

**Town of Montville Public Safety Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – April 23, 2018 - 6:00 PM**  
Montville Town Hall – Town Council Chambers

1. Call to order.

Chairman Moran called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of allegiance.

All stood and pledged the flag.

3. Roll Call.

Present were Commissioners Mike Butterworth, Michael Doherty, Mickey Gillette, Victor Lenda, Jr., Karen Perkins, Robert Yuchniuk, and James Moran. Mayor Ronald McDaniel and Town Council Liaison Jeff Rogers were absent from the meeting.

4. **Executive Session (Commission members only)**

Motion by Commissioner Butterworth; seconded by Commissioner Doherty to go into Executive Session at 6:03 p.m., with Commissioners present only, to discuss Agenda Item 12a, Election by Commissioners. Discussion: none. **Voice Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.**

**The Commission returned to open session at 6:21 p.m. Chairman Moran reported that no votes were taken.**

5. Amendments to the Agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Lenda; seconded by Commissioner Butterworth, to add Item 12a, Patrol Rifle and Item 12b, Level IV Plates and Carriers under New Business. Discussion: none. **Voice Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion Carried.**

6. Communications:

- Copies of monthly statistics reports from Fire Departments, Fire Marshal, Police, Animal Control and Building Official.

Chairman Moran confirmed that all had received the monthly statistical reports. Commissioner Lenda requested that the Building Report be sent to him in PDF format.

7. Consideration and action to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2018.

Motion by Commissioner Butterworth; seconded by Commissioner Yuchniuk to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2018. Discussion: none. **Voice Vote, 7-0. Motion carried.**

8. Remarks from the Public (Agenda items—three-minute limit).

Chairman Moran asked three times for remarks but there were none.

9. Remarks from Department Heads.

Police Department Report

Per the March 2018 monthly statistics and activity reports submitted electronically by Lt. Bunnell, there were 1279 Calls for Service—Troop E – 217; PD – 469; Walk In – 76; and By Officer – 518. Lt. Bunnell reported on required overtime due to decreased staffing. Staffing may be down by seven (7) by September 2018. Additionally, hiring has been difficult. Qualified applicants must be able to pass the psychological and polygraph tests which has been a challenge faced by other towns as well.

Fire Department Report

Per the March 2018 monthly report submitted electronically by Fire Marshal Occhialini, there were 235 dispatched calls for service. The report referenced fire safety inspections (31), blasting permit (1), trainings, Plan reviews, monthly fire extinguisher inspections and generator checks, current projects, Emergency Management/Dispatch information as reported last month, and collection fees totaling \$46,492.63 for the year. New items included application for the 2018 Emergency Performance Grant, a federal grant for \$9,817.50 and a potential grant to replace a backup generator at the Cook Drive radio site.

Commissioner Perkins reported that Fire Marshal Occhialini’s last day of work is April 26, 2018.

Building Department Report

<b>2017-2018 Building Department Report</b>												
	<b>July</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>
<b>Permits Issued</b>	141	122	107	136	96	81	66	59	70			
<b>Open Permits</b>	2909	2983	2994	2981	3001	2980	2991	2999	2976			
<b>Inspections</b>	132	148	144	152	91	107	76	78	89			
<b>Plan Reviews</b>	28	22	11	23	8	14	11	12	10			
<b>CO's</b>	6	5	9	9	6	4	3	7	2			
<b>Violations</b>	2	4	6	7	3	1	1	4	1			
<b>Unsafe Notices</b>	0	1	0	1	3	2	2	0	0			
<b>Blight Identified to Date</b>			497									
<b>Blight Abated to Date</b>			182									

Animal Control Report (March 2018)

	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD FY</b>
<b># of Animals Impounded</b>	7	119
<b># of Animals Sold as Pets</b>	0	53
<b># of Animals D.O.A.</b>	0	2
<b># of Animals Euthanized</b>	1	1
<b>Total Complaints Investigated</b>	51	872

<b>Total Animal Bites Investigated</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Total Infractions/Summons</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>

10. Committee and Liaison Reports.

a. Report from Fire Department Liaison (*Perkins*)

Commissioner Perkins reported that she would be meeting with Fire Marshal Occhialini before April 26 concerning any issues with the Almont Report.

b. Report from Animal Control Liaison (*Yuchniuk*)

Commissioner Yuchniuk reported that the ACO had returned from maternity leave. He also reported that Town animals/duties would be moved to New London given the deplorable condition of the existing Town building. New London will build an extension to its facility to house animals from New London, Waterford, Montville, and Salem.

c. Report from Police Department Liaison (*Lenda*)

Commissioner Lenda reported that he stays in contact with Lt. Bunnell, police officers and Town Councilor Rogers. He identified the major department concerns as dispatch and staffing. He also reported on a meeting with BOE Assistant Superintendent, MHS and Tyl administration, M. Collins, the MHS School Security Officer, and his subcommittee members, Commissioners Butterworth and Yuchniuk. Commissioner Lenda praised Lt. Bunnell's policy of school patrol checks and urged their continuance. He also spoke about the possibility of the subcommittee meeting with the Board of Ed about school security. Commissioner Butterworth reported on his research concerning the security measures in the East Lyme school system.

d. Report from Building Department Liaison (*Butterworth*)

Commissioner Butterworth reported about a building inspection that was to occur last week but was postponed. He also stated that the Building Official, V. Vesey is the Blight Officer for the Town and noted that the April Building Report now includes data on Town blight. Commissioner Butterworth said that blights are investigated with an official, signed complaint.

11. Unfinished Business.

a. Consideration and action concerning the Uniform Policy (*Tabled*)

Motion by Commissioner Lenda; seconded by Commissioner Butterworth to remove Item 11a from the agenda. Discussion: Commissioner Lenda commented that the Police Department has a lot going on and currently has working and dress uniforms. **Voice Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.**

b. Consideration and action of draft proposal for Department Head Title – Captain.

Motion by Commissioner Lenda; seconded by Commissioner Butterworth to remove Item 12b from the agenda. Discussion: none. **Voice Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.**

c. School Security, armed SR0

Commissioner Butterworth reported that the number given would support four (4) school security officers. He responded to a question by Commissioner Yuchniuk and commented on the role of the Department's DARE officer who works on patrol as needed and otherwise is in the schools.

d. Proposal to establish Community Resource Officer (CROV) Program, to assist in School Security.

Motion by Commissioner Lenda; seconded by Commissioner Butterworth, to remove Item 11d from the agenda. Discussion: Commissioner Lenda said that the dream was to help the PD with civilian volunteers. He stated the idea is not appropriate at this time but may be considered in the future. **Voice Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.**

e. Discussion regarding Chesterfield Firehouse M32 replacement.

Chief Truex reported back to the Commission on the cost for 2,000 gallon tanker as requested by Town Councilor Rogers at last month's meeting. The Chief said he contacted NL Fire Apparatus regarding a 2,500 and 2,000 gallon tanker (a \$7,000 cost difference) who emailed him this evening with information for a 2,600 gallon tanker. Chief Truex stated he would get an answer concerning a single or dual axle tanker. He asked the Commission about the goal he should consider concerning the tanker such as life expectancy, cost, the Town's water issue and lack of fire hydrants, and the department needs. Addressing the concerns voiced by G. Murphy at last month's meeting, he described the process by which the six (6) firefighters (some who are licensed CDL drivers and/or naval sub sailors) would be trained to maneuver and operate the tanker, strictly on a volunteer basis. The Commission discussed these topics and Commissioner Yuchniuk summarized that a balance must be made between need versus the Town's funds. Commissioner Butterworth requested that information be brought back to the Commission on a 2,000, 2,600, and 3,000 gallon tanker for review.

Motion by Commissioner Butterworth; seconded by Commissioner Yuchniuk to table Agenda Item 11c until the May Commission meeting. Discussion: none. **Voice Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.**

12. New Business.

a. Election by Commissioners.

Motion by Commissioner Butterworth; seconded by Commissioner Gillette to nominate Commissioner Yuchniuk for Chair of the Commission. There were no other nominations for Chair. Motion by Commission Butterworth; seconded by Commissioner Gillette to close the nominations and cast a vote for Commissioner Yuchniuk for Chair. Discussion: none. **Roll Call Vote: In favor, Commissioners Butterworth, Doherty, Gillette, Lenda, Moran, Perkins, and Yuchniuk, 7-0. Opposed, none. Motion carried.**

Motion by Commissioner Yuchniuk; seconded by Commissioner Butterworth to nominate Commissioner Moran and Vice-chair of the Commission. Discussion: none. **Roll Call Vote:**

**In favor, Commissioners Butterworth, Doherty, Gillette, Lenda, Moran, Perkins, and Yuchniuk, 7-0. Opposed, none. Motion carried.**

b. Patrol Rifle.

Commissioner Butterworth requested the number of rifles on the patrol vehicles. Lt. Bunnell reported on the number of available assault rifles and said he would report back on the number for the remaining ones. Commissioner Butterworth also asked who was shotgun qualified.

c. Level IV Plates and Carriers.

Commissioner Butterworth asked whether exploration should be done for Level IV vests explaining that they are the new standard for the State year's end with ballistic helmets. Lt. Bunnell commented that the equipment budget would need to be increased. Commissioner Butterworth said there were grants for them.

13. Remarks from the Public (non-agenda items—three-minute limit).

Chairman Moran asked three times for comments. Lt. Bunnell commented that the police are doing the job with 21 officers and 24 officers on payroll, although the department is budgeted for 26 officers. He said the department heads, particularly the Captain's position, must be moved forward to address the staffing needs.

14. Remarks from the Mayor. -- *None*

15. Remarks from Town Council Liaison. -- *None*

16. Remarks from Commissioners.

Commissioner Lenda commented on open communication within the Commission and the Town Council Liaison. Commissioner Yuchniuk thanked everyone for their votes and said he would do his best.

17. Adjournment.

Motion by Commissioner Butterworth; seconded by Commissioner Perkins to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. Discussion: none. **Voice vote; 7-0; all in favor. Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Gloria J. Gathers  
Minutes/Recording Clerk, Town of Montville

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