

Town of Montville Town Council
Public Hearing Board of Education Budget Minutes
April 23, 2020
6:00 p.m. – Montville Town Hall, Town Council Chambers

The Town of Montville utilized a virtual GoToWebinar service for this meeting.

Please register to attend the meeting at:

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/4727460601093056271>

*After registering, you will receive a confirmation email
containing information about joining the webinar.*

or by **telephone** or **VoIP: (415) 655-0052** at the time of the meeting

Access Code: **268-202-493**

Applicable toll charges may apply if connecting via telephone

or via the **GoToWebinar App** on your **smartphone** or **tablet**:

Webinar ID: **787-419-907**

On March 14, 2020 Governor Ned Lamont issued an Executive Order 7B suspending in-person open meeting requirements, and to hold such meetings or proceedings remotely by conference call, videoconference or other technology.

Link: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-7B.pdf>

For all publicly broadcasted meetings, public comment on agenda items or topics in accordance with the Town Charter may be submitted in writing in advance or by live audio via GoToWebinar.

Written comments must be emailed to the Town Clerk at townclerk@montville-ct.org at least **1 working day in advance (if the meeting is on a Monday the questions must be submitted by close of business the previous Friday).**

Written comments may not be read in their entirety, but rather similar messages may be aggregated or paraphrased for submission to the Mayor and Council.

Live audio comments may be made via GoToWebinar by registering at the web address or calling from your telephone or computer mic & speakers (VoIP) noted above.

Comments will only be accepted at times designated for public comment by the Chair of the meeting. The Montville Town Council Rules of Procedure, decorum, timeliness and suitability shall be followed and enforced in the same manner as if the meeting were held in person.

1. Call to Order

Chairman May 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 Leonard Bunnell, Sr., Joseph Jaskiewicz, Tim May, Colleen Rix, and Joseph Rogulski. Absent were Councilors Billy Caron and Kathleen Pollard. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.

4. Public Hearing

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE
NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARINGS**

The Town of Montville will be utilizing a virtual meeting service for the Public Hearings on April 22 & 23, 2020. Please refer to www.montville-ct.org for full details.

Revenue Summary 2020-2021

Description	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ADOPTED	2020 ESTIMATE	2021 DEPT. REQ.	2021 MAYOR PROP
PROPERTY TAXES	41,491,153	42,805,473	42,337,387	48,636,667	44,186,094
LICENSES & PERMITS	893,413	1,116,820	1,003,093	859,500	859,500
REVENUE USE MONEY/PROPERTY	405,352	336,000	291,903	266,000	266,000
REVENUE OTHER AGENCIES	233,291	229,039	173,986	231,364	231,364
STATE GRANTS SCHOOL	13,113,422	13,122,876	13,186,248	13,216,242	13,216,242
STATE GRANTS UNSPECIFIED	2,676,438	2,692,560	2,693,717	3,193,040	3,193,040
CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES	476,567	411,600	382,894	386,700	386,700
MISC REVENUE	(152,991)	898,000	1,175,345	1,373,500	1,373,500
TOTAL REVENUES	59,136,645	61,612,368	61,244,573	68,163,013	63,712,440

Expenditure Summary 2020-2021

Description	2019 ACTUAL	2020 ADOPTED	2020 ESTIMATE	2021 DEPT. REQ.	2021 MAYOR PROP
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	2,293,847	2,680,666	2,524,406	2,970,918	2,917,627
INTERGOV'T CONTRIBUTIONS	73,300	74,300	74,300	203,149	74,300
FRINGE BENEFITS/INSURANCE	4,020,378	4,685,834	4,592,117	5,195,800	5,195,800
DEBT SERVICE	4,573,138	4,944,812	4,944,812	5,073,180	5,073,180
LAND USE	267,951	288,828	277,275	288,573	289,428
HUMAN SERVICES	633,416	668,108	648,065	695,817	671,644
CULTURE AND RECREATION	356,569	407,250	366,525	418,150	406,150
PUBLIC SAFETY	4,787,672	4,767,922	4,624,884	5,033,113	4,929,360
PUBLIC WORKS	3,745,325	3,903,215	3,747,086	4,056,450	3,910,215
EDUCATION	37,660,619	38,691,433	38,691,433	40,034,736	39,744,736
CAPITAL	419,248	500,000	500,000	4,193,127	500,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	58,831,463	61,612,368	60,990,903	68,163,013	63,712,440

Detailed copies of the budget by department are available online at www.montville-ct.org.

Dated at Montville, Connecticut, this 14th day of April 2020.

Ronald K. McDaniel
Mayor

Timothy May
Town Council Chairman

Theresa Hart
Finance Director

Chairman May introduced Board of Education Chairperson Sandra Berardy and Superintendent of Schools Laurie Pallin.

BOE Chairperson Berardy stated that, today, like the signs that welcome visitors to their town, she congratulated and expressed their extreme pride with the entire school population which has made the necessary transitions and adjustments to continue to provide quality education to the children of their Town with great success. She also thanked Superintendent Pallin for providing direction and ensuring that things run smoothly and all who have been working very hard during these uncertain times. Budgets at this time are very precarious and they are not sure about the amount of funding, any restrictions, or what will happen once the children return to school. The proposed budget, as presented tonight, was created to the best of their ability and adjustments have been made given their current climate.

Superintendent Pallin provided a brief explanation of the Board's budget process for FY2020/21. Their initial proposed budget included contractual salary increases, increases in benefits, purchased services, tuitions, and supplies as well as savings in staffing, teacher retirements, utilities, and transportation costs. After looking into their needs for services based upon the projected student enrollment and needs for both regular and special education students, both of which are expected to grow, they have added additional staffing, including one social worker and four full-time paraprofessionals to replace the eight part-time paraprofessionals. The BOE is requesting an increase of \$1,187,206.00 or 3.07% from their FY2019/20 budget, totaling \$39,878,639.00. She stated the importance of maintaining adequate staffing to properly accommodate the students as they return to school which, as research shows, will result in losses in academic skills and pronounced gaps between students. The students will also require additional resources to support their emotional needs due to any trauma their families may have faced during these uncertain times. They are committed to continuing to review their budget, as necessary, based upon the ongoing changes. She expressed her appreciation to Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux for her hard work in preparing the budget and welcomed any questions.

Chairman May thanked BOE Chairperson Berardy and Superintendent Pallin for their remarks and provided a brief explanation regarding this evening's process.

Chairman May asked several times if there was anyone from the public who would like to speak regarding the Board of Education Budget for FY2020/21.

Karen Duhamel, 1 Fox Hollow Drive, Oakdale, sensed that no e-mails or comments were received by the public regarding the budget due to the pandemic as parents are busy picking up food on a daily basis for their children and many are out of work. She questioned whether it would be possible to delay the budget process to allow more voices from the public to be heard. With regards to the budget, she expressed her appreciation for the information provided and stressed the importance of the additional social worker, stating that it is an embarrassment to the Town that they do not have a social worker in each of the schools; the need has become more urgent in light of the current state of affairs.

No comments were received by e-mail.

There being no comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:16 p.m.

In response to Councilor Rix, Chairman May stated that 16 to 18 attendees were present for this evening's meeting.

4. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Rogulski, to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 5-0, 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**