

**\\TOWN OF MONTVILLE -- PUBLIC SAFETY COMISSION
Regular Meeting – June 28, 2021 -- 6:00 PM
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall
Hybrid Meeting via GoToMeeting and In-Person Attendance**

HYBRID MEETING MINUTES

The Town of Montville will be utilizing a Hybrid GoToMeeting and In-Person Attendance for this meeting.

Please register to attend the meeting at:

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Applicable toll charges may apply if connecting via telephone.

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 GoToMeeting.

Written comments must be emailed to the Town Clerk's Office 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 Public Safety Commission.

Live audio comments may be made via GoToMeeting by calling from your telephone.

Comments will only be accepted at times designated for public comment by the Chair of the meeting. The Public Safety Commission 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 Yuchniuk called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Pledge of allegiance.

All stood and pledged the flag.

3. Roll Call.

Present were Commissioners Mickey Gillette, Karen Perkins, Stephen Stewart, and Chairman Robert Yuchniuk. Also present were Fire Marshal Paul Barnes, Town Council Liaison Lenny Bunnell, and Mayor Ronald McDaniel. Absent was Commissioner Gary Murphy and Lt. Dave Radford. A quorum was present.

4. Amendments to the Agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Gillette; seconded by Commissioner Perkins to move New Business, Item 12.a, 'To consider and act on a motion to review the Wall of Honor Policy as revised by TARP' to next month's meeting agenda. Discussion: Chairman Yuchniuk noted Lt. Radford was on vacation and the item would be moved to Unfinished Business for the July PSC Meeting. Voice vote: 4-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

5. Communications:

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

Chairman Yuchniuk confirmed all Commissioners received copies of the monthly reports. Commissioner Stewart stated he did not receive the Police Report nor the Animal Control Report for April or May. Mayor McDaniel said he would solicit the reports and forward them accordingly.

6. Consideration and action to approve minutes.

- a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of April 26, 2021.

Motion by Commissioner Gillette; seconded by Commissioner Stewart to approve the April 26, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes, as written. Discussion: None. Voice vote: 4-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

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

Chairman Yuchniuk asked three (3) times for remarks. There were none.

8. Remarks from Department Heads.

Police Department Report

The PD monthly statistics ending May 31, 2021, were as follows: There were 1251 total calls for service that included Type 1 calls (76), arrests (35), and juvenile arrests (0). The source for these calls were Troop E (160), PD (219), Walk-in (41), and By Officer (666).

Fire Department Report

Fire Marshal Barnes reported the FD statistics for the month ending May 31, 2021, as follows: There were 244 calls for service of which 164 were medical EMS calls or 67.2% of all calls for service. There was also a \$5,000 MVA loss. As for the month ending April 30, 2021, there were 225 calls for service and 157 EMS calls. Fire Marshal Barnes also reported, on June 8, 2021, the Department had a Millstone drill and was evaluated by FEMA via a Zoom meeting and given high marks. He also informed the Commission of FF Keith Milton taking over the position of Deputy Fire Marshal. He will start class on September 8 thru January 26, 2022, attending three (3) days a week and working with Fire Marshal Barnes for two (2) days a week doing OJT. Fire Marshal also commented on incident reporting to state, federal, and a national organization. Chairman Yuchniuk asked if the stations were sending him monthly incident reports—Fire Marshal Barnes said those reports have stopped and he has not received the qualifications reports of staff nor has he asked for the information. Commissioner Stewart suggested he send a letter to the fire chiefs and copy the Commission on it. He also reported on staff vacation time and the twelve firefighters stepping up for OT to maintain coverage. Chairman Yuchniuk asked if there were part-time staff; Fire Marshal Barnes said “no” as the FSLA did not allow staff to do both. Fire Marshal Barnes concluded hiring would begin to fill FF Milton’s position.

9. Committee and Liaison Reports.

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

Commissioner Perkins read into the record the FD incident analysis of the 244 calls of service reported as of May 31, 2021. She also thanked the paid and volunteer fire staff and spoke of the interesting posts on social media by the stations, i.e., fire safety at Mohegan, use of Chesterfield as a cooling station for the heat issue on June 28-30, and Oakdale being present at all three (3) days of the carnival.

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

Statistics from ACO Swanson as reported for month ending May 31, 2021, as follows:

Animal Control Reports

Town of Montville Animal Control Report (May 2021)

| | Month | YTD |
|--|--------------|------------|
| # of Animals Impounded | 13 | 70 |
| # of Animals Sold as Pets | 3 | 34 |
| # of Animals D.O.A. | 0 | 0 |
| # of Animals Euthanized | 2 | 3 |
| Total Complaints Investigated | 99 | 904 |
| Total Animal Bites Investigated | 2 | 21 |
| Total Infractions/Summons | 0 | 1 |

Town of Salem Animal Control Report (May 2021)

| | Month | YTD |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| # of Animals Impounded | 0 | 10 |

| | | |
|--|----------|-----------|
| # of Animals Sold as Pets | 0 | 0 |
| # of Animals D.O.A. | 0 | 0 |
| # of Animals Euthanized | 0 | 0 |
| Total Complaints Investigated | 3 | 57 |
| Total Animal Bites Investigated | 0 | 7 |
| Total Infractions/Summons | 0 | 2 |

c. Report from Police Department Liaison (*Gillette*)
 Commissioner Gillette read into the record the PD report submitted by Lt. Radford. See Item 8, Police Department Report.

d. Report from Building Department Liaison (*Stewart*)
 Commissioner Stewart read the Building Department statistics for months ending April and May 2021 into the record as follows:

Building Department Report

| 2020-2021 Building Department Report | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June |
| Permits Issued | 115 | 76 | 197 | 111 | 151 | 110 | 83 | 73 | 150 | 125 | 117 | |
| Open/Pending Permits (New System) | 115 | 85 | 101 | 100 | 88 | 85 | 102 | 123 | 98 | 153 | 125 | |
| Open Permits (Old System) | 3201 | 3176 | 3166 | 3150 | 3133 | 3066 | 3063 | 3060 | 2945 | 2942 | 2837 | |
| Inspections | 103 | 78 | 113 | 119 | 107 | 96 | 131 | 88 | 116 | 111 | 104 | |
| Plan Reviews | 37 | 17 | 96 | 9 | 20 | 25 | 17 | 11 | 194 | 37 | 29 | |
| CO's | 0 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 3 | |
| Violation Notices | | 2 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | |
| Unsafe Notices | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | |
| Blight Identified To Date | 530* | 534* | 534 | 538 | 538 | 538 | 539 | 539 | 540 | 540 | 540 | |
| Blight Abated To Date | 342 | 345 | 347* | 349 | 349 | 351 | 354 | 356 | 358 | 356 | 356 | |

*Corrected numbers.

Commissioner Stewart also reported on the newly hired, part-time blight officer.

10. Remarks from Fire Chiefs. -- *None*

11. Unfinished Business.

a. To consider and act on a motion regarding a noise ordinance.

Town Councilor Bunnell reported on the history of the noise ordinance originated from a zoning regulation. He said the matter was not a forgotten issue and encouraged the Commission to check into it. Commissioner Gillette asked, “What is too loud?” Town Councilor Bunnell explained the standard is a decimeter and spoke of language for the same per discussion with the Town Attorney and of ordinances in Waterford and East Lyme where there has been no prosecution. Chairman Yuchniuk stated the issue is subjective; Town Councilor Bunnell said he had used the ordinance. Commissioner Stewart spoke of possible exceptions and considerations given people are working from home. Town Councilor Bunnell asked that this item be removed from the agenda.

b. Fire Department Solutions.

Information on the same will be sent to Fire Marshal Barnes and an email to the Fire Chiefs, Mayor McDaniel, Union President, and Commissioner Perkins to set a date to meet.

c. Discussion and action on the Animal Control Facility.

Town Councilor Bunnell said he had nothing new to report.

d. To consider an act on a Town of Montville Public Safety Commission Policies and Procedures, Section F.4, G.2 2.4, Attachment 1 & Attachment 3, 6.6.2, Adopted June 13, 2011. – (Murphy)

Chairman Yuchniuk stated Commissioner Murphy was to look into this matter. This item was tabled until the next meeting.

12. New Business.

a. To consider and act on a motion to review the Wall of Honor Policy as revised by TARP. This item was tabled until the July Commission meeting.

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

Chairman Yuchniuk asked three (3) times for remarks. There were none.

14. Remarks from the Mayor

Mayor McDaniel remarked on the huge success of the carnival where no incidents were reported and there was a large public presence. He also remarked on the following: 1) the Millstone drill that went well and impressed FEMA with Fire Marshal Barnes FF K. Milton, and Dispatcher J. Leonard present; 2) the hire of Melissa Richards as part-time blight officer who is working with the courts and Town Attorney concerning an issue at 20 Palmer Street; 3) the Building Department online data system is working well but causes problems for those using the system from home; 4) Everbridge funded by Covid funds will be used to populate lists of those who want to be notified of emergencies and a survey will be sent for the same; 5) FF Milton will continue to work in the fire service and help with work in the office two (2) days a week; 6) one firefighter is out due to injury; 7) an advert to replace K. Milton’s position was posted inhouse five (5) days ago and funds are being used from the firefighter out on medical leave to save money; and 8) the RST contract is up for approval July 1, 2021, and changes to the contract will be forwarded to the Town Council for review and consideration.

Also, 1) part-time FF positions are budgeted but no one has come on board; 2) funds are in CIP (\$300,000) for next year's budget for the Animal Control facility and funds will be sought from other areas--funds for it cannot be locked in; 3) Mohegan Firehouse will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary; 4) a seminar on the rules and regulations for running a municipal meeting will be made available to everyone and can be accessed by contacting the Town Clerk; 5) radar signs funded by the State are able to be secured—he sat in on a meeting with someone from UConn and the complaints in Town concern speeding.

15. Remarks from Town Council Liaison.

Town Councilor Bunnell congratulated Fire Marshal Barnes regarding the Millstone drill and his commendable rating and stated FF K. Milton was a good choice for Deputy Fire Marshal given his wealth of experience. He then wished everyone a healthy, safe July 4th.

16. Remarks from Commissioners.

Commissioner Gillette congratulated Fire Marshal Barnes, remarked on the success of the carnival, and wished everyone a belated Father's Day and a happy July 4th. Commissioner Steward congratulated Fire Marshal Barnes and wished everyone a happy July 4th. Commissioner Perkins thanked the fire departments who were present at the fireworks display, wished everyone a safe July 4th, praised Fire Marshal Barnes, the Commission, and Mayor McDaniel. Chairperson Yuchniuk spoke of the good job with the carnival.

17. Adjournment.

Motion by Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Perkins to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m. Discussion: none. Voice vote; 4-0; all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Gloria J. Gathers
Recording Clerk, Town of Montville

**AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN OF
MONTVILLE WEBSITE.**