

Town of Montville Town Council
Special Meeting Minutes for Monday, July 14, 2014
6:00 p.m. – Montville Town Hall – Room 102

1. Call to Order
Chairman Jaskiewicz called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. after establishing a quorum.
2. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of our military.
3. Roll Call
Present were Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit — none.
5. Executive Session
 - A. To Consider and Act on a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing candidates for the Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Ad Hoc Committee, Conservation Commission, and Public Safety Commission. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion:
Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that Mr. Chris Ida is not available to meet with the Town Council this evening and that this will be the final evening for interviews for the Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Ad Hoc Committee. A list of the final candidates will be provided to the Councilors for review. Voice vote: 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
Invited parties exited Chambers for Executive Session at 6:01 p.m., returning at 6:25 p.m. Chairman Jaskiewicz resumed the meeting. No formal votes were taken during executive session.
6. Presentation (6:30 p.m.)
 - A. Presentation by G.H.D. Engineering regarding the proposed WPCA water line installation.
GHD Project Director Ms. Sarah Cwikla, along with GHD Project Manager Mr. Ken Kohlbrenner, provided a presentation of the proposed Water Line Extension project. She discussed GHD's past history and relationship with the Town, the Town's current issues, possible options, and their, respective, projections. The High School has been utilizing bottled water for the past year as the result of the contamination of its well with manganese. In addition, the High School has no fire protection and the Town's tax base has been declining. Options include the digging of a new well by the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority (SCWA) or offering Town-provided water through the installation of a water line. The former option will neither guarantee clean water and contaminations are still a possibility nor provide sprinklers or fire flow protection. As opposed to the latter option, which would not only eliminate the contamination and resulting health issues and fire safety at the High School, Tyl Middle School, and Community Center, but will also provide fire flow protection to the surrounding community by the addition of a booster station; increase the Town's annual tax revenue by a projected \$2.98 million, depending on the selected route, and; will allow the schools to be available as an alternative emergency shelter. The Board of Education has also requested to be connected to the water system and the Health Department is willing to work with the Town to connect the system. The two proposed routes, both of which would provide areas of future housing development and the job investments, are a waterline along Route 163 bent down towards the school or along Gay Hill Road. Either route will make the development of commercial, industrial, and residential developments possible. The estimated cost of the proposed water line is \$6.8

million, which includes the water main, booster stations, road paving, mobilization, permitting, survey, and engineering costs. They recommend avoiding looking to the DEEP for funding due to its restrictions regarding the use of funds for economic development. The Town can expect increased revenue from connection and water usage fees, which can easily exceed \$1.5 million from the possible developments in addition to the increased tax revenue. For the homeowner, a small decrease in home insurance costs can be expected due to their proximity to the fire hydrants. The next step will be to educate the public, receive their feedback, and answer any of questions and concerns they might have.

In response to Chairman Jaskiewicz, Superintendent Brian Lynch stated that the DEEP has approved the high school's use of bottled water with the understanding that a solution is pending.

In response to Mayor McDaniel, Ms. Cwikla stated that State funding may not be supplemented by Town funding.

Chairman Jaskiewicz reported that the School and the Councilors received a letter from SCWA regarding a proposal that would include providing fire suppression. Superintendent Lynch commented on the letter questioning whether the volume of water would be adequate enough to supply fire flow to the High School. In addition, any investments would need to be turned over to SCWA.

Superintendent Lynch stated that the WPCA is seeking the Town Council's support and endorsement so that they may begin a public outreach campaign to inform the public of the proposed waterline and answer questions, address concerns, and receive feedback. Following the campaign, the item will return to the Town Council for final approval. The WPCA will cover the initial engineering and public outreach costs.

Mayor McDaniel added that they might need to pursue alternative arrangements in order to provide service to any exclusive service areas.

The presentation concluded at 6:45 p.m.

7. Remarks from the Public with a three-minute limit — none.

8. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor May expressed his gratitude for the presentation and reiterated that the main focus is to provide water to the schools as well as to provide adequate fire protection to the residents of the Town.

Councilor Longton felt that the proposed waterline would solve two problems with one project by resolving the School's water issue as well as increasing the tax base by opening up the area to economic development.

Chairman Jaskiewicz stated the importance of the public outreach campaign to inform the public of the reasons and benefits of the proposed pipeline.

9. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Longton, to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice Vote, 6-0, all in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville

AN AUDIO RECORD OF THE MEETING IS ON FILE IN THE MONTVILLE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE