

**Town of Montville Public Safety Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – February 25, 2019 - 6:00 PM**  
Montville Town Hall – Town Council Chambers

1. Call to order.

Chairman Yuchniuk 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, Mickey Gillette, Victor Lenda, Jr., Jon Leonard, Karen Perkins and Chairman Robert Yuchniuk. Commissioner Moran was absent. Also present were Mayor Ronald McDaniel, Fire Marshal Bill Bundy, and Town Council Liaison Jeff Rogers. A quorum was present.

4. Amendments to the Agenda. -- *None*

5. Communications:

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

Chairman Yuchniuk confirmed receipt of the reports. Most confirmed they had not received the report from Animal Control.

6. Consideration and action to approve minutes.

- a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2019.

Motion by Commissioner Butterworth; seconded by Commissioner Lenda to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2019. Discussion: none. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

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

Chairman Yuchniuk asked three times for remarks. There were none.

8. Remarks from Department Heads.

Police Department Report

Sgt. Northrop reported on staffing as of January 2019. He gave an update on personnel that included one (1) new hire, Academy participants, pending candidates, and two (2) officers who will be sworn in on March 18<sup>th</sup> for a total of 22 staff.

Lt. Radford reported there were 983 total calls for service in January that included Type 1 calls (78), arrests (25) and juvenile arrests (1). The source for these calls were Troop E (147), PD (274), Walk-in (67), and By Officer (495) and summarized in the PD January 2019 monthly report accordingly. He also distributed a proposed policy, Portable Intoxilyzer Policy and Procedure, for a portable breath test for use “as another field tool to support probable cause.”

Two (2) of the devices are proposed and will be calibrated annually by the company that will also provide training for the device. Monthly calibration will be done by the PD and the devices will be signed off for use per shift. Responding to a question by Commissioner Lenda, Lt. Radford said the devices are budgeted and added that an operator had the right to refuse the test and it would not be deemed as non-refusal. He said the devices have the approval of the PD and the local prosecutor and will cost \$750 each.

Motion by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Lenda, to have the Commission consider and review the proposal for the Portable Intoxilyzer Policy and Procedure. Discussion: none. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

Fire Department Report

Fire Marshal Bundy reported there were 268 calls for service in January 2019 and two (2) fire investigations—vehicle \$25,000 loss and one (1) brush. Of the calls for service, 190 were medical EMS calls or 70.9% of all calls for service. In addition, forty-three inspections were completed. Fire Marshal Bundy also reported on Emergency Management stating the four (4) fire departments held a monthly group meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>, an informational Region #4 meeting concerning assets for the Fire Chiefs. The local emergency operating plan was updated with the Region #4 project manager and it was then submitted and signed off on. The Fire Marshal also reported on the newly formed cyber security subcommittee through ESF #5. He concluded by reporting on an order for new portable radios for paid firefighters, a capital project appropriation of \$17,000. The radios were received last week and will be cycled into operation.

9. Committee and Liaison Reports.

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

Commissioner Perkins stated Fire Marshal Bundy had reported earlier on activity for January and said Fire Chief Truex would speak later in the meeting.

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

Commissioner Gillette reported on the monthly Town and Salem reports submitted electronically to the Commission.

Animal Control Reports

Town of Montville Animal Control Report (January 2019)

	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b># of Animals Impounded</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>72</b>
<b># of Animals Sold as Pets</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>35</b>
<b># of Animals D.O.A.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b># of Animals Euthanized</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total Complaints Investigated</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>614</b>
<b>Total Animal Bites Investigated</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Total Infractions/Summons</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>

Town of Salem Animal Control Report (January 2019)

	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b># of Animals Impounded</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>
<b># of Animals Sold as Pets</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b># of Animals D.O.A.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b># of Animals Euthanized</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total Complaints Investigated</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Total Animal Bites Investigated</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total Infractions/Summons</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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

Commissioner Lenda stated Sgt. Northrop and Lt. Radford had reported earlier in the meeting on PD activity. He also reported he had spoken with Lt. Radford about his new assignment and confirmed staffing as reported that he described as “excellent” and about other candidates.

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

Commissioner Butterworth reported he met with Building Inspector Vesey and then asked Fire Marshal Bundy had he met with him about the Faria project. Fire Marshal Bundy responded he met with the developer last month but had not seen the mechanicals for the project. Commissioner Butterworth said the Faria project would begin the first of April and continue for 18-24 months. He also reported that some blight matters had been closed with some under fines of \$25 per day. Commissioner Lenda thanked Mayor McDaniel and Town Councilor Rogers for the information on blight sent electronically to the Commission and said the blight numbers are getting better.

Building Department Report

<b>2018-2019 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>	<b>88</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>101</b>					
<b>Open Permits</b>	<b>3104</b>	<b>3119</b>	<b>3167</b>	<b>3210</b>	<b>3254</b>	<b>3269</b>	<b>3099</b>					
<b>Inspections</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>99</b>					
<b>Plan Reviews</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>22</b>					
<b>CO's</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>					
<b>Violations</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>					
<b>Unsafe Notices</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>					
<b>Blight Identified To Date</b>	<b>509</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>519</b>					
<b>Blight Abated To Date</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>286</b>					

e. Report from School Security Subcommittee (*Lenda, Butterworth*)

**Executive Session:**

Motion to approve an Executive Session for discussion of Agenda Item 9.e and invite in Mayor McDaniel and Fire Marshal Bundy.

Motion by Chairman Yuchniuk; seconded by Commissioner Leonard to enter Executive Session at 6:23 p.m. for discussion of Agenda Item 9.e, and invite in Mayor McDaniel, Fire Marshal Bundy, Lt. Radford, Sgt. Northrop, and Town Councilor Rogers. Discussion: none. Voice vote; 6-0; all in favor. Motion carried.

*The Commission returned from Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. Chairman Yuchniuk reported that no votes were taken.*

- f. Report from Animal Control Facility Feasibility Subcommittee (*Gillette, Leonard, Perkins*)

Commissioner Leonard said he had no report. Chairman Yuchniuk reported he had forwarded the request for the proposed Animal Control facility to the Town Council for decision as approved by the Commission last month.

10. Unfinished Business. -- *None*

11. New Business

- a. Consideration and action concerning Chesterfield Vacuum Tanker (*Chief Truex*)  
Fire Chief Truex reported on a sequence of events concerning the order for the Chesterfield replacement 2600-gallon vacuum tanker approved by the Commission last fall. He stated the vendor ordered the wrong chassis for the 2600-gallon tanker and that it is no longer available for order this year. Chief Truex explained that the vendor had voluntarily agreed to replace the original ordered chassis with a 3000-gallon tanker at no additional cost to the Town. The 3000 tanker was reported as being longer, more heavy duty, and with an additional 3200 lbs of weight than that of the 2600. Commissioner Lenda reiterated discussion from the Commission meeting last fall about the safety concern of the 3000 tanker with respect to maneuvering the hills in the Town as well as the safety of the firefighters and the public as agreed upon by the Commission. Chief Truex responded to a question about the ladder truck which is larger than the proposed 3000 tanker and said the Gardner Lake tanker is a 3500. He also said he respectfully disagreed with safety comments expressed by resident Gary Murphy as read from the March 26, 2018, Commission meeting minutes by Commissioner Leonard.

Commissioner Perkins asked Fire Chief Truex why he originally settled for the 2600 tanker and why the Commission would settle for the 3000 given the order mistake was made by the company. Chief Truex said he was told he would not get the tanker and said the order mistake would get the Town a better tanker at no additional cost. He added the dealer/company would also be held accountable for the content of the order and the tanker would have to be NFDA compliant. Chief Truex also said the 2600 tanker would not be available again until January 2020. Commissioner Lenda inquired whether the 3000 tanker would have a dual axle on the

rear to which Chief Truex responded in the affirmative explaining it would not be a fifth wheel and that the 2600 and 3000 tankers would each have a dual rear axle.

Chairman Yuchniuk asked Chief Truex if the other chiefs agreed with the 3000 replacement chassis. Chief Truex said there was an email chain with the chiefs that was not sent to everyone as he did not have all of the email addresses. He added the 3000 replacement would be a change order. Chairman Yuchniuk also asked whether the price for the replacement would be reduced due to the dealer's error. Commissioner Butterworth said he wanted to see a picture of the replacement. Town Councilor Rogers said the salesman at the March 2018 Commission meeting said the cost difference between the 2600 and 3000 tankers was \$20,000 as read by Commissioner Leonard from said minutes. He also asked how many firefighters were CDL certified, a certification "tested to a higher authority and credibility of driving skills." Town Councilor Rogers expressed that the Commission listened to the presentation last March and the comments made by former Fire Chief Murphy and said the safety issues and concerns about the 3000 tanker remain the same. He asked whether paid staff was prepared to operate the replacement tanker taking into account its excess weight, powertrain, and stopping distances. Town Councilor Rogers also referenced liability and the affordability of the purchase to which the Town Council appropriated funds responsible for by Mayor McDaniel. Commissioner Leonard stated the Town did not have a voice or decision in the matter and Chairman Yuchniuk added the Commission relied on people, the fire personnel, who use the trucks for feedback. Fire Marshal Bundy reported paid staff he spoke with are not in favor of the 3000 replacement stating this manufacturer delivered a prior tanker that had concerns. Union Representative Congdon stated the union does not get involved and that personnel drive what they are given. Chesterfield Asst. Fire Chief Forrester referenced the 400 additional gallons of water with the 3000 tanker and said he wanted to make sure the tanker was not cut down nor did the department miss a good opportunity. He also referenced his having taken the CDL at one time to which Town Councilor Rogers explained the process now involved attending truck certification school for CDL A and B certification.

Commissioner Butterworth spoke about receipt of the new bid specification but said the Commission needed the whole package to review. Chief Truex said the dealer was looking for an answer regarding the change order. Commissioner Butterworth stated he would not go forward for consideration of the 3000 tanker to which Chief Truex asked why safety concerns were being discounted as expressed by him and his Asst. Chief. Commissioner Lenda commented on a tanker accident on Rte. 85 where he was present and said he knew former Chief Murphy. He asked Chief Truex whether this manufacturer was the only one that built this tanker to which Chief Truex replied it was one of two. Commissioner Lenda asked that the Union speak to its members regarding the proposed replacement tanker stating its importance and potential liability for the Town. Union Representative Congdon referenced data regarding a smaller versus a larger tanker and inherent risk and said he could give a statement to their concern.

Motion by Commissioner Butterworth; seconded by Commissioner Leonard to table discussion of the 3000 tanker to have Fire Chief Truex to obtain the bid specifications with all safety data and have the district Fire Chiefs meet and report back to the Commission on it.

Discussion: Commissioner Lenda stated the Commission had already agreed upon the 2600 tanker and should proceed with its purchase. Commissioner Butterworth referenced discussion of the pros and cons particularly the safety concerns stating most do not know fire trucks. It was also said two (2) Fire Chiefs were not present. Commissioner Leonard withdrew his second to the motion. Chairman Yuchniuk stated the motion died.

Motion by Commissioner Lenda; seconded by Commissioner Lenda to refuse acceptance of the 3000 tanker at no additional cost and proceed with the original 26000 tanker that was ordered with a non-altered chassis. Discussion: none. Vote by a Show Hands: In favor, Commissioners Gillette, Lenda, Leonard, Perkins, and Chairman Yuchniuk. Opposed: Abstained: None. Commissioner Butterworth. Motion carried, 5-1-0.

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

Chairman Yuchniuk asked three times for comments. Resident Rob Forrester of 831 Chesterfield Road stated he is a New England appraiser for BFS Insurance and spoke of his experience with tanker rollovers that he said he had rarely seen. He also said he was not sure about the source of the stats concerning the safety of the tanker discussed this evening.

13. Remarks from the Mayor

Mayor McDaniel commented that the Department heads covered information earlier in their respective areas. He reminded the Commission of the swearing in scheduled for March 18 at 1:00 p.m.

14. Remarks from Town Council Liaison.

Town Councilor Rogers remarked on earlier discussion regarding the 3000 gallon vacuum tanker stating “the concern is not statistics...but the propensity for it to happen,” regarding safety of the vehicle. He thanked Chief Truex and everyone else for their opinions.

15. Remarks from Commissioners.

Chairman Yuchniuk commented on the email sent by Mayor McDaniel from Chief Messier regarding the exemplary performance of duties by Firefighter David Wheeler. He also remarked on *The Day* write-off of 911 Operator Rich Waselik, a Town resident, who was credited with assisting with the birth of a baby.

16. Adjournment.

Motion by Commissioner Perkins; seconded by Commissioner Lenda to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. Discussion: none. Voice vote; 6-0; all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Gloria J. Gathers  
Recording Clerk, Town of Montville

**AN AUDIO RECORDING IS AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN’S WEBSITE.**