

Town of Montville
Town Council
Special Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Montville Town Hall – Town Council Chambers

1. Call to Order
Chairperson May 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 Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Absent was Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr., due to illness.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations – *none*
5. Alterations to the Agenda – *none*
6. To Consider and Act on a Motion to Approve:
 - a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of November 13, 2024
 - b. The Special Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2024 (Bond Property Site Walk)Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron, to approve the November 13, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes and November 17, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor.
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 Conservation Commission. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: Candidate Catherine Hinojosa was interviewed to serve on the Conservation Commission. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Invited parties exited Town Council Chambers for Executive Session at 7:03 p.m. Chairperson May resumed the meeting at 7:11 p.m. No votes were taken during Executive Session.
 - b. To Consider and Act on a Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Union Contract Negotiations. Discussion to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr., Attorney Kristi Kelly.

Item was moved to precede item 16(g) on the Agenda.
8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit
Public Safety Commission Chairperson Gary Murphy, 55-F Laurel Point Drive, Oakdale, reported that the Commission voted in favor of the lease-purchase of the M-37 Rescue Truck (item 16(j)) and hiring of two (2) additional Firefighters, increasing the total number of members to 16 (sixteen) (item 16(k)), decreasing the need for overtime. The increase is also inevitable, given the difficulties in finding qualified candidates. He also requested that the Town Council consider amending the Policy for Purchasing Town Fire Apparatus and removing the requirement for all four (4) Fire Chiefs to approve the purchasing of fire apparatus, stating that each of the departments' needs is not always known to each other and could result in unintended conflicts between the departments. Three of the four Fire Chiefs agree with the amendment..

The requested amendment to the Policy for Purchasing Town Fire Apparatus will be sent to the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Standing Committee for consideration.

Ann Gaulin, 64 Damato Drive, Oakdale, requested the Town Council's support for item 16(i) regarding funding the remaining balance for the Animal Control Facility. She

expressed her appreciation to the Montville Animal Shelter Community Team, who has been working together for approximately one (1) year, fighting for their mission for a new Animal Control Facility. She provided a brief synopsis of their efforts throughout the year, including the submission of a Town Council-recommended petition with 1,200 signatures; gaining the support of businesses who provided promotional materials and helped collect signatures; sending countless letters and e-mails and making numerous phone calls to the State Representatives, Senators, Governor, and Bond Commission. She expressed her gratitude to the businesses, individuals, Town Council, State Legislators, the Governor, and the Mayor for their efforts.

Chesterfield Fire Company Chief Keith Truex, 1046 East Lake Road, Oakdale, spoke in favor of item 16(j) regarding the Fire Company's M-37 Rescue Truck replacement. The Fire Company has been working on the project for over one year; he hopes the Councilors will help them move forward.

Chesterfield Fire Company President William Hermann, 32 Andersen Lane, Oakdale, also requested the Town Council's full support for item 16(j) regarding the lease-purchase of a M-37 Rescue Truck for the Fire Company, stating that it would maintain the safety of its residents and its response time to emergencies in the immediate area.

9. Communications

- a. Copy of the November 2024 Financial Reports from Finance Director Barbara Griffin
- b. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of October 2024
- c. Copy of the legal bills from Halloran & Sage for the month of October 2024

10. Report from the Town Attorney on Matters Referred – *none*

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

Montville Police Chief Willard Blanchette recited a letter congratulating the Police Department for meeting its Tier II and Tier III POST-C (Police Officer Standards and Training Council) Accreditation. They are expecting to receive their official Tier III Accreditation in March 2025 when they meet with the POST-C, placing them one year ahead of their scheduled goal. He invited everyone to visit the Memorial Tree honoring the 127 Police Officers and K-9s who have died in the line of duty during the year in the Public Safety Building's Front Lobby. The Tree is decorated with wooden ornaments bearing the name, rank, department, and end-of-watch date of each Officer and K-9. After the end of the year, a personal letter and wood ornament will be sent to their respective departments to further honor their sacrifice.

Montville Police Lt. David Radford reported on the status of the Animal Control Facility. The bidding process for the construction of the Facility closed on November 19; nine (9) bids were received, ranging from \$2.7 to \$3.5 million. The bids were vetted by the Town, CT DECD (Connecticut Department of Economic Community Development), and Silver Petrucelli + Associates. The contract was awarded to Orlando Annulli & Sons, Inc. Funding for the project will derive from a State Grant, ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funds, and, if approved this evening, the Town's General Fund Balance. The signing of the contract with Orlando Annulli & Sons, Inc., is scheduled for Thursday, December 19. He expressed his appreciation to the Mayor and Town Council for their hard work and support and to the Animal Shelter Support Group and their supporters for their tireless efforts.

Public Works Director John Carlson reported that the cost of waste removal is expected to increase by \$10.00/ton in July 2025. In addition, the non-burnable waste costs will also be increasing by \$4.22 on January 1, 2025. He will work with the Public Waste/Solid Waste Standing Committee to review the Punch Card and Transfer Station Pass fees to help offset the increases. In addition, recycling costs, which have remained relatively stable over the

years, are expected to increase. It is predicted that, by 2030, there will be a double-digit increase in trash removal. He is reviewing the town's roads with the Town Engineer. He hopes to repair and/or repave some of the town's side streets, especially dead-end streets, which have been neglected over the years. Maple Avenue is their priority and Lathrop Development, which has several drainage issues, is also on the list. The Department currently dispatches nine (9) full-size, three (three) medium-sized, and three (3) mason dump trucks, totaling approximately 120 tons of material, during a full snowstorm. The tap for the retrieval of water samples was moved based on a recent State Water Inspection. The Camp Oakdale Basketball Courts Paving Project is completed. The bid for Desjardins Park is open. The Camp Oakdale Storage Building bids came in over its projected cost. As a result, the project will be reviewed for any work that could be completed in-house and go back out to bid.

Food Waste Program – The collection process is currently being discussed. The Program will help reduce waste removal costs and be more environmentally friendly.

Punch Cards – The Public Works/Solid Waste Standing Committee is investigating the possibility of charging for its punch cards for large items, including furniture, construction material, and the like, to avoid increasing the Transfer Station Pass fees.

Maple Avenue – Per the Town's Road Standards, discussions will be taking place with Rand Whitney regarding the cost of paving Maple Avenue due to past project(s) by the WPCA (Water Pollution Control Authority) who replaced a line for the business.

12. Reports from Standing Committees

- a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – *item(s) are on the agenda*
- b. Finance
The Committee reviewed and finalized the ARPA Funds.
- c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – *see Public Works Director Carlson's report (item 11)*

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

- a. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging, Non-Profit Organizations, Social Services, Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Fund
The seniors, staff, and volunteers who were busy last month preparing the Annual Thanksgiving Baskets are now busy preparing Holiday Food Boxes and Children's Gift Bags for residents-in-need. They are expected to deliver over 100 home-bound meals this week. He expressed his appreciation to the Mohegan Tribe for their donation of 300 Thanksgiving turkeys, a \$6,000.00 value Basket Raffle, and the Concert Fundraising Event.
- b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education, Planning & Zoning Commission
The Board of Education discussed the results of their test scores, which show that they are on track.

The Planning & Zoning Commission discussed several items, including the approval of two (2) multi-family projects for 200 units and 57 units.
- c. Councilor Lathrop: Economic Development Commission, Water Pollution Control Authority
The Economic Development Commission held a very short meeting as they prepare for the coming year.

Water Pollution Control Authority – One of the easement agreements was signed for the Cook Drive Water Tower. Following the signing of the remaining agreement(s), the power will be connected, and the Water Tower will be activated. Repairs to the Stony Bridge Crossing, located near the Public Safety Building, are near completion.

Connections to Rand-Whitney are completed, alleviating the fear of any future issues. The Plant's lead safety testing has concluded and, due to a fairly new water supply system, the Plant is in good shape.

- d. Councilor Sabilia: Conservation Commission, Public Safety Commission, Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board
Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board – Youth Services Coordinator Barbara Lockhart received the Community Support Award and extended her gratitude to her supporters. The 2024 Basket Fundraiser, which begins on Election Day, yielded approximately \$2,500.00, which will be re-invested into the Bureau's youth programs. The Afterschool program is fully staffed and near capacity. The Tower Restoration project has gained some serious attention at the state level and may be considered for placement on the state historical structures registry, which may lead to significant grant funding for its restoration. The Bureau is collecting gift cards, valuing \$10.00, and holiday treats for its Annual Stocking Drive, benefitting the community's teens-in-need; they hope to stuff 200 stockings. The Bureau will be receiving the New London Elks Community Grant Award, which will help fund the implementation of its 2025 peer mentoring program.

The Conservation Commission attended the Bond Property Site Walk with the Town Council. The property includes 669 acres of fields, ponds, hills, and streams, with countless recreational opportunities for the public, organizations, and schools. The Avalonia Land Conservancy is working to raise the remaining funds necessary to purchase the property, including town funding. The Commission is drafting a document outlining their accomplishments and activities over the year..

The Public Safety Commission received a State DUI (Driving Under the Influence) Grant. Officer Thomas Lalumiere was recognized for his swift actions during a recent robbery at a local business. The Commission also toured the Oxoboxo Lofts, which may provide unique challenges for Emergency Services due to its layout.

- e. Councilor Southard: Farmers Market Committee, Library Committee, Parks & Recreation Commission

The Farmers Market Committee held a very well-attended Holiday Market with numerous vendors and Santa Claus and the Grinch in attendance.

The Parks & Recreation Commission also hosted a very well-attended Holiday Parade, which included a pre-parade sing-along and a performance by the dance program. Disc golf baskets have been installed behind tennis courts. The Commission will be hosting its 2025 Carnival from June 20 through 22; the Commission is hoping to sign a five-year contract with the vendor. With the completion of the Pavilion improvements, the Commission is reviewing their fees to better align with those of other towns.

14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to accept the resignation of Joseph J Socha III from the Zoning Board of Appeals, effective November 14, 2024.
 Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- b. To Consider and Act on a Motion to appoint Douglas G Adams, Jr., to fill a vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals, with a term to expire on November 20, 2025.
 Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- c. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Jon Chase as a member of the Parks & Recreation Commission, with a term to expire on January 9, 2029.
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- d. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Stephen Stewart as a member of the Public Safety Commission, with a term to expire on January 9, 2028.
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- e. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Karen Perkins as a member of the Public Safety Commission, with a term to expire on January 9, 2028.
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- f. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Frank Micelli as a member of the Water & Sewer Commission, with a term to expire on January 14, 2029.
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- g. To Consider and Act on a Motion to waive the interview and the waiting period for appointments, Rules 14B & C of the Town Council Rules of Procedure, for the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority.
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- h. To Consider and Act on a Motion to appoint Deane Terry to fill a vacancy the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority, with a term to expire on August 14, 2025.
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- i. To Consider and Act on a Motion to accept the resignation of John V. Estelle from the Planning & Zoning Commission, effective March 13, 2025.
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- j. To Consider and Act on a Motion to accept the resignation of Jeffrey Carver from the Conservation Commission, effective immediately.
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- k. To Consider and Act on a Motion to waive the waiting period for appointments, Rules 14C of the Town Council Rules of Procedure, for the Conservation Commission.
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- l. To Consider and Act on a Motion to appoint Catherine Hinojosa to fill a vacancy the Conservation Commission, with a term to expire on April 9, 2026.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

15. Unfinished Business

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to discuss the progress of the Animal Control Facility. (Councilor Yuchniuk)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Lathrop. Discussion: See Item 11, Montville Police Lt. David Radford's report.

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2024-99. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$2,015.66 (two thousand fifteen dollars and sixty-six cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor May)

Motion made by Councilor Sabilia, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: The Tax Collector position has been filled and the individual will be starting in January 2025. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- b. **Resolution #2024-100. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the position description for the General Foreman, as approved and recommended by the Town Administration Rules/Procedure Committee. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: Councilor Jaskiewicz reported that the Public Works Director, Human Resources Director, and Mayor supported instituting and filling this much-needed position. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- c. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to extend the engineering services contract for the Town of Montville with CLA Engineers, Inc. and further, to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement for same. (Mayor Bunnell)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard, to table the item. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

- d. **Resolution #2024-101. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the 2024 holiday bonuses for Town employees on Schedule A. (Mayor Bunnell)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Sabilia. Discussion: The bonuses listed are for non-Union employees. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- e. **Resolution #2024-102. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the transfer of \$30,000 (thirty thousand dollars) from General Fund to Legal Services Labor/Employment Matters (Line Item 10340-52046) to cover Legal Fee overages. (Mayor Bunnell)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Southard. Discussion: Chairperson May explained that approximately half of the transfer is related to the Union negotiations. The remaining amount should be sufficient to fund the legal costs for the remainder of the fiscal year. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor:

Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- f. **Resolution #2024-103. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize the Mayor to enter into a three-year Agreement with OCV, LLC, for the development of an iPhone and Android App for the Town of Montville and to sign and execute any and all related Agreements and Contracts on behalf of the Town of Montville. (Mayor Bunnell)

Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Caron. Discussion: Mayor's Assistant Cindy Breton explained that, due to complaints regarding the amount of personal information necessary to sign up to receive alerts and the receipt of notifications during all hours of the night, OCV, LLC, who creates apps for Law enforcement, public health agencies, and municipalities, was contacted as a replacement to the current Everbridge citizen alert system. There are currently 400-500 residents signed up to receive Everbridge alerts. The Everbridge contract expires on January 6, and the new app will take approximately five to eight weeks to develop. Should the resolution be approved, the app is expected to be completed in late February, and Everbridge notifications will be sent to the residents regarding the transition. The agreement will result in a cost savings. Residents may continue to opt in to receive alerts from the Connecticut Alert E-911 system, free of charge. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia,

Executive Session: To Consider and Act on a Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Union Contract Negotiations. Discussion to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr., Attorney Kristi Kelly.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Invited parties exited Town Council Chambers for Executive Session at 8:03 p.m. Chairperson May resumed the meeting at 8:29 p.m. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

- g. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the funds necessary to implement the tentative agreement with the Local 818 of Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO MAME), for the term July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §7-474(b), by authorizing Mayor Leonard G. Bunnell Sr. to execute documents consistent with the terms of a tentative agreement. (Mayor Bunnell)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Lathrop, to table the item. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

- h. **Resolution #2024-104. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the funds necessary to implement the tentative agreement with the Montville Police Union Local 2504 for the term July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2028, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §7-474(b), by authorizing Mayor Leonard G. Bunnell Sr. to execute documents consistent with the terms of a tentative agreement. (Mayor Bunnell)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Lathrop. Discussion: Chairperson None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- i. **Resolution #2024-105. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the appropriation of \$350,000.00 (three hundred fifty thousand dollars) from the General Fund Balance to supplement and be expended together with DECD grant funds of \$2 million and ARPA grant funds of \$636,177 on the Animal Control Facility Project. (Mayor Bunnell)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Lathrop. Discussion: Chairperson May thanked everyone for their assistance in securing the necessary funds for the new Animal Control Facility. Councilor Yuchniuk concurred, adding his personal appreciation to Rebecca Maurice and Ann Gaulin without whose efforts the project would not have moved forward. Councilor Caron concurred. Councilor Sabilia also echoed the Councilors comments and was very pleased and proud to be part of the efforts. Councilor Jaskiewicz commented on their ability to work hard and together to attain their goals. Ms. Gaulin requested the possibility of being present for the signing of the contract. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- j. **Resolution #2024-106. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to accept the recommendation to lease the Chesterfield Fire Company's M-37 Rescue Truck by the Public Safety Commission. (Mayor Bunnell)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Southard. Discussion: Councilor Lathrop stated that he has repeatedly requested and has yet to receive documentation regarding the need for the replacement. Chairperson May stated that they have received several recommendations from the Public Safety Commission regarding the replacement of the truck and the item was reviewed and discussed by the Finance Committee. Per the town's Purchasing Policy, Chesterfield Fire Company Chief Truex stated that all four (4) Fire Chiefs stated that something should be done and three (3) recommended the truck be refurbished. He explained his hesitation with investing 65% of the cost for a new vehicle to refurbish a 28-year-old truck, with warranties valid only for those parts (excludes the engine) that have been refurbished. He clarified that the replacement of such vehicles after 15 years or 24 years following a refurbishment, is recommended, not required, by the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association). He reiterated the need for a rescue truck to serve the west side of the town, as agreed to by all four (4) Fire Chiefs. Roll Call vote, 6-0-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, and May. Voting in Opposition: Yuchniuk. Resolution passed.

- k. To Consider and Act on a Motion to add two (2) additional Firefighters, increasing the current staff of 14 (fourteen) to 16 (sixteen) members, as recommended by the Public Safety Commission. (Mayor Bunnell)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Sabilia. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- l. **Resolution #2024-107. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to close Town offices at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24, 2024 in observance of the Christmas Holiday for non-essential personnel and to award two (2) hours paid time off for Essential Personnel who must remain on the job to be used by the end of January 2025.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Sabilia. Discussion: It was noted that the Town Council is not obligated to close Town offices early and award the paid time off. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

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

Chesterfield Fire Company President William Hermann expressed his appreciation to Councilor Lathrop for erring on the side of safety and voting in favor of the lease-purchase for the M-37 truck, stating that the First Responders are the town's first line defense for

medical and physical structures. By providing them with the proper and most updated equipment, they are doing a service to all of the town's residents.

Chesterfield Fire Company Chief Keith Truex echoed Chesterfield Fire Company President Hermann's statement and appreciation. He will do his best to provide Councilor Lathrop with the information requested.

Public Safety Commission Chairperson Gary Murphy, 55-F Laurel Point Drive, Oakdale, expressed his surprise with the low number of residents who have signed up to receive Everbridge notifications. He concurred with the public's complaints regarding the receipt of notifications during all hours of the evening/morning. He requested that the Town ensure that newly constructed buildings are reachable (by height) and accessible for emergency personnel. He also requested care in any decisions related to the Transfer Station Punch Cards, stating that their decision(s) could result in garbage being dumped along the roads of dead-end streets.

Carol Howard, 23 Bayberry Lane, Uncasville, thanked the Town Council for their dedication to the citizens of the town and wished everyone Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

Public Safety Commission Member Brian Baker, 560 Chesterfield Road, Oakdale, echoed Public Safety Commission Chairperson Murphy's comments, adding that the new buildings will, without a doubt, impact the town's public safety and urged them to remain cognizant of its impact.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor Yuchniuk expressed his excitement and was very pleased with this evening's meeting, which he found very productive. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilor Lathrop also wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hannukah, and the like, and commented on the tenacity of the Purple & Orange Team. He thanked everyone who attended the Holiday Parade and commented on the Town Hall holiday decorations, reflecting the New England Holiday spirit.

Councilor Sabilia thanked everyone for their efforts for the Animal Control Facility and for attending this evening's meeting. He wished everyone an enjoyable time off with family and friends and Happy Holidays; he looks forward to seeing everyone in January.

Councilor Southard also thanked everyone, adding that it takes a village to attain their goals. She encouraged everyone to attend their future parades, which have the small-town feel if they have not already done so. She wished everyone a Happy Hannukah, Merry Christmas, etc., and a Happy New Year.

Councilor Jaskiewicz wished everyone a Happy Holidays, a Happy New Year, and good health.

Chairperson May also wished everyone Happy Holidays and commented on a tough and rocky start to the Animal Control Facility project. He was pleased they took the time to listen to the public and move the project forward.

Councilor Caron echoed all of the Councilors' comments and holiday wishes.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz. to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

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

Schedule A

INDIVIDUAL

pay codes				
code 965	BLANCEHTTE	WILFRED	INDV	100.00
code 970	BRETON	CINDY	INDV	100.00
code 977	ROGERS	JEFFREY	REGISTRARS	100.00
code 977	HILLMAN	MARY	REGISTRARS	100.00
code 970	GRIFFIN	BARBARA	INDV	100.00
code 970	BUNNELL	LENNY	ELCT	100.00
code 970	DAMELIA	MARIA	INDV	100.00

PART TIME

OVER 780

HRS

code 973	PAUL	SUSAN	PT	100.00
code 973	MATHERS	DENNIS	PT	100.00
code 973	RICHARD	MELISSA	PT	100.00
code 973	BROWN	TINA	PT	100.00

RECORDING

CLERKS

569	MIYUKI	AGNES	PT	100.00
160	GATHERS	GLORIA	PT	100.00

TOTAL 1,300.00