

TOWN OF MONTVILLE
Finance Committee
January 19, 2016
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order--Councilor Longton called the meeting to order at 5:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call - Present at the meeting were Chuck Longton, Kathy Pollard and Laura Tanner. Also present were Wills Pike, chair of the MLEFC, Mayor Ron McDaniel and Police Lt Lenny Bunnell.

Remarks from the Public - None

Agenda Items as follows: Chairman Longton asked to make an adjustment to the agenda and move Item 2 (minutes of the previous meeting) to be heard first.

1. Approve the minutes of December 8, 2015 meeting--Councilor Tanner made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Councilor Pollard 2nd. In discussion Councilor Longton stated that the date of December 8th was incorrect and should be changed to December 14, 2015. Councilor Tanner made a motion to accept the minutes with the date change of December 14, 2015, Councilor Pollard 2nd and motion carried unanimously with amendment.

2. Review the Final Report of the Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee--Chairman Longton explained the purpose of discussing the final report of the Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee was to place the report within the context of the overall town budget, which was not the charge to the MLEFC but was certainly the responsibility of the Finance Committee, and to address any questions Councilors had regarding the budget portion of the report. He stated he read all the minutes of all the Committee meetings as well as the Almont Report and feels he is satisfied with the numbers presented to the Council.

Chairman Longton asked the Chairman of the MLEFC, Wills Pike, to name and give the background of each member of his committee as he felt the sterling qualifications of the committee members should be part of the record. Mr. Pike did so as follows:

- Bill Bucko---Background in construction, worked for Millstone, was on the Public Safety Building Committee,
- Bob Griffin---Retired Bank Executive,
- Jeff Buebendorf---Lawyer,
- Tim May---Engineer, Electric Boat Supervisor with budgeting background,
- Joe Depasquale---Retired Police Officer, Hartford J.D. Office with budgeting background,
- Vic Lenda--Retired State Trooper who served at the Resident State Trooper of 3 towns.

- Wills Pike---20 years in the military, 15 years at Pratt & Whitney with managing a large budget, currently employed by Electric Boat in quality assurance.

Chairman Longton asked if anyone had any questions or concerns regarding the numbers presented in the report. No questions posed. Chairman Longton presented a chart to the committee which was a reflection of the numbers from the final report with additional items from the town's budget placed into context that would be directly affected should the town go with an Independent Police Department. Discussions surrounded the need for new radios which will need to be purchased whether the Town stays with the RST program or decides to go independent as well as the anticipated de-funding of a separate Dispatch, budget line item 10870, of \$304,050, because that function was already rolled into the published IPF budget.

Councilor Tanner made a motion to submit the budget chart to the Town Council, Councilor Pollard 2nd and the motion carried unanimously.

Remarks from the Public--Wills Pike asked the chairman to make the adjustment of \$155,000.00 difference regarding the dispatch. He also encouraged the Finance Committee to have a descriptive conversation with the Town Council at the next Town Council meeting. Needs to convey to taxpayers the actual impact this will have.

Mayor McDaniel commented the communications issues, radios, cars and building expenses are all unknown and will have some impact on the budget.

Lieutenant Bunnell commented that going to an independent police force will cost the taxpayer \$20.00 for \$100,000.00 assessed property, \$30.00 for a \$150,000.00 assessment, etc. and takes objection when he hears this is going to cost too much. The taxpayers need to realize what they are receiving for their money which is a full service, fully utilized building, access to reports (not having to travel to Middletown), background checks will be done and full coverage of the building with police presence.

Councilor Pollard expressed her duty to represent the taxpayers and do what she was elected to do. She feels now is not the time for an IPF as the town can't afford it.

Councilor Tanner expressed she feels the Town is ready for this change and can afford the change.

Councilor Tanner made a motion to adjourn, Councilor Pollard 2nd and motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:44

Respectfully submitted
Laura Tanner