

Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, April 13, 2015
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 Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Absent was Councilor May. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations – *none*
5. Alterations to the Agenda
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor McNally.
Councilor Longton requested the following item be added to the Agenda:
16(l) **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to amend the Town Council Rules & Procedures. (Councilor Longton)
Chairman Jaskiewicz proposed the following addition:
6(a) additional interview for the Niantic River Watershed Committee
Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
6. To Consider and Act on a motion to approve:
 - a. The Special Meeting Minutes on Monday, March 9, 2015
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
 - b. The Regular Meeting Minutes on Monday, March 9, 2015
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 5-0-1, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Caron. Motion carried.
7. Executive Session
 - a. To Consider and Act on a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing candidates for the Inland Wetlands Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission, and the Niantic River Watershed Committee. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: The following candidates were interviewed: Mr. Ryan Hartman, Parks & Recreation Commission and Mr. David Turner, Niantic River Watershed Committee. Ms. Eveliz Valentin, Inland Wetlands Commission, was not present. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried. Invited parties exited Chambers for Executive Session at 7:04 p.m. Chairman Jaskiewicz resumed the meeting at 7:18 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 – *none*
9. Communications
 - a. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of February 2015
 - b. Copy of the March budget report from Ms. Terry Hart, Finance Director
10. Report from the Town Attorney on Matters Referred – *none*

11. Remarks from the Mayor and/or Administrative Department Heads to include Matters Referred
Mayor McDaniel reported that the month, for the most part, has been dedicated to the budget proposal and careful watching of the actions being taken by the Legislature due to a number hidden fees, taxes, and cuts in social and human service programs are being proposed by the Governor that will negatively impact local municipalities. He is hoping that a viable balance will be achieved while still maintaining the municipal aid package, as promised.
12. Reports from Standing Committees.
 - a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – Councilor Longton
Councilor Longton reported that the issue regarding a policy allowing a Board/Commission/Committee member to attend a meeting electronically, which will be presented to the Town Council at their next meeting, and a change to the Town Council Rules & Procedures, which has been added to this evening’s agenda, was discussed.
 - b. Finance – Councilor Tanner
Councilor Tanner reported that the Finance Committee has been meeting with various departments regarding the budget and reminded everyone to attend the Public Hearings at the High School next week.
 - 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
Councilor Caron reported on a busy month at the Senior Center. In addition to discussions regarding budgetary issues, he has been working with the Director to create a tax abatement plan for those seniors who volunteer their time to the Town to present to the Town Council in the very near future.
 - b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education
Chairman Jaskiewicz reported on the presentation on the always-impressive Montville Marvels, a presentation on and results of the Eureka Math Program, the use of their 1% non-lapsing account for the purchase of five (5) additional buses to take advantage of a recently received grant, and, working with the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA), the planned installation of a temporary well in an effort to remedy the water contamination issue at the High School.
 - c. Councilor Longton: Library; Planning & Zoning Commission
Councilor Longton reported that the Planning & Zoning Commission voted to approve a Site Plan and Coastal Site Plan application for the construction of a building for a boiler installation on Depot Road by AZ Corporation/RockTenn provided they obtain a \$2,000.00 bond to take care of any sewer abatements and notify the Planning Department 48 hours prior to the start of construction.
 - d. Councilor May: Water Pollution Control Authority; Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee – *not present*
 - e. Councilor McNally: Economic Development Commission – *no meeting*
 - f. Councilor Pollard: Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board
Councilor Pollard reported on the Bureau’s Wake-A-Thon and closing ceremony for the Penny Drive, which will be held on Thursday, April 16 to Friday, April 17. They expressed their appreciation to all who have donated. Proceeds will benefit Montville Animal Control. They would like to invite everyone to bring their pennies and participate in the Penny Drive Play Day will be held on Friday, April 24, 3:30-5:00 p.m. They would also like to invite everyone to support the Bureau’s Programs and Services and get a head start in their Mother’s Day shopping at their First and, hopefully, Annual Crafter & Vendor Fair on Sunday, April 26, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Mohegan Fire House. Food and raffles will be available.

- g. Councilor Tanner: Parks & Recreation Commission; Public Safety Commission; Non-Profit Organizations
Parks & Recreation Commission: Councilor Tanner requested the Councilors attendance at this Wednesday's Parks & Recreation Meeting. The Commission has been discussing the possibility of holding one summer concert event at Fair Oaks rather than three and is hoping to book the band *Wicked Peach* for the event. Both volleyball and basketball have wrapped up and softball will begin soon.
Public Safety Commission: Eleven (11) entry-level candidates were scheduled to be interviewed in early April. The Commission also approved the Public Safety Plan as a whole and without any specific endorsement. A Committee has been formed to work with the Fire Department to discuss the plan and its recommendations.
Non-Profit Organization: The final liaison to the Non-Profit Organization is on this evening's agenda for appointment.

14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a motion to appoint Mr. Ronald Bolles from an alternate member to a full member of the Planning & Zoning Commission with a term to expire April 13, 2019.
Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- b. To Consider and Act on a motion to appoint Ms. Lisa Przybyl to fulfill a vacancy on the Building Code Board of Appeals with a term to expire March 12, 2018.
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- c. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Mr. Paul Chase to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire June 10, 2017.
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor McNally. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- d. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Mr. Jim Toner to the Economic Development Commission with a term to expire June 12, 2019.
Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- e. To Consider and Act on a motion to appoint Ms. Jessica LeClair to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire April 13, 2017.
Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

15. Unfinished Business – *none*

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2015-16. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$3,825.87 (three-thousand eight-hundred twenty-five dollars and eighty-seven cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)
Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- b. **Resolution #2015-17. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to accept the \$3,000 grant from the State Historical Preservation Grant Program for fiscal year 2015-2016. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated the funds would be used to purchase a new storage cabinet to be located in the basement's lower vault. The cabinets have proven very effective in the storing of old records. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- c. **Resolution #2015-18. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to appoint Ms. Julie O'Connor to Safe Futures as the Non-Profit Liaison, per charter requirement. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Montville resident Ms. O'Connor currently serves on the Board of Directors for *Safe Futures*, a domestic violence prevention organization, which the Town has long-supported. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- d. **Resolution #2015-19. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to receive the Mayor's budget proposal for fiscal year 2015-2016. (Councilor Tanner)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: A copy of the Mayor's proposed budget was distributed to the Town Council and copies of the summary were made available to the public. Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that, following the Town Council's receipt and review of the Mayor's budget proposal, a meeting would be held with the Finance Committee for further discussion. The Mayor recited the Budget Summary thanking the Finance Staff and Department Heads for their hard work and stating that the budget includes a 2.4% increase in the mill rate due to salary and step increases, rising utility costs, and the hiring of additional staffing. He added the budgets for Sewer and Water are also included in their package. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- e. To Consider and Act on a motion to receive the Mayor's proposed five-year Capital Plan for fiscal years 2016-2020. (Councilor Tanner)

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

- f. To Consider and Act on a motion to send the Mayor's proposed five-year Capital Plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission for comment. (Councilor Tanner)

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

- g. **Resolution #2015-20. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to support and adopt the "Wyland Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation." (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel explained that the Challenge, which was received following the March meeting, runs for the month of April. It is a National challenge sponsored by the Wyland Foundation, which was formed by Marine life artist Robert Wyland, encouraging everyone to conserve water. Unlike California where they are experiencing severe drought conditions, the State of Connecticut is lucky this year with full reservoirs and aquifers. It is estimated that Americans use approximately 100 gallons of water per day, while Europeans use only 50 gallons of water per day and a bath uses approximately 70 gallons compared to a shower which uses 10-25 gallons of water. A link will be placed on the Town website where residents may take a

pledge. If enough people take the pledge, the Town will be eligible to win prizes. He encouraged everyone to take the pledge, take their own personal challenge, and do the little things that will help conserve water as well as money. The entire package is available at the Mayor's office. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- h. **Resolution #2015-21. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to receive the 2015-16 Montville Water Pollution Control Authority proposed water budget. (Councilor May)

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

- i. **Resolution #2015-22. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to receive the 2015-16 Montville Water Pollution Control Authority proposed sewer budget. (Councilor May)

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

- j. **Resolution #2015-23. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES**, pursuant to Montville Code of Ordinances § 188-6, to grant the written request received from the Mohegan Fire Company, Inc., a non-stock corporation organized and operating under the laws of the State of Connecticut with a principal place of business at 2029 Norwich-New London Turnpike (Route 32), Uncasville, Connecticut, for a waiver of any fees as might become due under Code of Ordinances Chapter 188, Art. I, and Chapter A410, Art. I associated with work to be performed by and/or for the Mohegan Fire Company, Inc., in connection with its construction of pitched roof over the existing building at 2029 Norwich-New London Turnpike (Route 32), Uncasville, Connecticut. This waiver shall be for fees to become due on account of the project to construct the pitched roof only and for no other project or purpose, absent additional authorization by the Council. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that the Chesterfield Fire House is seeking a waiver of fees for the replacement of their flat roof with a pitched roof. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- k. **Resolution #2015-24. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to amend Resolution #2015-03 and extend the reporting of the findings of the Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee to the Town Council by two (2) months (June 2015). (Councilor May)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: The Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee Chairman Wills Pike stated that the Committee is in the process of reviewing and creating their report using the information they have gathered and are requesting an extension so as to ensure a very thorough report. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- l. **Resolution #2015-25. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to amend the Town Council Rules & Regulations. (Councilor Longton)

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: Councilor Longton stated that the issue was introduced by the Mayor, who requested the ability to submit time-sensitive items for review by the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Committee without the Town Council's prior approval. The Committee proposes the following addition to the Town Council Rules & Procedures under Rule 11 – Standing Committees, Section A, Item 1. Town Administration:

Agenda – The committee agenda shall be set by the Town Council and/or the committee chairperson. The Mayor may add time sensitive items to that agenda after obtaining the consent of the Town Council Chairperson. All such items shall be considered at the next regularly scheduled committee meeting or at a Special Meeting called for that purpose.

Mayor McDaniel confirmed that the addition fulfills his request. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

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

Tony Siragusa, 39 Hillcrest Drive, remarked on his surprise regarding item 16(l) and the lack of providing written copies for the public to review and provide comment upon. He also felt that, in all due fairness, all of the residents who volunteer for the Town should be included in the tax abatement plan or suggested that, perhaps, the few outstanding volunteers could be paid for their services.

Bob Manfredi, Jansen's Hillcrest, stated that the Town is currently served by three (3) Police Departments: the State, Mohegan, and Montville Police Departments. Having conducted his own investigations from information gathered from the Daily Police Activity Logs of *The Day* newspaper from May 31 to present, he reported on the significant decrease in activity in the Town. In addition, the continual and considerable purchasing of property by the Mohegan Tribe will continue to lessen the workload of the Police Department. As such, they should be reducing rather than adding to their staffing.

Howard R. Beetham, 60 Riverview Road, commented on a good budget as proposed by the Mayor and reiterated Mr. Manfredi's remark regarding the existence of 25 certified Mohegan Police Officers, approximately 50 State Police Officers, and 23-24 Montville Police Officers. He encouraged the Town Council to review the old rule of thumb of one (1) Officer per population of 800. He also encouraged the Mayor to look into gas and oil costs as well as any bonds that were paid off. He added that the mill rate, which has been less than 30 mills for the past 35 years, would be a 35-year high for the Town.

Lt. Leonard Bunnell, 5 Little John Drive, responded to Mr. Manfredi and Mr. Beetham's remarks, stating that he has provided the Town with monthly reports for the past 25 years and has been requesting an additional officer for the past 15 years to no avail. The activity, he added, has been and is beyond what the Department can currently handle. The Mohegan Tribe patrols approximately one (1) square mile, while the Montville Police Department patrols 43 square miles. These areas do not overlap and there is no cross-deputization. In addition, the State Troopers do not work in the Town of Montville. He encouraged everyone to review the Police Logs as posted on the Town website for a true picture of their daily activity and stated that he has continually invited and requested the local newspapers to publish a true picture of their activity for the past 25 years, but they have opted not to do so.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor Longton remarked on a good and quick meeting and wished Councilor Longton a Happy Birthday.

Councilor Longton also remarked on a good meeting and is pleased with the good weather and thanked them for the Birthday wishes.

Councilor Caron, in response to Mr. Siragusa, stated that they will be reviewing all aspects of the tax abatement plan and will be sure to consider his remarks, adding that the original purpose of the plan was to benefit low-income seniors. He thanked the Mayor, the Town Council, and the public who expressed their condolences in the recent loss of his father.

Chairman Jaskiewicz thanked the Town Council for a good meeting and expressed his confidence in the Town Council to do what is in the best interest of the Town, as always.

Mayor McDaniel thanked everyone and wished Councilor Longton a Happy Birthday. In response to Former Mayor Beetham's remarks, he stated that the gas, oil, and diesel cuts were taken into consideration and much refunding and restructuring of the bonds were made. He added that there may be additional opportunities in concert with the Board of Education as well as additional information that was received late in the process that may also be factored in. He invited everyone to the State of Montville Chamber of Commerce event tomorrow evening at Town Hall where Mohegan Tribal Council Chairman Kevin Brown and CT Small Business Development Center Business Advisor Matt Nemeth will be presenting an Economic Development Outlook.

Chairman Jaskiewicz reminded everyone to attend the General Government Budget Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 22, 6:00 p.m. and the Board of Education Budget Public Hearing on Thursday, April 23, 6:00 p.m. Both events will be held at Montville High School.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Longton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 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**