

Town of Montville Town Council

**Special Meeting Minutes**

**October 29, 2018**

6:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order  
Deputy Chairman Pike called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of our military
3. Roll Call  
Present were Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Pollard, Rogers, Rogulski, and Pike. Absent was Councilor McNally. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit  
Howard R. Beetham, Jr., 60 Riverview Road, expressed his surprise at the lack of attendees and felt that it was due to the lack of public notice regarding the raising of the fees at the Transfer Station by approximately 40-60%, making it appear somewhat “sneaky”. He commented on the negative effect and economic difficulties the fees would have on those on a fixed income as they continue to face cuts from the State. He urged them to K.I.S.S. (Keep It Simple, Stupid).
5. New Business
  - a. **Resolution #2018-75. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to transfer \$2,019 to Contribution to Capital (10960-54131) from Contingency (10480-52164) for Chesterfield tanker truck. (Councilor Pike)  
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Rogers. Discussion: It was confirmed that the transfer of funds was discussed at their October Regular Meeting and the old truck was traded in, offsetting the final purchase price. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Pollard, Rogers, Rogulski, and Pike. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.
  - b. **Resolution #2018-76. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize the 2017-18 Fiscal Year transfers, as requested by the Finance Director and depicted on Schedule A (attached). (Councilor Pike)  
Motion made by Councilor Rogers, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: Councilor Jaskiewicz stated that the transfers were discussed by the Finance Committee with the Finance Director. Finance Director Terry Hart stated that the fuel, which, in years past, was prepaid, locking in the price and allowing them to carry over the fuel into the following year, was not prepaid for the 2017-18 Fiscal Year causing the line item to go over the budgeted amount. As such, the Auditors suggested either transferring the funds or including it in their annual audit as a communication. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Pollard, Rogers, Rogulski, and Pike. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.
  - c. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve and adopt the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Regulations, as recommended by the Public Works/Solid Waste Subcommittee. (Councilor McNally)  
Motion made by Councilor Rogers, seconded by Councilor Rogulski. Discussion: While Councilor Jaskiewicz commended the Subcommittee on the Regulations, he expressed his opposition due to the proposed increases, hastiness, and lack of public notice that would have allowed the public to voice any concerns they might have regarding the Regulation. Deputy Chairman Pike stated that much discussion has taken place regarding the issue at the Public Hearings regarding the PAYT/SMART (Pay As You Throw/Save Money And Reduce Trash) Program and the Subcommittee meetings. Councilor Caron stated that the Subcommittee members discussed the matter with input from Deputy Chairman Pike and invaluable input from the Public Works Director and Transfer Station Employee Florence

Turner. He thanked and agreed with Mr. Beetham for his comments as he has consistently voiced his opposition to the raising of the fees for, especially, the seniors and expressed his concerns regarding the availability of the Punch Cards for the landlords/business owners in the Town. Councilor Rogers stated that, compared to Willimantic Waste, the fees are considerably less and that a landlord is a business owner and should be treated accordingly. Councilor Rogulski, while sharing Councilor Caron's concerns, also noted that the Town's taxes have increased over the years to help adjust for the rising costs at the Transfer Station as the result of the abuse. As such, 60-70% of the residents who do not utilize the Transfer Station have been unfairly shouldering the costs for those who do. Councilor Jaskiewicz felt that it might be most prudent for the Councilors to take their time and send the item back to the Subcommittee for further discussion. Councilor Pollard who has been on a fixed income for several years, by personal choice, stated that, while she is unhappy with the increases, she also recognizes the need for the Town to take measures due to the ongoing abuse. Based upon his impression of the comments made at the previous Public Hearings, Councilor Jaskiewicz felt that the residents were in favor of a one-time increase, not an increase made over a three-year period. He also felt that it should not be assumed that the public can or is willing to absorb the increase and opposes the apparent penalization of those who are following the rules by trying to penalize those who do not. He proposed they hold a Public Hearing providing the public with the opportunity to express their opinions. Deputy Chairman Pike stated that the increase amounts to \$20.00 over a three-year period or a little over \$6.00/year increase or \$0.15 or \$0.20/day – a very minimal amount. Councilor Pollard also suggested holding a Public Hearing and was agreeable with sending the item back to the Subcommittee for further discussion. Councilor Caron, in response, explained the process and re-stated his concerns for the townspeople, in general, not only the seniors.

*Councilors Rogers and Rogulski rescinded the original motion.*

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron, to table the item and send it back to the Public Works/Solid Waste Subcommittee. Discussion: Deputy Chairman Pike questioned the purpose behind holding either an Informational Meeting or Public Hearing on the item, given the number of residents who are in attendance at this evening's meeting. Mayor McDaniel, with all due respect, noted that the public was unaware of this evening's Special Meeting until last Thursday. He also noted two items of consideration: one, the landlord/businesses are charged a different, multi-family tax rate than the regular homeowner and, secondly, while a number of residents were agreeable to an increase in the fees, they were not aware that there would be a limit to the number of bags they would be able to dispose of at the Transfer Station. Councilor Pollard felt that those who might be posed with an issue with the weekly bag limit will need to adjust their habits to accommodate their budget and/or the given restrictions. Councilor Rogers stated that, with the Town's current recycling program, the amount of garbage a household produces should be minimal. He also urged the Councilors to do their homework prior to presenting an item to the Town Council to avoid such debates and causing them to look like fools. The Subcommittee will discuss holding an Informational Meeting. Roll Call vote, 3-2-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, and Pollard. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Rogulski and Pike. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Rogers. The item was tabled and will be sent back to the Public Works/Solid Waste Subcommittee.

- d. To Consider and Act on a Motion to introduce and set the date for a public hearing regarding on an ordinance titled "Ordinance Concerning Solid Waste" on Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. The Public Hearing will be held in the Town Council Chambers at Montville Town Hall. (Councilor McNally)

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

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

Howard R. Beetham, Jr., 60 Riverview Road, suggested splitting the item into two: Regulations and Fees, allowing the Regulations to stay as is for a number of years and the fees to change periodically. He also suggested noting the current fees in addition to the revised/future fees.

Peter Coombs, 21 Chapel Hill Road, stated that he did not hear about the meeting until 2:30 this afternoon and noted that the previous Public Hearing Meetings regarding the PAYT/SMART Program were publicized at the Transfer Station, inviting a number of residents to voice their opinion(s). He understands the need to increase the fees and noted that the fees do not indicate the pricing for one who is 60 years of age.

8. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor Caron thanked everyone for attending and speaking at this evening's meeting. He agreed with the suggestion to post the meeting at the Transfer Station such that those who would be most affected could be properly informed and attend the meeting to voice their opinions.

Councilor Jaskiewicz agreed and added that the meeting can also be promoted on the High School's electronic sign.

Councilor Rogulski agrees with the need to keep the public informed and briefly explained the reasoning behind his vote.

Councilor Pollard appreciates Mr. Beetham's comments and agreed that the Regulations should be further reviewed and the public should be better informed. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Councilor Rogers also expressed his agreeance with informing the public. He also felt that any discussions and debates regarding items brought before the Subcommittees that are made up of Town Councilors should be resolved prior to coming before the Town Council. Not doing so makes the Councilors appear foolish. He added that the public is also invited to attend and voice their opinions at the Subcommittee meetings. Councilors Caron and Pollard stated that, in their many years of experience as Town Councilors, some items are such that they are discussed with the Councilors and returned to the Subcommittee for further investigation/discussion and is a positive interaction.

Mayor McDaniel reported that the sale of the Youth Services Building recently closed and welcomed two new Town employees: Derek Anderson, Water Pollution Control Authority, and Karen Gauthier, Tax Collector.

Deputy Chairman Pike stated his understanding for the need to better inform the public and felt that a good conversation was held between the Councilors for what he felt was a strong regulation. He thanked everyone for attending this evening's meeting.

9. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Rogers, to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes T. Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville

**AN AUDIO RECORD OF THE MEETING CAN BE FOUND ON THE TOWN'S WEBSITE  
LOCATED UNDER RESOURCES – FORM REPOSITORY – MEETING RECORDINGS**