

**TOWN OF MONTVILLE -- PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**  
**Regular Meeting – August 22, 2022 -- 6:00 PM**  
**Town Council Chambers – Town Hall**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**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 Healthy strongly recommends that all individuals, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, continue to wear masks indoors.**

**(Mayor Ronald McDaniel – March 8, 2022)**

**1. Call to order.**

Chairman Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance.**

All stood and pledged the flag.

**3. Roll Call.**

Present were Commissioners William Bauer, Traci Callaghan, Mickey Gillette, Gary Murphy, Thomas Pedersen, and Stephen Stewart. Absent was Commissioner Karen Perkins. A quorum was present.

**4. Amendments to the Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Gillette; seconded by Commissioner Stewart to remove Item 11c from the Agenda. Discussion: Chairperson Murphy agreed the item was discussed at the last meeting and the status of it will be done at another time. Voice vote: 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

**5. Communications:**

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

Chairman Murphy confirmed receipt of the monthly statistical reports by the commissioners. He also reported he sent a letter in response to the communication from former commissioner V. Lenda concerning Gardner Lake. As discussed by the Commission at its last meeting, the letter was sent to the Towns of Montville, Bozrah, and Salem, State Representatives, Mayors, and the State DEEP.

**6. To consider and act on a motion to approve minutes:**

- a.** The Regular Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2022.

Motion by Chairman Gillette; seconded by Commissioner Callaghan to approve the July 25, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

**7. Remarks from the Public.**

Chairman Murphy asked three (3) times for comments. There were none.

**8. Remarks from Department Heads.**

Police Department Report

Lieutenant Radford reported the new PD statistical report was corrected and the fire department numbers removed from it. The meaning of the statistics in the middle column and the zeros on the new report are unknown. Per the report, there were 976 calls for service as of July 31, 2022. Lt. Radford also reported he has two (2) of the three (3) SROs for positions in the schools; short of a formal interview. Officer Aleshire is certified; Officer Todd is not certified and a SRO class is being sought. Applications are coming in for new positions and a request to the Commission for interviews will be done soon. He also read into the record letters of appreciation. One was for Officers Witts, Stuart and Fazzino whose quick thinking with assistance by the K-9 apprehended an individual brandishing a firearm at a hotel on Route 2, East Lyme. The second letter regarding Officer Shepard and Sgt. Spring concerned a non-emergency call—a resident whose cat brought home a rabbit as a present that hid under the resident’s couch.

Fire Department Report

Fire Marshal Barnes reported the monthly statistics are being generated by ESO that are better. Current statistics are 176 calls ahead of 2021. Calls for service ending July 31, 2021, totaled 242 and 189 of those were EMS incidents. There was also a \$5,000 vehicle fire loss. Fire Marshal Barnes also reported Firefighters Doyle and Ruff were sent to a resident home where CPR was being administered to a family member. A paramedic arrived who performed a cardiac save with continued CPR that generated a blood pressure and a pulse.

**9. Committee and Liaison Reports:**

a. Report from Fire Department Liaison. (Perkins)

Chairman Murphy reported on Commissioner Perkins’ absence from the meeting.

b. Report from Animal Control. (Callaghan)

The statistical reports for month ending July 31, 2022, submitted by ACO Swanson are as follows:

Town of Montville Animal Control Report July 2022)

	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b># of Animals Impounded</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
<b># of Animals Sold as Pets</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>
<b># of Animals D.O.A.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b># of Animals Euthanized</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Complaints Investigated</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Total Animal Bites Investigated</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total Infractions/Summons</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Town of Salem Animal Control Report (July 2022)

	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b># of Animals Impounded</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b># of Animals Sold as Pets</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

<b># of Animals D.O.A.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b># of Animals Euthanized</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Complaints Investigated</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total Animal Bites Investigated</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Infractions/Summons</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

c. Report from Police Department Liaison. (Gillette) – No report

d. Report from Building Department Liaison. (Stewart)

The Building Department statistics report for July 2022 was submitted as follows:

<b>2021-2022 Building Department Report</b>												
	<b>July</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>
<b>Permits Issued</b>	<b>110</b>											
<b>Pending Permits</b>	<b>159</b>											
<b>Inspections</b>	<b>187</b>											
<b>Plan Reviews</b>	<b>62</b>											
<b>CO's</b>	<b>2</b>											
<b>Violation Notices</b>	<b>2</b>											
<b>Unsafe Notices</b>	<b>0</b>											
<b>Blight Identified</b>	<b>182</b>											
<b>Blight Abated To Date</b>	<b>454</b>											

Commissioner Stewart reported the Building Report in the old format was sent earlier this month. Also, the assistant building official position is still open with no prospects.

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

**11. Unfinished Business.**

a. Update from Mayor McDaniel or his designee concerning the Town of Montville Everbridge System.

Fire Marshal Barnes reported there were no current updates on the system.

b. To consider and act on a motion to approve future Commission Committee Assignments.

Chairman Murphy reported no meeting was held.

c. To consider and act on a motion to review and discuss school policy and take action on Commission recommendations to the Board of Education on arming qualified School Security Officers.

This item was amended and removed from the Agenda.

**12. New Business.** -- *None*

**13. Remarks from the Public.** *(Non-agenda items only—three-minute limit)*

Chairperson Murphy asked three (3) times for remarks. Steven Frischling of 1606 Route 85, Oakdale remarked on obtaining renewed access to Web EOC that he had two (2) years ago but was told by the former Fire Marshal was illegally accessed. The information is needed as a direct emergency manager. He has 50-plus certifications and is requesting help to regain access as he was told.

**14. Remarks from the Mayor.**

Mayor McDaniel remarked on an incident of animal cruelty that was referred to legal counsel in order to take and protect the dog. Notice was received for the next edition of the Everbridge community bulletin. Mayor McDaniel also remarked Web EOC is for Town employees only and refuted the earlier remark that access to it would be returned.

**15. Remarks from Town Council Liaison.**

Town Councilor Yuchniuk remarked on the favorable 824 Review of the Animal Control facility.

**16. Remarks from Commissioners.**

Commissioner Callaghan remarked on the two(2) open police positions and the number of interviews for them. Commissioner Gillette congratulated all police personnel referenced in the letters of appreciation read by Lt. Radford. Commissioner Stewart congratulated all the responders in the letters of appreciation stating it was good to hear of good things. He also commented on the fire department training at the boat launch on August 14 and of an upcoming region wide drill in Norwich at the end of September that is drought dependent. Chairperson Murphy remarked good job to the police and fire personnel and their response that he monitors by scanner. He also inquired about the 13 MVA stops reported on the police report that seemed low. Lt. Radford remarked the information was entered into NEXGEN by the officers and is forwarded to the assistant and reported under infractions. Chairperson Murphy also remarked he would ask the School Superintendent and School Security Director about the SROs being sought. He said the Commission should have knowledge of the plan that would be discussed in executive session.

**17. Adjournment.**

Motion by Commissioner Gillette; seconded by Commissioner Stewart to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 6-0; 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.**