

Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2016
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.
2. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of our military.
3. Roll Call
Present were Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Absent was Councilor Tanner due to illness. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations – *none*
5. Alterations to the Agenda – *none*
6. To Consider and Act on a motion to approve:
 - a. The Special Meeting Minutes on February 10, 2016.
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
 - b. The Special Meeting Minutes on February 16, 2016 regarding Programs for Parks & Recreation, Youth Services and Senior/Social Services including liability insurance
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
 - c. The Special Meeting Minutes on February 16, 2016 regarding a Special Town Meeting and referendum vote for the “Ordinance Establishing the Montville Police Department”
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
7. Executive Session
 - a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing a candidate for the Inland Wetlands Commission and Housing Authority and to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to pending litigation regarding Nelson tax appeal. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: The following candidates were interviewed: Mr. Tim Sullivan, Housing Authority, and Mr. Jeff Greiner, Inland Wetlands Commission. 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 7:26 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 February 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 they have been keeping an eye on the budget cuts being proposed by the State Legislatures that will potentially affect the Town and announced that a

Community Forum regarding addiction will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at Montville High School. Flyers are available on the entryway counter.

12. Reports from Standing Committees.

a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – Councilor Jaskiewicz – *none*

b. Finance – Councilor Longton

Discussion included the progress on the Raymond Hill Church project, which is estimated to cost \$47,000.00, to “tighten up” the building. The amount was not included in the original bid and, with only \$15,454.00 available in the budget, the Finance Committee is recommending the Town Council appropriate an additional \$31,455.00 for the repairs (items 16(b) and (c)). Budget requests from all of the Departments have been received and the Mayor is currently working on his budget proposal. In addition, the Finance Director reported that all contracts will be expiring this year and some increases are expected for some of the service contracts. She also recommended the consolidation of line items and discussion ensued regarding a staffing increase for the IT Department and a proposed increase of approximately \$716,000.00 in the BOE budget.

c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – Councilor Caron

Discussion included PTA Lane for which Town Planner Marcia Vlaun will provide an update (item 16(a)). The inmates have been working on the siding, windows, and, possibly, the interior of the old V&A Building, which will become the new Re-Use Room. The Social Services Department has received a donation of paint and is in the process of scheduling the painting of the building. In addition, the Public Works/Solid Waste budget, including a Wish List of needs, and funding for improvements to the Transfer Station were discussed.

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

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

Social & Senior Services Director Kathie Doherty-Peck is currently working on grants, four of which have been submitted and three of which she is in the process of applying. He encouraged everyone to review the various programs and services, many of which are free, offered by the Department in the Community Booklet thanks to Director Doherty-Peck’s hard work and diligence. Councilor Caron commended Director Doherty-Peck and the Tyl Middle School’s Junior National Honor Society for doing a great job in creating 200 Easter baskets for those in need. In addition, he and the Director are working with the Mohegan Tribe for the Veterans in Need Fund and are organizing a Fundraiser for a skybox for the Jason Aldean concert on April 29, 2016. They are also coordinating with the Mohegan Tribe and Charter Oak Credit Union for additional help with the Food Bank.

b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education

Ms. Paula LeBlanc was hired by the Board of Education as the Special Education Director and approved their proposed budget for 2016-2017.

c. Councilor Longton: Library – *no report*

d. Councilor May: Water Pollution Control Authority; Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board; Montville Law Enforcement Feasibility Committee

Councilor May reported that the Water & Sewer budgets were discussed and a public hearing will be held on April 4, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. to reduce the sewer use rate by approximately 9%. The Youth Services Bureau will be hosting a Vendor Craft Fair on April 17, 2016 at the Mohegan Firehouse. Tables may be reserved by March 24 for \$40.00. He encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming Community Conversation on addiction, as noted by the Mayor. A new billboard on addiction services was recently installed along Route 32.

- e. Councilor Rogulski: Economic Development Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission
The Economic Development Commission (EDC) will be presenting a letter to be sent to prospective businesses regarding a tax incentive plan in an attempt to attract new businesses. Vice Chair John Protz is currently acting as Chair for Chair Karl Butzky, who is currently taking a leave of absence. The Commission has held several discussions regarding a blight campaign consisting of volunteers who are willing to help clean up various properties. They are also investigating the possibility of attending workshops where they can promote the Town of Montville as a business-friendly town and are in the process of re-working their webpage(s) and developing creative ways to promote Town branding. Special meetings have been held to develop an EDC Strategic Communications Plan.

The Planning & Zoning Commission approved an amendment to the R-20-M Zone, which will allow approximately 14 (fourteen) properties to become compliant with the current zoning laws. Town Planner Marcia Vlaun also provided the Commission with a presentation of the development of Town of Montville over the past 20 (twenty) years and encouraged everyone to obtain and review the data.

- f. Councilor Pollard: Non-Profit Organizations
Councilor Pollard is continuing to work on contacting the Non-Profit Organizations.
- g. Councilor Tanner: Parks & Recreation Commission; Public Safety Commission – *not present*

14. Appointments and Resignations – *none*

15. Unfinished Business – *none*

16. New Business

- a. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to establish a road line as shown on the map from CLA Engineers dated January 27, 2016 titled “Defining PTA Lane,” a general location survey. (Councilor Caron)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: In their review of Town-owned properties, Town Planner Vlaun and the Finance Director discovered that the southerly border of PTA Lane had not been established. As such, the Town Engineer was requested to create a road map establishing a road line to present to the Town Council for approval so that it can be filed in the land records and be designated a definable roadway. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

- b. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to appropriate \$31,455 to Raymond Hill Church Renovations (#30999-54324) from Contingency (#10480-52164) finish the repairs to the Raymond Hill Church. (Councilor Longton).

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz. Discussion: Town Planner Vlaun reported that the previous contract has been terminated and sections of the project remain unfinished. She is proposing separating the project into two different bid processes: one for the smaller items, for which they would obtain three bids enabling them to save in advertising costs, and one for the carpentry. Mayor McDaniel commended Town Planner Vlaun for doing a great job with managing the project thus far and dealing with a number of unexpected repairs. The total cost is estimated at approximately \$50,000.00. The cost of painting the building on the original contract was \$38,000.00. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

- c. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to waive the bid requirement for the exterior doors and carpentry work for the Raymond Hill Church (Councilor Longton).

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: The Town Charter requires a project exceeding \$10,000.00 to go through a competitive bidding process unless it can be shown that it would be in the interest of the Town not to do so. After much discussion, it was determined that waving the bid requirement would save the Town money and, as such, would be in the best interest of the Town. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

- d. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$4,335.49 (four thousand three hundred thirty-five dollars and forty-nine cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

- e. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to set the date of April 26, 2016, at 6:00 PM for a public hearing regarding the Board of Education proposed budget for fiscal year 2016-2017 at Montville High School Auditorium and to set the date of April 27, 2016, at 6:00 PM for a public hearing regarding the General Government proposed budget for fiscal year 2016-2017 at Montville High School Auditorium. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: Councilor Longton encouraged and stated the importance for all residents to attend the Public Hearing, listen to the proposed budgets, and ask questions, as it will affect their final tax rate. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

- f. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize the Mayor to sign and execute Agreements and Contracts, along with all necessary Agreement/Contract documents, on behalf of the Town of Montville with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection related to a STEAP Grant award in the amount of \$475,000 for Phase I Transfer Station Improvements. (Mayor McDaniel)

Be it resolved that it is in the best interests of the Town of Montville to enter into contracts with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. In furtherance of this resolution, Ronald McDaniel, Mayor, is duly authorized to enter into and sign said contracts on behalf of the Town of Montville. Ronald McDaniel currently holds the title of Mayor and has held that office since November 9, 2015. The Mayor is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the local, state or federal government in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel explained that the grant would be utilized to fund Phase I of the Transfer Station project, which entails the reconfiguration of the entrance into and exit out of the facility. The soil science work and some pre-engineering work have already been conducted. A grant has also been awarded for Phase II of the project. The Transfer Station will remain open during construction. Councilor Longton stated that the current traffic along Route 163 created by vehicles entering into the Transfer Station should be significantly eased following the completion of the project. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

- g. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize Mayor Ron McDaniel to negotiate and execute all necessary agreements and contract documents between the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation on behalf of the Town of

Montville for the Matching Grant Program for Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsible Transportation. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that, as a multi-year grant award, the item is left purposefully open-ended. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

- h. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to accept the settlement agreement in Nelson Tax Appeals pending in the Connecticut Superior Court, identified as KNL CV 15-6024278S and KNL CV 15-6023467S

WHEREAS, the Nelson family brought two tax appeals contesting the Town's ability to assess and tax the real property referenced in the two aforementioned tax appeals;

WHEREAS, the parties mediated this dispute before the Honorable Thomas A. Bishop and reached a tentative agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has reviewed the terms of the agreement and believe it to be in the best interests of the Town to accept said agreement.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Montville Town Council hereby accepts the proposed settlement of the two Nelson tax appeals and directs the Town Tax Collector to accept said terms as payment in full of all alleged taxes due.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Resolution passed.

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

Robert Manfredi, 9 Heather Brook Road, spoke with regards to the 1.9% increase in the BOE's proposed budget and pointed out a discrepancy between a statement made by Montville Police Lieutenant and a recent press release regarding the number of officers on the police force.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor Rogulski stated that he is looking forward to everyone working together post-referendum. He requested everyone send their thoughts for a young boy injured in the motor vehicle accident the families of both.

Councilor Caron announced that the recent Luke Brian Concert Fundraiser netted approximately \$5,000.00 each for the Senior & Social Services and the Youth Center. In addition, last year, Director Doherty-Peck raised \$155,254.00 through fundraisers, grants, and donations, offsetting the costs of programs offered to seniors. He also sends his thoughts to the young boy who was injured in the recent accident.

Chairman Jaskiewicz thanked the Town Council, expressed that it is healthy to have differences of opinion and expects the Councilors to continue to work together.

Mayor McDaniel reminded everyone about the Community Conversation and hopes everyone will be able to attend the event. He also announced that Representative Kathleen McCarty will be holding a Mental Health Issue Forum at the Town Council Chambers on April 7, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Chairman Jaskiewicz, to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.