

AMENDED
TOWN OF MONTVILLE
Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting – January 21, 2026 -- 6:30 p.m.
Town Council Chambers

MEETING MINUTES

Comments will only be accepted at times designated for public comments by the Chair of the meeting. The Montville Town Council Rules of Procedure, decorum, timeliness, and suitability shall be followed and enforced.

1. Call to order.

Chairperson Stone called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

All stood and pledged the flag.

3. Roll Call.

Present were Chairperson Rocky Stone, and Commissioners Matt Beaupre, Mary Hillman, John Plikus, Morgan Matthewson and Deborah Schober. Vice-Chair William Barlow, Commissioners Noah Carver and Jon Chase were absent. A quorum was present.

Also present were Recreation Director Peter Bushway and Town Council Liaison Kate Southard.

4. Alternations to the Agenda

Motion by Chairperson Stone; seconded by Commissioner Matthewson to change Agenda Item 9 to read “February Newsletter.” Discussion: none. **Voice vote: 6-0-0, all in favor. Motion approved.**

5. Remarks from the Public regarding items on the Agenda (3-minute limit).

Chairperson Stone asked three (3) times for remarks. There were none.

6. To Consider and Act on a Motion to Approve:

a. The Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2025.

Motion by Commissioner Schober; seconded by Commissioner Plikus to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 17, 2025. Discussion: none. **Voice vote: 6-0-0, all in favor. Motion approved.**

7. Recreation Director’s Report January 2026.

Recreation Director Bushway reviewed his January 2026 monthly report as follows:

- There are 4-5 weeks remaining for the basketball program. One (1) issue occurred concerning three (3) parents who were overexcited and criticizing; they were ultimately removed from the premises.
- Volleyball has begun at Tyl Middle School.
- The budget process information forms were received from the Finance Department.

- The new School Nutrition Director discussed charging \$5.00 per day for Summer Camp meals per child—breakfast and lunch. Discussion was had as to whether this charge is optional as it poses problems for the Summer Camp program—the Director is awaiting follow-up from the School Nutrition Director on this matter. It was discussed to have the cost paid for by the Administrator of each school. Another option was to have the payment paid per week by using the Town app or the website. The Department does not have the time or personnel to handle this proposal. There was no lunch served at Summer Camp last year and Mohegan is the only district school eligible for paid lunch.
- The Community Center pre-bid contractor meeting was held for renovation of the bathrooms to make them handicap accessible. There was a good turnout and several questions were asked. Public Director Carlson and CLA were thankful for the same.
- A \$2,500 cost was authorized by the Commission for the pickleball court privacy screen; 2-3 companies were found for installation in this price range.

8. Report from Finance.

Recreation Director Bushway reported that some funds remain from the Holiday Parade; he is looking for decorations for the area where the choir sings and the Mayor speaks. He is doing research for menorahs and Kwanza decorations.

9. February Newsletter.

Recreation Director Bushway reported that discussion was had with Mayor Bunnell concerning the QR Code. Three (3) dance classes started this week. Six thousand eggs have arrived for the Easter Egg Hunt and solicitation has begun for eggs for the Flashlight Hunt. Movie tickets have been donated by the Masons.

10. Unfinished Business.

a. Projects and funding status:

- 1) Pickleball Parking Improvements (\$175,000 State Bond)

Recreation Director Bushway reported having the first part of the plan completed for pickleball parking improvement and sidewalk repair. These items will go out to bid.

- 2) Large Pavilion Phase 1 Parking Improvements (\$200,000 State Bond)

As per Agenda Item 10.a, Recreation Director Bushway noted that this project will also go out to bid.

- 3) Pickleball Camera Project (\$26,000 CIP Budget)

Recreation Director Bushway reported that a pole needs to be installed for electrical service to the building. The pole will be in the grass where the horseshoes used to be located.

- 4) Pickleball privacy screen (up to \$2,500 from Fund 079)

Recreation Director Bushway reported that the privacy screen will be installed by Public Works and will be in four (4) sections with grommets. Neighbors were concerned that players were looking from a mirror.

- 5) Camp Oakdale Maintenance Building

Chairperson Stone reported that he was asked for information about helping with the electrical installation for the pickleball camera project.

b) Pavilion Rules

Chairperson Stone reported that the revisions to the Pavilion Rules must be approved by TARP.

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Commissioner Matthewson suggested that the rental hours for a full day, 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., are included in the rental agreement. **Motion** by Commissioner Matthewson; seconded by Commissioner Plikus to amend the Pavilion Rules Rental Agreement to include the full day rental hours, 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Discussion: none. **Voice vote: 6-0-0, all in favor. Motion approved.**

Motion by Chairperson Stone; seconded by Commissioner Matthewson to approve the Pavilion Rules Rental Agreement as amended and forward it to TARP for consideration and approval. **Voice vote: 6-0-0, all in favor. Motion approved.**

c) **Carnival Committee**

Commissioner Schober reported that vendors are being contacted for the 2026 Carnival. Chairperson Stone reported kickback regarding bracelet prices at last year's event for 2:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; this year there will be one (1) bracelet price. Discussion was had by Recreation Director Bushway with the carnival vendor about the same.

11. New Business

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to Elect Parks and Recreation Commission Officers as follows: Chairperson: Rocky Stone; Vice-Chair: William Barlow; Secretary: Morgan Matthewson.

Motion by Commissioner Schober; seconded by Commissioner Beaupre to approve the election of the 2026 Park & Recreation Commission officers as follows: Chairperson: Rocky Stone; Vice-Chair: William Barlow; Secretary: Morgan Matthewson. Discussion: none. **Voice vote: 6-0-0, all in favor. Motion approved.**

12. Communications. -- None

13. Remarks from the Public (3-minute limit).

Chairperson Stone asked three (3) times for remarks. There were none.

14. Remarks from Town Council Liaison Southard.

Town Councilor Southard reported that the Farmers Market had its first meeting. Going forward events will be shorter during the day and longer on the weekend. A spring pop-up event is scheduled for April 25, 2026 at Tyl. There are plans again for a Holiday Market which everyone enjoyed.

15. Remarks from Parks & Recreation Director Bushway

Recreation Director Bushway remarked on a Fair Oaks rental that occurred last week. Typically, the site is rented for a full day; last week there was a rental for 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for a 1st birthday. The fob was not working and the renter arrived at 9:30 a.m. and left at 2:30 p.m.

16. Remarks from Commissioners.

Commissioner Beaupre notified the Commission of his decision to step down and noted that this would be his last meeting. He has not officially sent notice. The Commissioners thanked

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Commissioner Beaupre for his many years of service--(10 years)--and expressed sorrow for his departure.

17. Adjournment.

Motion by Chairperson Stone; seconded by Commissioner Matthewson to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m. Discussion: none. **Voice vote: 6-0-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria J. Gathers
Town of Montville
Recording Secretary/Minutes Clerk

**AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON
THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WEBSITE UNDER THE “RESOURCES” TAB.**