

Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, June 8, 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, May, McNally, Pollard, and Jaskiewicz. Absent were Councilors Longton, due to illness, and Tanner, due to a family issue. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations
 - a. Recognition of John “Jack” Platt, Jr., Mohegan Fire Company, for his induction into the Connecticut State Firefighters Association (CSFA) Hall of Fame
Mayor McDaniel recited and presented Mr. Platt with a Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation, highlighting his many accomplishments and accolades and thanking him for his hard work and dedication. Mr. Platt humbly thanked everyone, adding that his primary goal at this time is to create a Memorial Garden as soon as the necessary funding is raised. Chairman Jaskiewicz thanked Mr. Platt and his family for their time.
5. Alterations to the Agenda – *none*
6. To Consider and Act on a motion to approve:
 - a. The Special Meeting Minutes on Monday, May 11, 2015
Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 5-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, May, McNally, Pollard, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
 - b. The Regular Meeting Minutes on Monday, May 11, 2015
Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 4-0-1, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, May, McNally, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Pollard. Motion carried.
8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit
Doug Knowlton, Marlborough, Board of Directors, KX Communications, requested that the Town Council, at the very least, table item 16(d) until the Town and its dispatchers have had the opportunity to review the terms and provisions of a revised agreement, which, they are confident, will be ratified by both the Membership and the Board within the week.
Lt. Leonard Bunnell, 5 Little John Drive, spoke on behalf of the Montville Police Department, stating that he concurs with the recognition and expression of appreciation of Mr. Platt, a friend to both the Police Department and the Town and, without whom, the Public Safety Building would not have come to fruition as it has. He applauded Mr. Platt for all of his efforts and congratulated him.
Eugene Maiorano, Vice President, Colchester Emergency Communications, and recently Retired Chief, Salem Volunteer Fire Company, spoke with regards to item 16(d), stating his awareness of the issues and belief in the success of a regionalized dispatch center with Montville. Should the Town Council vote to dissolve the contract, he hopes that they will, then, consider the possibility of a municipality-owned system and purchasing the existing tower site. He understands the frustrations, but with the State encouraging the regionalization of various entities, he encouraged the Town to be open and continue reviewing their regionalization options.

Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 8, 2015

Ray Occhialini, Fire Marshal, Town of Montville, spoke in favor of item 16(d). He felt that, after two years of, thus far, unsuccessful negotiations, the Town should begin a new chapter, adding that the Town, rather than a non-profit organization, should run the dispatch center. He noted that the Towns of East Lyme, New London, and Waterford were recently authorized to create a regional emergency dispatch center and he will continue to work diligently with their neighboring towns to do the same.

9. Communications

- a. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of March 2015
- b. Copy of the May 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 on a number of events that have taken place over the past month, including a very well-attended Murphy's Mad Dash event and a successful Memorial Day Parade, both of which he thanked the Fire and Police Departments for their service. In addition, he attended the Board of Education Retirees Reception, in which a number of good teachers and employees will be departing; Ride to Ride Program at Murphy, Oakdale Elementary, and Mohegan Elementary Schools, where children are awarded a bicycle, helmet, and bike lock for completing a reading incentive program, and; the Palmer Scholarship Fund meeting designating the scholarship recipients.

Preliminary assessments and a survey were received for Fort Shantok Road, which has received significant improvements by the State. The basic map of the DOT (Department of Transportation) garage property has also been received so as to ensure that all questions regarding the property lines are answered for future generations. Montville Road Bridge is currently under construction and the drainage for Fitch Hill Road in the Blais Road area and the Town-wide telephone system upgrades are out for bid.

Fire Marshal Occhialini reported that Montville would be one of the 13 out of 109 dispatch centers in the State installing a new 911 system. The majority of the dispatchers have attended the training and, while there will be a few challenges for the dispatchers, the program will include such new features as the ability to pinpoint the location of emergency calls made from a cell phone and a "Text to 9-1-1" option. The new system is expected to be up and running by June 16.

Lt. Bunnell reported that two new recruits will be graduating from the Police Academy this month and another candidate will be sent in July, leaving the Department with two positions to fill.

Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) Administrator Brian Lynch reported that Rand-Whitney has replaced an approximately 1,000-foot line located on Maple Avenue and thanked the Senior Center, which was inconvenienced during the construction, for their cooperation. In addition, they are currently in discussions with Rand-Whitney regarding the installation of sleeves under Route 32.

12. Reports from Standing Committees.

- a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – Councilor Longton – *not present*
- b. Finance – Councilor Tanner – *not present*
- c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – Councilor Longton – *not present*

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

- a. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging; Social Services; Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund

Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 8, 2015

Councilor Caron reported that the Social and Senior Services Director Kathie Doherty-Peck is awaiting the status of the grant applications. The Department of Social Services is in need of non-perishable donations. He thanked the Mayor for his participation at the recent Read to Ride event.

b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education

As reported by the Mayor, Councilor Jaskiewicz added that the Board of Education Retirees Reception honored a total of 16 retirees, all of whom have dedicated many years of service to the schools and the students, reflecting a true testament to the value of the school system.

c. Councilor Longton: Library; Planning & Zoning Commission – *not present*

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

Councilor May added that the piping replaced by Rand-Whitney, as reported by WPCA Administrator Lynch, was located in a wetlands area and was, luckily, taken care of in a timely manner. The recently drilled well at the High School has, so far, proved acceptable. Further tests will be conducted, including a 24-hour pump test, before any final decisions are made. A public notice will be published in the newspaper regarding the flushing of the water hydrants in the near future.

The Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee has been steadily progressing and is requesting a two-month extension on this evening's agenda.

e. Councilor McNally: Economic Development Commission

Councilor McNally reported that no meeting was held, but item 16(c) on this evening's agenda will, hopefully, help the Commission establish a quorum for future meetings.

f. Councilor Pollard: Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board

Councilor Pollard reported that the Youth Service Bureau is accepting reservations for the Summer Center, which is open to all Montville youth entering grades seven and up (partial scholarships available). Tickets are on sale for Six Flags New England for \$43.00, a savings of \$16.99 from the gate price. \$676.01 was raised during their 2015 Penny Drive; all proceeds will benefit Montville Animal Control. The End of Year Celebration is planned for Tuesday, June 16, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. and will comprise of a pizza party, games, contests, and prizes for \$5.00.

g. Councilor Tanner: Parks & Recreation Commission; Public Safety Commission; Non-Profit Organizations – *not present*

14. Appointments and Resignations

a. To Consider and Act on a motion to appoint Mr. Whitman T. Bowen to the Niantic River Watershed Committee with a term to expire June 8, 2017.

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that Mr. Bowen's vast experience would be a positive addition to the Committee. Roll Call vote, 5-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, May, McNally, Pollard, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

15. Unfinished Business – *none*

16. New Business

a. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$4,401.72 (four thousand four hundred and one dollars and seventy-two cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor McNally. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 5-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, May, McNally, Pollard, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- b. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the Suspense List at the request of the Tax Collector in the amount of \$51,722.61 (fifty-one thousand, seven hundred twenty-two dollars and sixty-one cents) dated the eighth day of June, 2015. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 5-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, May, McNally, Pollard, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- c. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to set the date of Monday, July 13, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. for a public hearing regarding the Ordinance titled, "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 37, ORDINANCE NO. O-M "ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION" ADOPTED MAY 22, 1971." (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: Councilor McNally stated that the amended ordinance would change the number of members on the Commission from nine (9) to seven (7) full-members and two (2) alternate members. The Commission has been having issues establishing a quorum and it is believed that the change will help resolve the issue. Roll Call vote, 5-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, May, McNally, Pollard, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- d. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to direct Mayor Ronald McDaniel to notify Colchester Emergency Communications, Inc. (KX) that due to the failure to consolidate KX PSAP and Dispatch operations with the Town's PSAP and Dispatch operations at the current Town PSAP and Dispatch location, the terms and provisions of the Contract for Municipal Services entered on October 16, 2014 are null and void, except for the obligation to repay the Town its portion of the transition grant that Montville is required to return to the State. The Town will continue independently to operate PSAP and Dispatch services. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that, should they agree to nullify and void this particular contract, the Town should and would continue to move forward with the creation of a regionalized dispatch center. In response to Councilor May, the Mayor stated that, because none of the \$250,000.00 grant, approved for the transition, was expended, the Town is not obligated to repay any moneys for the transition grant. Councilor McNally encouraged the Town Councilors to vote in favor of the nullification due to several issues with the current model. He also felt that the agreement would not be as cost-effective as the result of the exit of other towns from the contract and that the Town should investigate other avenues. Councilor Caron agreed with both Councilors, pointing out his original opposition and lack of fairness to the Town's dispatchers. Mayor McDaniel recognized and thanked those who worked very hard on the transition, including Mr. Knowlton and former Chief Maiorano. He added that he continues to believe in the approach, but felt that, perhaps, a different perspective is necessary. Roll Call vote, 5-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, May, McNally, Pollard, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- e. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to amend Resolution #2015-03 and extend the reporting of the findings of the Montville Law Enforcement

Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 8, 2015

Feasibility Committee to the Town Council by two (2) months (August 2015).
(Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor McNally. Discussion: None.
Roll Call vote, 5-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, May, McNally,
Pollard, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Opposition: None.
Resolution passed.

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

Joe Rogulski, 74 Roselund Hill Road, questioned the definition of a Suspense List.
Finance Director Terry Hart stated that a Suspense List is a list of taxes that the Town has
deemed uncollectible for various reasons. Efforts are made to collect the funds, including
through liens placed on properties, property seizures, and tax sales. A statutory interest
rate of 18% per year is also charged on all delinquent taxes. The list includes individuals
as well as small businesses that have folded.

Former Chief Maiorano, Salem Volunteer Fire Company, thanked the Town Council for
listening to their thoughts and understands their viewpoint regarding regionalized
dispatching with KX Communications. He added that, while a perfect fit does not exist, he
would continue to work towards a plan that is agreeable to all.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor May reported that he attended a High School Award Presentation during which
several hundred students were recognized for their academic achievements. He encouraged
everyone to attend the event in the future.

Chairman Jaskiewicz thanked the Town Council, adding that, though their decision to
nullify the contract with KX Communications was a difficult one, it was the right one. He
thanked the public for attending and speaking at this evening's meeting.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Caron, to adjourn the meeting at
7:35 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 5-0, 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**