

Town of Montville Town Council
Public Hearing General Government Budget Minutes
Wednesday, April 24, 2024
6:00 p.m. – Montville High School – Auditorium

- 1. Call to Order
Chairman May called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Roll Call
Present were Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, May, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk. Absent was Councilor Caron. Also present was Mayor Bunnell, Sr.
- 4. Public Hearing

TOWN OF MONTVILLE
NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that public hearings will be held at Montville High School Auditorium, 800 Old Cokchester Road Oakdale, CT on April 24, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. on the General Government Budget and on April 25, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. on the Board of Education Budget for the Town of Montville for the fiscal year from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Revenue Summary 2024-2025					
Description	2023 ACTUAL	2024 ADOPTED	2024 ESTIMATE	2025 DEPT.REQ.	2025 MAYOR PROP
PROPERTY TAXES	44,025,661	48,679,745	47,625,959	48,802,741	49,302,741
LICENSES & PERMITS	1,086,988	1,071,000	1,092,253	1,095,000	1,095,000
REVENUE USE MONEY/PROPERTY	948,242	110,000	440,962	960,000	960,000
REVENUE OTHER AGENCIES	328,299	224,000	240,453	249,000	249,000
STATE GRANTS SCHOOL	13,465,642	13,200,229	13,228,673	13,287,864	13,287,864
STATE GRANTS UNSPECIFIED	5,095,366	4,075,613	4,723,968	4,629,640	4,629,640
CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES	696,263	431,500	442,613	452,000	452,000
MISC REVENUE	1,596,631	1,377,600	1,755,501	742,100	742,100
TOTAL REVENUES	67,243,092	69,169,687	69,550,382	70,218,345	70,718,345
Expenditure Summary 2024-2025					
Description	2023 ACTUAL	2024 ADOPTED	2024 ESTIMATE	2025 DEPT.REQ.	2025 MAYOR PROP
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	2,743,061	2,851,267	2,652,250	3,116,847	2,967,398
INTERGOV'T CONTRIBUTIONS	84,153	99,800	99,800	113,495	93,500
FRINGE BENEFITS/INSURANCE	5,101,145	5,751,000	5,751,000	6,132,500	6,152,000
DEBT SERVICE	5,000,241	5,051,082	5,051,082	3,268,089	3,268,089
LAND USE	238,633	302,800	218,875	324,785	323,985
HUMAN SERVICES	735,031	755,130	721,412	797,758	796,258
CULTURE AND RECREATION	472,556	442,730	412,000	484,630	491,690
PUBLIC SAFETY	5,853,496	6,234,954	5,286,647	6,474,097	6,517,808
PUBLIC WORKS	2,469,556	3,795,380	3,100,663	4,065,930	3,992,930
EDUCATION	40,599,823	43,261,544	43,261,544	45,527,416	44,343,086
CAPITAL	849,750	624,000	62,400	4,999,323	1,771,601
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	64,147,445	69,169,687	66,617,673	75,304,870	70,718,345

Detailed copies of the budget by department are available at the office of the Town Clerk or online at www.montville-ct.org.
Dated at Montville, Connecticut, this 17th day of April 2024.

Leonard Bunnell Sr.
Mayor

Tim May
Town Council Chairman

Barbara Griffin
Finance Director

Chairman May recited the published notice for this evening’s FY2024/25 General Government Budget Public Hearing and invited members of the public to speak.

Mayor Bunnell recited the summary of his proposed FY2024/25 Budget, which reflects a 2.24% increase, to accommodate the needs of the growing community and its residents. The increases include some of the expenses that were previously offset by the Town’s receipt of ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds, including the Transfer Station Tipping Fees and Workers Compensation Insurance, and unfunded state mandates, including costs related to the Police Accountability Bill and Early Voting Requirements. Additions to address the Town’s growing needs include an additional Firefighter/EMT (rather than the requested three (3)), Police Officer, Public Works Road Foreman, part-time Senior Center Program Developer, and part-time Floater Clerk. Proposed Capital Funding includes the Montville High School Track Re- surfacing Project and School Bus replacement, a security camera

system to monitor the Town's Parks and Recreation locations, and Community Center Restroom Renovations. To help offset the increases, he is also proposing the use of \$500,000.00 in unallocated funds. He expressed his appreciation to the staff for their hard work and efforts and his willingness to work with the Town Council to move forward for the betterment of the Town.

Chairman May asked if any members of the public would like to speak regarding the General Government Budget.

Councilor Jaskiewicz informed the public that the Finance Committee will be reviewing the General Government and Board of Education budgets, carefully considering the public comments and making adjustments, as necessary, and doing what they feel is best for the Town. He encouraged the public to speak and provide any input they might have.

Chairman May asked if any members of the public would like to speak regarding the General Government Budget.

Tom Grove, 9 Point Breeze Road, Uncasville, expressed his appreciation to the Town Council for volunteering their time to the Town. He is a longtime resident with grandchildren in the school system and, while he, like others, does not favor a tax increase, he is in favor of paying more to fund items that are important to them, including education and public safety, and further improve the Town and its services.

Jeff Carver, 9 Lathrop Road Ext., Uncasville, thanked the Town Council for the opportunity to speak and questioned whether it was possible to view the proposed budget before the final vote is made and if an additional Public Hearing will be held to discuss the final proposed budget. He expressed his appreciation for their time and efforts.

Carol Burgess, 28 New Hampshire Lane, Oakdale, also expressed her appreciation to the Town Council and Mayor for their hard work, to date, especially to the Town Council who are unpaid. As a senior, she often hears that many of her fellow seniors are opposed to a budget increase. While not in favor of "runaway spending", she, like others, is willing to make an investment in the community for such important items as education, parks and recreation, and public safety. She commended the Public Works Department, which she feels, is notably making efforts and going above and beyond to serve the Town.

Chairman May asked if any additional members of the public would like to speak regarding the General Government Budget.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia, to close the Public Hearing. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Public Hearing was closed.

In response to Mr. Carver, Chairman May stated that a PDF of the Mayor's proposed FY2024/25 Budget is available on the Town website (<https://www.townofmontville.org/form-repository/DownloadFile.aspx?FileID=13514>). The public is invited to attend and provide their input at tomorrow evening's Board of Education Budget Public Hearing as well as the upcoming Finance Committee meetings, the May Town Council Regular Meeting, and a Town Council Special Meeting in late May to adopt the budget.

Councilor Jaskiewicz stated that many years ago, the budget was published in the local newspaper, which proved very costly. He also corrected that the Town Council is paid a modest stipend.

Councilor Sabilia thanked the public for attending and speaking this evening.

5. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard, to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 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