

Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, December 8, 2014
7:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order
Chairman Jaskiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Absent was Councilor Caron due to illness and a death in the family. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations — none
5. Alterations to the Agenda — none
6. To Consider and Act on a motion to approve:
 - a. The Special Meeting Minutes on Monday, November 10, 2014
Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion passed.
 - b. The Regular Meeting Minutes on Monday, November 10, 2014
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion passed.
7. Executive Session
 - a. To Consider and Act on a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing a candidate for the Commission on Aging, Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA), and Public Safety Commission. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: The following candidates were interviewed: Louis Ziegler, Commission on Aging; Robert Thorn, WPCA, and; Gary S. Allyn, Public Safety Commission. Elizabeth Adams, Public Safety Commission, was not present. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried. Invited parties exited Chambers for Executive Session at 7:03 p.m. Chairman Jaskiewicz resumed the meeting at 7:25 p.m. No formal votes were taken during executive session.
8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit
Keith Truex, Chief, Chesterfield Fire Company, spoke with regards to item 16(d). There are four (4) fire departments servicing the Town of Montville, each of which have a budget. He stated that the Town and its entities work together in all respects, with the exception of this one area and would like to see the Town Council waive the permit fees so that those funds may be utilized towards the purchasing of necessary equipment. The Chesterfield Fire Company is currently in the early stages of building an addition to the Station and is planning to break ground in the spring.
9. Communications
 - a. Copy of the November budget report from Ms. Terry Hart, Finance Director
10. Report from the Town Attorney on Matters Referred
Mayor McDaniel stated that the following items are forthcoming:
 - 1) A review by Town Attorney Michael Carey of the recent Supreme Court Decision regarding the municipal liability of the clearing of snow and ice from the sidewalks to ensure that the Town's current policy conforms with the recent decision.

2) The Deed for the easement for the Leffingwell Road gas line.

11. Remarks from the Mayor and/or Administrative Department Heads to include Matters Referred Mayor McDaniel provided an update on the following Public Works projects:

Montville Road Bridge: They will be working through the winter. The project is slated for completion in the spring.

Raymond Hill Road: This small project has begun. At least one lane will be open to traffic at all times. Paving will be completed in the spring.

Dock Road: CL&P have completed the extraction of the conduits from the ground from the AES Thames project. Paving is scheduled for the spring.

Leffingwell Road: The road will be closed to traffic until early next week, weather dependent.

The Mayor commended Administrator Brian Lynch and Superintendent Michael Didato on an informative a tour of the Water Pollution Control Authority's facility to the high school students.

The final Mayor's Cup game, which will hopefully remain a tradition, was held just before Thanksgiving with Montville claiming a victory against St. Bernard's.

He recently provided the Town Council with a recent SEAT (Southeast Area Transit District) study and recommended they visit their website to provide input regarding the Town's public transportation needs. Town Planner Marcia Vlaun and Social & Senior Services Director Kathy Doherty-Peck have met with consultants to discuss their needs and provide the demographics of those who are underserved by public transportation so as to provide those service options should funds become available.

The Mayor, on behalf of the Ad-Hoc Energy Committee, which includes Public Works Director Don Bourdeau, Finance Director Terry Hart, Montville Public Schools Director of Facilities Steve Carroll, and himself, will soon present a list of possible energy-saving options. They have been speaking with vendors regarding the installation of LED street lights as well as available options for Town Hall, which will lead to a savings of public funds.

In response to Councilor May, the Mayor responded that funding for a train to travel to Canada is currently being discussed for commercial transit. He was unsure as to the whether passenger transit will come to fruition in the near future as it requires heavy subsidization. Currently, products are being derailed and loaded onto trucks in Webster, MA and delivered to the area. Funds for the project will be provided by the Federal and State Governments, Town, and Railroad.

In response to Chairman Jaskiewicz, he reported that all necessary studies were conducted and wetlands permits were issued for the Raymond Hill/Lynch Road project.

12. Reports from Standing Committees.

a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – Councilor Longton

Councilor Longton reported that discussions included the approval of the Committee's 2015 meeting dates and the Dog Ordinance, which is included on this evening's agenda.

b. Finance – Councilor Tanner — *no meeting*

c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – Councilor Longton — *no meeting*

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

a. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging; Social Services; Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund - *not present*

b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education

Councilor Jaskiewicz reported that discussion included a letter regarding the transfer of approximately \$185,000.00 to the Education Reserve Fund for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. The policy was previously approved by the Town Council and is included in this evening's agenda.

c. Councilor Longton: Library; Planning & Zoning Commission

The existing officers for the Library were re-elected for an additional term. Discussion also included bereavement policy changes, which was ultimately tabled until their next meeting pending further review of their options as presented at the meeting; approval of a 5% staff pay increase; an increase in their Saturday hours, and; issues with bat droppings from the neighboring Congregational Church. He also made a formal request, on behalf of the Library, to the Mayor for the ability to request the Public Works Department to conduct periodic inspections to identify and prioritize some of the structural efficiencies and, possibly, offer any necessary assistance and repairs.

The Planning & Zoning Commission continued a Site plan application for the construction of an automotive repair facility on Route 163, a Public Hearing was held for a Zone Change application for properties located on Carol Drive and Sharp Hill Road, and an issue regarding two living units sharing the same lot was discussed.

d. Councilor May: Water Pollution Control Authority; Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee

Councilor May also commended the aforementioned tour of the WPCA facility and learned that the plant includes a full lab for water chemistry. He recommended not only conducting additional tours to high school students, but also to institute a program for students interested in the field of water chemistry and treatment. The approximately \$1.6 million Headworks project has been completed and is now fully functional.

One of the informational meetings regarding the Montville Center waterline interconnection was canceled due to an emergency and will be re-scheduled at a later date. Their next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 8, 2015, 7:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building.

The Waterford Police Chief recently provided an informative presentation to the Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee to discuss the management of their police department. The Stonington Police Chief provided a similar presentation at a previous meeting. He highly recommended members of the Town Council attend some of their meetings to familiarize themselves with the mechanisms of the Montville Police Department in comparison to other police departments.

e. Councilor McNally: Economic Development Commission

The EDC will be holding their election of officers this month. Chairman Dustin White resigned from the Commission due to work and family issues. Discussion included the need for a more concerted effort to fill the vacant properties along Route 32 rather than investing those funds into the waterline project, the possible removal of a new member due to lack of attendance, and the possibility of reducing the number of members on the Commission to ensure a quorum is reached at their meetings.

f. Councilor Pollard: Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board

Councilor Pollard reported on the following events:

First Annual Child/Parent Holiday Cookie Bake Off! will be held on Sunday, December 14, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Sign up to bring three-dozen of your best holiday cookies and a list of ingredients.

Stocking Drive: They are in the midst of collecting \$5 and \$10 gift cards to place in the Christmas stockings for Montville Teens (ages 12-18). The last day to donate cards is Wednesday, December 17.

The Ugly Sweater Holiday Social will be held on Tuesday, December 23, 1:00 – 4:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for the “ugliest” sweaters.

g. Councilor Tanner: Parks & Recreation Commission; Public Safety Commission; Non-Profit Organizations

The Montville Youth Football League spoke to the Commission regarding the need for a more stable partition between the field and the spectators and will be creating a formal proposal to be reviewed with the Public Works Director Bourdeau. The Commission is continuing to work

on the placement of a sign highlighting their activities and have been in communications with the Mayor and Lt. Leonard Bunnell in this regard. Councilor Tanner thanked the Mayor and Councilors Jaskiewicz and May who participated in the Parade and to Councilor Longton for attending the Parade yesterday. Though the numbers were low and the weather was cold, a good time was had by all. Also discussed was the creation of a walking track around Camp Oakdale and the re-numbering of the fields.

The Public Safety Commission is having attendance issues and achieving a quorum. She is requesting that an item be placed on the agenda to request the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Committee to investigate the possibility of having member(s) call in rather than physically attend the meeting. Also discussed was the replacement of the Police radios to coincide with the State's platform.

14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Ms. Allyson Schmeizl to the Youth Advisory Board with a term to expire December 13, 2016.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion passed.

- b. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Mr. Daniel R. Dunn to the Youth Advisory Board with a term to expire December 22, 2016.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion passed.

- c. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Mr. Timothy Shanahan to the Youth Advisory Board with a term to expire December 14, 2016.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion passed.

- d. To Consider and Act on a motion to accept the resignation of Ms. Ann Mattson from the Economic Development Commission and the Board of Assessment Appeals effective December 2, 2014.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Councilor Longton expressed his regret. Chairman Jaskiewicz also expressed his regret, stating that Ms. Mattson has been a very active member of the community, having served on several boards and commissions; her presence will be missed. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion passed.

15. Unfinished Business

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2014-103. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$974.08 (nine-hundred seventy-four dollars and eight cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- b. **Resolution #2014-104. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize Mayor Ronald K. McDaniel to sign the Agreement entitled "Master Municipal Agreement for Rights of Way Projects". (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor McNally. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that their approval would help streamline the agreement process for the State of CT Department of Transportation's Right of Way Projects for the next ten years. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- c. To Consider and Act on a Motion to send the proposed Dog Ordinance to the Town Attorney for review. (Councilor Longton)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Councilor Longton stated that the proposed Dog Ordinance is not to discourage people from coming to the parks with their dogs, but to keep the dogs off of the playing fields and spectator areas where small children often play. While Parks & Recreation Director Peter Bushway presented maps derived from the GIS system, per the suggestion of the Planning & Zoning Department, it was felt that the maps, which are the crux of the Ordinance, should be of better quality, legible, and, if possible, on one sheet for inclusion with the final ordinance. It was decided that the Ordinance, along with either the current or final maps, be sent to the Town Council and/or legal for review. The final maps should be completed prior to the issue being presented at a Public Hearing. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion passed.

- d. To Consider and Act on a Motion to waive the permit fees for the Montville Volunteer Fire Departments. (Councilor Tanner)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Councilor Tanner reiterated the statement made by Chesterfield Fire Chief Truex earlier in the meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the waiving of fees for all Town organizations. Councilor Longton suggested the matter be sent to the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Committee to create a policy and investigate the ramifications.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to amend the motion to read:

To Consider and Act on a Motion to send the issue regarding the waiving of the permit fees for all Town organizations to the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Committee for review.

Discussion: Councilor Tanner requested the Committee investigate the policy of other Towns via the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM). Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion amended.

Roll Call vote on the amended motion, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion passed.

- e. **Resolution #2014-105. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to allocate \$125,000 for the emergency repair of Raymond/Lynch Hill Road Bridge (line #10960-54313) from the General Fund (Councilor Tanner).

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Finance Director Hart stated that the bridge is in need of emergency repair. The project has gone out to bid and funds have been allocated for the project including those received through the Local Bridge Program and engineering reimbursements for the Oxoboxo Road Bridge. Mayor McDaniel added that the culvert had collapsed due to the deterioration of the pipes. A steel plate was placed as a temporary solution until the Route 163, whose bridge was also undergoing repair and was closed to traffic, was completed to avoid the creation of two detours in the area. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- f. **Resolution #2014-106. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the 2014 Holiday bonuses for Town employees (Councilor Tanner).

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Councilor Tanner stated that the Holiday bonuses are offered annually to the Town employees. The total figure for the bonuses is \$575.00. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- g. **Resolution #2014-107. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to close the Montville Town Hall at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24, 2014 in observance of the Christmas Holiday. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Councilor McNally suggested a policy be created regarding the early closure for employees, as it does not pertain to all Town employees resulting in some animosity. Chairman Jaskiewicz suggested voting on the closure as is and work on creating a policy for subsequent years. Mayor McDaniel added that it is sometimes not an issue. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- h. **Resolution #2014-108. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to appoint Jon Chase to the Board of Assessment Appeals to fill the vacancy created by Ann Mattson for a term to expire November 9, 2015.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- i. **Resolution #2014-109. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the contract between the Montville Education Association and the Montville Board of Education, September 1, 2015 through August 31, 2018.

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- j. **Resolution #2014-110. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the contract between the Montville Administrators' Association and the Montville Board of Education, July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2016. Contract was reopened for the purpose of negotiating health and salary for the final year of the Agreement (2015-2016)

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Superintendent Levesque stated that, in the previously negotiated contract, the salary and benefits were agreed upon for only the first three years, leaving the final year open. A salary change of 2.75% for all of administrators and some significant changes to their insurance plans were made that will result in a cost savings. He will be coming before the Council next year to discuss the full contract for the administrators. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- k. **Resolution #2014-111. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to commit one hundred and eighty five thousand, four hundred fifty seven dollars (\$185,457) to the Education Reserve Fund for fiscal year 2013-2014.

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Finance Director Hart stated that the amount pertains to the Town Council's approval of the policy for the establishment of a dedicated, non-lapsing account of up to 1% of its total budgeted appropriation. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

1. **Resolution #2014-112. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve and adopt the ordinance titled “Ordinance Concerning the Registrar of Voters”, as read at the public hearing on Monday, December 8, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. (Councilor Longton)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor McNally. Discussion: Councilor Longton read the ordinance into the record. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

17. Remarks from the Public with a three-minute limit

Jon Chase, 1011 Route 163, thanked the Town Council for their support in appointing him to the Board of Assessment Appeals. Chairman Jaskiewicz expressed their confidence in Mr. Chase.

Lynda Jean, 1583 Route 163, Lot Number 8, is disheartened by the Town Council who voted to send the issue regarding the waiving of permit fees for the Fire Department to the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Committee, but not the issue regarding the early closure of Town Hall when all of the employees are unable to take advantage of the benefit.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor McNally stated that he would like to plan a joint meeting between the Town Council and the Public Safety Commission to help motivate them on the Public Safety Plan and to send the issue regarding the early closure for Town employees to the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Committee to ensure that the policy is fair and uniform. The item will be placed on the Town Council’s January agenda.

Councilor Pollard wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and a safe and healthy holiday season.

Councilor Longton wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and thanked everyone for coming out on such a cold night. He also felt they had a small, but great holiday parade.

Councilor May stated that he had a nice time taking part in the parade and wished everyone a Happy Holiday, Christmas, Hanukkah, etc.

Councilor Tanner suggested the addition of a presentation by Montville Public Schools Superintendent Brian Levesque to the agenda. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Chairman Jaskiewicz thanked the Town Council for a good meeting as they deal with a number of tough issues. He also thanked the public for their comments, which are always appreciated and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mayor McDaniel thanked everyone who came out for the parade, which was small, but enjoyed by all of the children. He also thanked everyone for attending the Veterans Day Ceremony and those who donated food for inclusion in the Thanksgiving baskets and announced that donations are now being accepted for Christmas baskets.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Pollard, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 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