

**Town of Montville**  
**Town Council**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**July 14, 2025, 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 Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May.  
Absent was Councilor Caron. Also present was Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations
  - a. Recognition of Montville Student-Athletes for outstanding accomplishments by State Representative Nick Menapace  

State Representative Nick Menapace expressed his pride in recognizing and congratulating Montville Student-Athletes Josie English and Adam Sheridan on their outstanding accomplishments and graduation from Montville High School. On behalf of himself, State Representatives Nick Gauthier and Kevin Ryan, and State Senators Martha Marx and Cathy Osten, he presented Montville Student-Athletes Youth Action Council Co-President Sheridan and President English with an Official Citation for their leadership, academic achievements, athletic success, and community impact. The Citations were signed by Senate President Pro Tempore Martin Looney, Speaker of the House Matt Ritter, and Secretary of the State Stephanie Thomas.

Mayor Bunnell also commended the students for their outstanding accomplishments and contributions throughout their high school years, presenting a Certificate of Recognition from the Town of Montville and the Montville Town Council in recognition of their dedication, service, and personal accomplishments. He expressed his heartfelt appreciation and wished them, the future leaders of their community and country, continued success in their future endeavors.

The Councilors personally congratulated each of the students.
  - b. Presentation by Merchant McIntyre regarding Federal Funding – *no presentation*
  - c. Recognition of Board of Education (BOE), Teacher of the Year, and Paraprofessional of the Year – *no presentation*
5. Alterations to the Agenda  
The following items were removed from the Agenda:
  - 4 (b) Presentation by Merchant McIntyre regarding Federal Funding
  - (c) Recognition of Board of Education (BOE), Teacher of the Year, and Paraprofessional of the Year

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard, to remove the following items from the Agenda:

16(c) **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve wages for Part-time employees, to become effective upon date of Town Council approval, as indicated in Schedule A. (Councilor May)

Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
6. To Consider and Act on a Motion to Approve:
  - a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2025

- b. The Special Meeting Minutes of May 29, 2025 (Budget)
- c. The Special Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2025 (DECD Grant, Union Contracts)  
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia, to approve the May 12, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes; May 29, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes, and; June 18, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 5-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Executive Session – *none*

8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit – *none*

9. Communications

- a. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman Shapiro for the months of March, April, and May 2025
- b. Copy of the legal bills from Halloran & Sage for the months of April, May, and June 2025
- c. Copy of the legal bills from Atty. Michael Satti for the month of May 2025
- d. Copy of a letter addressed to Senator Looney from Mayor Bunnell and Town Council Chairperson May

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 Lieutenant David Radford provided a brief update on the Animal Control Facility, which is steadily progressing with only minor hiccups. The project is slated for completion in late fall.

Mayor Bunnell provided the report for Public Works Director John Carlson, who is on vacation. CLA Engineers, Inc., is in the process of surveying Maple Avenue for the sidewalk installation and the Milefski Drive area. The bids for the relining of the drainage pipe on Maple Avenue and Beechwood Drive Drainage Improvements have been issued. Crews will repair and/or chip-seal Massapeag Side Road, Fielding Drive, and Gutterman Road. The Public Safety Building A/C System Repair is complete. A pre-construction meeting for the Boat Dock and Fishing Pier Project is scheduled and awaiting the final signatures from CTDEEP (Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection). The Public Works Department is continuing to mow the sides of the road. Bridge Street will be closed, beginning July 21 for six (6) weeks. The Transfer Station Punch Cards are in process. The state will be providing the town with two (2) additional speed radar signs, which record the public's driving habits, and new speed limit sign replacement program for select roads. Construction of the Camp Oakdale Building begins this week, and the soccer shed and bathrooms will be painted the week of July 21.

Mayor Bunnell reported on his attendance at the Montville Public Schools Retirees event, honoring and celebrating retirees from Murphy Elementary School, Montville High School, and Tyl Middle School. Also honored were Kerri Flanagan with the Teacher of the Year Award and Katie Thompson with the Paraeducator of the Year Award. Discussion regarding the Firefighter Contracts is continuing. The contracts for the storage shed and the Bridge Street Bridge were signed. He also attended the Nature's Art Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, celebrating 25 years, and the New London Community Center Ribbon Cutting. Fire Marshal Paul Barnes announced his retirement; the position has been posted. Sarah Torres was hired to fill the Accounts Payable position, and interviews were held for the Land Use and Development Department Administrative Assistant position. A Consulting

Agreement has been signed with BJH Consulting Services for the Route 32 Development Plan.

12. Reports from Standing Committees

- a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – *item is included on agenda*
- b. Finance – *no meeting; no report*
- c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – *no meeting; no report*

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

- a. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging, Non-Profit Organizations, Social Services, Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Fund – *not present; no report*

Announcements for the Senior and Social Services Departments are available in the town's new App, which Mayor Bunnell encouraged everyone to download to receive updates and announcements of events from the town's departments.

- b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education, Planning & Zoning Commission  
Board of Education – Councilor Southard reported that the Board's Regular Meeting included a presentation from the Engineer and Architect regarding the HVAC Project; the Board agreed to reconvene for further discussions. Two (2) water heaters are scheduled for replacement at Murphy Elementary School. The District Calendar was amended to include a half-day on December 23. Palmer Academy and Montville High School held very special graduation ceremonies. The Montville High School Graduation was held at Dodd Stadium.

Councilor Jaskiewicz reported that the Special Meeting included an introduction of the Special Education Director, HVAC system discussion, and Capital Projects, including the Murphy Elementary School steps and Montville High School wireless access points, and baseball and softball field repairs. Murphy Elementary School steps and water heaters, High School wireless access points, and the hiring of a LEARN Human Resources Director for one day/week will be funded by the BOE's Non-Lapsing Account.

Chairperson May informed the public that Murphy and Oakdale Elementary Schools are negotiating the HVAC contract. Because of the increased costs, the project is over budget. Therefore, they are proposing to install HVAC in some classrooms and sections of the building.

- c. Councilor Lathrop: Economic Development Commission, Water Pollution Control Authority – *no report*
- d. Councilor Sabilia: Conservation Commission, Public Safety Commission, Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board

The Conservation Commission hosted a booth at Farmers Market Community Night, providing brochures of their trails.

Public Safety Commission – He expressed his appreciation to and congratulated Fire Marshal Barnes on his retirement. The Montville Police Department will be hosting a National Night Out on August 5, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the Fair Oaks Community Center.

Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board – A successful after-school program ended with a celebration that included the Mayor, Montville Police Chief Willard Blanchette, members of the Police Department, Mr. Hot Dog, and Robin's Ice Cream. New and Re-registration for the After-School Program has begun. The Mental Health "You Good, Bro'?" (YGB) Campaign continues to gain attention across the state. YGB Police Patches and shirts are still available for purchase; proceeds benefit the police and first

responder mental health support programs and services. Individuals are encouraged to share the message about 988. The Youth Diversion Team, formerly known as the Juvenile Review Board (JRB), continues to receive referrals; its success rate remains at approximately 94%. The on-site counselor maintains a full schedule of clients. They are working with Councilor Caron to secure a benefit concert or performance at the Mohegan Sun to raise funds for Camp Mystic in Kerr County, Texas. A portion of the \$600 million of the \$50 billion nationwide Opioid Settlement Funds allocated to the State of Connecticut was awarded to the town and invested into the community through the Uncas Health Mobile Health Van, Addiction & Substance misuse counseling services, Local & First Responders Community Events, Support for local Montville Schools to access programs/services, and providing an ongoing NARCAN supply for Emergency Services, Schools and those trained in NARCAN administration.

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

Farmers Market Opening Night was cancelled due to the extreme heat. As a result, a combined Opening Night/Community Night was held the following week. The Montville Police and Fire Departments were thanked for their participation in the event. Kid's Night was held last week and will be followed by Car Cruise night this week, and Native Market, featuring drummers and dancers from the Mohegan Tribe, on July 29. The Committee is seeking additional members.

The Library Committee held its annual meeting. The garage has been refurbished to store their books for the book sales and other items. Michelle Westkamper, daughter-in-law of former Raymond Hill Librarian Joanne Westkamper, was recently hired as the Librarian.

Parks & Recreation Commission – June 23 marked the beginning of this year's Summer Camp. Unfortunately, the town did not qualify for the state's free and reduced breakfast and lunch program and could not be located at Mohegan School due to the lack of space. The Summer Concerts began last week and will continue throughout the summer on Thursdays, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at Camp Oakdale. A very successful Carnival was held in June. The Commission is discussing increasing its programming and facility rental fees. A presentation was provided by Resident Andrew Couch, who proposed a course layout for a disc golf course at the Mostowy Property.

#### 14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to appoint Meracus Hernandez to fill a vacancy as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term to expire on November 10, 2025.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- b. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Deborah Schober to the Uncas Health District with a term to expire on July 12, 2028.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- c. To Consider and Act on a Motion to accept the resignation of Chelsea Lambert from the Farmers Market Committee, effective July 9, 2025.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- d. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Mary Adams to the Commission on Aging with a term to expire on August 13, 2028.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- e. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Deane Terry to the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority (SCWA) with a term to expire on August 14, 2027.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

15. Unfinished Business – *none*

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2025-55. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$5,305.30 (five thousand three hundred five dollars and thirty cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor May)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- b. **Resolution #2025-56. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the Nepotism policy, as approved and recommended by the Town Administration Rules/Procedure Committee. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: Councilor Jaskiewicz encouraged the Councilors to pass the Policy which, he felt, should have been adopted years ago. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- c. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve wages for Part-time employees, to become effective upon date of Town Council approval, as indicated in Schedule A. (Councilor May)

*Item removed from the Agenda.*

- d. **Resolution #2025-57. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr., to execute any and all documents to accept the Termination of Easement granted to the Town of Montville by David P. and Joan T. Jetmore, dated March 31, 2017 and recorded on April 3, 2017 in Volume 624 at Page 781 and to accept the Grant of Easement from Arthur J. Melody IV and Jorrie L. Trenkamp to the Town of Montville, dated June 23, 2025, as required per Planning & Zoning Commission resubdivision application approved on February 14, 2017, and shown on a plan entitled “Easement Map Prepared for Raymond Casper Depicted

Proposed Access Easement 72 Velgouse Road (Lot 4) Montville, Connecticut, dated October 1, 2024, revised 4/25/2025, 5/12/2025 and 5/22/2025”. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: The Resolution would allow for a change in the location of the turnaround on Velgouse Road. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- e. **Resolution #2025-58. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to accept the sight-line easement from TA CT Holdings LLC to the Town of Montville, dated July 7, 2025, as required per Planning & Zoning Commission subdivision application #24SUB4, approved on January 28, 2025, in accordance with a plan entitled “Proposed I-Lot Resubdivision of 958 Route 163 (Parcel ID: 046-008- 000), Oakdale, CT, Prepared for The Nevar Company, Prepared by Solli Engineering, Dated September 30, 2024, Revised 11/17/24” provided the existing foundation/con concrete slab on Lot I is removed and disposed of as shown on Sheet 1.12 and Sheet 2.11. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Sabilia, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: The sight-line easement would allow the Town to maintain the brush cut on the state highway from the curb-cut. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

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

Vince Attwater-Young, 375 Chapel Hill Road, Oakdale, questioned whether the HVAC System at the Schools would be properly sized, allowing for future expansion.

*Councilor Jaskiewicz stated that the BOE will be considering such matters; Chairperson May encouraged the public to attend their meeting tomorrow, Thursday, July 17, at 4:30 p.m., Montville High School, Large Conference Room.*

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

The Councilors thanked the public for attending this evening’s meeting.

Mayor Bunnell stated that he would investigate whether the HVAC System will be expandable. He thanked and commended the Police, Fire, and Public Works Departments and Fire Police for their support at the recent Carnival, making it a safe and successful event. He wished everyone an enjoyable summer.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Lathrop. to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 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**