

Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, July 13, 2015
7:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order
Chairman Jaskiewicz 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, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations – *none*
5. Alterations to the Agenda
The following alterations to the Agenda were proposed:
Additions:
 - 16(i) **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to set the date of Monday, August 10, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. for a public hearing regarding the Ordinance titled, “ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS FROM CERTAIN PUBLIC PLACES”. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)
Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Item was added to the Agenda.
 - 16(j) To Consider and Act on a Motion to authorize Mayor Ronald McDaniel to appoint five Committee members to review “An Ordinance Providing Property Tax Relief for Residence Property of the Elderly and Totally Disabled” in accordance with Connecticut General Statute 12-129n. (Councilor Longton)
Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Item was added to the Agenda.Alteration:
 - 16(b) **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to transfer \$40,000 (forty thousand dollars) to Police Car Replacement (line 10960-54006) from ~~Dispatch Equipment (line 10960-54040)~~ **General Fund Surplus** in the 2014-15 budget. (Councilor Tanner)
Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Item was amended.
6. To Consider and Act on a motion to approve:
 - a. The Special Meeting Minutes on Monday, June 8, 2015
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
 - b. The Regular Meeting Minutes on Monday, June 8, 2015
Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
7. Executive Session
 - a. To Consider and Act on a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiations related to collective bargaining involving the MAME and Teamster (Town Hall) collective bargaining units. Discussions to include members of the Town Council, Mayor Ronald McDaniel and Terry Hart.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried. Invited parties exited Chambers for Executive Session at 7:04 p.m. Chairman Jaskiewicz resumed the meeting at 7:19 p.m. No formal votes were taken during executive session.

8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit
Montville Fire Chief Ray Occhialini, expressed his support for the following items on the Agenda:
 - 16(c): As president of the Union, he felt the Union, Finance Director, and the Mayor arrived at an agreeable agreement for the Tax Collector position.
 - 16(e): He recently attended a State and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) training session, where they encouraged the Economic Development Commission and Planning & Zoning Commission to create a long-term plan for disaster recovery and provide incentives to local businesses for maintaining their business in the Town and believed that a strong EDC would benefit the Town to this end.
 - 16(f): The Town Council's support of a five-year agreement with Eversource Power would allow them to install an antenna on one of the Town's Towers and a rack in the Public Safety Building. The installation would benefit the community by enabling them to cordon off problem areas when power is lost and allow them to reciprocate for allowing the Town to utilize their Chapel Hill Tower.

Tony Siragusa, 39 Hillcrest Drive, questioned whether the Tax Relief Ordinance (item 16(j)) was previously published, which, Councilor Longton noted, was handed to him several months ago. He stated that the remaining population must make up the tax relief that is provided to that segment of the population. As such, the Town should think about generating income at the same time and urged the Town Council to review his previously proposed Senior Tax Relief Plan.

Lt. Leonard Bunnell, Montville Police Department, expressed his support for the following items:

- 16(b): He explained that he had originally requested a total of five (5) police vehicles — three (3) for the patrol officers and two (2) for the detective unit, with priority given to the three police cars. The Finance Committee approved Three (3) patrol vehicles, but the transfer was inadvertently excluded from the Town Council's Budget Meeting script.
- 16(h): He distributed a copy of the Dispatcher Job Description, stating that it does not indicate the requirement for the dispatchers to answer *only* Fire/EMS telephone calls. As such, he is requesting they also be available to answer the telephone, talk on the radios, and greet the visitors of the Public Safety Building for the Police Department during their downtime and when officers are not available to do so. An agreement for such was previously agreed upon with the Union, but never transpired. He encouraged the Committee to contact him should they have any questions regarding the Policy.

9. Communications

- a. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of April 2015
- b. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of May 2015
- c. Copy of the June budget report from Ms. Terry Hart, Finance Director

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 reiterated Fire Marshal Occhialini's comments regarding the Eversource Agreement, stating his support and continuing the Town's symbiotic relationship with the Company. He noted that the Town was also contacted by Verizon for the utilization of one of the Town's towers, but were uncomfortable with the agreement due to the amount of power and the downtime the installation would require. He recently attended an Eversource energy workshop and continues to plan to form the parameters and create a sitting Clean Energy/Green Committee comprised of the citizens of the Town. Eversource has been assisting the Town with benchmarking their facilities and investigating how they can best utilize their resources.

The Montville High School graduation ceremony was held, during which his son also graduated. A successful Millstone Drill was also held. The Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments is in the process of re-doing their plan for conservation and development for the region. Their first regional public outreach meeting was hosted by the Town and held at Town Hall. He encouraged everyone to attend such events and become involved with the regional development plan.

A job offer is pending and a new police officer was sworn in and is currently attending the Academy, bringing the staffing up to 22 patrol officers. The bids for the Blais Road-Fitch Hill Road drainage project came in within the budgeted amount and a pre-construction meeting will be held next week. Per the Town Council's request, a cancellation of their letter of intent to join KX Communications was sent to their Board of Directors and Counsel.

12. Reports from Standing Committees.

a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – Councilor Longton

Though the Committee did not meet, a copy of the Town's Acceptable Use Policy was received for review and the Tax Relief for the Elderly and Totally Disabled and Dog Ordinances were received from the Town Attorney.

b. Finance – Councilor Tanner – *no meeting*

c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – Councilor Longton

Road repair on Old Colchester Road from the Salem Town line to Forsyth Road will be conducted in mid-late August and Gay Hill Road and Park Avenue will be conducted in late-July. The Maynard Road project, which will concentrate on the entrance/exit of the road and the turnaround, is currently out to bid. An issue was raised regarding the excessive bulky waste being brought in by contractors working in the Town, the suspicion being that they are bringing waste from other jobs. The asbestos removal of the old V&A/Social Services building is out for bid, the tennis courts at Camp Oakdale are 90% complete, and one of the two culverts for the Montville Road Bridge, which is slated for completion in September/October, has been installed. The sound system in the Town Council Chambers has been adjusted and appears to have been resolved. The Route 163 bridge repair located by the Post Office has been completed. An ordinance requiring property owners to clear the sidewalks in front of their property was discussed, especially in relation to the new sidewalks located by the high school. The issue was previously raised, much to the public's dismay. With the exception of the commercial Route 32 corridor, such an ordinance currently does not exist.

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

a. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging; Social Services; Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund

The Senior Center recently received two (2) grants and has received a total of over \$84,650.00 in grants to date. The Center has also added new well-attended programs.

The Community Garden is doing very well with the food going towards Social Services. The Department has served over 3,500-4,000 meals this month and continues to be in need of non-perishable donations and funds. They are also seeking back-to-school items for donations to their Backpack Program. He expressed their appreciation of the donations received thus far.

b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education

Due to issues, Chairman Jaskiewicz arrived at the Board of Education meeting to find that a number of transfers were being made, which he is in the process of questioning. Finance Director Hart reported that approximately \$1.69 million remains in their budget at this time.

c. Councilor Longton: Library; Planning & Zoning Commission

The Planning & Zoning Commission held two meetings regarding the following items:

- Public Hearing was scheduled and held for the processing and crushing of gravel on a property on Leffingwell Road.

- Section 8-24 Review of Fort Shantock Road was conducted and a recommendation for its acceptance as a Town road was made.
- Public Hearing and conditional approval was provided for the creation of an interior lot on a property located on Beckwith Road
- Public Hearing for the construction of a mixed-use development on a property located on Norwich-New London Turnpike; the application was denied.

d. Councilor May: Water Pollution Control Authority; Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee

Councilor May reported on a sewer line break on Woodland Drive, the second break this month and the third in the past eight (8) months. A pumper truck is standing by to pump the line. Several hundred feet is slated for replacement prior to the start of the school year.

The Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee has made a significant amount of progress and hopes to present a report to the Town Council in August, possibly during a Special Meeting.

e. Councilor McNally: Economic Development Commission – *no report*

f. Councilor Pollard: Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board

The Montville Juvenile Review Board (JRB) has diverted over 110 youth from the community from the Juvenile Court System to date and a grant was awarded to the Connecticut Youth Services Association (CYSA) to provide youth and families involved with the Montville JRB with counseling, pro-social programs, treatment, etc. Ten (10) cases were disposed this past month, all of who have remained trouble- and arrest-free for 6 months. A data report detailing the success rate of JRBs will be made available in the Fall 2015. With the support of the CYSA and legislatures, Youth Service Bureaus throughout the State were able to survive any severe funding costs in the State's budget. She encouraged everyone to be on the lookout for prevention-based billboards created by the Montville Youth Service Bureau and funded by a grant received from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. The Summer Center is going well as teens are busy with projects, field trips, and other social activities. The 2015-2016 After School Program is currently full and a small waiting list is in place.

g. Councilor Tanner: Parks & Recreation Commission; Public Safety Commission; Non-Profit Organizations

The Parks & Recreation Commission welcomed a new member, Ryan Hartman. The Commission will be hosting a Summer Concert featuring the band, Wicked Peach, at Camp Oakdale on Saturday, July 25. Town Planner Marcia Vlaun provided a presentation of an USDA low interest loan for the Fair Oaks Community Center. The Building Center Committee, which was never disbanded, will be reformed and tasked with developing a rough plan and cost estimate in preparation for the loan application. Departmental concerns were also discussed.

Chesterfield Fire Company is currently online and the other Fire Companies are in the process of coming online. The system will enable all of the Fire Companies to report within one system and help increase their efficiency.

14. Appointments and Resignations

a. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Mr. Michael Magliano, Sr., to the Gardner Lake Authority with a term to expire July 13, 2018.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

b. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Mr. William Hornok to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire August 13, 2017.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor McNally. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

- c. To Consider and Act on a motion to waive the waiting period for appointments, Rule 14C of the Town Council Rules of Procedure, for the Economic Development Commission.
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- d. To Consider and Act on a motion to appoint Ms. Dianne E. Williams to fill a vacancy on the Economic Development Commission with a term to expire May 12, 2018.
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: It was agreed that Ms. Williams would be a positive addition to the Commission. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

15. Unfinished Business – *none*

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2015-38. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize the year-end transfers as requested by the Finance Director and as depicted on schedule A. (Councilor Tanner)
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Finance Director Hart stated that the transfers are to clean up the budget for the current year. Finance Director Hart explained that the transfer from the Resident State Trooper line item (10820-52132) to the Police Private Duty line item (10840-51041) is due to the changing over of the Resident State Trooper and his/her salary level. Mayor McDaniel reported that he received the two-year contract for the Resident State Trooper today. Councilor Longton, in viewing the overtime and sand/salt expenses, commended the Public Works Department for doing a good job clearing the roads during the severe winter. Finance Director Hart added that the Town is also eligible to receive a grant from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), with whom Fire Marshal Occhialini is working, to help with those expenses. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Resolution passed.
- b. **Resolution #2015-39. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to transfer \$40,000 (forty thousand dollars) to Police Car Replacement (line 10960-54006) from ~~Dispatch Equipment (line 10960-54040)~~ general funds surplus in the 2014-15 budget. (Councilor Tanner)
Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Finance Director Hart explained that the three (3) police vehicles that were approved by the Finance Committee were inadvertently excluded from the budget script for the Town Council's approval. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Resolution passed.
- c. **Resolution #2015-40. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the position description for the Tax Collector and authorize Mayor Ronald McDaniel to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the MAME collective bargaining unit for same with wages. (Mayor McDaniel)
Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Resolution passed.
- d. **Resolution #2015-41. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$527.15 (five hundred twenty-seven dollars and fifteen cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Resolution passed.
- e. **Resolution #2015-42. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve and adopt the Ordinance titled, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 37, ORDINANCE NO. O-M "ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION" ADOPTED MAY 22, 1971" as read at the public hearing on Monday, July 13, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Councilor McNally stated that the amendment would allow the membership of the Economic Development Commission (EDC) to be reduced from nine (9) full members to seven (7) full and two (2) alternate members to help the Commission attain a quorum and hold a meeting. Former EDC Chair Councilor Longton added that he had experienced the same issue and agreed with the amendment. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Resolution passed.

- f. **Resolution #2015-43. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize Mayor Ronald McDaniel to enter into an agreement with Eversource Power for the installation of one antenna and associated equipment on the tower located at 911 Norwich-New London Turnpike in five (5) year increments at no cost and to execute any and all documents associated therewith. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor McNally. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Resolution passed.

- g. **Resolution #2015-44. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize Mayor Ronald McDaniel to sign the Settlement Agreement between Lathrop Vending, Inc. and the Town of Montville for a Tax Appeal regarding Personal Property. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Resolution passed.

- h. To Consider and Act on a Motion to send the draft policy for Town Dispatchers to the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Standing Committee for review. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: The Town Dispatchers Job Description, which was distributed by Lt. Bunnell, will also be reviewed. The Dispatchers contract will expire on June 30, 2016. Councilor Longton stated that the Committee would plan on providing a recommendation at the August Town Council meeting. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

- i. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to set the date of Monday, August 10, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. for a public hearing regarding the Ordinance titled, "ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS FROM CERTAIN PUBLIC PLACES". (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: The Ordinance was reviewed by the Town Attorney and a clause regarding the Town's ability to waive the Ordinance for certain events, e.g. dog shows, is included. Discussion ensued regarding the changing the date of their next meeting to accommodate the Montville Education Foundation Golf Tournament.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, to table the item and add the following item to the Agenda:

- k. **Resolution #2015-45. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to change the date of the August Regular Town Council Meeting from Monday, August 10, 2015 to Wednesday, August 15, 2015. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Discussion: Mayor McDaniel informed the Councilors that, should they vote in favor of amending the date of the meeting, he would not be able to attend due to a previous engagement. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. The item was added to the Agenda.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, to change the date of the August Regular Town Council Meeting from Monday, August 10, 2015 to Wednesday, August 15 2015. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Resolution passed.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to amend the following item:

- i. **Resolution #2015-46. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to set the date of ~~Monday, August 10, 2015~~ **Wednesday, August 12, 2015** at 6:30 p.m. for

a public hearing regarding the Ordinance titled, “ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS FROM CERTAIN PUBLIC PLACES”. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. The item was amended.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to approve the resolution as amended. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Resolution passed.

- j. To Consider and Act on a Motion to authorize Mayor Ronald McDaniel to appoint the five Committee members to review “An Ordinance Providing Property Tax Relief for Residence Property of the Elderly and Totally Disabled” in accordance with Connecticut General Statute 12-129n. (Councilor Longton)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: Councilor Longton stated that the Ordinance was sent to and returned from the Town Attorney with recommendations. Per State Statute, a five (5) member committee must review the Ordinance within sixty (60) days with a report stating the impact the Ordinance would have from a population and budgetary standpoint. Discussion ensued regarding the definition/eligibility of “Totally Disabled”, which derives from the existing Federal and State Statutes. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Resolution passed.

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

Tony Siragusa, 39 Hillcrest Drive, commented on item 16(j), stating that such private information, as income and disability, would be difficult to obtain. He also suggested not conducting Roll Call votes for nearly all of the items on the agenda in an effort to expedite the meeting.

- 18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor McNally thanked the Councilors for approving the amendment to the EDC Ordinance.

Councilor Longton was also pleased with passage of the amendment to the EDC Ordinance and for moving on the Property Tax Relief Ordinance. In response to Mr. Siragusa, he stated that the Roll Call votes are determined by Robert’s Rules of Order.

Councilor Caron thanked the Councilors for approving the funding for the much-needed police vehicles.

Councilor May, in response to Mr. Siragusa, reiterated that such demographic information, including disability, is included in and can be estimated by census and other governmental records.

Councilor Tanner reminded everyone to attend the Summer Concert featuring Wicked Peach at Camp Oakdale on Saturday, July 25, 2015, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Mayor McDaniel requested that those who are interested in serving on the committee to review the Tax Relief Ordinance contact him and reiterated that he would be unable to attend the August Town Council meeting due to a previous engagement.

Chairman Jaskiewicz thanked the Councilors for their time and input.

- 19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

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