

Town of Montville Public Safety Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, July 23, 2012 – 7:00 p.m.  
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jetmore called the regular meeting of the Town of Montville Public Safety Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. after establishing a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Allyn, Butterworth, Moran, Wehner and Jetmore. Absent were Commissioners McNally and Loiler. Also present was Mayor Ron McDaniel and Town Council Liaison Candy Buebendorf.

4. Amendments to the Agenda

5. Communications

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

Dog Warden, Chris Martel's activity report for the month of June indicated there were a total of ninety nine complaints investigated, twenty three animals were impounded, ten were sold as pets, one was euthanized, there were a total of four animal bites investigated and one infraction/summons was issued.

Chief Keith Truex of the Chesterfield Fire Company submitted the statistic report for the month of June indicating there were sixteen ambulance calls, three fire calls, four motor vehicle accident calls, four EMS assistance calls and seventeen still alarms. The report indicates there were four two hour in house trainings sessions conducted and five offsite training sessions, one maintenance session and five fundraisers were held during the month of June.

The Montville Fire Co submitted a report for the month of June, indicating there were a total of one hundred and nine calls during the month with seventy six of these calls being ambulance calls.

b. A letter dated July 16, 2012 from Mr. Peter Bushway, Parks & Recreation Director expressing gratitude to the Montville Police and Fire services for their help with the Montville Masters Race held on July 15, 2012.

6. Approval of the regular meeting minutes of June 25, 2012.

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Wehner to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 25, 2012. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

7. Executive Session - none

8. Remarks from the Public

Chairman Jetmore asked three times if there was anyone present who would like to come forward to address the Commission.

9. Remarks from Department Heads

Mr. Ray Occhialini, Fire Marshal, discussed the Incident Analysis from June 3, 2012 through June 30, 2012 with the Commission. During the month of June Montville Fire Company responded to one hundred and four calls, Mohegan Fire Company responded to seventy six calls, Chesterfield Fire Company responded to sixteen calls, Oakdale responded to thirty seven calls and there were fifteen out of town calls with a total of two hundred and forty eight calls during the month of June. He stated his office has started to collect fees for permits and have issued violations for working without permits to contractors who do not apply for permits that are now required. New projects include McDonalds, The Villages Apartments and the Henny Penny expansion. He discussed the Millstone rehearsal exercise on July 17<sup>th</sup>, stating the State has to resolve issues on its end and he stated the evaluated Millstone Drill is scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup>. He is participating in the Statewide Hurricane exercise on Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup> and on Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>. The draft of the new Hazard Mitigation Plan has been drafted through the Southeastern Council of Governments grant is in the process of being reviewed. The schools are upgrading the radios in the busses to high band which will allow for interoperability. Once the frequency is obtained he will be reprogramming the town owned radio system to include this and will include a repeater on Chapel Hill Road that will tie into the system so the town can monitor and talk with the communications center.

Lt. Bunnell stated he did not have a report for the Commission this month.

10. Reports from Committees and Public Safety Liaisons – none.

11. Unfinished Business

a. Discussion regarding progress/construction of the Public Safety building.

Chairman Jetmore stated the Public Safety Building Committee will meet on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in Room 203 if anyone is interested in attending. He stated the construction is approximately eighty percent completed at this time and is on schedule and within budget.

b. Update regarding the Public Safety Plan.

Commissioner Allyn discussed the Public Safety Plan, stating the Commission has received a working draft from Almont Associates for comments and to review the content of the document. He suggested setting a special meeting date to review the document, submit comments and review the content of the Plan.

12. New Business

a. Discussion regarding installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Rte 163 and Chesterfield Road on the South/East side opposite the Transfer Station.

Commissioner Moran discussed the dangerous conditions regarding speed in this area. He stated there is a line of sight issue and you take your chances pulling out of Chesterfield Road. Mayor McDaniel stated it is a State road and the Town has no authority to implement a stop sign at this intersection. Commissioner Wehner stated it has been past practice not to implement stop signs to control speed. It was the consensus of the Commission to refer this matter to the Mayor for evaluation.

b. To consider and act on a motion to review and approve the proposed Evaluation Policy and to forward the document to the Town Council for approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Allyn, discussion, Commissioner Butterworth inquired if there is currently a town wide policy in place and Mayor McDaniel stated there is no formal evaluation policy in place at this time for the Town of Montville and he stated there is a need for one. The proposed policy mimics the state evaluations policies and meets the needs of the Police Department.

Resident State Trooper Martinez discussed the policy stating the Department does not currently have a formal policy in place and he stated one should be in place so that officers can set goals for themselves and the department can keep track of an officer's career path. Chairman Jetmore inquired if one time a year is adequate for firearms training and suggested documenting the evaluation at least twice a year. He inquired if a physical fitness requirement should be implemented into the document and Sgt. Martinez stated he would like to implement this in the future but for right now he would like to evaluate the people in the department for what they do. Commissioner Moran stated you cannot implement this stipulation after the fact and if it is implemented the Police Department will have to allow the employee access to a gym while on duty. A discussion was held regarding whether or not the Union has reviewed the document. Commissioner Allyn stated he believes in implementing a policy and inquired if it is the intent of the policy to match the evaluation form and Sgt. Martinez stated that it does. Sgt. Greenwood answered questions from the Commission regarding the document as he is familiar with the document because he worked on drafting the policy. Mayor McDaniel commended the officers for working on the policy and stated it is a starting point for implementing a policy. The State Police use the same policy and they are comfortable with the wording for the document.

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Moran to postpone the vote regarding the Evaluation Policy until the Union, Police Department Administration and Resident State Trooper have the opportunity to review the document and to submit comments regarding the content of the document. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

c. To consider and act on a motion to review and approve the proposed Crisis Intervention Team Policy and to forward the document to the Town Council for approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Moran to approve the Crisis Intervention Policy and to forward the document to the Town Council for approval. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

d. To consider and act on a motion to review and approve the proposed Uniform Policy and to forward the document to the Town Council for approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Moran, discussion, Chairman Jetmore discussed issues he has with the proposed hat policy, stating it is not clear and is not realistic. He suggested the wording in the document to be clearer to avoid complications in the future. Officer Manley discussed the uniforms, stating the cost of the winter pants has gone up to eighty five dollars and the cost of the summer pants has gone up to eighty two dollars a pair. Chairman Jetmore inquired if the uniforms are made in America and it was confirmed

that they are. The Commission members discussed their concerns and recommendations for the Uniform Policy and it was the consensus of the Commission the policy is ready to move forward as written.

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Moran to approve the Uniform Policy as submitted and to forward the policy to the Town Council for approval. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

e. To consider and act on a motion to approve the proposed Promotion Policy and to forward the document to the Town Council for approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Wehner, discussion, Commissioner Butterworth read the comments submitted by Commissioner McNally into the record. Discussions were held regarding the points system used for hiring, the procedure for oral interviews and the most qualified individuals to perform the interviews, the promotional process and whether or not the Public Safety Commission should participate in the interview process, veteran consideration, the level of education required and the type of education to be considered as experience and the overall policy as written. Mayor McDaniel stated he would like to see the policy move forward as there is a direct need for the policy with many individuals at the Police Department waiting for an exam at this time. He stated he wants to see the best people in place for the jobs that are available. He suggested forming an informal committee to review the policy and to make suggestions for changes between now and the next meeting so that they are prepared to vote on it as soon as possible. Commissioners Moran and Jetmore volunteered to help work out the issues brought up by the Commission at this meeting and will schedule a meeting with the Mayor for this discussion.

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Moran to schedule a special meeting of the Public Safety Commission on Monday, August 6, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers for the purpose of discussions regarding the proposed Draft Public Safety Plan, review and vote on the proposed Promotion Policy and the Evaluation Policy. Discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

### 13. Remarks from the Public

Mr. Richard Sargent was present to discuss an ongoing problem he is having with vandalism at his home over an extended period of time. He explained there have been many incidents of someone leaving trash in his driveway since 2010 and on one occasion he had his windshield smashed in his car and one incident where there was acid left on his property. He submitted a calendar of events that dates back to May of 2010 depicting the exact dates he found the garbage

or witnessed the vandalism. He explained he has been working with the police and at one point a camera was set up to record the vandals in the act but they saw the camera and smashed it. He is requesting the town purchase a night vision camera so that he can catch the party responsible for the harassment and have them arrested.

Mr. Jon Leonard, Chestnut Hill Road discussed the working draft of the Public Safety Plan and inquired if the department heads will have the opportunity to review the finished product. He discussed moral at the Police Department, stating it needs to improve.

Chief Keith Truex discussed the need for a full time firefighter at the Chesterfield Fire Company, stating they are still using the money designated to hiring the firefighter for overtime to cover shifts at the station. He discussed the Public Safety Plan draft document, stating he would like the opportunity to review it to ensure its accuracy.

14. Remarks from Mayor McDaniel

Mayor McDaniel read a letter for the record regarding a great job by Officers Bedard and Orr in apprehending a suicidal individual during the month of June; a letter from the Housing Authority thanking Officer Pelletier for a great job working with an individual on June 27<sup>th</sup> at a disturbance call and a letter thanking Officer Jacobson for apprehending a very dangerous individual after a high speed chase through the Town of Montville and taking him into custody for possession of narcotics and possession of a weapon.

15. Remarks from Town Council Liaison, Candy Buebendorf

Councilor Buebendorf stated she will report to the Town Council the events of the meeting and will put the Policies on the agenda for consideration.

16. Remarks from Commission members

Commissioner Allyn urged the Commission members to review the working draft of the Public Safety Plan prior to the special meeting scheduled for August 6<sup>th</sup> and to bring their comments and concerns up at the meeting.

Commissioner Butterworth stated he agrees with Chief Truex that the department heads should have the opportunity to review the Public Safety Plan draft before it is finalized and stated the issues regarding the new hire at Chesterfield Fire Company are with the Union.

17. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Butterworth, seconded by Commissioner Moran to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m., discussion, none, voice vote, 5-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville.