

Town of Montville
Public Works/Solid Waste Standing Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2025, 5:15 p.m.
Montville Town Hall – Conference Room 102

1. Call to Order
Chairperson Caron called the meeting to order at 5:19 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call (Councilors Caron, Lathrop, Southard)
Present were Councilors Caron and Southard. Absent was Councilor Lathrop. Also present were Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr., Public Works Director John Carlson, and Finance Director Julie Chapman.
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, September 24, 2025
Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None.
Voice vote, 2-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
5. Remarks from the Public Regarding Items on the Agenda with a three-limit limit
Brian Baker, 560 Chesterfield Road, distributed a copy of the Transfer Station Fees for the Towns of Waterford and East Lyme, both of which have weigh stations and do not accept household garbage or recycling.
6. Old Business
 - a. Raymond Hill Church
Mayor Bunnell reported that discussions with the Tribal Grant Writer for a Needs Assessment Study Grant are in process.
 - b. Road Improvement Program: Drainage & Paving Schedule/Road Improvement Bond
 - 1) Road Schedule/Bid Status
 - 2) Maple Avenue Paving
Public Works Director Carlson reported that the paving project for Connecticut Boulevard, (part of) Oxoboxo Dam Road, Gutterman Road, and Old Colchester Road was awarded. The project will begin with the raising of catch basins next week, followed by the milling of the road. Weather permitting, the project will be completed by December 1.

The Maple Avenue project is slated to begin on November 6 with the lining of the pipes, provided the necessary materials are received, and should be completed by

Christmas. Once the dates are confirmed, the projects will be posted on the Town website and app.

c. Youth Services (Montville Community Center) Bathrooms

The Finance Director is reviewing the Bid Package from the Town Engineer and expects the project to be posted next week.

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f. Public Works Garage Clean-up & Breakroom – *no update*

g. Tree Clearing – *continuing*

h. Road Clean-up Policy, a.k.a. Adopt-a-Road Program

The Montville Animal Welfare Initiative, which has been actively cleaning the roads, has earned the maximum allowable amount for the year.

i. Future Capital Projects

They are currently in discussions with Eversource regarding the possibility of connecting the existing line on Route 32 to the Town Hall. The Mayor noted that, while Eversource will dig the trench and install the line, the Town will be responsible for some of the costs. A company has been hired to provide an estimate for the project to prepare the Bid Package.

He also reported that the Camp Oakdale facility is in need of a new mower with a bagger system, which is estimated to cost \$20,000.00.

j. Camp Oakdale Renovations

1) Field 4

Field 4 has been leveled and the Soccer League is in the process of marking their areas of concern on the field.

2) Pavilion and Dog Park Master Plan

The Town Engineer and Finance Director are formulating the necessary documents to submit to the state for the Urban Act Grant.

3) Camp Oakdale Parking Lots – *in process*

4) Pickleball Court Roadside Privacy Screen

The Public Works Director visited the East Lyme Pickleball Courts and investigated their privacy screen, which is installed inside the court and includes three (3) rows of eyelets and appears customized. He plans to contact the company for an estimate.

5) Solar Trash Compactors

Transfer Station Employee Flo Turner distributed a brochure of the Bigbelly Sense Max Solar Trash Compactor and reported that she has spoken with the Towns of New London and Groton regarding their compactors. The Town of New London installed its compactors three (3) years ago with great success. The compactors, whose openings are not large enough for people to dispose of their household garbage and are rodent-proof, have been very helpful in keeping the town clean. In addition, the town generates revenue by selling advertising space that is wrapped around the compactor. The Town of Groton installed three (3) compactors in 2023 and is planning to purchase six (6) additional compactors with the software package. Because the compactors don't use bags, users must be careful when removing trash, which could have needles, broken glass, and other hazards. The compactors cost \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00. The weight of the trash was questioned.

k. Boat Launch/Fishing Pier – *start date pending; preliminary date: November*

l. Surplus Equipment

They will be approaching Courville's Garage regarding their possible interest in purchasing the M-37 Fire Truck and exchanging the lights for the Fire Company for \$15,000.00. The police vehicle received a bid and will be sold for \$675.00. The Mohegan Fire Company's Fire Truck received no bids and will be posted on the Public Surplus website. A 1995 Toro Mower will be posted on Municibid.

m. Trex Project – Collection and Bailing of Plastic Film – *no update*

n. Transfer Station Regulations: Fees, including Commercial Roof Shingles & Punch Cards

Chairperson Caron requested that the Public Works Director gather the transfer station fees of comparable towns without weigh stations. He reiterated his goal of minimizing increases and maintaining affordability. Discussion ensued regarding the overall cost, including labor and disposal, of such materials as roof shingles and the need to charge adequate fees to cover the expenses.

o. Drainage Issues:

- 1) 66 Glendale Road, Oakdale
- 2) 64 Podurgiel Lane, Uncasville

3) 494 Kitemaug Road, Uncasville

The projects were delayed due to other unexpected occurrences. An additional issue at 21 Gair Court was briefly discussed.

Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Caron, to add the following item to future agendas, under item 6(m) Drainage Issues:

(3) 21 Gair Court

Discussion: None. Voice vote, 2-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

p. Facility Costs

A copy of the Town's Parks & Recreation Rules and Regulations for Camp Oakdale Facilities was distributed. Public Works Director Carlson recommended that the rental fees include a maintenance fee that is deposited into a designated account for facility maintenance. He also recommended limiting the hours and offering the facility in the morning and afternoon, which would allow multiple individuals/groups to utilize the facility. Councilor Southard stated that the Parks & Recreation Director was tasked with determining the source of the document.

q. Senior Center Carpeting and Painting

The painting is expected to be completed this week. The Chairperson will review and approve the work with the Public Works Director. The carpeting selection is in process.

7. New Business

a. 030 Capital Fund Fiscal Year 25

Finance Director Chapman reported that she is in the process of analyzing and updating the town's funds, including the Capital Fund. Working with the various departments, the Mayor has determined that most of the line items are inactive; the exact remaining dollar amounts will need to be confirmed. The Committee briefly discussed some of the line items, including the Fair Oaks Parking, Mostowy Site Plan, Football/Soccer Bleachers, Old Town Hall Repairs, and Public Works Asbestos. The items must be formally added to the Capital Plan before use.

8. Remarks from the Public with a three-limit limit

Brian Baker, 560 Chesterfield Road, questioned the status of an unusable field due to poor drainage and the football field.

Public Works Director Carlson stated that the funding for the Field 7 Drainage Repairs is included in one of the Grant applications. Additionally, the football field (Field 6), which measures 80 yards, cannot be extended to 100 yards, as it would either consume most of Field 4 (soccer field) or extend into the wetlands. Councilor Southard also noted that the

Parks & Recreation Commission, which investigated the matter three years prior, estimated that the project would cost over \$100,000.00.

He also commented on the importance of being mindful of determining the transfer station fees to help offset their costs without increasing the taxpayers' burden(s); he was pleased with the Committee's careful and methodical process. He plans to reach out to Fairbanks Scales, which provides the weigh scales for Waterford, as an additional option.

Transfer Station Employee Turner proposed selling advertising space on fencing panels between the in-gate and the Transfer Station Office and on compactor wraps traveling to the incinerator.

Linda Tomaszek, formerly of 611 Route 163, Montville, questioned whether the Re-Use Room for Non-Profit Organizations would be returning.

Councilor Caron stated that he would raise the matter with the Commission on Aging and review the town's open spaces to store the items. Discussion ensued regarding the burden of the Re-Use Room on the Public Works and Senior and Social Services Departments to clean, organize, and maintain as well as the disposal of unsold items and the cost of the disposal.

9. Remarks from the Councilors

While she hopes to be re-elected, Councilor Southard, who joined the Committee as a segue to the Parks & Recreation Commission, thanked everyone for their patience; it has been a true learning experience.

Councilor Caron echoed Councilor Southard's comments, adding his appreciation to the individuals who attend their meetings and educate and guide their decisions.

10. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Caron, to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 2-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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