

Town of Montville
Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Montville Town Hall – Town Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

Chairman May called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of our military.

3. Roll Call

Present were Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, May, Sabilia, Southard, and Yuchniuk.
Absent was Councilor Caron. Also present was Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr.

4. Special Recognitions/Presentations

A. Audit Presentation

CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) Wealth Advisors, LLC, Stephen Gross, CPA, Manager, and Nikoleta McTigue, CPA, Principal, provided a brief presentation of the Town's FY2022/23 Audit. The Town was given an Unmodified Opinion for its Basic Financial Statements, Federal Awards, and State Federal Assistance Grants. Material weaknesses were reported on the internal controls over financial reporting and no non-compliance findings were found. Both the Federal and State Single Audit Reports were clean with no material weaknesses and no significant deficiencies were identified.

Material Weaknesses – Includes the lack of controls over the proper reporting period, i.e., invoices totaling \$2 million that was reported in FY2023 and recognized in FY2024, and the recognition of receivables and deferred inflows on fund-level financial statements for the estimated rate to the State of Connecticut Bond Project for the School Construction and Public Works Facility/Transfer Station Fund, totaling \$142,000.00.

Management Letter Recommendations – Includes the recognition of the lack of reconciliation of the prior year's Audit to the General Ledger as a result of unrecorded entries on the previous year's Audit; the recognition of grant revenues to the extent that the expenditures occurred (grant accounting); journal entries provided by the Board of Education (BOE) to the Town were not properly recorded in the Town's accounting system, and; the significant manipulation required by the Auditors on the General Fund reporting.

Governance Communications – One new standard that was adopted is the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) No. 96, related to subscription-based Information Technology Arrangements, which was determined to be immaterial to report. There were no difficulties dealing with management and uncorrected misstatements were provided through a Governance Communication letter. Estimates include the Net Pension and total Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB), Incurred But not Reported Liability (IBNR) Liabilities, depreciation expense of an asset, allowance for doubtful accounts for receivables, and Landfill Post Closure Care Obligation. There were no disagreements with management, no consultations with other Auditors, and no independence issues between the Auditors and the Town.

Upcoming Changes – Statements on Auditing Standards (SAS) 143 to 145 and 148 will be implemented for FY2023/24. As a result, risk assessments will be enhanced to better understand the controls possibly resulting in additional recommendations.

Upcoming GASB Standards – Statement 99, Omnibus; Statement 100, Accounting Changes and Error Correction; Statement 101, Compensated Absences, and; Statement 102, Certain Risk Disclosures.

CLA Principal McTigue encouraged everyone to visit their website (claconnect.com), subscribe to receive regular updates, and take advantage of their extensive resources, including seminars, articles, and webinars. They are available for any questions or feedback at any time. The Finance Director will send a copy of the presentation to the Councilors.

Audit Timing (Councilor Jaskiewicz) – The delayed completion of the Audit was due to staffing changes in the Finance Department, resulting in incorrect or delayed recordings.

Audit Adjustments and Corrections (Chairman May) – The uncorrected misstatements were significant enough to note, but not significant enough to warrant a misleading financial statement. Many of the items related to the implementation of GASB 96 were not large balances that would affect their decisions and other items included invoices that were recorded for the wrong period.

Journal Entries (Management Letter Recommendations) (Chairman May) – The Town and BOE budgets, which utilize individual financial systems, are consolidated into one General Fund. Due to the staffing turnover, all of the entries were not properly recorded in the books.

The Councilors thanked the Auditors for an informative presentation.

5. Alterations to the Agenda

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Lathrop, to add the following item to the Agenda:

16(h) THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to transfer \$205,611.05 (two hundred five thousand and six hundred eleven dollars and five cents) into the Board of Education Non-Lapsing Educational Reserve Fund account from fiscal year 2022-2023. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz, to add the following item to the Agenda:

16(i) THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to waive the General Rule regarding the prohibition of sale of alcoholic beverages at any time or in any form on Town park and recreational areas as stated in the Rules and Regulations for the Camp Oakdale/Fair Oak facilities, dated April 2000, for the 2024 Farmers Market events. (Councilor Southard)

Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

6. To Consider and Act on a Motion to Approve:

a. The Regular Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2024

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

b. The Special Meeting Minutes of May 30, 2024 (FY2024/25 Budget)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Executive Session

a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Union Contract Negotiations. Discussion to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Leonard Bunnell, Sr., Attorney Kristi Kelly, and Montville Police Chief Wilfred Blanchette.

Motion made by Councilor Sabilia, seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Invited parties exited Town Council Chambers for Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. Chairman May resumed the meeting at 8:04 p.m. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit
Ann Gaulin, 64 Damato Drive, Oakdale, expressed her appreciation to everyone who helped with the receipt of the State Bond for the Animal Shelter, including State Representative Holly Cheeseman and *The Day* Newspaper, who were present, and the Animal Shelter Community Team. She looks forward to the receipt of the timeline that they could share with the townspeople and expressed her hopes that the existing bid(s) will be honored and the project can move forward.

Linda Tomasek, P.O. Box 407, Montville, stated that she reviewed the FY2024/25 Budget with Councilor Jaskiewicz and discovered several issues. She also stated the difficulties in following the budget and the transactions that have taken place due to the unavailability of the Finance Standing Committee's meeting minutes online. She urged the Councilors to carefully review the paperwork and avoid any future issues.

Laurie Pallin, Superintendent of Schools, spoke concerning Item 16(g) on the Agenda. She expressed her appreciation to Chairman May and Finance Director Barbara Griffin for taking the time to discuss the Excess Cost Sharing Grant Payments and Education Cost Sharing payments with Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux and herself, totaling \$360,440.00. She urged the Councilors to approve the allocation of these unanticipated funds from the State Grants which were not included in the Town's revenue for the 2024/25 fiscal year budget. The allocation of funds would reduce their shortfall to \$100,000.00 and allow them to maintain their staff and preserve most of their essential services. She also noted that Item 16(h), which was added to the Agenda, relates to the notification by the BOE of their use of the Non-Lapsing Educational Reserve Fund account for FY2022-2023; the notification was delayed due to the delay in the completion of the Audit.

Chairman May congratulated Superintendent Pallin and wished her well in her upcoming retirement.

State Representative Holly Cheeseman echoed Ms. Gaulin's comments, stating that it was incredibly gratifying to work with everyone and successfully obtain the Bond for the Animal Shelter. She also stated her commitment to the Town to receive the CIF (Community Investment Fund) Grant. She also extended her appreciation and congratulations to Superintendent Pallin. She will continue to work with the delegation to ensure that the State meets its responsibility and fully funds the Excess Cost Sharing Grants. She thanked everyone and stated her honor to serve the community.

9. Communications
 - a. Copy of the May 2024 Financial Reports from Finance Director Barbara Griffin
 - b. Copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of April 2024
 - c. Copy of the legal bills from Halloran & Sage for the month of April 2024
10. Report from the Town Attorney on Matters Referred – *none*
11. Remarks from the Mayor and/or Administrative Department Heads to include Matters Referred
Finance Director Barbara Griffin reported that the Mayor and she attended a webinar, entitled *Urban Act Next Step*, which included introductions to the individuals they will be working with on the Bond for the Animal Control Facility. The Tax Collector position was advertised following the submission of a Letter of Resignation by Tax Collector Karen

Gauthier; a temporary employee might be hired for the month of July, if necessary. Montville Fire Company Chief Ronald Turner has submitted the RFP (Request for Proposal) for the M-12 Pumper Truck and the item is scheduled to go out to bid.

Land Use & Development Director Matt Davis reported that a meeting with the Architect for the Animal Control Facility to review and discuss the bids, received in December 2023, has been scheduled. They are waiting to receive the technical analysis for the Mohegan Dam Removal project. A letter of support will be mailed for a project related to the dam located at Trading Cove Brook, located west of Route 32. The project, funded by the Fisheries Division of the CT DEEP (Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection), will not affect any town-owned land and may help alleviate some of the flooding issues at the New London Turnpike. The CIF Planning Grant was submitted today; the grant recipients are expected to be announced in early Fall. The permitting process for the Pier is moving forward; an In-Water Survey of the submerged vegetation, requested by CT DEEP, will be conducted next week, weather permitting. Comments were sent to the CT Office of Policy & Management (OPM) regarding the Locational Guide Map for the State Conservation & Development Plan. The Regional Open Space Plan was referred to the Conservation Commission. He thanked the Mayor for his assistance with the New London Turnpike Sidewalk Project, a collaborative project with the City of Norwich; the receipt of a report is pending. The 2019 Community Connectivity Grant for the Route 32 Sidewalk Project was extended; he plans to meet with the Town Engineer to reinstate the project.

Montville Police Chief Wilfred Blanchette congratulated everyone for receiving the funding for the new Animal Control Facility. He especially thanked the Town Council, Mayor, State and Local Officials, and residents Rebecca Maurice and Ann Gaulin for championing the project. In the meantime, the water in the existing Facility has been tested several times from both the well and the tap to ensure that it is potable. An additional inspection of the existing Facility has been requested. The previous inspection in December 2023 garnered six (6) violations which were grandfathered in. They are now down to two (2) violations, including the crumbling walls, which cannot be remedied at this time. The Facility, he felt, was a viable option to maintain until the new facility is constructed.

Mayor Bunnell and Councilors expressed their appreciation to the Chief and Officer Bruce Rebelo for their hard work to make the Facility more livable for the animals.

Public Works Director John Carlson reported that, while four (4) mowers have been engaged to mow the grass along the town roads, the grass continues to quickly grow and complaints are being addressed upon receipt. The Oxoboxo Dam Road/Route 163 Sightline Improvement Project will begin later this month. The Large Pavilion columns have been completed and they are working on the receipt of bids for the roofing, siding, and painting. They are also addressing the OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration) violations at the Animal Control Facility, including ordering custom-made grates for the drains. The Department's other projects include repairing/replacing the drainage on Rich Lane, possible paving of Maple Avenue from the I-395 overpass to Route 32, and road work on Old Colchester Road Ext. and Driscoll Drive. He reported that part of Old Colchester Road will be closed for approximately one week, weather dependent, following the Fourth of July holiday weekend to replace a rotted pipe. An issue arose with the paver, which will be repaired free of charge. He plans to address the Town Council in the near future to request a \$7 to \$10 million Bond for Drainage and Road Projects, including the Manor and Lathrop Road.

Mayor Bunnell reported that contract negotiations are continuing. He also continues to attend as many board and commission meetings as possible. He was proud to attend and witness the 143rd Commencement Exercises for the U.S. Coast Guard. He was also honored to attend the Holland Ceremony, named after John Holland, who designed the first

U.S. Navy submarine, with Chairman May, who recognized residents Tom Grove and William Dwyer who were inducted into the exclusive group. He also recently honored the following retirees from the School System with certifications and expressed his appreciation for their service and contributions to the town: Bethany Bonner (2000-2024, 24 years), Kathy Gustavson (1995-2024, 29 years), and Heather Sangermano (2013-2024, 11 years). He also attended Superintendent Pallin's Retirement Gathering and presented her with a Proclamation and thanked her for her service to the town as a teacher, Department Head, Director of Curriculum, Assistant Superintendent, and Superintendent from 1992 to 2024 (32 years). He also recognized and thanked Carol Bunnell, who recently retired as the Parks & Recreation Administrative Assistant after 25 years of service, and outgoing Tax Collector Gauthier. He welcomed Eva Aller who replaced Ms. Bunnell. As previously reported, he attended a webinar and received an outline of the use and reporting requirements for the state bond for the Animal Control Facility.

12. Reports from Standing Committees

a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – *no meeting*

b. Finance

Chairman May reported that the FY2024/25 Budget was approved last week. The remaining items are included on this evening's Agenda.

c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal

Councilor Southard reported that the repair/replacement of the columns on the Large Pavilion is completed and Phase II of the project is proceeding. The Committee voted to send an item to the Town Administration/Rules of Procedure Standing Committee to eliminate the 15% bid for town-owned companies in the Purchasing Policy. A presentation was provided regarding a project to collect and bail plastic for 0.14 cents/pound at the Transfer Station.

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

a. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging, Non-Profit Organizations, Social Services, Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Fund – *not present; no report*

b. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education, Planning & Zoning Commission

The BOE was awarded the second-highest grant amount in the state of \$15.5 million for the HVAC Project bond.

He thanked Land Use and Development Director Davis for providing the report for the Planning & Zoning Commission.

c. Councilor Lathrop: Economic Development Commission, Water Pollution Control Authority

Economic Development Commission – *no quorum; no meeting*

Water Pollution Control Authority – *no meeting*. Photographs depicting the progress of the Cook Tower construction were received. He commended the crew for their quick response to and installation of a bypass immediately following a rupture along the Rand-Whitney Containerboard sewage discharge line; a special meeting is scheduled to address the matter.

d. Councilor Sabilia: Conservation Commission, Public Safety Commission, Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board

Conservation Commission – Members of the public attended the Commission's June 1 Connecticut Trails Day event that included a scavenger hunt; the Commission looks forward to growing the event in the future. They will be hosting an informational booth at the June 25 Montville Farmers Market Community Day event.

Public Safety Commission – A Badge Pinning Ceremony was held for Firefighters Joshua Braga and Noah Dombrowski. The Montville Police Department conducted 452 stops over 20 days and 249 hours as a result of the Distracted Driving Grant. The stops centered around educating the public rather than enforcement. *File of Life* magnets, which are designed to be placed on individuals' refrigerators to provide emergency personnel with critical medical information were provided to the Senior Center and senior housing members for distribution.

Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board – Youth Services Bureau and Advisory Board – The Youth Center's summer programs are full and a waiting list is being compiled. Afterschool Program registrations for existing families will close on June 12 and registration for new families will begin on June 17. Counseling services remain full; a trend which is expected to continue. Federal opioid funds are being used to support a summer contract with Project Courage, the weekly Uncas Health District van, and supply the Police Department and Fire Responders with Narcan naloxone nasal spray. They are hoping to secure a contract with Blue Sky Wellness, which provides substance use, misuse, and addiction counseling to veterans and adults in the community. The Youth Action Council redid the crosswalk at the Community Center. The Juvenile Review Board Grant is being renewed and the DCF (Department of Children and Families) Grant Funding of approximately \$40,000.00 will reset for the next fiscal year.

- e. Councilor Southard: Farmers Market Committee, Library Committee, Parks & Recreation Commission

Farmers Market Committee – This year's Farmers Market events will begin on Tuesday, June 18, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Food trucks, vendors, and a band will be present to entertain the attendees.

Library Committee – *meeting scheduled for next week*

Parks & Recreation Commission – The Carnival will be held this coming weekend with fireworks, better rides, free children's activities on Saturday, and daily bands. The Commissioners are conducting their annual walkarounds, reviewing and reporting on each of the facilities. Most of the Counselors for the upcoming Summer Camp have been hired; training will begin on June 18.

14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to appoint Vouise M. Fonville, Sr., to the Youth Advisory Board, with a term to expire on June 10, 2026.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- b. To Consider and Act on a Motion to appoint Scott D. Soderberg, to fill a vacancy on the Gardner Lake Authority, with a term to expire on November 11, 2025.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- c. To Consider and Act on a Motion to re-appoint Michael Magliano, Sr., to the Gardner Lake Authority, with at term to expire on July 13, 2027.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Lathrop. Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

15. Unfinished Business

- a. To Consider and Act on a Motion to discuss the progress of the Animal Control Facility. (Councilor Yuchniuk)

Motion made by Councilor Yuchniuk, seconded by Councilor Lathrop. Discussion: Mayor Bunnell confirmed that they will be reviewing and contacting the Contractors who submitted the previous bids to ensure that they are still valid. If not, the project will go out to bid to obtain current numbers. He assured the public that they will continue to move forward. He stated that the previous water report that indicated issues with the water were related to a well that is no longer in use and no animals were reported to have expired as a result. He thanked everyone who was actively involved in, stood up, and spoke up for the much-needed Animal Control Facility, which he always supported. He also acknowledged and expressed his appreciation to the Legislators, without whose support this would not have been possible. An official announcement will be made at a press conference to be attended by the Lt. Governor and delegates this Wednesday, June 12, at 10:00 a.m. at the existing Facility.

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2024-36. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$887.96 (eight hundred eighty-seven dollars and ninety-six cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor May)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- b. **Resolution #2024-37. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to transfer \$42,000 From General Fund to Capital Non-Recurring Account 20999-54085 Tyl Roof. (Councilor May)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- c. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve wages for Part-time employees as indicated on schedule A. (Councilor May)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: Finance Director Griffin explained the matrix, which includes increases for part-time employees, based on minimum wage requirements, and proposed increases, ranging from 1.5% to 2.5% for other positions. Chairman May suggested they table the item once the exact increase is determined.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Lathrop, to table the item. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- d. **Resolution #2024-38. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to move \$5,000.00 from NIP fund balance into line item 92999-53020 in the NIP fund for PW supplies related to road cleanup, as recommended by the Public Works/Solid Waste Standing Committee. (Councilor May)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- e. **Resolution #2024-39. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to increase the salary of each of the Registrar of Voters by \$5000.00 (five thousand dollars) effective July 1, 2024. (Councilor May)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Yuchniuk. Discussion: Chairman May stated that, while the budget increase was approved for the line item, the Town Council must approve the actual salary increase. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- f. **Resolution #2024-40. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the settlement of litigation captioned Montville Station LLC v. The Town of Montville, HHB-CV-22-6074533 by reducing the fair market value established for the purpose of taxation of the property located at 2020 Route 32 from \$17,439,400 to \$15,900,000 for the October 1, 2021 grand list and subsequent grand lists until the next town-wide revaluation of property. (Mayor Bunnell)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: Mayor Bunnell stated that, per Atty. Michael Collins' statement, the assessed value of the property of the strip mall was challenged and a third-party Appraiser, hired by the Town, assessed the fair market value of the property. A pre-trial meeting resulted in a settlement of \$15,900,000.00, pending the Town Council's approval and contingent upon the withdrawal of another assessment brought forward by the same entity for the property located at 2000 Route 32. The Fair Market Value of the latter property will remain unchanged. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- g. **Resolution #2024-41. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve the transfer of \$360,440 from General Fund Balance to Board of Education account 10950-53051 on July 1, 2024. (Councilor May)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: Chairman May stated that the funds derive from a grant that is received for special education costs and, as such, does not affect the budget. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution passed.

- h. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to transfer \$205,611.05 (two hundred five thousand and six hundred eleven dollars and five cents) into the Board of Education Non-Lapsing Educational Reserve Fund account from fiscal year 2022-2023. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard. Discussion: It was clarified that the Resolution relates to a notification from the BOE regarding the transfer of funds from its 2% Non-Lapsing Educational Reserve Fund. Discussion ensued regarding the necessity of the Town Council to approve the transfer of funds.

Motion made by Councilor Lathrop, seconded by Councilor Sabilia, to rescind the motion. Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None.

- i. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to waive the General Rule regarding the prohibition of sale of alcoholic beverages at any time or in any form on Town park and recreational areas as stated in the Rules and Regulations for the Camp Oakdale/Fair Oak facilities, dated April 2000, for the 2024 Farmers Market events. (Councilor Southard)

Motion made by Councilor Southard, seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz. Discussion: Councilor Southard stated that a vendor approached the Town regarding the possibility of selling craft beer and mead to the public at the Farmers Market event(s), noting that they do the same in the Towns of Stonington and Ledyard. There would be no drinking

on site. The Farmers Market Committee felt that it would be a positive addition and would draw the public to the event. She noted that the sale of alcohol at such events is highly regulated by the state. Mayor Bunnell provided a brief history of the rule/regulation. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of also allowing the sale of wine and hard cider.

Motion made by Councilor Lathrop, seconded by Councilor Southard, to amend the motion as follows:

Resolution #2024-42. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to waive the General Rule regarding the prohibition of sale of ~~alcoholic beverages~~ *beer, mead, wine, and hard cider* at any time or in any form on Town park and recreational areas as stated in the Rules and Regulations for the Camp Oakdale/Fair Oak facilities, dated April 2000, for the 2024 Farmers Market events. (Councilor Southard)

Discussion: A brief discussion ensued regarding the need to clearly state that the sale would be limited to the sale of beer, mead, wine, and hard cider to avoid the sale of hard alcohol. Voice vote, 6-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

Roll Call vote, 6-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Lathrop, Sabilia, Southard, Yuchniuk, and May. Voting in Opposition: None.

17. Remarks from the Public with a three-minute limit

Rick Gladue, 44 Cook Drive, Uncasville, spoke in support of the removal of the Trading Cove Brook Dam, which would encourage certain species to return to the area. He suggested the possibility of adding that the alcohol for sale must be warm to discourage buyers from the onsite consumption of alcohol. In addition, in reviewing the plans for the Animal Control Facility, he felt that it was too large and could be downsized, including eliminating the 125kW Generator.

Carol Burgess, 28 New Hampshire Lane, Oakdale, reported that she was impressed by the WPCA who were on her street running a camera through the sewer system to ensure that it was working properly and avoid any potential serious issues. She expressed her gratitude to the Public Works Department and WPCA for their hard work and for taking care of the Town's infrastructure.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor Yuchniuk thanked Superintendent Pallin for her hard work and countless years of service and expressed his confidence in her successor. He also thanked Ms. Gaulin, Ms. Maurice, and the members of the Animal Control Community Team for their invaluable voices.

Councilor Lathrop mirrored Councilor Yuchniuk's comments, congratulating Superintendent Pallin on her retirement and wishing her a nice and enjoyable summer. He also commended the Animal Control Community for their persistence and looks forward to working together on the Project.

Councilor Sabilia echoed the previous comments, thanking and congratulating Superintendent Pallin and all of the individuals who helped them receive the necessary funding for the new Animal Control Facility.

Councilor Jaskiewicz also thanked Superintendent Pallin, wishing her good luck and good health. He also expressed his appreciation to the public who were often very hard on the Councilors.

Councilor Southard also thanked and congratulated Superintendent Pallin and thanked everyone who voiced their support for a new Animal Control Facility. She also invited everyone to attend this weekend's Carnival and Tuesday's Farmers Market event.

Mayor Bunnell encouraged everyone to take advantage of the Town events. He encouraged the public to volunteer to help promote and raise donations for the restoration of the old Water Tower so that it may accurately reflect the Town of Montville. He reiterated his appreciation to Superintendent Pallin with whom he has enjoyed working and welcomed Dianne Vumback in her new position. He wished everyone a Happy and Safe Fourth of July.

Councilor May commented on a tough month and congratulated and expressed his appreciation to everyone for their hard work, including the Mayor, who met with the Governor and engaged the Town's Legislators, making a big difference in their receipt of the bond for the new Animal Control Facility.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Southard, to adjourn the meeting at 9:38 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, 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

Schedule A

Part-Time wage increases

Position	approved 7/1/23	Min Wage Increase 1/1/24	proposed 7/1/24	1.50% proposed 7/1/24	2.00% proposed 7/1/24	2.50% proposed 7/1/24
Asst ACO (4)	19.32			19.61	19.71	19.80
Minutes Clerk (3)	25.37			25.75	25.88	26.00
Kitchen Server*	15.00	15.69	15.69			
Police Secretary**	16.00		16.69			
Youth Program Asst II**	16.00		16.69			
Youth Program Asst I	17.32			17.58	17.67	17.75
Seasonal WPCA***	15.00		21.00			
Seasonal PW*	15.00	15.69	15.69			
Landfill (Zettergren)	18.71			18.99	19.08	19.18
Landfill (4)*	15.00	15.69*	15.69*			
Blight Officer	18.45			18.73	18.82	18.91
IT Admin Assistant	24.65			25.02	25.14	25.27

*State of CT minimum wage increase to \$15/hour 6/1/23

*State of CT minimum wage increase to \$15.69/hour 1/1/24

**\$1.00 above minimum wage

***set at 5/13/2024 Town Council meeting