

**Town of Montville Parks & Recreation Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2022, 5:30 p.m.
Town Council Chambers - Town Hall**

Town of Montville has lifted the mask mandate effective Monday, February 28, 2022 throughout Town facilities in coordination with our schools. Although the mask mandate has been lifted, Uncas Health strongly recommends that all individuals, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, continue to wear masks indoors.

1. Call to order

Chairperson Southard called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood and pledged the flag.

3. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Jon Chase, Denise Gladue, Morgan Matthewson, Deborah Schober, Rocky Stone, and Kate Southard. Absent were Commissioners Matt Beaupre, Noah Carver, and Kevin Clang. A quorum was present.

4. Remarks from the Public regarding items on the Agenda (3-minute limit)

Chairperson Southard asked three (3) times for remarks. There were none.

5. New Business,

- a. To consider and act on a motion to recommend expanding the Camp Oakdale Simpson Lane Tennis Court Project to include four (4) Tennis Courts and renovations to the back side for Pickleball Courts, to be funded by a \$500,000 grant from the State of Connecticut and \$368,000 from the approved ARPA Phase I Funds.**

Motion by Commissioner Stone; seconded by Commissioner Matthewson to consider and act on a motion to recommend expanding the Camp Oakdale Simpson Lane Tennis Court Project to include four (4) Tennis Courts and renovations to the back side for Pickleball Courts, to be funded by a \$500,000 grant from the State of Connecticut and \$368,000 from the approved ARPA Phase I Funds. Discussion: Commissioner Stone spoke on the approved ARPA Phase I funds, \$360,000 to replace the Camp Oakdale tennis courts and \$8,000 for pickleball courts, for a total of \$368,000. He mentioned the difficulty for reapproaching the ARPA Committee for additional funds as being problematic. Chairperson Southard spoke of reaching out to Senator Cathy Osten for funding in this year's State budget for the remainder of the project. Senator Osten found \$500,000 for the project in addition to the \$368,000 to fund four (4) forefront tennis courts and six (6) back area pickleball courts which was what the Commission originally wanted to achieve. Chairperson Southard commented on the quote received last September for the project and included in CIP that increased due to rising costs. Commissioner Stone referred to the disadvantage of not having a Public Works Director (who had since retired) and the help from the Department to maintain facilities and of working with Director Bushway who obtained quotes for the project. He also expressed support to the high school system for going forward on their tennis courts. Commissioner Chase spoke of "beating the drum" for more than a year about taking care of Parks & Recreation

facilities under the authority of the Commission and for support to the taxpayers who have paid for them over the years. Roll Call vote: *In favor* Commissioners Chase, Gladue, Matthewson, Schober, Stone, and Southard. *Opposed*: none. 6-0 vote. Motion carried.

6. Remarks from the Public (3-minute limit)

Chairperson Southard asked three (3) times for remarks. There were none.

7. Remarks from Town Council Liaison

Town Councilor Bunnell remarked he would like to see a reported on the status of Phase I and Phase II projects and where they stand as to ARPA funds on a priority basis. He spoke with Commissioner Stone concerning priority items at Camp Oakdale that include the parking lot paving, Field 7 revision, and work at Desjardins playground. Also, he previously received a list of projects that had purchase orders.

8. Remarks from the Commissioners

Commissioner Stone remarked all Phase I projects have purchase orders, accounts, and action on them and said action will be taken to get information to Town Councilor Bunnell as he requested. Commissioner Matthewson is looking forward to the completed project and to learn to play pickleball. Commissioner Chase remarked it appeared the citizens owe thanks to State Senator Cathy Osten for the funds appropriated as well as an invite to return once the Camp Oakdale courts are completed. Chairperson Southard thanked everyone for attending the meeting and said she too will learn to play pickleball.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Chase; seconded by Commissioner Matthewson to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. Voice vote: 6-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.