

**Town of Montville Public Safety Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes – August 26, 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 Mickey Gillette, Victor Lenda, Jr., Jon Leonard (6:02 p.m.), James Moran, Stephen Stewart, and Chairman Robert Yuchniuk. Also present were Lt. Dave Radford, Mayor Ronald McDaniel, and Town Council Liaison Jeff Rogers. A quorum was present. Commissioner Perkins and Fire Marshal Bundy were absent from the meeting.

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 monthly statistics reports. Commissioner Gillette spoke of his difficulty with sending the ACO report.

6. Consideration and action to approve minutes.

a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of July 22, 2019.

Motion by Commissioner Gillette; seconded by Commissioner Stewart to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 22, 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

Lt. Radford reported to the Commission there were 1144 total calls for service in July that included Type 1 calls (84), arrests (31), and juvenile arrests (1). The source for these calls were Troop E (235), PD (217), Walk-ins (97), and By Officer (595) as summarized in the PD July 2019 monthly report. As to staffing, Lt. Radford reported Officer Kelly is doing well and is currently in phase two of the FTO program. Officers Hagios and DiColella continue to do well in the Academy and will be graduating at SCSU on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Officers Cassidy and Kuckel are taking part in the first commuter academy and all seems to be going well. Lt. Radford also reported the PBT Policy was approved by the Town Council on August 12 and is in the process of being issued. The Eversource gas line job is slowing and is down to three (3) officers as of tomorrow. Also, school will begin on Wednesday, August 28 and he is working on having police presence at each school on that morning. Lt. Radford is also trying

to conduct selective enforcement during school bus hours throughout town. The Lieutenant also distributed a handout to the Commission regarding a Cognitive Issues Program that he and Town Councilor Pollard are looking to start in Town. He said the Waterford PD started the program and their model is being utilized to jumpstart it in Montville. Lt. Radford said the program will allow persons in Town to provide information and a photo of cognitively impaired individuals to the PD who will maintain the program. He also spoke about the patrol boat that was on the water for four (4) hours on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at PD expense. Lt. Radford said they are attempting to do the same on September 1<sup>st</sup>, again at the PD’s expense. He reported the Gardner Lake Authority (GLA) appreciated the PD’s extra efforts and looked forward to the possibility of using the PD for water coverage next year, pending their budgeting. Lt. Radford also recognized three (3) officers who received Positive Performance Observation Reports in the past month. On July 19, Officer Shephard encouraged an individual to seek medical care and although the individual initially refused was diagnosed as experiencing mini strokes. Officers Smith and Rockwell located a juvenile who was autistic and nonverbal and had ran away from home during a storm but was returned safe to family.

Fire Department Report

The report submitted by Fire Marshal Bundy reported statistics for July 2019 as follows: There were 262 calls for service of which 185 were medical or EMS calls, or 70.6% of all calls for service. There was a building fire investigation for a loss of \$30,000.

9. Committee and Liaison Reports.

a. Report from Fire Department Liaison (*Perkins*) – *No report*

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

Commissioner Gillette reported on the Town and Salem Animal Control July monthly reports to the Commission as shown below.

Animal Control Reports

Town of Montville Animal Control Report (July 2019)

	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b># of Animals Impounded</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>
<b># of Animals Sold as Pets</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
<b># of Animals D.O.A.</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b># of Animals Euthanized</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total Complaints Investigated</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>116</b>
<b>Total Animal Bites Investigated</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total Infractions/Summons</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

Town of Salem Animal Control Report (July 2019)

	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b># of Animals Impounded</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b># of Animals Sold as Pets</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b># of Animals D.O.A.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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<b># of Animals Euthanized</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Complaints Investigated</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total Animal Bites Investigated</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total Infractions/Summons</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

c. Report from Police Department Liaison (*Lenda*)  
 Commissioner Lenda emailed a report on the Police Department that is attached to the minutes as 9c. PD Liaison Report.

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

<b>2019-2020 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>142</b>											
<b>Open Permits</b>	<b>2920</b>											
<b>Inspections</b>	<b>128</b>											
<b>Plan Reviews</b>	<b>22</b>											
<b>CO's</b>	<b>5</b>											
<b>Violations</b>	<b>2</b>											
<b>Unsafe Notices</b>	<b>0</b>											
<b>Blight Identified To Date</b>	<b>533</b>											
<b>Blight Abated To Date</b>	<b>315</b>											

Commissioner Leonard reported that Building Inspector was to attend the meeting to discuss the proposed fee schedule revision.

e. Report from School Security Subcommittee (*Lenda, Leonard, Moran*)  
 Commissioner Lenda reported he spoke with Superintendent Palin, who did set up a meeting with Board of Education Chairman Mitchell and this subcommittee. However, with the fast approaching school year, the end of summer and vacations, he asked if the subcommittee could be invited to the first School Safety Meeting of this new school year to discuss the grant project and other ideas. The Superintendent thought it to be a great idea. As a note, she was already busy with meetings and preparations for school start up and called him at the end of one of her days last week at 7:00 p.m. They discussed on the phone School Counselors vs student population. Superintendent Palin advised him of a great resource made available to the school district this year. DCF will have an office in the Tyl Middle School for parents and students that need help. DCF will also be there if anything is needed or for reference. He and Superintendent Palin also discussed the grant and other security ideas. The School Safety Meeting is scheduled for September 24 at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Gillette said he still wanted to be on the subcommittee.

10. Unfinished Business.

a. Consideration and action concerning Gardner Lake complaints.

Town Councilor Rogers thanked Lt. Radford for his efforts with PD patrol boat coverage at the lake. Lt. Radford reported that on August 3 there was one (1) infraction and four (4) safety inspections. Town Councilor Rogers reported he attended the last GLA meeting and said they are extremely gratified with VEEP's handling of complaints (90%) and water issues (10%). He spoke with VEEP about their availability for water coverage in Town but they are currently working with Waterford and East Lyme. He said Montville has a river and lakes and needs to adjust accordingly. He also reported VEEP is funded through the GLA, not for the Town PD use, and said funds extends farther with VEEP.

b. Consideration and action on Building Department fee schedule recommendations.

Building Inspector Vesey stated that per the Town Charter the fees are to be periodically reviewed for proposed changes which was last done in 2012. He said his proposed changes were minor in order to coincide with the fees of area Towns that he surveyed such as a \$2,000 increase on single family home construction. He said his proposal does not include maximum fees and the fees obtained go into the Town General Fund. Building Inspector Vesey also responded that penalty fees are not allowed but a cease and desist is an applicable measure.

Motion by Commissioner Leonard, seconded by Commissioner Stewart to submit changes to the Town Building Fees as proposed by the Building Inspector and forward them as written to TARP. Discussion: none. Vote by a Show of Hands: *In favor* Gillette, Lenda, Leonard, and Stewart. *Opposed* Commissioners Moran and Yuchniuk. Vote 4-2. Motion carried.

11. New Business – *None*

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

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

13. Remarks from the Mayor

Mayor McDaniel spoke of Lt. Radford coordinating with the school district concerning selective enforcement particularly since more students will be walking to school. He also commented on the Cognitive Issues Program which he said would be great for sober alerts and those suffering from dementia but the program is voluntary. Mayor McDaniel also reported on changes to the Volunteer Relief Fund to get them more involved. He also commented on a meeting of the Region 4 RAS that he plans to attend regarding funds for emergency service supplies. Mayor McDaniel as said he attended a convocation this morning regarding student engagement with the Superintendent and Asst. Superintendent of Schools. The focus of the meeting was to engage all students.

14. Remarks from Town Council Liaison. – *No remarks*

15. Remarks from Commissioners.

Commissioner Stewart reported on the fire department in the absence of Fire Marshal Bundy and Commission Liaison Perkins. He said one (1) career firefighter was leaving although Mayor McDaniel said he had not received notice of it. He also reported that the Fire Department made an appearance at the Farmer's Market three weeks ago and displayed their apparatus. Commissioner Stewart also mentioned training in the past month for tanker operation and EMS basics. Protocol for designation of apparatus when apparatus goes out of Town, as implemented by Dispatch, will change so that everyone will be advised. He also remarked that manpower issues needs to be worked on. He mentioned three (3) calls that occurred today and said one (1) was taken by the tribal fire department.

Commissioner Lenda remarked about paving as a result of gas line repairs. Mayor McDaniel said it would be done this fall beginning in October with a little delay expected on Raymond Hill Road. Commissioner Lenda inquired if the impound lot was being used. Lt. Radford responded that a seized vehicle for the purposes of court can be kept in the sally port at the PSB and that some things can be kept in the lot that is ready for use. Commissioner Lenda again commissioned that the lot be named for former Lt. Bunnell with a plaque as he was instrumental in it coming to fruition. He also mentioned the possibility of having two (2) volunteers, retired or enforcement, as a community resources officer, for security purposes. He referred to the East Lyme auxiliary trooper, the Waterford CRO, and a civilian security force that he saw on the news. Lt Radford said the PD can work with the school system and assist them with the same. Commissioner Lenda concluded that he would be resigning from the Commission to take care of his aging parents but said he would be willing to stay on until the first of the year.

16. Adjournment.

Motion by Commissioner Moran; Commissioner Leonard to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 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.**

### **Agenda Item 9c – Police Department Liaison Report**

On July 30, 2019, I met with Lt. David Radford to discuss and view the boat. The Lieutenant showed me the Police Boat and as I stated in my email to all dated August 1, 2019, the craft was being prepared for the water. As you know, the boat is an air inflated Zodiac. It is presently housed inside the PD, in an extra bay.

Lt. Radford made an effort to speak with the Gardner Lake Authority and with the Mayor's approval, the Boat Patrol was activated for a Saturday afternoon/evening shift. Officer Saffioti and Officer Fazzino manned the Boat and made their presence known. Enforcement was taken on crafters for some dangerous situations. They plan to evaluate another Patrol for possibly Labor Day weekend.

During a week day in August, I went to Gardner Lake Boat Launch. I viewed very little boat activity during this week day, with only five (5) boat trailers in the parking lot. The beach only had a few bathers but I was saddened to hear the language from a young teenage girl, yelling at a family member with no parental discipline from what appeared to be the mother. The beach surroundings were over grown with grass or weeds and not very inviting.

I spoke with Resident Trooper Juhola on two (2) occasions this month. Trooper Juhola advised that he supports the Boat Patrol on the Lake. He explained that the present boat is kept inside to preserve the canvas and gave me an example of the Patriot's Deflate Gate. Recalling different temperatures effect the air pressure, leaving the Boat outside in the sun without being in the water could cause damage with higher air pressure. So, by getting the boat ready before launch helps preserve it.

Trooper Juhola and Lt. Radford both agree on the need to have the Gardner Lake Patrol. However, there must be a commitment from the Officers to do so and want to do so. Presently there are many priorities in the Department.

Resident Trooper Juhola explained the Federal Port Authority that includes all area towns, cities and the Coast Guard that border the Thames River and Long Island Sound. The Federal Port Authority granted the Norwich Fire Department new engines for their Boat and purchased new Crafts for Norwich Police and East Lyme Police in the recent past as well as others. These were high dollar purchases. Grant money does not appear to be ready available at this time.

Also, Trooper Juhola mentioned the great work that the Officers are doing and said the State DUI grant is still ongoing. There are still funds available and great work being done for the safety of the town with this grant....

Also, with the new School Year about to start, I asked Lt. Radford about First Day Coverage at the Schools. He advised that they commit to this every year and will continue this year. Resident Trooper Juhola also mentioned the patrol coverage and walk-ins will continue with the Patrol Staff Duties.

Lastly, a note should be made that the DEEP Patrol, contracted by the GLA has not been a 24-hour seven day a week job for the Lake. They man the lake patrol when they can and when there are no other priorities. The DEEP is short staffed as well as anyone, so Montville helping out with their presence is needed.

*Commissioner Lenda*