

**Town of Montville**  
**Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Standing Committee**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**March 23, 2021, 5:00 p.m.**  
**Montville Town Hall – Town Council Chambers via FreeConferenceCall**

**The Town of Montville’s Town Administration/Rules & Procedures Standing Committee will be holding the meeting electronically via FreeConferenceCall. To join the meeting, please dial:**

**(605) 313-5935 | Access Code 401237#**

**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 FreeConferenceCall.**

**Written comments must be emailed to the Town Clerk at [townclerk@montville-ct.org](mailto:townclerk@montville-ct.org) at least 1 working day in advance.**

**Written comments may not be read in their entirety. Rather, similar messages may be aggregated or paraphrased.**

**Live audio comments may be made via FreeConferenceCall by calling the number 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 Jaskiewicz called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call (Councilors Bunnell, Jaskiewicz, and Rogulski)  
Present were Councilors Bunnell, Jaskiewicz, and Rogulski.

4. Remarks from the Public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit – *none*
5. Approval of:
  - a. The Special Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2021 – *tabled*
6. Unfinished Business – *none*
7. New Business
  - a. Wall of Honor

Montville Police Department Lt. David Radford presented the proposed Wall of Honor Policy. The Wall of Honor, which is currently located on the north wall of the Public Safety Building's Community Room, includes plaques honoring individuals who have contributed to the public safety of the community. The purpose of the Policy is to provide a set of guidelines for the Review (Selection) Board that would standardize the process and ensure a fair and objective procedure for those who are nominated for inclusion. He felt that it would provide the Wall with a greater sense of meaning and instill accountability. Because the Wall currently includes photocopies of plaques, photographs, etc., the Policy would also bestow the Wall with a sense of unity, uniformity, and continuity. The Review Board, which would be comprised of the Montville Police Department Lieutenant or designee, Public Safety Commission Member Liaison, and Chief of Police, i.e., the Mayor, would not only be tasked with approving the nominated individuals, but would also review the current honorees on a regular basis.

Councilor Rogulski expressed his support regarding the uniformity of the wall of plaques and stated that, to the best of his knowledge, there are no other towns that have such a Policy. He also questioned the guidelines for the removal of an individual from the Wall. While an individual who commits a felony would be a candidate for removal, a misdemeanor could be more difficult to judge. Lt. Radford agreed, adding that there are some very serious misdemeanors and that it is for that very reason he felt it important to establish a Policy with a standard process. Grounds for removal from the Wall would include an arrest. Councilor Rogulski expressed his concerns regarding the objectivity of making such decisions and the difficulty in legislating human behavior. Lt. Radford agreed, adding that that was the reasoning behind establishing a Committee. Councilor Jaskiewicz proposed the possibility of forming a Subcommittee that would vote upon the removal of an individual from the Wall to ensure a more objective process.

Councilor Bunnell, who is also the Town Council's Public Safety Commission Liaison, stated his opposition to the establishment of the Policy. He felt that the reasoning for

the Policy has not been demonstrated and questioned its necessity, adding that there are no other towns or cities in the nation that have established such a policy. He also questioned where the funds for the plaques would derive. Lt. Radford stated that, currently, the decision to honor an individual with a Plaque is made by the top sworn officer. The funding for the plaques would be derived from the Police Department's budget and would be limited to two per year. He added that standardizing the plaques would more properly recognize the individuals who have been bestowed with the honor as opposed to the current wall that includes a hodge-podge of items. Councilor Bunnell stated that the Wall was never completed; its purpose was to recognize those individuals who are or were associated with the Police Department and contributed to the Town of Montville, including those who passed while in the line of duty. He felt that the decision of the honoree should be made by the Mayor, who is both the CEO of the Town and the Chief of Police or the Mayor's designee; the Police Department is a paramilitary organization and a policy by committee does not belong in a paramilitary organization.

Councilor Jaskiewicz thanked the Lieutenant for attending the meeting and discussing the proposed Policy. The Committee will continue reviewing and discussing the Policy.

8. Remarks from the Public with a three-minute limit – *none*
9. Remarks from the Councilors – *none*
10. Adjournment  
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Rogulski to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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