

Town of Montville Public Safety Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 18, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order.

Commissioner Dave Jetmore called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

All stood and pledged the flag.

3. Roll Call.

Commissioners present were Elizabeth Adams, Joseph DePasquale (7:10 p.m.), James Moran, Karen Perkins, and David Jetmore. Also present were Lt. Leonard Bunnell, Mayor Ronald McDaniel, and Town Council Liaison Laura Tanner. Commissioner Gary Allyn and Fire Marshal Ray Occhialini were absent.

4. Amendments to the Agenda. – None

5. Communications: Copies of monthly statistics reports from Fire Departments, Fire Marshal, Police, Animal Control, and Building Official.

Commissioner Jetmore stated that all reports with the exception of the Animal Control were submitted to the Commission electronically. Mayor McDaniel stated that he would follow up on the missing reports as not all commissioners received them. Lt. Bunnell clarified for Commissioner Jetmore the location of the elevator problems cited in his report. Town Councilor L. Tanner followed up on the fire department data recording system stating that it is now being used by the Chesterfield fire station.

6. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2015.

Motion made by Commissioner Moran; seconded by Commissioner Perkins to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 27, 2015, as presented. Discussion, none; voice vote, 5-0; all in favor, motion carried.

7. Remarks from the Public (agenda items only – three-minute limit).

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

8. Remarks from Department Heads.

Fire Marshal Occhialini's report relayed current projects under his purview and other department activities for April as follows:

- As reported previously, we have submitted the paperwork to the State for potential reimbursement for the January 2015 Blizzard. The State has received a disaster declaration and the Town should receive an estimated \$114,000 in reimbursement that is pending notification from FEMA
- K-1 tablets are still being distributed for the Millstone Zone according to the State Nuclear Emergency Plan.
- Re-evaluation of the Millstone 10-Mile Emergency Planning Zone continues with the State. A meeting was held on May 14.
- The Town Emergency Operation Plan has been updated adding the School Safety Plan as an annex. The plan has been copied to CD and will be distributed by signature in the near future.
- There were 215 fire and EMS calls in April 2015.
- The Oakdale, Chesterfield, and Mohegan fire stations have registered for the 60-day free trial of the "I Am Responding" program, a tool for responders.
- Participation with meeting with Norwich Public Utilities concerning emergency operation plans for dam operators such as the Stony Brook Dam located in Montville.

Lt. Bunnell's monthly police activity report noted there were 1331 calls for service during the month of April.

Lt. Bunnell gave an update on the five (5) offers made to prospective candidates for seating with the Academy, the application process for open positions statewide via the website www.policeapp.com, and problems towns have getting qualified applicants. He also commented on a meeting tomorrow, April 28, with LEC. He stated that one (1) officer was currently on light duty and another out on workers' compensation. Lt. Bunnell also reported that the police dog Molly got her protective vest last week thanks to Christine Vista and the Howard family. He said that Molly has been successful and active and has been used in Town as well as surrounding towns.

9. Reports from Committee and Public Safety Liaisons. -- None

10. Unfinished Business.

a. Status update on interview for lateral transfer police applicants.

Lt. Bunnell reported that there is still one (1) lateral transfer pending.

b. Status update on interviews of entry level candidates.

An update on this agenda item was discussed earlier by Lt. Bunnell.

**c. Follow up with fire stations regarding the Public Safety Plan/Almont Study.
(Adams/Perkins)**

Commissioners Adams and Perkins reported that they are going in the right direction having contacted the fire chiefs who have agreed to speak with them regarding the Public Safety Plan. They stated that there are 154 fire recommendations in the report and that some of the information is outside their area of expertise. While attempting to make plans to meet with the fire chiefs, they learned that they would have to file an agenda to meet with them. L. Tanner said that she discussed the matter with the Town Council Chair who contacted the Town Clerk. Per Mayor McDaniel, a quorum that would substantiate a meeting agenda be filed would require a majority of voting members of the Commission to be present and according to the FOI classes that he has attended, he concluded that the fire chiefs are not Town employees. Mayor McDaniel stated he would check on the issue and report back to the Commission. Commissioner Perkins asked the Mayor if he had any feedback from the attorney regarding the contracts with the firehouses. Mayor McDaniel responded that the matter is still pending. Commissioner Jetmore praised Commissioners Adams and Perkins for their efforts thus far.

11. New Business. – None

12. Remarks from the Public (non-agenda items—three-minute limit).

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

13. Remarks from the Mayor.

Mayor McDaniel reported that he received the proposed agreement between the Town and the firehouses in April from Chief Murphy that he then forwarded on the Town Attorney. He agreed to send to Commissioners Adams and Perkins the draft of the same and further explained what the agreement of the parties would entail. Commissioner Jetmore stated that he would try to find copies of sample contracts for Commissioners Adams and Perkins to review. Mayor McDaniel also thanked Lt. Bunnell and partners involved with providing their services for the activities scheduled this month, in addition to their conducting their ongoing duties. He stated that the Memorial Day parade went off without a hitch. He praised the fire and police who were honored along with the servicepersons and retirees memorialized for the event. Regarding staffing, Mayor McDaniel stated that the Town was looking to meet the staff requirements that should have been

done when the Public Safety Building was built but was one of the shortcomings in the building design. Mayor McDaniel also agreed to check into the vacancy on the commission.

14. Remarks from Town Council Liaison.

Town Councilor L. Tanner asked about the white noise boxes that were being looked into for recording interviews. She also asked about the no fishing sign posted at Oxoboxo Lake that has been ignored by the public. L. Tanner said that she lives near the lake and has received complaints from her neighbors about the fishing. Lt. Bunnell asked whether the sign was posted by the Town; Mayor McDaniel commented on the liability issue. Councilor Tanner also reported on the three (3) new officers approved by the Town Council and then inquired whether there is a fit for duty requirement. Mayor McDaniel responded that the protocol for fitness is based on a doctor's note but management is allowed to require an assurance of fitness. Lt. Bunnell answered questions from L. Tanner about the two (2) officers who will graduate from the Academy on June 16th and that police dog Molly could visit Montville High School but by invitation only. Council Tanner thanked the fire and police who she described as "very deserving."

15. Remarks from Commissioners.

Commissioner Moran commented that he did take part in the Memorial Day parade but had to sit out part of it because his motorcycle was burning up because the parade was slow. Commissioner Jetmore wished everyone a safe Memorial Day holiday and then thanked everyone who attended the meeting this evening.

16. Adjournment.

Motion made by Commissioner Jetmore; seconded by Commissioner Adams to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Discussion, none; voice vote, 5-0; all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria J. Gathers
Recording Secretary, Town of Montville