

Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for March 13, 2017
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
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to remove the following item from the Agenda:

16(d) **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize the Finance Director to send out an RFQ for Public Safety Dispatch Services. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Discussion: The item will be sent to the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Sub-Committee for review. 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.
6. Executive Session
 - a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of interviewing a candidate for the Conservation Commission and Inland Wetlands Commission. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to enter into Executive Session. Discussion: The following candidate was interviewed for Boards/Commissions: Paul Chase, Conservation Commission. Due to a death in his family, Howard Riske was unable to attend the meeting. 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 7:14 p.m. No formal votes were taken during Executive Session.
7. To Consider and Act on a motion to approve:
 - a. The Special Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2017 (Board/Commission Interviews)
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 5-0-1, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Pollard. Motion carried.
 - b. The Regular Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2017
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 5-0-1, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Rogulski, 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
Lt. Leonard Bunnell, 5 Little John Drive, Uncasville, spoke in support of items 16(c), (e), (f), and (g). He urged the Town Council to approve items 16(c) regarding the “Equipment Replacement Policy”, which he felt is long overdue and includes the necessary checks and balances, and 16(e) regarding the “Emergency Dispatchers’ Communications Procedure”, which elaborates on the previous handwritten and former Mayor Jaskiewicz’ 2010 agreement. The Procedure is not intended to interfere with the dispatchers’ primary objective of serving the

EMS (Emergency Medical Services) and Fire Departments. Following discussions with the Fire Marshal, changes to the originally proposed Procedure were made and the Procedure was, subsequently, accepted by the Public Safety Commission. He commented on the importance of having the dispatchers available to greet visitors and answer the phone calls received at the Public Safety Building 24/7, as necessary. Oftentimes, individuals, especially those who are out-of-state at the time, will contact the Police Department regarding an emergency. He also stated the importance of passing items 16(f) regarding the “Administration of Nasal and/or Injectable Naloxone” Policy, which is intended to save lives. Some of the officers are already NARCAN (Naloxone HCl)-trained while others have begun the training process. Also important is the “Civilian Complaint Policy”, which coincides with the State Statute and will, hopefully, benefit the Town in the long run.

Michael Hillsberg, 39 Lisa Lane, Uncasville, who has been involved with public safety for nearly 40 years, spoke in opposition to item 16(d) and encouraged the Town Council to review the purpose of privatizing dispatching services and its resulting ramifications. He commented on the Town’s lack of proper planning, having constructed a \$6.5 million Public Safety Building to house the community’s (Independent) Police Department and Dispatching Services, the former of which was not passed. He stated his dismay with the Town’s consideration to send their Dispatching Services elsewhere in light of the declining State revenues and limited labor resources. The experience level of the dispatchers is currently over 20 years and the town relies on their experience and familiarity with the area. He, further, encouraged the Councilors to visit and witness the stress level under which the dispatchers are under during emergency situations. Mr. Hillsberg was reminded that that particular item on the agenda was removed.

Fire Marshal Ray Occhialini, 7 Anderson Lane, Oakdale, spoke with regards to item 16(e). He requested that, should the Town Council vote in favor of approving the Procedure, they add an implementation date of June 1, 2017 to provide the dispatchers time to better acquaint themselves with the TriTech Dispatch Program and new 911 system, the latter of which is scheduled for implementation on March 21, 2017. He also recommended that the Town conduct a SWOT (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) analysis and carefully review the ramifications of sending out for an RFQ (Request for Quote) for Public Safety Dispatch Services (item 16(d)). Approximately \$1 million has been invested in their current software and equipment and, should the Town opt for the creation of an independent police department, they would be ready to do so. He also introduced the possibility of providing dispatch services to surrounding towns.

Chief Gary Murphy, 1439 Old Colchester Road, Oakdale, Oakdale Fire Department, spoke in support of item 16(e) and provided a brief background of the Dispatching Department and its issues. Being the first line of defense and the first and last voice on the telephone during an emergency, he emphasized the importance of the dispatchers’ role in helping save lives and commended them for their hard work and awesome job. He also stated his opposition to item 16(d), which was removed from the Agenda, stating that the Dispatch Center would be necessary if/when the Town decides to adopt an independent police department, which he also strongly supports.

Jon Leonard, 24 Chestnut Hill Road, Uncasville, expressed his appreciation to Mr. Hillsberg, Chief Murphy, and Fire Marshal Occhialini for their comments. He invited the Councilors to visit the Dispatch Center, spend time with them, and witness them at work. Though not publicized, the dispatchers are often saving lives over the telephone and he would like to continue to serve the Town in this capacity.

Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that, as the Legislative body of the Town, the Town Council is often tasked with decisions that some of the members of the public may not favor. He requested that the people give them the benefit of the doubt as they diligently and carefully review all of the material presented to them. He expressed his confidence and faith in the Councilors to make decisions that they feel is in the best interest of the Town and hopes his fellow Councilors concur with his sentiments.

9. Communications
 - a. Copy of the February budget report from Ms. Terry Hart, Finance Director
 - b. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of January 2017
Mayor McDaniel explained that the legal bills are high due to the ongoing labor negotiations. They will also, most likely, be high for the month of February.
10. Report from the Town Attorney on Matters Referred – *none*
11. Remarks from the Mayor and/or Administrative Department Heads to include Matters Referred
Resident State Trooper Sgt. Mark Juhola stated that he is available to answer any questions regarding the NARCAN Policy, which was developed with the support of Backus Hospital's EMS Medical Director. The Policy, which is a comprehensive program allowing for constant review, will allow them to take immediate action and save lives.

Mayor McDaniel reported that they are continuing to work on the agreements with the Fire Houses. He has met with InCord, a company specializing in custom netting applications, which is planning to expand their operations in Montville. Fire Marshal Occhialini and himself met with the State regarding the possible establishment of a micro-grid through a Grant that would fund 100% of the costs. If received, the Grant would provide power to a small, localized area in the event of a power outage. After reviewing the various Commercial and Municipal properties in the Town, it was determined that the most ideal location would encompass the Town Hall, Senior Center, Re-Use Room (Old V&A Building), and Old Town Hall building. A documentary entitled "Screenagers: Growing up in the Digital Age" will be presented on Thursday, March 16, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Montville High School. The event, hosted by the Montville Youth Service Bureau, Mayor's Orange Ribbon Community Coalition and Montville High School, discusses the impact of the digital age on children. Town Hall will be closed tomorrow, Tuesday, March 14, due to the upcoming blizzard.
12. Reports from Standing Committees.
 - a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – Councilor Jaskiewicz
Parks & Recreation Director Peter Bushway attended the meeting to discuss a possible increase in the Town's summer camp fees; he was referred to the Finance Committee. Items discussed and placed on this evening's Agenda for approval are the Equipment Replacement, NARCAN, and Civilian Complaint Polices, and; Emergency Dispatchers' Communication Procedure. The Committee is continuing their review of the Noise Ordinance.
 - b. Finance – Councilor Longton – *no meeting*
 - c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – Councilor Caron
Councilor Caron reported that the distribution of the new recycling containers is scheduled for April 1. Any homeowners interested in utilizing the smaller containers should contact either Willimantic Waste or the Public Works Department. A letter stating the pick-up schedule will be delivered with the containers. The Town's Adopt-A-Road Program has been revived; any interested parties are encouraged to speak with him or the Public Works Department.

Discussion ensued regarding the available quantity and type of small recycling containers that would be available.
13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors
 - a. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging; Social Services; Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund
The Senior Center has been having another busy month. Senior & Social Services Director Kathie Doherty-Peck is continuing to work on applying for additional grants. As always, Social Services is in need of more food and funding and have been busy reaching out to various organizations for food, jackets, and clothing donations. Another fundraiser is also being planned.

- b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education (BOE)
The BOE endorsed the budget as presented by the Superintendent of Schools and he commended the Montville Marvels that were recognized.
- c. Councilor Longton: Library – *no meeting*
- d. Councilor May: Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA); Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board
The WPCA facilities passed their recent safety inspection conducted by the Fire Marshal. The Sewer budget was passed and, though the Sewer budget increased by approximately \$200,000.00, there will be no rate increase. The Water budget will be presented to the Town Council for review and approval next month. All 27 pump stations, the majority of which have generators, have been checked in preparation for the upcoming blizzard and are in good working order. While the Town Hall will be closed tomorrow, personnel will be available at the Wastewater Treatment Facility to handle any emergencies that might arise.
He encouraged everyone to attend the *Screenagers* event on March 16, 2017.
- e. Councilor Rogulski: Economic Development Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission
Due to the lack of a quorum, the Economic Development Commission held an informational meeting and discussed how the Commission could raise their membership.
The Planning & Zoning Commission approved Subdivision Applications and Zoning Amendments, including a proposal for the allowance of up to 12 (twelve) hens. Councilor Rogulski encouraged public to be responsible hen owners.
- f. Councilor Pollard: Non-Profit Organizations - *no meeting*
- g. Councilor Tanner: Parks & Recreation Commission; Public Safety Commission – *not present*

14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Jeffrey Greiner from the Inland Wetlands Commission effective February 16, 2017.
Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz expressed his regrets. 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. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Mr. Philip Houk to the Inland Wetlands Commission with a term to expire May 11, 2021.
Motion made by Councilor May, 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.
- c. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Mr. Walter Hewitt to the Economic Development Commission with a term to expire May 13, 2021.
Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Longton. 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.
- d. To Consider and Act on a Motion to nominate and appoint either Mr. John Estelle or Mr. Anthony C. Tufares as an Alternate Member of the Planning & Zoning Commission with a term to expire March 13, 2021.
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May. Chairman Jaskiewicz asked if there were any nominations.
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz, to nominate Mr. John Estelle. Chairman Jaskiewicz asked if there were any additional nominations. There being no additional nominations, Chairman Jaskiewicz closed the nominations. Roll Call vote to appoint Mr. John Estelle to the Planning & Zoning Commission as an Alternate Member, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard,

Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Mr. John Estelle was appointed to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

15. Unfinished Business – *none*

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2017-11. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$4,860.72 (four thousand eight hundred and sixty dollars and seventy-two cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel reported that the Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA) has been meeting with a number of residents who appealed their assessment over the last two weeks. Despite the recent revaluation, no commercial businesses appealed their assessments. Adjustments to the Grand List will be known after the BAA meets this Thursday, March 16, to deliberate the appeals. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- b. **Resolution #2017-12. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 2007-002, titled “An Ordinance Regarding Land Use Application Processing Fees” as heard at the public hearing held on Monday, March 13, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers at Montville Town Hall. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

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. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- c. **Resolution #2017-13. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the “Equipment Replacement Policy” as approved by the Town Administration/ Rules & Procedures Sub-Committee on February 27, 2017. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: Councilor Longton felt the Policy is long overdue. Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that extensive discussions were held with the Public Works Director and both the Public Works/Solid Waste and Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Sub-committees. Councilor May stated that the Policy would also help stabilize the budget and allow for better fiscal planning. Councilor Rogulski noted that the Policy includes equipment as well as vehicles. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- d. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize the Finance Director to send out an RFQ for Public Safety Dispatch Services. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

The item was removed from the Agenda.

- e. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the “Emergency Dispatchers’ Communication Procedure” as recommended by the Public Safety Commission. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that both the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Sub-committee and the Public Safety Commission have reviewed the Procedure and added that he is pleased that everyone worked together.

Motion made by Councilor Rogulski, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to amend the resolution as follows:

Resolution #2017-14. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the “Emergency Dispatchers’ Communication Procedure” as recommended by the Public Safety Commission, *effective June 1, 2017*. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor.

Motion made by Councilor Rogulski, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to approve the Resolution, as amended. 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. Resolution passed.

- f. **Resolution #2017-15. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the “Administration of Nasal and/or Injectable Naloxone” Policy as approved by the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Sub-Committee. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: Sgt. Juhola stated that a number of hours have been invested in the creation of the Policy with the various parties that are concerned with the public safety of the Town. Upon approval, the Policy will be immediately deployed as they continue to bring up all of the officers to the State minimum standard of EMR training, a pre-requisite for NARCAN-training. Currently 13 officers have been trained and, while there is no guarantee that a NARCAN-trained officer will cover each of the three shifts at this time, those trained have been scheduled for all three shifts. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- g. **Resolution #2017-16. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the “Civilian Complaint Policy” as approved by the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Sub-Committee. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: Lt. Bunnell stated that, upon approval, the Policy and forms will be available online, at the Mayor’s office, and Police Department, among other locations. He recited the purpose of the Policy, as stated. The Policy includes the necessary checks and balances and enables all of the parties to have a voice. All complaints will be received by the Mayor’s office, which will decide the investigating party to handle the complaint. The Policy is an unfunded State Mandate. Mayor McDaniel, who handles such issues on a daily basis, commented on the Policy and his dismay with those who submit complaints anonymously and expressed his concern regarding any possible future legal and otherwise challenges. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Pollard, Rogulski, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

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

Chris Jaskiewicz, 11 Michigan Circle, Oakdale, applauded the passing of the Emergency Dispatchers Communications Procedure as it will provide the dispatchers with a more direct guideline. The Communications Center and/or Hub, i.e., Dispatch Center, is a key component in responding to the public’s emergency needs as well as helping provide any necessary information to help determine and solve criminal activity. The 911 dispatchers also receive calls regarding non-emergency issues, including power outages or to requests regarding possible non-emergency ambulance transportation services, on a daily basis. He requested that the Town Council and Departments review the staffing of the Dispatch Department.

Anna Linn, 15 Jeffrey Manor Drive, Oakdale, proposed the implementation of the following ordinances: (1) banning parking on front lawns or face a one-time warning and \$50.00 fine thereafter, (2) banning the indefinite parking of vehicles in front of homes or face a one-time warning and \$50.00 fine thereafter, and (3) banning the cutting down of trees with an 8” or greater diameter that is not posing a threat to person or property or face a \$5,000.00 fine. She stated that her property value has plummeted over the years due to changes that have been occurring in the immediate vicinity of her home and these ordinances would help reverse that trend and help lower criminal activity.

Tony Siragusa, 39 Hillcrest Drive, Uncasville, requested the availability of the various policies and procedures that are being discussed during the meeting to allow the public to comment

upon them should they wish to do so. He questioned whether the ambulance services contribute to the funding of the EMS calls received by the Dispatching Center.

Lt. Leonard Bunnell, 5 Little John Drive, Uncasville, spoke with regards to item 16(d) which was removed from the agenda, stating the importance of having the dispatchers familiar with the Town. He also noted that Montville's dispatchers are among the lowest paid in the area and, possibly, in the State. Furthermore, with the costs of the Resident State Trooper Program continuing to rise, he encouraged the Town to revisit the possibility of establishing an independent police department, which, along with maintaining the dispatch center, will make full use of the Facility. To this end, he also suggested the possibility of expanding their services to surrounding towns.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor Rogulski expressed his frustrations and urged everyone to contact their State Legislators regarding their budgetary concerns, citing a recent article in *The Day* regarding the effects of the proposed establishment of a third casino in the State.

Councilor Pollard concurred with Councilor Rogulski and directed the public to the blue pages located in the back of the Phone Book and strongly encouraged them to be persistent in their attempts to contact the Legislators.

Councilor Longton commented on the positive aspects of the four policies and procedures that were passed this evening, adding that they should bring some much-needed clarity and help to streamline operations. He thanked the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Sub-committee for their hard work and the Town Council for their approval.

Councilor Caron expanded upon Councilor Rogulski's remarks, urging everyone to contact their Legislators to express their concerns and dismay. He commended the Dispatchers for continuing to do a fantastic and awesome job, stressing that the Councilors do support them.

Councilor May expressed his appreciation to Councilors Jaskiewicz and Rogulski, with whom he serves on the Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Sub-Committee in reviewing the various policies and procedures that come before them.

Chairman Jaskiewicz reiterated that the Councilors aim to do their best to help the people of the Town and make decisions that, they feel, is in the best interest of the Town. He commended his colleagues on a good job thus far. He expressed his appreciation to the dispatchers and the public safety employees and stressed the importance of working together.

Mayor McDaniel concurred with the Councilors, especially Councilor Rogulski with regards to the importance of contacting their Legislators to express their concerns. He will soon be introducing his proposed Town Budget, which will, most likely, be unpopular. He stressed that he aims to not compromise the Town's public safety, education, and very few services they offer. He stated that the Town's economic development is improving and new projects are expected. He aims to keep positive and keep moving forward. He wished everyone a safe day tomorrow and announced that, with the exception of emergency personnel, who he thanked for all that they do, Town Hall will be closed tomorrow.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, 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