

Town of Montville
Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, May 26, 2015
6:30 p.m. – Montville Town Hall — Room 203

1. Call to Order
Chairman Pike called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
Present were Jeff Buebendorf, Bill Bucko, Joe dePasquale, Robert Giffen, Victor Lenda, Tim May, and Wills Pike. Also present was Lt. Leonard Bunnell (6:41 p.m.) and Montville Police Sgt. Mark Manley.
4. Presentations – *none*
5. Alterations to the Agenda – *none*
6. Approval of the
 - a. Regular Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, May 12, 2015
Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Mr. Buebendorf. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
7. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit – *none*
8. Unfinished Business
 - a. Final review of the *Analysis of Advantages/Disadvantages*
The following changes were agreed upon:
Leadership, Resident State Trooper (RST):
Disadvantages:
 - ~~Potential lack of supervision when RST is not on duty~~
While the potential may exist, supervision does and would exist.Community Impact, RST:
Advantages:
 - RST is independent to any Town political influenceDisadvantages:
 - ~~RST is neither responsive to the Town government nor obligated or able to conduct the same duties, as a Chief of Police~~ RST is not as fully invested in the local community, as the Chief of Police would be
While the RST works under the command of the State Police, he/she does respond to the Town and is obligated to listen to, consider, and be open to discuss any ideas,

opinions, and issues with the Mayor or First Selectman. Aside from the application of grants, the RST conducts the same duties as a Chief of Police, including meeting with the public and Town officials. While in other, smaller towns, the RST also handles investigations, motor vehicle accidents, and such community programs as Neighborhood Watch and D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistant Education), he/she does not do so in Montville, a larger town with its own Police Department. Rather, his/her primary roles in Montville are to supervise and conduct administrative/operational duties. Discussion ensued regarding the existence of conflicting policies between the State and Town Police Rules and Regulations.

Funds/Costs, IPF:

Disadvantages:

- ~~\$600,000~~ \$XXX,000.00* cost differential between RST and IPF (2015 vs. 2018)
The cost differential to be determined following the receipt of the revised numbers of the budgetary report.

Facilities, IPF:

Disadvantages:

- Cost to transport evidence to crime lab and all associated costs (~~including personnel costs for evidence officer~~)
The RST Proposed Staffing includes an Evidence Officer, who would be trained and have the necessary credentials to handle evidence. Being under the RST Program, the current Evidence Officer primarily handles found property while the State Police handles all crime scene evidence. In Montville, the number of crime scene investigations in which evidence must be gathered, handled, and sent to the State Police greatly varies from zero to ten times per month. Should any of the Patrol Officers on duty be requested to deliver evidence to the laboratories, i.e., the Toxicology Laboratory in Hartford or Crime Laboratory in Meriden, sufficient coverage and overlap should be provided by the proposed 5/3 schedule. It was noted that all evidence must be handled by the Evidence Officer and transported by a sworn Officer.

b. Non-Recurring Costs

1) Impound Lot: Lighting and Oil Filtration System

The necessity of including lighting and an oil filtration system at the impound lot was discussed and the option to set aside approximately 10 (ten) parking spaces at the Public Safety Building as a back-up plan was proposed.

c. *Cost Assumptions for IPF*

Mr. Giffen stated that Finance Director Terry Hart is reviewing the cost of the benefits. He will also work with Lt. Bunnell and Finance Director Hart to revise the numbers based upon the three (3) additional officers who were recently approved by the Town Council.

9. Discussion on narrative and PowerPoints to be included in Committee presentation
Chairman Pike circulated the Community Report created by Town Planner Marcia Vlaun and Planner II/Wetlands Agent Colleen Bezanson. The report, created in-house and complete with charts, graphics, and accompanying narrative, represents the style of report he is proposing, i.e., one that is clean, succinct, and concise. The inclusion of an Executive Summary, setting the tone and stating the highlights of the report, and providing the necessary supporting materials and explanations as to their thought process in deriving at their final conclusions for key issues in the body of the report was discussed.

Sgt. Manley departed from the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

10. Remarks from the Public with a three-minute limit
Lt. Bunnell recommended including the pending costs of the State Radio System upgrade to their *Analysis of Advantages/Disadvantages*. The definite time frame or deadline continues to be unknown.

It was agreed to add the following to Funds/Costs, RST:

Disadvantages:

- **Estimated cost of \$180,000.00 (one-hundred eighty-thousand dollars) for the State Radio System upgrade**

11. Remarks from the Committee Members

Mr. Lenda suggested including the increased cost of an IPF per taxpayer to their report as well as a comparison between the budgets of the Stonington Police Department vs. the proposed budget of the Montville Police Department, which, if lower, could be added as an advantage. Per State Law, the Dispatching Center must be under the authority of the Chief of Police and must be under the supervision of a sworn Officer (such coverage is also included in the RST Staffing Proposal).

Vice-Chairman Bucko stated that he is personally thrilled to be able to work with Town Planner Vlaun in the formation of their report and presentation.

Chairman Pike reiterated his plans to purchase thank you cards to be signed by the Committee for those who kindly provided a presentation to the Committee.

12. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Mr. Giffen, seconded by Commissioner dePasquale, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville