

**Town of Montville Public Safety Commission  
Meeting Minutes of Monday, August 22, 2011  
Town Council Chambers – 7:00 p.m. – Town Hall**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jetmore called the regular meeting of the Town of Montville Public Safety Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. after establishing a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Butterworth, Loiler, McNally, Moran and Jetmore. Absent were Commissioners Allyn and Wehner. Also present was Town Council Liaison, Candy Buebendorf and Mayor Jaskiewicz.

4. Amendments to the Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner McNally to remove agenda items 11 (d) and 12 (a) because Commissioner Allyn is not present to discuss the items. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Communications

The communications received during the month were included in the Commission meeting packets as well as the reports from the Building Official, Dog Warden, and Fire Companies.

Commissioner Jetmore indicated there will be a Freedom of Information seminar held at the Town Hall on September 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. for anyone who would like to attend.

6. Approval of the Minutes of July 25, 2011 regular meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner McNally, seconded by Commissioner Butterworth to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 25, 2011. Discussion, none, voice vote 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

7. Executive Session - none.

8. Remarks from the Public

Chairman Jetmore asked three times if there was anyone from the public who would like to come forward to address the Commission.

9. Remarks from Department Heads

Fire Marshal Ray Occhialini distributed copies of his monthly statistics report to the Commission members. He stated during the month of July there were two hundred and nineteen first due calls. Of those calls, Chesterfield Fire Company had thirteen, Montville had seventy four and Mohegan Fire Company had ninety eight and Oakdale had thirty eight calls last month. Most of the calls continue to be ambulance calls, on average seventy six point three percent of the calls. The new firefighter was hired and he is finishing up his paperwork and he hopes to have him start on September 6<sup>th</sup>. He discussed the hurricane coming from the south and stated there is a possibility of the storm reaching Connecticut by the end of the week and he will continue to watch this storm as it gets closer.

Lt. Bunnell, Montville Police Department distributed copies of his monthly statistics report to the Commission. He congratulated the police department co-ed softball team for winning their first game on Sunday. There have been a total of four thousand six hundred and eleven calls to date this year. There is an upward trend as there usually is during the summer months. Officer Condash has completed the academy and is now in the first stages of training. He thanked the Mayor, the Public Safety Commission and the Town Council for all their help and support in getting the police force back up to full staff. Officer Bedard has completed his final phase of training and Officer Orr has completed his training and is now out on his own and doing a great job. Both new officers have been volunteering for extra work as needed. He discussed the DUI spot check on Route 163, stating the check point is advertised in the newspaper so the public is aware of what is going on and they still were able to arrest six people for DUI that night. He gave credit to Officer Salvatore for helping coordinate the check point and making it happen. If she had not taken the initiative to do so it would not have happened and the arrests would not have been made. Everything requires administrative duties and she was a great help in coordinating the event. One of the sergeants has been out with a broken foot and he has recently returned to duty. He indicated his assistance is going to be needed with administrative catch up and rules and regulations, especially working on the policy for promotions. He stated Sgt. Collins will be retiring due to circumstances beyond his control he is going to have to accept a forced retirement. He discussed the possibility of hiring Sgt. Collins on a part time basis as the SRO position in the Montville Schools. He stated he has met with the school Superintendent and this idea has been well received. Sgt. Collins has done a great job for the Town of Montville over the years and the town would be lucky to have him on a part time basis. He will report to the Commission regarding any retirement plans for Sgt. Collins. Commissioner Moran stated the DUI arrests were half as many as the prior month and Lt. Bunnell stated this is a sign of being effective, there is more police presence because staffing levels are up. Councilor Buebendorf asked if Sgt. Collins is certified to be the town's SRO and Lt. Bunnell answered he will be certified by the time he retires from the State Police.

10. Reports from Committees and Public Safety Liaisons – none.

11. Unfinished Business

- a. Discussion regarding progress of the Public Safety Building complex.

Chairman Jetmore stated the Public Safety building complex is making progress, there is a meeting of the Committee on Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. and invited anyone interested in attending to do so. The project is moving along on schedule and the grand opening is scheduled for December, 2012.

- b. Discussion regarding the status of the hire of a firefighter for the Town of Montville.

The firefighter has been hired and Chairman Jetmore suggested this item be removed from the agenda for next month. The new hire was ultimately chosen by the Mayor after he was interviewed by the Commission.

- c. Discussion regarding the M-41 fire truck purchase for Oakdale Fire Company/specifications of truck.

The fire truck has gone out to bid and Chairman Jetmore suggested removing this item from the agenda for next month.

- d. Discussion regarding progress made to date regarding the Public Safety Plan.

This item was removed from the agenda for discussion this month due to the absence of Commissioner Allyn.

12. New Business

- a. Discussion regarding adding the Uncas Health District to Department Heads under the Public Safety Commission.

This item was removed from the agenda for discussion this month due to the absence of Commissioner Allyn.

13. Remarks from the Public

Chairman Jetmore asked three times if there was anyone from the public who would like to come forward to address the Commission.

14. Remarks from the Mayor

Mayor Jaskiewicz thanked the Commission for forwarding the best candidates for the position of firefighter to him for hire. He stated it was a tough decision to make but

ultimately the best person was chosen for the job. The process for hiring is in place and he thanked the Commission for taking the time to implement the process for the future. He discussed the culvert on Kittermaug Road, stating work has begun and an evaluation is required from an engineer to determine the extent of the damage before he can commit to a completion date. He discussed a meeting Sgt. Collins and Lt. Bunnell are attending regarding the bridge repairs starting in September on the corner of Rt. 32 and Rt. 163. The plan is to work in the evening hours until 6:00 a.m. because of the volume of traffic in this area two lanes will be open during the daytime hours when the road is most traveled and try to keep one lane open overnight for minimal impact to the people who use this road on a daily basis. They are only replacing the wall and the State is asking this job be completed by November 15<sup>th</sup>. He is in support of hiring Sgt. Collins on a part time basis and stated the town would be fortunate to have him with all of his experience and relationship with the town. He would be an asset to the town and if he is qualified and certified for the position of SRO the town could not get anyone better, and he will be a great addition to the town.

15. Remarks from Town Council Liaison, Candy Buebendorf

Councilor Buebendorf stated the Town Council looked at the sidewalk ordinance at its last meeting and Commissioner McNally met with the Public Works Director, Don Bourdeau and the Town Engineer and collectively thought the best way to present the ordinance was to amend the sidewalk ordinance that already exists for Route 32. This did not go over well with the Council. The ordinance has been sent back to the Public Works/Solid Waste Sub-Committee for amendments as there were concerns regarding the elderly and disabled citizens being responsible for shoveling sidewalks. The Sub-Committee meets on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. but because of the delay she is not optimistic that in this term there will be a sidewalk ordinance in place for the Town of Montville. Mayor Jaskiewicz stated the Council has a problem with residents having to maintain their sidewalks, he stated the intent of the ordinance is not to make residents fix cracks in the sidewalks, it is to make them responsible for clearing the sidewalks of debris and snow in front of their properties. Councilor Buebendorf stated there was a question regarding the word "maintain" but the ordinance specifically states the residents would be responsible for maintaining the sidewalk free of debris and sticks, snow and ice. She stated she would be happy to present any emails or letters the Commission would like to provide to the Sub-Committee regarding their thoughts and ideas for the proposed sidewalk ordinance. Chairman Jetmore stated there are other towns that already have similar ordinances in place. Councilor Buebendorf stated the proposed sidewalk ordinance for Montville is less strict than surrounding towns regarding the time frame for clearing snow. Chairman Jetmore stated if the town does not pass an ordinance relative to clearing sidewalks the town will be responsible for liability if someone should fall and get hurt and suggested something be done to move the matter forward.

16. Remarks from Commissioners

Commissioner Moran did not have any comments.

Commissioner McNally stated the WPCA will begin flushing hydrants on September 12<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>, they will work from midnight to six in the morning on Rt. 32 and on some of the side roads in the area. There are three hundred manholes that will be uncovered starting this week and traffic delays are expected. The WPCA will patch the line break in front of the CVS this week with expected traffic delays in the area. The pump house will be up and running on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Everything is in and they are waiting on CL&P to complete the job. He wished everyone a safe and happy Labor Day.

Chairman Jetmore stated Sgt. Collins would be an asset to the town as the part time SRO and encouraged the Mayor to secure his position quickly before some other town tries to hire him.

17. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner McNally to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville.