

DRAFT
TOWN OF MONTVILLE
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING COMMITTEE

Special Meeting
Thursday, May 5, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
Montville Town Hall, Room 203

1. Call to Order.

Chair Jack Platt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

The following were present: William Bucko, Chris Ida, Dave Jetmore, Jon Leonard, Paul Lewis, John MacNeil and Jack Platt. Also present were architect David King of Kaestle Boos Associates, Inc. (“KBA”), Town Planner Marcia Vlaun, Fire Marshal Ray Occhialini and Attorney Ron Ochsner. Committee members Leonard Bunnell, Ray Coggeshall and Dave Jetmore were absent.

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Tower Proposal.

Attorney Ochsner discussed with the communication tower proposal submitted by the vendor U.S. Wireless and distributed to the Committee at its last meeting. He said that he spoke with the company regarding the following:

- The 14-month option whereby the company would not have to enter into an agreement changed to 4-6-month investigative period. An additional period might be considered.
- During the investigative period the communication tower company would locate cell carriers. Per the vendor, the business has slowed largely due to the merger of AT&T and T-Mobile.
- Improving the revenue stream to the Town of Montville by having a smaller generator that would also help the vendor.
- The vendor has an issue with the size of the tower compound building suggesting 10 x 10 feet versus 10 x 12 feet—more costs would incur with the larger size.

The Committee then had discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of the vendor’s proposal versus Option Plan B, the regional dispatch center that is being spearheaded by R. Occhialini. The discussion was about the time a vendor would need to find cell carriers as opposed to the potential cost to the Town by going with Option Plan B. R. Occhialini said that the regional center cannot be held up by potential tower vendors and said that once the tower arrives it would take three (3) months to be up and running. M. Vlaun added that the Town of Montville is not currently receiving the income that it would allegedly receive from the tower installation and further said that for the stability of the project she encouraged going with Option Plan B. She also said that she would rather know than later whether the proposed cost for Option Plan B, \$75,000, needs to be rolled into the project. J. MacNeil commented on the impact of waiting the 6-month investigative period to run conduits that could potentially hold up site work on the project. He suggested budgeting for Option Plan B and using contingency funds for the “free tower.” P. Lewis speculated that the cost of the conduit was not included in the vendor’s plan and added that his goal was to get a “free tower” for the Town and the secondary income from it.

In further discussion, C. Ida proposed shortening the vendor investigative period to 3-months and added that the Committee owed it to the Town residents to satisfy its promise to pursue a “free tower.” B. Bucko noted that the vendor agreement stated that the project must incur the cost of cabling. D. King explained that the vendor would string from the pole to the communication tower.

R. Occhialini clarified that Option Plan B would have a maximum tower height of 130 feet, a 10 x 10 foot prefabricated building at a total cost of \$75,000. He added that the cost includes microwave dishes, racks, and four (4) consoles. He further commented that the costs could be supplemented by applying for grants. R. Occhialini disputed the 14-month period proposed by the vendor to attain cell carriers stating that the vendors should already have relationships with vendors. A potential overall cost of \$100,000 for Option Plan B was proposed by P. Lewis.

Motion: That the Committee charges Attorney Ochsner to negotiate with U. S. Wireless for a 90-day inspection term with a 1-month option similar to existing language in the proposal by U. S. Wireless.
Proposed by: Paul Lewis
Seconded by: Bill Bucko
Vote: Carried unanimously

Per questions posed by J. MacNeil and P. Lewis, Attorney Ochsner assured the Committee that it could walk away from the proposal made by U. S. Wireless with no costs. M. Vlaun added that she wants the vendor’s activities defined for the 3-month period. The Committee’s motion will be forwarded to the Town Council for approval.

J. Platt stated that the project budget would have to be reallocated to accommodate Option Plan B. M. Vlaun stated that the current estimates for the project look good. She proposed that before committing to using the funds allocated for the impound lot as suggested by J. Leonard, that the Committee should wait until the bids are received. R. Occhialini added that he was confident in the \$75,000 budget for the regional communication tower. He said the deadline for commitments from area towns regarding grants for the regional tower is August 2011. He clarified that grants can be obtained by the other towns, not the host Town that builds the communication center.

5. Building Project Sign.

The prototype of the regenerated building sign was emailed to M. Vlaun by D. King. B. Bucko distributed suggestions for data on the sign and copies of signs from projects that he had worked on. As M. Vlaun, who left the meeting to get copies of the sign sent to her by D. King, was unable to get the printer to cooperate, Committee members made a brief field trip to her office to look at and review the sign on her computer.

Motion: That the Committee approves the building project sign as amended by Kastle Boos Associates, Inc.
Proposed by: John MacNeil
Seconded by: Bill Bucko
Vote: Carried unanimously

6. Adjournment.

Motion: **That the meeting is adjourned.**

Proposed by: Jon Leonard

Seconded by: Bill Bucko

Vote: Carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jack Platt, Chair

Gloria J. Gathers, Minutes Clerk