

**Town of Montville Town Council**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**June 12, 2023, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Montville Town Hall – Town Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order

Chairman McNally called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of our military.

3. Roll Call

Present were Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Absent was Councilors Caron. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

4. Special Recognitions/Presentations

Chairman McNally recognized *Breakfast at Diana's*, who was unable to attend this evening's meeting, was recognized with a plaque from the Economic Development Commission and Town Council for its dedication and support to the community.

Steven Frischling, Public Information Officer (PIO), Chesterfield Fire Company, provided a brief presentation regarding the town's transition from town's current radio system to the state's radio system. Due to the age of the current system, he recommended the town agree to fund the transition to the state's radio system, which would improve the overall communication between not only the town's emergency personnel, but also the town's emergency services with the neighboring towns, region, and state, as a whole, and outside agencies. Currently, the town's system is comprised of aging portable radios and towers and over half a dozen different portable radio types across the four different fire companies with seven different radio channels. As a result, they consistently encounter communication confusion, failures, and outages. While the radios and hardware would need to be funded by the town, the fees, annual dues and network costs, maintenance and upgrading costs would be absorbed by the state. The new system would also allow the town's fire service to be compliant with the National Public Safety Plan and Advisory Committee's recommendations.

Radio Range (Councilor May) – The new system would provide the town with access to additional tower sites, resulting in 98% coverage for mobile radios and 86% for portable radios.

Chairman McNally added that the request was made by the Fire Company Chiefs, as recommended by the Radio Committee. The Finance Standing Committee will be reviewing the proposal. The estimated initial total cost is \$600,000.00, which includes the radios and system upgrade.

Mayor McDaniel questioned whether the State of Connecticut, who is encouraging municipalities to upgrade their system, is offering any grants or incentives. PIO Frischling reported that the state would be absorbing the network, maintenance, and infrastructure costs; they plan to begin researching available grants once the town is agreeable to funding the initial costs.

5. Alterations to the Agenda

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Colleen Rix, to make the following amendments to the Agenda:

Remove:

Item 16(j) **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to review and approve the revised Position Description for the Fire Marshal, as recommended by the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Standing Committee. (Councilor Yuchniuk)

Additions:

Item 16(k) **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to waive the sealed bid requirement in Section 708(a) of the Town Charter for the Turner Road Tree Clearing, as it is in the best interest of the Town. (Councilor McNally)

Item 16(l) **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to allocate \$4,000.00 (four thousand dollars) of the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds to Safe Futures. (Councilor McNally)

Discussion: Mayor McDaniel reported that the revised Fire Marshal Position Description includes minor amendments made by the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Standing Committee, which are stated in their minutes, and questioned whether they would like to maintain the item on the agenda.

Motion made by Councilor Rix, seconded by Councilor May, to amend the motion to exclude the removal of Item 16(j). Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

6. To Consider and Act on a Motion to Approve:

a. The Special Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2023

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell, to approve the Town Council Special Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2023. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

b. The Special Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2023

Motion made by Councilor Rix, seconded by Councilor Bunnell, to approve the Town Council Special Meeting Minutes of May 16, 2023. 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 a candidate for the Economic Development Commission. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

Motion made by Councilor Rix, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: Candidate Serg St. Felix was interviewed to serve on the Economic Development Commission. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried. Invited parties exited Town Council Chambers for Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. Chairman McNally resumed the meeting at 7:26 p.m. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

b. To Consider and Act on a Motion to enter into Executive Session for the discussion of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Local 1303-051 of Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO. Executive Session to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

Motion made by Councilor Rix, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried. Invited parties exited Town Council Chambers for Executive Session at 7:26 p.m. Chairman McNally resumed the meeting at 7:36 p.m. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit  
Linda Tomasek, P.O. Box 407, Montville, questioned the May 16 Special Meeting Minutes during which the Town Council approved the Mayor's Salary increase by \$25,000.00. She felt that the increase should have been made in increments and with justification, based on services rendered. She also objected to the vote of one of the Democratic Town Council Members who might be running for the position and felt that approving a raise for a new position he might hold constituted an Ethics Violation.

## 9. Communications

- a. Copy of the May 2023 Financial Reports from Finance Director Barbara Griffin
- b. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of April 2023
- c. Copy of the legal bills from Halloran & Sage for the month of April 2023

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 congratulated Officers Matthew Shepherd and Kenneth Stuart who were recently promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Their promotions were well-deserved and he was confident that both of the individuals will serve the town well. Bids were received for the asphalt repairs to the Moxley Bridge Catch Basins. Two (2) pre-construction meetings for the Moxley Road Culvert and the Oxoboxo Lofts Project were held. The loan for the Oxoboxo Lofts Project is slated to close in mid-July. Once closed, the project will continue construction. Moxley Road is expected to be closed for approximately 40 days during construction. The goal is to complete the work before school begins. Over \$6,000.00 in Palmer Scholarships were awarded. A very successful and well-attended Memorial Day Parade was held. He accompanied the Superintendent of Schools and Board of Education as they visited the retirees' classrooms at each of the schools and presented them with flowers, balloons, and awards. Governor Ned Lamont signed the budget today and the Legislative Session is winding down with the town faring favorably. The Property Tax Bill for casinos failed as did the proposed bill to establish a Study Committee. The town is currently approximately \$200,000.00 over its projected income from the state for the fiscal year. The ECS (Educational Cost Sharing) Funding formula will be amended to hold towns harmless for its phasing in. A significant amount of funds will be added to the Mohegan Pequot Fund beginning in FY2026 and it will take a two-thirds vote of the legislative body to overturn the decision.

Land Use and Development Director Liz Burdick reported that, following the finalization of the revisions to the job descriptions to comply with state law, the vacant position will be advertised to fully staff the department. She is currently working on closing the STEAP (Small Towns Economic Assistance Program) Grant for the Community Center project which is near completion; all of the state funding that was received was used. The Attorney General's Office, Town Attorney, Mayor, and she will be reviewing the PSA (Personal Services Agreement) for the fishing pier. Significant changes to the LOTCIP (Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program) Route 32 Sidewalk Project will be made, including changing a bike lane to a multi-purpose path and, possibly, adding improvements to the Routes 163 and 32 intersections. A bill informing mobile home park residents when the land is changing ownership and being given the right of first refusal before the owner can accept other offers were passed. They are currently working on updating their Zoning Regulations, including regulations regarding signage; the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD), and; the Affordable Housing Plan. The Planning & Zoning Commission approved the 6-month moratorium on cannabis establishments and will begin discussing the regulation at their next meeting. The Commission also approved the construction of a new industrial development on Maple Avenue and a light industrial building on Enterprise Drive. Their next agenda will also include a proposed expansion of a farm located on Fitch Hill Road, an industrial development on Fitch Hill Road, and the Landfill Solar Project. Their future agendas may include a proposed new gas station/convenience store on Route 32; a senior housing development; a multi-family housing complex on Jerome Road, which will include some affordable housing units, and; an additional multi-family development with approximately 10-12 affordable housing units. The office has received several commercial inquiries along Route 32. Director

Burdick and Assistant Planner Meredith Badalucca took a tour of the Faria Factory on Pink Row and were impressed by the historic building.

Finance Director Barbara Griffin reported that, as stated by the Mayor, additional funds were received through the town's ECS, PiLOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes), Adult Education, and Supplemental Revenue Sharing funding, totaling \$261,000.00. There were no changes to the Municipal Grant & Aid, LOTCIP, TAR (Town Aid Roads), and Pequot Funds. She continues to work on the status of the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds, reaching out to the Department Heads. To date, approximately \$168,000.00 is available for allocation. The funds must be allocated by December 2024 and expended by December 2026. The Insurance Broker recommended the drafting of a policy to either prohibit or restrict vehicular traffic and parking along the access road to the field and concessions when they are in use for safety reasons. The lock will be changed and keys will be re-issued, at minimum. The item will be forwarded to the Parks & Recreation Commission and Public Works/Solid Waste Standing Committee for review and discussion. The final Budget Books were provided to the Councilors.

Montville Police Department Chief Blanchette announced Sgt. Matthew Northrup's retirement earlier this month. He thanked the Mayor and Councilors McNally and Yuchniuk for their support in honoring the life of K-9 Barrett. He also wished to extend his appreciation to the State Police Assistants from the Kennel; Troops K, E, and D, Norwich Police Department, Rhode Island State Police Department, and Coventry, Rhode Island, Police Department who escorted K-9 Barrett from the Norwich to Coventry, Rhode Island, for his cremation. An Impact Statement will be recited to the Judge during the assailant's sentencing. The State Police Kennel is currently working with Officer Daniel Witts who has been paired with a 13-month-old puppy for a one-week trial period. It is hoped that the puppy will be able to begin taking classes in September.

## 12. Reports from Standing Committees

### a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure

The Fire Marshal Job Description was revised, removing control of the Dispatch Center, which will be overseen by the Chief of Police. The item is on the agenda.

### b. Finance

The FY2023/24 Budget was finalized. A future meeting will include discussions regarding the remaining LoCIP (Local Capital Improvement Program) Funds and the funding of the aforementioned radio system, gear washer, and truck refurbishment. The Mohegan Fire Company received their new M-21 Pumper Truck.

### c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal

The Public Works Department is currently working on paving the roads and the Camp Oakdale Tennis Court bathrooms. A successful Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the new tennis/pickleball courts was held. The Mayor recently approved overtime hours for the Public Works Department to complete their many projects.

## 13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

### a. Councilor Bunnell: Library Committee, Parks & Recreation Commission, Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund

Library Committee – no meeting

Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund – The following stipends and tax abatements were reported: Montville Fire Company: eight (8) stipends; Mohegan Fire Company: 10 (ten) stipends Chesterfield Fire Company: three (3) stipends, two (2) tax abatements, and; Oakdale Fire Company: six (6) stipends, seven (7) tax abatements.

Parks & Recreation Commission – Discussion included the ADA-accessible playground issues, the movement of Summer Camp from the high school to Tyl Middle School due to an unexpected boiler issue; the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Tennis/Pickleball Courts; FY2023/24 Capital Improvement Cuts; park facilities, including the handicapped parking at the Camp Oakdale fields, per the Insurance Broker's recommendations. The Memorandum of Agreement will be revisited to include language regarding the aforementioned traffic along the Camp Oakdale access road. A list of proposed park improvements was sent to the Town Council, several of which have been completed. The Summer Concert Series begins on Thursday, June 29, and the Farmers Market will open on Tuesday, June 13.

- b. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging, Social Services, Non-Profit Organizations – *not present; no report*

- c. Councilor Mandler: Water Pollution Control Authority, Ad-Hoc Covid-19 Impact Study Committee

Water Pollution Control Authority – *no meeting*

Ad-Hoc Covid-19 Impact Study Committee – *item is on the agenda*

- d. Councilor May: Conservation Commission  
Approximately 15 individuals volunteered on Memorial Day to help clean the trail and place the bog logs. The Commission will be present at the June 20 Farmers Market for Community Night to distribute information regarding composting. Affordable composting bins are available for purchase through SCRRRA (Southeastern CT Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)).

- e. Councilor Rix: Board of Education, Farmers Market Committee, Planning & Zoning Commission

Planning & Zoning Commission – *see Land Use & Development Director Burdick's report (Item 11)*

Farmers Market Committee – As previously reported, the town's inaugural Farmers Market for the year will be held tomorrow evening.

Board of Education (BOE) – Palmer Academy held its graduation ceremony on Friday, June 9; Mohegan Elementary School's ceremony will be held tonight, June 19; Tyl Middle School's will be held on Tuesday, June 13, and; Montville High School's graduation ceremony will be held on Wednesday, June 14.

- f. Councilor Yuchniuk: Economic Development Commission, Public Safety Commission, Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board

Economic Development Commission – The Commission hopes to recognize a Montville business on a quarterly basis.

Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board – Some of the funds received from the State's Opioid Funds will be used to purchase Narcan for the Police and Fire Departments. Narcan will also be offered to the citizens to have on hand.

Public Safety Commission – The Montville Police Department received 809 Calls for Service and issued 125 tickets. Councilor Yuchniuk noted that K-9 Barrett suffered injuries as a direct result of the apprehension of a criminal and is, therefore, considered to have been Injured in the Line of Duty. As such, he is well-deserving of the recognition he received. He was honored and privileged to attend his final ride and was warmed by the presence of the police departments.

#### 14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Paul Chase to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire on June 10, 2025.

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

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Benjamin Crossley to the Building Code Board of Appeals with a term to expire on June 11, 2028.

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

- b. To Consider and Act on a Motion to appoint Elaine Hess as an Alternate Member of the Conservation Commission with a term to expire on June 10, 2025.

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

15. Unfinished Business – *none*

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2023-58. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$2,570.51 (two thousand five hundred seventy dollars and fifty-one cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor Yuchniuk, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- b. **Resolution #2023-59. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to appoint a member from the town Council to serve as a representative to the Board of Education for the purpose of teacher negotiations. (Councilor McNally)

Chairman McNally volunteered to serve as the representative to the BOE for the purpose of teacher negotiations. Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Rix. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- c. **Resolution #2023-60. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to waive the sealed bid requirement in Section 708(a) of the Town Charter for the Social Services Building Carpeting, as it is in the best interest of the Town. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Rix. Discussion: Chairman McNally stated that the three (3) estimates received were over \$10,000.00, which requires a sealed bid. Because of the size and timing of the project, the town would save funds by waiving the requirement. Councilor Mandler questioned whether the completion date would be mandated. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- d. **Resolution #2023-61. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize Mayor Ron McDaniel enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Local 1303-051 of Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO and approve funds necessary to implement. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Rix, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: The discussions will include the equity adjustment for the dispatchers who will be assuming new duties relative to the formation of an Independent Police Department. Councilor Mandler expressed his appreciation to the Mayor for entering into the Agreement. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- e. **Resolution #2023-62. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize Mayor Ronald McDaniel to enter into a contract with the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments for the provision of Building Official Services. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Rix, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that the resolution would enable the town to enter into an agreement for Building Official services, which are much needed. The contract may be broken with a 30-day notice and is heavily subsidized by the State Grant. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- f. **Resolution #2023-63. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to waive the sealed bid requirement in Section 708(a) of the Town Charter for the Social Services Building Windows, as it is in the best interest of the Town. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor Rix, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: Similar to the previous resolution, multiple quotes were received. Councilor Mandler noted a possible clerical error on the estimates and wished to ensure that all of the numbers are correct. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- g. **Resolution #2023-64. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the wages for part-time employees as detailed in Schedule A. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor Rix, seconded by Councilor Mandler. Discussion: Finance Director Griffin stated that some of the amounts include the minimum wage increases. For the remaining positions, she proposed two options: a 2%, which is consistent with most of the contracts, and a 2.5% increase. Chairman McNally questioned the necessity of a part-time secretary in the Police Department in addition to a full-time secretary. It was stated that the position currently exists and Mayor McDaniel and Councilor Bunnell felt that a part-time secretary is necessary to adequately fill the department's needs. The Councilors agreed to provide an increase of 2.5%. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- h. **Resolution #2023-65. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to waive all in-kind services and fees for the 2023 Montville Carnival related to Police, Fire, and Public Works in the amount of \$5,624.26 (five thousand three hundred dollars). (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: Councilor Yuchniuk wished to ensure that adequate coverage would be present, noting the issues that arose at the Waterford Carnival. Councilor Bunnell stated that the waiver is provided for the Carnival annually and is well worth the funds and efforts. Councilor Mandler questioned the need for the Deputy Fire Marshal's presence at the Carnival. Montville Police Chief Blanchette explained the inspection process and the representatives that should be present. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- i. **Resolution #2023-66. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to review and approve the revised Position Description for the Dispatchers. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: The following changes were made to the Position Description: Replacing the words,

“Communications Director” with “Montville Police Executive Officer” and “Communication Lead Dispatcher” to “Lead Dispatcher”. Roll Call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- j. **Resolution #2023-67. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to review and approve the revised Position Description for the Fire Marshal, as recommended by the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Standing Committee. (Councilor Yuchniuk)

Motion made by Councilor Yuchniuk, seconded by Councilor Mandler. Discussion: Changes were made to the Position Description include: removing the words, “Dispatch Center Supervisor” from the Nature of Work Section and “Montville 911 Center Supervisor”. The changes will not affect the Fire Marshal’s salary. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- k. **Resolution #2023-68. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to waive the sealed bid requirement in Section 708(a) of the Town Charter for the Turner Road Tree Clearing, as it is in the best interest of the Town. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Mandler. Discussion: Chairman McNally stated that the item came to his attention today. Three (3) price estimates from local tree companies were received for the cutting of approximately 38 trees. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- l. **Resolution #2023-69. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to allocate \$4,000.00 (four thousand dollars) of the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds to Safe Futures. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Mandler. Discussion: Chairman McNally stated that, because the Ad-Hoc Covid-19 Impact Study Committee, is unable to meet tomorrow evening due to lack of a quorum, it was decided to send the item directly to the Town Council for approval. Councilor Mandler stated that Safe Futures serves those who have been impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and trafficking. Last year, approximately 500 Montville residents utilized the resource. Roll Call vote, 6-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Mandler, May, Rix, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

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

Kathy Calash, Montville Youth Football League, spoke regarding their request to make changes to the football field, including extending the field. She stated that, while some of the changes have been made, the project is not yet complete. She was concerned that the changes will not be completed in time for the November 16 Superbowl. A meeting was held and two (2) engineering reports were provided. She suggested the possibility of extending the main field 15’ on each side of the field and cutting down and moving the field goals. She also requested fencing and flagpoles. She thanked everyone for the building but noted that the speaker stands would need to be placed by July 31. She also stated the necessity for her to have access to the public road to make deliveries. She requested that she be informed and expressed her willingness to fundraise the money and work together to complete the projects.

Vince Attwater-Young, 375 Chapel Hill Road, Oakdale, spoke in opposition to the Mayor’s salary increase, which was approved without the taxpayers’ voice. He stated that the Mayor negotiated a less than 3% raise for the staff who work the hardest for the town. He noted



that the raise was approved following a reduction in his duties as the Chief of Police for the town. He urged the Town Council to rescind the decision and place the item on their next Town Council Agenda, allowing the taxpayers to have a voice in the matter.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Mayor McDaniel thanked everyone and commented on a busy week that will include Graduation Ceremonies, Farmers Market, and Carnival. He stated that, while he was not able to attend the Tennis/Pickleball Courts opening, over 100 individuals have signed up to reserve the courts for Saturday.

Councilor Bunnell thanked the Mayor for his effort and accomplishments in the contracts with Local 1303-051 of Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO; SCCOG, and; the Dispatchers' Position Descriptions. He congratulated Sgts. Stuart and Shepherd, both of whom are excellent officers and will serve the town well. With respect to Ms. Calash's comments, he recommended she speak with the Parks & Recreation Commission. He added that efforts are being made to modify the language and arrive at an agreement regarding the access road at Camp Oakdale. He also wished to personally congratulate and thank Sgt. Northrup for his service to the town. The CT State Police will be holding an Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, June 13, in Meriden during which Officers Witts and Stephen Fazzino and Sgt. Michael Pelletier will be honored. He thanked all three individuals for their contributions to the town.

Councilor May echoed Councilor Bunnell's sentiments to Sgts. Shepherd and Stuart on their promotion and Sgt. Northrup on his retirement. He was pleased with the successful and well-attended Tennis/Pickleball Court Opening and remarked on the popularity of the courts at all hours of the day. He commended the Town Council and Parks & Recreation Commission for their support and efforts.

Chairman McNally reminded everyone that the Police Transition Ceremony will be held on July 1. He commended the Committee who has been working hard on the event.

Councilor Rix also echoed her colleagues regarding the success and popularity of the pickleball courts, which she had originally questioned, and commended the Public Works Department. She encouraged those who attend the Farmers' Market to walk over and view the courts. She congratulated the Class of 2023 Montville High School Graduates.

Councilor Yuchniuk congratulated Sgts. Stuart and Shepherd and *Breakfast at Diana's*. He encouraged Ms. Calash to contact the Parks & Recreation Department.

Councilor Mandler apologized to Montville Police Chief Blanchette for not attending K-9 Barrett's Ceremony, which would have been very emotional for him. He, too, was pleased with the popularity of the new tennis/pickleball courts.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Mandler, seconded by Councilor Rix. to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes T. Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville

**AN AUDIO RECORD OF THE MEETING CAN BE FOUND ON THE TOWN'S WEBSITE LOCATED UNDER RESOURCES – MEETING RECORDINGS**