

**Town of Montville**  
**Public Works/Solid Waste Standing Committee**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**December 17, 2025, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Montville Town Hall – Conference Room 102**

1. Call to Order  
Chairperson Baker called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call (Councilors Baker, Caron, Southard)  
Present were Councilors Baker and Southard. Absent was Councilor Caron. Also present were Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr., Councilor Novak, and Public Works Director John Carlson.
4. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Regular Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, November 19, 2025  
Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Baker, to approve the Wednesday, November 19, 2025, Public Works/Solid Waste Standing Committee Regular Meeting Minutes. 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  
Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Baker, to add the following item to the Agenda under Item 7, New Business:
  - 7(a) Town Hall Boiler  
Discussion: None. Voice vote, 2-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
6. Old Business
  - a. Raymond Hill Church – *no discussion*
  - b. Road Improvement Program: Drainage & Paving Schedule/Road Improvement Bond
    - 1) Road Schedule/Bid Status
    - 2) Maple Avenue Paving  
Paving is complete on Old Colchester Road, Connecticut Blvd., Oxoboxo Dam Road, and Maple Avenue; the remaining driveway aprons, grading of the yards, and curbing will be completed in the spring. The striping on Maple Avenue is complete, and the mailboxes will be returning to their original locations. It was noted that the mailboxes are movable, should the U.S. Postal Service approve maintaining the mailboxes in their current location.
  - c. Youth Services (Montville Community Center) Bathrooms  
A pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled for mid-January and the bid will open soon after.

d. Public Works Garage Clean-up & Breakroom

A meeting is scheduled to review and discuss the removal of the asbestos.

e. Tree Clearing

Tree clearing is ongoing, including the trimming of trees that posed issues for the snowplow trucks during/following the recent snow event. The chips generated from the clearing of trees are used by the residents and for Town projects.

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

Mayor Bunnell reported that additional information regarding the Program, which was expanded and is now associated with the Nips Program for road clean-ups, was added to the website due to inquiries received requesting clarification on the Program. Discussion ensued regarding non-501(c)(3) fundraising organizations to participate in the Program.

g. Future Capital Projects

With the assistance of the Building Department, the repair/replacement of the stairs for the Town Council Chambers is in progress. Other capital projects include the Town Hall roofing and boiler. A grant to fund a needs assessment for the Town Hall is also in progress.

h. Camp Oakdale Renovations

Chairperson Baker reported that item 6(h)1, Field 4, which is complete, was removed from the Agenda.

1) Pavilion and Dog Park Master Plan

The Town recently applied for a grant that included the development of a Master Plan; the project is being handled by the Parks & Recreation Director.

2) Camp Oakdale Parking Lots

The elimination of the grass growth, which is weather-dependent, is in progress.

3) Pickleball Court Roadside Privacy Screen

Two (2) estimates were received, one of which would need to be installed by the Public Works Department. The screens may also be printed with advertising or similar content, with the proper Town approvals.

4) Solar Trash Compactors

Chairperson Baker distributed an estimate he received from Bigbelly for approximately \$19,750.00 for four (4) solar-powered trash compactor bins, which exceeds the Town Council's approval to allocate up to \$12,000.00 from the NIP Fund Balance. He proposed either purchasing two (2) bins or requesting the Town Council for additional funds. The bins would be placed at the Camp Oakdale Large Pavilion and include brackets for messaging. The bins require at least two (2) hours/day of sunlight, and the resulting bags weigh from 30 to 50 lbs., depending upon the materials disposed. The estimate is valid for 45 days. Discussion included

the possibility of purchasing two (2) bins and growing the fund to purchase scales, the purpose of the bins to eliminate the potential \$600.00 in overtime costs to empty the bins during the weekends, and providing a one-time Transfer Station Pass and requesting that those renting the facility remove and dispose of the trash. The Pavilion is most active during the summer months. The Councilors agreed to purchase two (2) bins at this time.

**Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Baker, to allocate an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00 for the purchase of two (2) solar-powered trash compactors from Big Belly Solar, LLC. Discussion: The Committee agreed to purchase two (2), rather than four (4), compactors. Voice vote, 2-0, all in favor. Motion carried.**

i. Boat Launch/Fishing Pier – *no update*

j. Surplus Equipment

The remaining surplus equipment includes the fire truck and mower. The fire truck will be posted on an alternative auction site, suggested by the Finance Director. The M37 fire truck was purchased by Sam Piotrowski, who had agreed to swap out the lights. Unfortunately, the process would have been too invasive to the equipment on both trucks. The Town agreed to release him from that particular agreement and maintain the same pricing. In return, Mr. Piotrowski donated \$1,000.00 each to the Toy Fund and Social Services Food Bank.

k. Trex Project – Collection and Bailing of Plastic Film – *no discussion*

l. Transfer Station Regulations: Fees, including Commercial Roof Shingles & Punch Cards  
Chairperson Baker recommended they continue exploring the matter. He reviewed the number of vehicles entering the Transfer Station from December 4 to 17, reflecting the high use of the Facility. He estimated that, if the 2,100 individuals who purchased stickers disposed of eight (8) bags of garbage every week, the Transfer Station would collect 870,000 bags per year. He reviewed the Town's tipping fees vs. the amount the contractors are back-charged, which revealed a difference of approximately \$71,000.00, and the Transfer Station revenue vs. expenses, which, similarly, reveals a shortfall of \$370,500.00. He recommended they hold a Special Meeting dedicated to the item. He also reviewed some of the ideas presented by Transfer Station Employee Flo Turner to help balance the cost and welcomed any additional ideas.

Mayor Bunnell is planning to schedule a presentation for the Committee's January meeting to discuss the CT SMMR2 (Connecticut's Sustainable Materials Management Round 2) Grant, which the Town was awarded to phase in the program. A summary of the program and agreement will be provided.

m. Drainage Issues:

1) 66 Glendale Road, Oakdale

3) 494 Kitemaug Road, Uncasville

The project was delayed due to inclement weather.

4) 21 Gair Court

The Engineer recommended installing an additional catch basin and piping; the current catch basin is not sufficient to handle the current flow of water.

n. Facility Costs

The facility costs for the Large Pavilion were provided to help the Parks & Recreation Commission determine the facility rental fees.

o. 030 Capital Fund Fiscal Year 25

The Department's Capital Fund requests will include:

- either a \$280,000.00 hook lift truck, which will utilize an existing sander, or a \$300,000.00 Tenco all-season body truck
- a new mower to replace the current diesel mower, which is experiencing ongoing issues

Other items include a new Fire Marshal vehicle, additional police cars, a roll-off truck, Town Hall roof, and a new payload loader for the Transfer Station.

p. Animal Control Facility

Councilor Baker reported that, while they are awaiting the installation of the meter, the Facility is now powered. While the HVAC system is being installed, a temporary heating source is being used to eliminate the moisture from the concrete floors before applying the epoxy, which will take two-and-a-half days to cure. Straw or hay will be temporarily laid down in the areas that will be loamed and seeded in the spring. The posts will be wrapped for protection. The fire and intrusion alarm systems and Frontier FiberOptics are being scheduled for installation and will be followed by the installation of computer equipment and cameras.

q. Tipping Fees

Chairperson Baker will contact WPCA (Water Pollution Control Authority) Administrator Ron McDaniel regarding the anticipated FY2025/26 SCRRRA costs.

7. New Business

a. Sidewalk Maintenance

Mayor Bunnell stated that the existing ordinance pertains only to those sidewalks on Route 32. He requested that the Committee consider drafting an ordinance regarding the maintenance of the residential sidewalks.

**Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Baker, to pursue a sidewalk ordinance requiring the property owners to clear the sidewalk in front of**

**their property during the winter months. Discussion: The ordinance will include the enforcement and penalties. Voice vote, 2-0, all in favor. Motion carried.**

b. Town Hall Furnace

Mayor Bunnell stated that the Town Hall furnace is aged and emitting fumes. An estimate, which excluded the replacement of sections, was received in January 2025. Two to four sections may need to be replaced and the project is estimated to take up to one week to re-rope the furnace. \$300,000.00 has been allocated for the furnace replacement/conversion to natural gas, which is estimated to take at least two years. The oil tank, which is also past its lifetime, will also need to be removed. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of replacing the existing burner and purchasing a contract for a smaller, temporary LP boiler and tanks while the gas line is being installed. Pricing for a new boiler that can be converted, a 1,000-gallon LP tank rental, and a temporary boiler (or similar), along with a connection schedule from Eversource, will be requested. The services of an architect to draw up the plans will also need to be engaged. A request will be made to the Acting Building Official to calculate the necessary amount of cubic gas, the Land Use & Development Director will be contacted regarding the grant timeline, and a second opinion to determine the origin of the fumes and smoke will be sought.

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

Transfer Station Employee Flo Turner reported that Little League charges \$200.00 per season for signage. She proposed selling advertising space for signage at the Transfer Station on both the exterior and interior sides of the fence, and wrapping the packer boxes that are hauled to Lisbon or Willimantic Waste to generate revenue.

9. Remarks from the Councilors

Councilor Southard wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Happy Hannukah, and thanked everyone for a very productive meeting.

Chairperson Baker also wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and safe holiday season.

10. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Baker, to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 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