

**Town of Montville Town Council**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**December 13, 2021, 7:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order  
Chairman McNally called the meeting to order at 7:15 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., Billy Caron, Alfred Mandler, Tim May, Thomas McNally, and Robert Yuchniuk. Absent was Councilor Colleen Rix. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations – *none*
5. Alterations to the Agenda  
Motion made by Councilor Yuchniuk, seconded by Councilor Mandler to add the following item to the Agenda:  
14(e) To Consider and Act on a motion to waive the waiting period for appointments, Rule 14C of the Town Council Rules of Procedure, for the Housing Authority.  
Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.  
  
Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor May to add the following item to the Agenda:  
14(f) To Consider and Act on a motion to nominate and appoint Joseph Jaskiewicz or Eileen Rose to fill a vacancy on the Housing Authority with a term to expire on April 30, 2022.  
Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.  
  
Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell, to add the following item to the Agenda:  
16(j) **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to accept approximately 100.2 acres of open space dedicated by reference to the 32-Lot Cluster Subdivision located at 280-316 Chapel Hill Road, Oakdale, should the developer follow through with said plan and Quit Claim Deed to the open space in the Town of Montville.  
(Councilor McNally)  
Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
6. To Consider and Act on a Motion to Approve:
  - a. The Organizational Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2021  
Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor May, with the following amendment:  
8(h) Parks & Recreation Commission  
Chairman McNally asked for nominations to the ~~Board of Education~~ *Parks & Recreation Commission*.  
Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
7. Executive Session – *none*
8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit – *none*
9. Communications
  - a. Copy of the November 2021 Financial Reports from Terry Hart, Finance Director
  - b. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of August 2021
  - c. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of September 2021

- d. Copy of the legal bills from Halloran & Sage for the month of August 2021
- e. Copy of the legal bills from Halloran & Sage for the month of September 2021

10. Report from the Town Attorney on Matters Referred – *none*

11. Remarks from the Mayor and/or Administrative Department Heads to include Matters Referred

Mayor McDaniel reported and sent his condolences to Public Works Director Donald Bourdeau, Jr., who recently lost his wife. Any public works issues may be forwarded to him for resolution.

On this evening's agenda is an item enabling him to file the necessary paperwork to finalize the National Opioids Settlements Agreement (Item 16(c)). The more towns that submit their paperwork, the more funds the State and, in turn, the municipalities will receive as part of the Agreement. It is unknown at this time whether the receipt of the funding includes any additional requirements.

A presentation by a representative from Titan Energy regarding a possible solar project to be located on top of the landfill will be scheduled for the near future. Through the technology of virtual net metering, energy generated by the panels may be utilized by up to five municipal facilities.

Interviews were conducted for both Officer Rockwell's and Assistant Building Official positions.

A very nice Veteran's Day Ceremony and Luminaries was held on November 11. He also attended former Waterford First Selectman Dan Steward's Wake and Celebration of Life at Waterford High School. Former First Selectman Steward was a mentor and a good friend who will be sorely missed. Other events included an Eagle Scouts Ceremony at the Lady of the Lakes Church and a Flag Retirement Ceremony at the VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars). A donation of approximately 300 turkeys was received from the Mohegan Tribe and distributed to those in need. The Southeastern Connecticut Enterprise Region (seCTer) hosted their annual meeting during which a consultant was selected to help them develop their five-year CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) program.

The town has graduated from Phase I of the vetting process for a Sustainable Management Materials Grant. The pilot program will involve food recycling and a pay-as-you-throw program. The town has instituted a composting pilot program through SCRRRA (Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority) in which food waste is added to wood chips, creating compost that may be bagged and sold. The proceeds will help the town subsidize its tipping fees.

Town Planner Liz Burdick spoke with respect to the approval of the town's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) (Item 16(b)). In accordance with CT General Statutes §8-23(h)(2), the Town Council "may hold one or more public hearings on the plan and shall endorse or reject such entire plan or part thereof of amendment and may submit comments and recommended changes to the commission." She has solicited comments from the town's various boards and commissions. As a result of the recent elections and the numerous new board and commission members, the deadline for comments has been extended to January 25, 2022. She expressed her availability should any of the Councilors have any questions, comments, or recommended changes.

Regarding the property located on Chapel Hill Road (item 16(j)), she reported that one of the conditions of the approval of the 32-Lot Cluster Subdivision was the dedication of approximately 100 acres to open space. The adjacent property is owned by the New London Water Company, which abuts land that is currently in the process of being purchased by the

Avalonia Land Conservancy. Should the sale proceed, the properties could, eventually, be connected to existing open space in the town. A letter of support has been provided to the Councilors for review. Once the Town Council approves the resolution, the dedication will be approved by the Town Attorney, a Quit Claim Deed will be generated, and the transfer of property will be filed in the town's land records.

Councilor May concurred, adding that the property is a good opportunity for the town that would, ultimately, result in approximately eight to nine hundred acres of open space.

12. Reports from Standing Committees

- a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – *no meeting*
- b. Finance – *no meeting*
- c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – *no meeting*

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

- a. Councilor Bunnell: Library Committee, Parks & Recreation Commission, Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund

No scheduled meetings were held for the Library Committee or the Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund.

The Parks & Recreation Commission discussed the format of the new proposed signage and increasing the distribution of their newsletter. The Carnival Subcommittee has begun planning their next carnival and vendors have begun signing up for the event. Two ATMs (Automatic Teller Machines) will be made available. The Carnival will be held from June 17 to 19.

- b. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging, Social Services, Non-Profit Organizations

A letter has been mailed to the Non-Profit Organizations informing them that he has been appointed as their new liaison.

The Senior and Social Services Departments have been busy providing energy and Medicare assistance and creating holiday baskets. With a limited amount of volunteers available, the staff has been stepping up to help. They are looking forward to the re-opening of the Re-Use Room, which will be house the Social Services Department. In addition to the approximately 300 turkeys that were donated by the Mohegan Tribe, an additional 100 turkeys were donated by the Elders for Thanksgiving. Over 80 home-cooked meals were distributed to the town's homebound seniors and disabled citizens. The departments are currently seeking monetary donations for gifts for approximately 400 Christmas holiday baskets and turkeys. He invited the Councilors to contact him should they like a tour of the Senior and Social Services Center. On this evening's agenda is the approval of various grants, which enables them to offer those services to the seniors free of charge.

On a side note, Councilor Caron proposed the possibility of inviting and formally honoring and recognizing the First Responders and Officers who were reported to have saved a child during a recent incident.

- c. Councilor Mandler: Water Pollution Control Authority

Councilor Mandler reported that a presentation was provided to the WPCA regarding an engineering study that was conducted for the D-Boxes (Distribution Boxes). The WPCA did not approve the removal and replacement of the D-Boxes, pending a review of their contract with Rand-Whitney from which part of the flow derives.

- d. Councilor May: Conservation Commission

Councilor May reported that Town Planner Burdick attended their recent meeting and provided information regarding the Chapel Hill property. She also provided feedback for the establishment of new walking trails and the possibility of utilizing the town's ARPA

(American Rescue Plan Act) Funds to improve and enhance the property. Volunteers will be gathering this coming weekend to conduct trail maintenance.

- e. Councilor Rix: Board of Education, Farmers Market Committee, Planning & Zoning Commission – *no present; no report*

- f. Councilor Yuchniuk: Economic Development Commission, Public Safety Commission, Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board

The Economic Development Commission agreed to begin their meetings for 2022 at 6:00 p.m., rather than 7:00 p.m. He has requested they gather a list of ideas and/or issues and possible solutions to improve the business footprint in the town. Commissioner Sheelagh Lapinski and himself attended the State’s Department of Economic and Community Development (CT DECD) Summit during which numerous speakers and panelists addressed a variety of topics. The Commission may consider applying for a newly available Federal Grant entitled *The Good Job’s Challenge*, which closes on January 26.

The Public Safety Commission did not hold a November meeting. He attended the Elks Officer of the Year Awards and plans to connect Lt. Dave Radford with the Elks so that a Montville Police Officer may be recognized as an Officer of the Year in the future.

Youth Services Bureau is seeking to acquire a van or vehicle to pick up Middle School children for their afterschool program. They are also seeking the possibility of administering the NARCAN<sup>®</sup> (naloxone) Nasal Spray in emergency situations.

#### 14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Stephen Stewart to the Public Safety Commission with a term to expire on January 9, 2025.  
Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: None.  
Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- b. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Karen Doherty to the Public Safety Commission with a term to expire on January 9, 2025.  
Motion made by Councilor Mandler, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None.  
Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- c. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Brian Quinn to the Water & Sewer Commission with a term to expire on January 9, 2026.  
Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: None.  
Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- d. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Daniel Boisvert to the Youth Advisory Board with a term to expire on January 13, 2024.  
Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: None.  
Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- e. To Consider and Act on a motion to waive the waiting period for appointments, Rule 14C of the Town Council Rules of Procedure, for the Housing Authority.  
Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: None.  
Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.
- f. To Consider and Act on a motion to nominate and appoint Joseph Jaskiewicz or Eileen Rose to fill a vacancy on the Housing Authority with a term to expire on April 30, 2022.  
Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor May, to nominate and appoint Joseph Jaskiewicz to the Housing Authority. There being no additional nominations, the nominations were closed. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.  
Joseph Jaskiewicz was appointed to the Housing Authority.

#### 15. Unfinished Business – *none*

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2021-67. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$5,444.49 (five thousand four hundred and forty-four dollars and forty-nine cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Caron, Mandler, May, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- b. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the Town of Montville 2021 Plan of Conservation and Development. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: Chairman McNally proposed postponing the item to their next Regular Meeting to allow the new members to review the document.

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Caron, to table the item to their next Regular Meeting. Discussion: Any comments may be e-mailed to either Chairman McNally or Town Planner Burdick. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Caron, Mandler, May, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. *Item tabled.*

- c. **Resolution #2021-68. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize Mayor Ronald McDaniel to execute any and all documents necessary to receive settlement funds from the National Opioids Settlements Agreement. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Caron, Mandler, May, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- d. **Resolution #2021-69. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the 2021 holiday bonuses for Town employees on Schedule A. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Bunnell, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: Councilor Mandler questioned the dollar amounts and proposed increasing the part-time employees bonuses from \$50.00 to \$100.00.

Motion made by Councilor Mandler, seconded by Councilor Yuchniuk, to amend the motion to increase the bonuses for the part-time employees' from \$50.00 to \$100.00. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Caron, Mandler, May, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- e. **Resolution #2021-70. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** that Mayor Ronald McDaniel be and hereby is authorized to execute a contract for 1,040 units of recreation services for homebound seniors totaling \$8,320.00 (eight thousand three hundred twenty dollars) between the Town of Montville and the Senior Resources Agency on Aging, and further, to create fund #68, the Senior Recreation Services fund. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Caron, Mandler, May, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- f. **Resolution #2021-71. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to authorize the Mayor to enter into an electric supply agreement with a supplier recommended by Titan Energy for a term of 32 months and to execute any and all documents pertaining there to. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that the town's current electric supplier went bankrupt due to the cold snap in Texas last year. As a result, the contract went out to bid and bids from seven electric suppliers were received. The Resolution allows the Town Council to select the term of the agreement during which the rate would be locked in and allow the Finance Director and himself to select the vendor, who would be recommended by their consultant, Titan Energy. The energy is utilized for the town's streetlights and the like. The energy supplied through the proposed solar project would provide energy to five of the town's facilities. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Caron, Mandler, May, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- g. **Resolution #2021-72. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** that Mayor Ronald McDaniel be and hereby is authorized to execute a contract for 1,620 units of medical transportation service for seniors totaling \$21,400.20 (twenty-one thousand four hundred dollars and twenty cents) between the Town of Montville and the Senior Resources Agency on Aging, Inc., and further, to approve the Mayor to execute any and all documents that may be necessary. (Councilor Caron)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Bunnell. Discussion: Councilor Caron stated that the contract is a partnership with the City of Norwich and provides seniors with rides to their medical appointments. All of the units are utilized; he will investigate what the Senior Center does once all of the units are utilized. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Caron, Mandler, May, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- h. **Resolution #2021-73. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** that Mayor Ronald McDaniel be and hereby is authorized to execute a contract for 540 units of mental health counseling service for seniors totaling \$11,232.00 (Eleven thousand two hundred thirty-two dollars and no cents) between the Town of Montville and the Senior Resources Agency on Aging, Inc., and further, to approve the Mayor to execute any and all documents that may be necessary. (Councilor Caron)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Caron, Mandler, May, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- i. **Resolution #2021-74. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** that Mayor Ronald McDaniel be and hereby is authorized to execute a contract for 420 units of medical service for seniors totaling \$11,999.40 (Eleven thousand nine hundred ninety-nine dollars and forty cents) between the Town of Montville and the Senior Resources Agency on Aging, Inc., and further, to approve the Mayor to execute any and all documents that may be necessary. (Councilor Caron)

Motion made by Councilor Bunnell, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: In response to Councilor Yuchniuk, Councilor Caron stated that the number of units is based on the Director's request. The program is also a partnership with the Town of Norwich. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Caron, Mandler, May, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- j. **Resolution #2021-75. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to accept approximately 100.2 acres of open space dedicated by reference to the 32-Lot Cluster Subdivision located at 280-316 Chapel Hill Road, Oakdale, should the developer follow through with said plan and Quit Claim Deed to the open space in the Town of Montville. (Councilor McNally)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that they were unsure as to whether the acceptance required an

Ordinance or Resolution and, after reviewing the State Statutes and Town Charter, they were confident that a Resolution would be acceptable. Their decision will be confirmed by the town's legal counsel. Councilor May reiterated that the property and its location would be a true asset for the town. Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Bunnell, Caron, Mandler, May, Yuchniuk, and McNally. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

17. Remarks from the Public with a three-minute limit – *none*

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Mayor McDaniel reported on a wonderful holiday parade and commended Santa Claus' lighting of the tree. He wished everyone a very, very Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday season.

Councilor Bunnell wished everyone a Happy Holiday and Merry Christmas and commended the Parks & Recreation Commission, who are working very well together and have some big plans for the future; he is very excited and happy to be part of them.

Councilor Caron wished everyone a Happy, Safe, and Healthy Holiday season. He also reported that he recently met with Public Works and the contractors to review the Social Services building, which is experiencing leakage from the roof and cupola.

Councilor May commended the police officers and first responders who successfully saved a youth at the Village apartments, as reported in a recent article in *The Day* newspaper. He proposed recognizing the individuals involved at a future meeting. He wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday.

Chairman McNally commended the police officers and dog who took down a fugitive last night. He also offered his condolences to the Town of Ledyard for the passing of longtime Councilwoman Linda Davis.

Councilor Yuchniuk wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councilor Mandler hopes to continue making friends and wished everyone a Happy Holiday season. As a new Councilor, he is continuing to learn and will vote and make recommendations based upon the knowledge he is gaining from his fellow colleagues, town staff, and citizens. He will try and do what he feels is the best for the town. He stated his full availability for any comments the public might have.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Yuchniuk, seconded by Councilor Yuchniuk, to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, 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 – MEETING RECORDINGS**