

**Town of Montville Public Safety Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 23, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall**

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Jetmore called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood and pledged the flag.

3. Roll Call

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Elizabeth Adams, Joseph DePasquale, James Moran, Eric Rousseau, and David Jetmore. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel, Town Council Liaison Laura Tanner, Lt. Leonard Bunnell, and Fire Marshal Ray Occhialini. Absent were Commissioners Gary Allyn and Steve Loiler.

4. Amendments to the Agenda

By consensus, Item 11.a was moved up on the agenda.

11a. Public introduction of PD narcotics K-9 Molly and certified police handler Officer Addison Saffioti.

Lt. Bunnell introduced Officer Saffioti and K-9 Molly to the Commission. He stated that the duo had been on duty for a week and had already made five (5) drug related arrests. Lt. Bunnell thanked Officer Saffioti for taking on the position of K-9 Officer and stated that the position would “add a new element to deal with the new problems in town.” Officer Saffioti described Molly, a two-year old, golden Labrador retriever, as “a great dog” with varied skills in narcotics detection. A short demonstration of Molly’s skill was witnessed by the Commission.

Mayor McDaniel expressed his thanks to the Commission for supporting the K-9 program. He again thanked the anonymous donor who funded the purchase of Molly who he said would “be good for the community and outlying communities. Mayor McDaniel also introduced Tom and Carol Howard and their family who were present to not only support the K-9 purchase but who have spearheaded fundraising to purchase a protective vest in the amount of \$1,600 for Molly. The Howard’s daughter Krista, accompanied by her husband, produced flyers and developed a website to generate funds for the vest and have thus far raised \$1,000.

Mayor McDaniel thanked former resident State Trooper Sgt. M. Martinez, who has been reassigned, for his diligent support and pursuit of the K-9 Program in Montville. He also

asked for a flyer that will be posted in the Town Hall. Commissioner Jetmore thanked the Howard family and wished them the best of luck.

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 the Fire Marshal sent his monthly report by email last week and said that he hoped that future reports from the Animal Control Officer would be sent electronically, as well.

Commissioner Jetmore also notified the Commission that Commissioner Loiler is in training at the State Police Academy where he would be for 6-8 months. He asked what the protocol was for a work-related absence and whether a replacement commissioner should be sought. Town Council Liaison L. Tanner asked what the Commission policy was for absences and said that she would address the topic with the Town Council for a replacement. Commissioner Jetmore concurred and commented on a Commission meeting that was scheduled for June 16 when only three (3) commissioners were present. That meeting was an informational one and Commissioner Jetmore said that a replacement should be sought soon particularly with absences due to vacations at this time of year and so that a quorum would be present at meetings.

Commissioner Adams asked about the report from the fire departments and the building official voted upon last month. Commissioner Jetmore explained that the Fire Marshal's report encompassed the activities of all the fire departments.

Commissioner Jetmore also reported that he did write a letter in support of Officer Joseph Kondash, who was recognized as the Town of Montville Officer of the Year at a reception at the New London Lodge of Elks on Saturday, June 21st.

6. Approval of Regular Meeting minutes of May 19, 2014

Motion made by Commissioner Moran, seconded by Commissioner DePasquale to approve the minutes of May 19, 2014, minutes as submitted; discussion, none; voice vote 5-0; all in favor; motion carried.

7. Remarks from the Public

Commissioner Jetmore asked three times for remarks. There were none.

8. Remarks from Department Heads

Fire Marshal Occhialini summarized his May 2014 report to the Commission as follows:

- He reported that there was a discrepancy in the report mailed electronically to the Commission as to the number of dispatched calls for service; there were 217 calls, not 212, as originally reported.
- To date, \$83,372 has been collected for the fiscal year 2013-2014.
- His new truck is fully equipped and he thanked the Commission for the same.
- Today, June 23rd, he participated in a statewide emergency hurricane drill.
- Millstone received a new supply of the K1 pill that will be distributed in July
- Governor Malloy has signed a bill for the emergency use of Narcon that will eventually be dispensed by area hospitals.
- The Chesterfield trailer has been outfitted with new tires et al.
- Regarding regional dispatch, application for a \$250,000 grant will be made and will be discussed at a Mayors' meeting in July as to cost savings to towns.

Lt. Bunnell summarized the May 2014 report as follows:

- He thanked Sgt. Mathers and Mayor McDaniel for their hard work in support of the new police cruisers that arrived recently.
- The names of two officers were forwarded to Mayor McDaniel for lateral transfers and interviews are pending with the Mayor.
- The road closures for the Mohegan Sun Race will be from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- He notified the Commission that Resident State Trooper Marty Martinez has been reassigned and recognized Sgt. Martinez for treating the force with respect; implementing distinct procedures, reinstating the Juvenile Review Board, and helping the force with the move and adapting to the new police building.
- Seats with the academy have not been taken but future interviews will be conducted.
- There were 1646 calls for service; 284 Troop E calls, and 59 walk-ins last month.

Commissioner Jetmore added his thanks to that of Lt. Bunnell in praising Sgt. Martinez for having done a good job, for his professionalism, and for being a good representative of the Connecticut State Police.

9. Reports from Committees and Public Safety Liaisons

Commissioner Rousseau reported that a meeting was scheduled with the four (4) fire chiefs but was postponed. He said another meeting is being planned for discussion of the Public Safety Plan.

10. Unfinished Business

a. Modify the current policy on police uniforms to include the newly purchased lime green “construction type” shirts and vest for road jobs.

Lt. Bunnell reported that the policy is still under revision.

b. Update on interviews for lateral transfer police applicants.

Commissioner Jetmore reported that he and Commissioner Loiler met with the lateral transfer applicants forwarded the names of the two (2) candidates to Mayor McDaniel.

11. New Business

a. Public introduction of PD narcotics K-9 Molly and certified police handler Officer Addison Saffioti.

This agenda item was moved up on the agenda.

12. Remarks from the Public

Commissioner Jetmore asked three times for remarks. There were none.

13. Remarks from the Mayor

Mayor McDaniel remarked to the Commission on the following items:

- The new State Police Resident Trooper, Sgt. Smith, will report to duty on Wednesday, June 25th.
- A drill was conducted today, June 23rd, and the EMS team did a “fantastic job.”
- He met today, June 23rd, regarding a dry hydrant system on Oxoboxo Road that can be used for emergencies as well.
- A resident has filed suit against the Town regarding a car that was damaged. The Mayor stated that written agreements between towns and fire companies are needed.
- Plans for regional dispatch are making good strides and although it is not a money making venture it will give a higher level of emergency service to Montville and other towns and allow for the restructuring of future costs for reporting et al.
- He spoke about the goal for a regional animal control for the towns of East Lyme, Waterford, and Montville that would be located at and maintained by the prison, at no cost to the Town. Prisoners would be trained in the care of the animals. The plan would allow for a greater volume of adoptable animals.

- The Mayor asked that the Commissioners publicly support regional dispatch and animal control.
- Lateral interviews will be conducted by the Mayor on Friday, June 26th.

A question as to training for dispatchers from Commissioner Moran was responded to by Fire Marshal Occhialini.

14. Remarks from the Town Council Liaison

Town Councilor Tanner had no remarks.

15. Remarks from Commissioners

Commissioner Jetmore and Mayor McDaniel commented on an exit interview that they each had with Officer Paul who terminated his employment and is relocating. Comments by both were noteworthy as they described the officer as well-trained and a credit to the department.

16. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Jetmore, seconded by Commissioner Rousseau, to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.; discussion, none; voice vote 5-0; all in favor; motion carried.

Submitted by: Gloria J. Gathers/Recording Secretary