council Rules, specifically with regards to the review of contracts prior to their presentation to the Council, and determined that no changes were necessary.
 - b. **Finance** – Councilor Jaskiewicz
Councilor Jaskiewicz reported that the preliminary budget reports for three to four departments have been completed. They will continue to review the reports during their next meetings. He made note of Councilor Tanner's request that the Parks & Recreation Commission report be reviewed at their next meeting so that they can distribute their brochures by April 1st.
 - c. **Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal** – Councilor Longton
Councilor Longton reported that the majority of discussions dealt with the town-wide trash pick-ups and updates on the condition of the snowplow budget and their roadwork plans for the Spring.

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors
 - a. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging; Social Services; Montville Youth Services; Senior Center; School Building Committee

Commission on Aging: No meeting.

Social Services continues to be in need of non-perishables; please drop off any donation at the Old Town Hall. Councilor Caron thanked all of the citizens who have donated goods.

Senior Center: Mayor McDaniel signed off on the order for the bus earlier in the day.

Montville Youth Services have been busy working with the Police Department building benches for Public Safety and Youth Services. Councilor Caron thanked the officers and members of Youth Services.

- b. Councilor Jones: Library; Planning & Zoning Commission — not present.
- c. Councilor Longton: Economic Development Commission — no meeting.
- d. Councilor McFee: Volunteer Firefighters Relief Fund; Inland Wetlands Commission — no report.
- e. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education; WPCA — no report.
- f. Councilor Tanner: Parks & Recreation Commission; Non-Profit Organizations

Parks & Recreation Commission: Volleyball has ended. The Commission reviewed the task force findings of all of the gymnasiums in Town and are discussing the possibility of moving all of their matted programs into one facility. They also hope to open up more gym space. Also in discussion is the possibility of eliminating the uneven bars from the gymnastics program. Currently, they are being left up because they are heavy and difficult to move.

Non-Profit Organizations — no report.

- g. Councilor Buebendorf: Public Safety Commission; Regional Dispatch Committee

The **Public Safety Commission** held a regular and special meeting to discuss the Public Safety Plan. They are also scheduling a series of meetings to address the Plan and identify what can and should be implemented. Lt. Bunnell and Mr. Ray Occhialini will be presenting their recommendations for Police and Fire, respectively, to the Commission at the next meeting. The Commission strongly encourages the players involved in the Plan recommendation, including the Fire Chiefs, to attend these meetings so that they can weigh in and participate in the discussion.

Regional Dispatch Committee is continuing to work on organizing the regional dispatch.

14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a motion to accept the resignation of Ms. Lois D. Taylor from the Inlands Wetlands Commission effective May 14, 2013.

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: Councilor Caron expressed his regret, as did Mayor McDaniel who noted the hard and tedious work of the Commission. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

- b. To Consider and Act on a motion to accept the resignation of Dr. Robert Thorn from the Economic Development Commission effective June 11, 2013.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Councilors Longton, Caron, and Jaskiewicz expressed their regret. Voice vote, 5-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: Councilor McFee. Motion carried.

15. Unfinished Business — none.

16. New Business

- b. **Resolution #2013-17. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$858.14 (eight-**

hundred fifty-eight dollars and fourteen cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Buebendorf)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Tanner, Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- c. **Resolution #2013-18. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to authorize Mayor Ronald McDaniel to execute the Agreement entitled “Master Municipal Agreement for Construction Projects” and any documents related thereto. (Mayor McDaniel)**

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz, Discussion: Mayor McDaniel explained that the 10-year Agreement will allow the Town to send a letter to the State DOT informing them of a project eliminating the several-month long process of obtaining approval from the state DOT each time a project is presented thereby expediting the process. Roll call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- d. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY ORDAINS to approve and adopt the ordinance titled “Ordinance Amending Chapter 289, Ordinance No. O-G-4, “Ordinance Regulating Peddlers, Vendors and Solicitors”, as read at a public hearing on Monday, March 11, 2013. (Councilor Longton)

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Tanner, Discussion: In light of the concerns expressed by the public, Councilor Caron moved to table and refer the Ordinance to the Planning & Zoning and Economic Development Commissions (EDC) for review, seconded by Councilor Longton. Councilor Caron felt Ordinance to be unfair overall and suggested that the recommendations of the businesses and vendors be taken into account, along with a review by the Commissions. Councilor Jaskiewicz agreed and thanked everyone who came out and expressed his/her opinion(s) and added that, perhaps, designated areas can be selected as suggested by Mrs. Richardson. He also found it interesting that the ordinance has been in place since 1993 and there were no issues until the vendors decided to amend the one-mile rule in the Ordinance. Councilor Caron noted that the one item of the Ordinance in question was brought about by the recommendation from the EDC who received the request from the vendors. After listening to the concerns of the vendors and businesses, both of who have valid points, he feels that the Ordinance is unfair to both sides. Councilor McFee agreed that the EDC should be actively involved and take into consideration the viewpoints of both the existing businesses as well as the vendors. He felt that the distance between a vendor and an existing business may be changed, but should not be eliminated. Roll call vote to table and refer the Ordinance to the Planning & Zoning and Economic Development Commissions, vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Ordinance has been tabled and referred.

- e. **Resolution #2013-19. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$6,985.23 (six thousand nine hundred eighty-five dollars and twenty-three cents) to Tarragon Development Corporation as requested by the Town Attorney pursuant to a stipulated judgment to be entered in court as a result of a lengthy mediation involving the parties and the Honorable Thomas A. Bishop. (Councilor Buebendorf)**

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, Discussion: Councilor Buebendorf moved to amend the dollar amount to \$8,235.47 (eight-thousand two-hundred thirty-five and forty-seven cents), seconded by Councilor McFee. Discussion on amending the dollar amount: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Amount amended.

Discussion on the original resolution as amended: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- f. To Consider and Act on a motion to discuss the scheduling of a public hearing regarding a proposal for townwide trash pickup (Councilor Longton).

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, Discussion: After listening to the public's concerns and satisfied that the people are opposed to the proposal, Councilor Jaskiewicz stated that he would vote against it. Councilor McFee agreed that the response opposing the proposal was overwhelming, but did not see the harm in holding a public informational hearing, which might also clear some of the misinformation and provide an opportunity for those who support the proposal. He noted that, in his research, he found that the majority of residents currently hire private trash pick-up and may be affected positively by this proposal and added that he would support Councilor Longton should he decide to continue his pursuit. Councilor Longton noted that it has been an ongoing issue for 3-1/2 years, pre-dating his seat on the Council. When he became the Chair for Solid Waste/Public Works, it became his responsibility to bring the issue forward and made a promise to Councilor McFee that he would move it forward. Councilor McFee has worked hard in the past 1-1/2 years to gather the figures and information; they met with representatives from the CT DEP and have spoken with haulers and citizens regarding the issue. Concerned with his lack of understanding of what the people wanted, Councilor Longton spoke with Ellyn Santiago who agreed to post a letter on the Montville Patch. While the proposal this evening was to schedule an informational hearing on the issue, he feels that, due to the overwhelming opposition, he will no longer seek to pursue the issue. Councilor Tanner stated that she received a number of e-mails and telephone calls regarding the issue and feels that the proposal should not be pushed forward. She also added that many requested the return of the bulky waste day pick-up. Councilor McFee, following Councilor Longton's lead, will not object to opposing the proposal. He also addressed the issue of eliminating the town-wide recycle pick-up noting that its elimination would result in a higher rate for those who are currently paying for private trash pick-up. Councilor Caron agreed. Mayor McDaniel expressed his dismay with the public with regards to the uncivil and unprofessional discourse, i.e. "trash talk", which has transpired regarding this debate prior to today's meeting. He hopes that, in the future, the residents will debate issues in a more civil manner. Roll call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: None. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Motion failed.

- f. **Resolution #2013-20. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to consider and act on a Resolution to adopt the Yantic River Greenway as a designated state greenway. (Mayor McDaniel)**

WHEREAS, the Town of Montville has a significant natural resource in the presence of the Yantic River; and

WHEREAS, the designation of the river corridor as a greenway is consistent with the Town of Montville's Plan of Conservation and Development, as indicated in its goals and objectives for open space preservation and natural resource protection;

WHEREAS, the Greenway will provide citizens with access to the rich historical, cultural and natural resources of the Yantic River; and

WHEREAS, the Greenway will enhance the local economy by attracting visitors and encourage use of this resource for recreational activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of Montville, Connecticut to hereby support and endorse the nomination of the Yantic River Greenway as a designated state greenway.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that the Resolution deals with the Gardner Lake Watershed area and would allow the Yantic River Greenway to apply for grants which will enable them to maintain the Greenway as a natural resource. Roll call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

17. Remarks from the Public with a three-minute limit.

Lynda Jean, 1583 Route 163, Number 8, thanked the Council members for hearing their concerns and thanked Councilor McFee for following through with Councilor Longton.

Flo Turner, 204 Route 163, stated that Don Bordeau, Public Works Director, relayed that the elimination of curbside recycling would save the Town approximately \$250,000 in addition to the money which the Town would make from the recycling of those items. She added that those who choose to have curbside pickup could probably afford to pay more to have their recycling picked up and, if not, they can always opt to bring them to the Transfer Station free of charge. With regards to the bulky waste pickup, she felt that the program was a big nightmare for the Public Works Department and led to a two-week process taking months to complete due to complaints of non-pick-ups.

Carol Richardson, 164 Fellows Road, a 30-year resident of Montville, has decided to become more active with the Town as the result of Councilor McFee and his attitude and approach when addressing the public. In contrast, she finds Mayor McDaniel to be accessible and nice at all times; she hopes that those qualities will transfer over to Councilor McFee.

Walter Subotkowski, 209 Norwich-New London Turnpike, thanked Mayor McDaniel and the Town Council.

Al Skulezyck, 238 Derry Hill Road, thanked the Town Council and advised them to keep their mind open to discussion and not to let their "mouth run before the brain". He is glad that they are thinking about things that need to be done in the town and thanked them for good job they will do in future.

John Sanocki, 1400 Route 163, thanked the Council for referring the Vendor's Ordinance to the Planning & Zoning Commission, but questioned why this was not done in the January meeting when the motion was initially made.

Gary Murphy, 6 Carolina Drive, having plowed the snow for the Town many years ago, asked Mayor McDaniel to express his appreciation to the Public Works Director for the outstanding job of his department in dealing with the snow.

Janet Moody, 19 Haley Road, thanked the Councilors for their vote and spoke with regards to Mayor McDaniel's statement about "talking trash". She stated that the residents who spoke represented the opinions of their families and neighbors as well as themselves and apologized that, perhaps, the conversation became a little heated.

18. Executive Session — none.

19. Remarks from the Councilors

Councilor McFee responded to Mrs. Richardson stating that he had no intention of being rude, but merely wished to speak as a private citizen to the public; the Council members having already heard his views regarding the matter. He urged the public to focus on the issue rather than the individual(s) who proposed and/or are supporting the issue in the future. The Council members are elected to the Town to make life better for the citizens; it is their job to propose things, to receive input from the public, and to vote upon a given issue; no one Council member comes up with an idea that is automatically put in to law. He added that if the Councilors did not propose new ideas, the Town would become stagnant and never grow.

Councilor Longton thanked all of the citizens who came out and expressed their concerns.

Councilor Caron also thanked all of the attendees as well as those from whom he received phone calls, voice mails, and e-mails. He added that approximately 95% of the seniors at the Senior Center who he spoke with were against the issue leading him to further discuss the issue with Councilor Longton and the other Councilors. He had big issues about the voters not being able to voice their opinions and, to this end, was opting to introduce a petition. It is a great thing to see a room full of people. Councilor Caron recognized the Transfer Station as being a fantastic place for many of the residents and commended the staff for making their great job in making it such a great place. He also extended his appreciation to Public Works Department for their efforts and great job in dealing with the snow this year.

Councilor Jaskiewicz – none.

Councilor Tanner also thanked everyone for coming out and using their voice.

Mayor McDaniel addressed Ms. Moody's comment regarding his "trash talk" comment and clarified that he was not speaking about this evening's comments, when the residents are expected to voice their opinion(s) regarding the issues that will affect them. Rather, he was speaking about the ongoing comments for the past few months, which includes personal attacks against the employees and representatives of the Town, on the Montville Patch, editorials, shopping centers, and around the Town. Such behavior reflects badly upon the entire Town. He hopes that issues will be debated in a more civil manner in the future.

Councilor Buebendorf – none.

20. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron, to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice Vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville

AN AUDIO RECORD OF THE MEETING IS ON FILE IN THE MONTVILLE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE