

Town of Montville Public Safety Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 22, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Jetmore called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood and pledged the flag. There was a moment of silence for the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing and for the first responder casualties of the Texas plant explosion.

3. Roll Call

Commissioner Jetmore introduced new member Eric Rousseau to the Commission who replaced Michael Butterworth whose term expired.

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Allyn, Loiler, McNally, Rousseau, and Jetmore. Absent were Commissioners Loiler, Moran, and Wehner. Also present were Mayor Ron McDaniel and Town Councilor Candy Buebendorf.

4. Amendments to the Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner McNally and seconded by Commissioner Jetmore to set up dates for meetings regarding discussion of the Public Safety Plan. Discussion, none; voice vote 4-0, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Communications

- a. Copies of monthly statistics reports from the Fire Marshal, Fire Departments, Police Department, Animal Control and Building Official.

Commissioner Jetmore stated that reports from the fire marshal and police department were received.

6. Approval of the Special Meeting minutes of March 18, 2013 and Regular Meeting Minutes March 25, 2013.

Motion made by Commissioner McNally, seconded by Commissioner Allyn to approve the minutes as submitted. Discussion, none; voice vote 4-0, all in favor; motion carried.

7. Executive Session – None

8. Remarks from the Public

Commissioner Jetmore asked three times for remarks from the public. There were none.

9. Remarks from Department Heads

Fire Marshal Occhialini reported there were 213 calls per fire department as follows: Montville (70), Mohegan (75), Chesterfield (15), Oakdale (46), and Out-of-Town (7). He also reported on a Montville/Mohegan building fire with a loss of \$2,000; the number of calls for the first quarter of the year to the 911 system, 4,313; and the recent ISO visit and completion of the paperwork for the updated Town rating (100) that affects both private residential insurance rates and the Town's rating, as well. The Fire Marshal also commented on information he is obtaining on fire hydrants and the start of the new firefighter, Dave Wheeler, who began work today at the Mohegan Firehouse.

Lt. Bunnell reported on the increase in the number of walk-ins at the new police location. He also said that the punch list items for the public safety building are being worked on commenting on issues such as the start-up generator, warranties, and the flags on the exterior flag pole that do not extend to the top of the 30-foot poles. He also reported on the sergeant promotion stating that the written and agility tests have been done and 3-4 days for interviews will be needed.

10. Reports from Committees and Public Safety Liaisons - None

11. Unfinished Business

- a. Agreements with Fire Departments.

Commissioner McNally reported that work continues on the culmination of what was started last month.

- b. Set date and location to continue discussions on the public safety plan.

Commissioner Allyn reported that he wants to see the documents from the ISO reported on earlier by the Fire Marshal to overlay that information into the seventeen (17) pages of recommendations for the public safety plan. He will send to the commissioners an OSHA performance document that will also be incorporated into the recommendations. Commissioner Jetmore asked Lt. Bunnell to provide Commissioner Allyn with the plan. Town Councilor Buebendorf asked if a date would be set for the Commission to report to the Town Council adding she has been giving verbal updates to the Council. Per discussion of a Town Council charge, Mayor McDaniel clarified that the Town Council is looking for the Commission to adopt a public safety plan and present the recommendation to them. Commissioner Allyn said that plan has not been vetted but agreed to a presentation to the Town Council. Commissioner Jetmore added that there has not been an overflow of cooperation from Town representatives regarding the plan.

Lt. Bunnell proposed setting two dates, one-half each, beginning on Monday or Tuesday of next week from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. in Room 203 at the Town Hall. Commissioners Jetmore and Rousseau agreed to attend; Commissioner McNally recused himself. Mayor McDaniel asked that the information be sent to him.

- c. Notification of new firefighter.

Fire Marshal Occhialini reported on this item earlier in the meeting.

- d. Update on sergeant promotion.

Mayor McDaniel reported that the police union is still working through the grievance issue that has stalled the promotion process.

- e. Status of funding for a police dog.

Commissioner Jetmore said he would leave the funding for the same in the hands of Sgt. Martinez.

12. New Business

- a. Discussion/policy on police minimal staffing levels.

Commissioner Jetmore commented that the minimum staffing levels is part of the public safety plan.

- b. Funding of a new rescue truck for Montville.

Commissioner Jetmore reported that he attended a Town Finance meeting and that funds were set aside to put towards two (2) rescue trucks—one on the east and another on the west side of the Town. Mayor McDaniel commented on funding in the Town Capital Plan for the same. Commissioner McNally clarified that the funding would not conflict with the Public Safety Plan.

13. Remarks from the Public

Resident Susan Levy, a share observation/pro-life reporter commented that the new Public Safety Building does not have a public access window, a topic she discussed with Sgt. Martinez. Commissioner Jetmore expressed appreciation for her comment.

14. Remarks from Mayor McDaniel

Mayor McDaniel reported on the firefighter, Dave Wheeler, who began work today. He also welcomed Eric Rousseau to the Commission. The Mayor also reported on the regular dispatch proposal with the Town of Ledyard that Fire Marshal Occhialini is working on. The plan is for a fee for service model although other towns are actively being sought. He also commented on a proposed regional animal control facility with the towns of Waterford and East Lyme and the City of New London that will involve several factors; state requirements, cost for build out, location, logistics.

15. Remarks from Town Council Liaison, Candy Buebendorf

Councilor Buebendorf welcomed Commissioner Rousseau. She also thanked the Commission in advance for its presentation to the Town Council on the Public Safety Plan.

16. Remarks from Commission members

Commissioner Rousseau commented that he is looking forward to his work with the Commission. Commissioner Jetmore thanked the rescue workers who responded during the recent nationwide

incidents. Mayor McDaniel gave kudos to Officer Moorehead and a state trooper who were at the Boston Marathon and responded accordingly.

9. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner McNally, seconded by Commissioner Jetmore to adjourn the meeting. Discussion, none; voice vote 4-0; all in favor; motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Submitted by: Gloria J. Gathers/Recording Secretary