

**Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for Monday, April 8, 2013
7:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers – Town Hall**

1. Call to Order
Chairperson Buebendorf called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. after establishing a quorum.
2. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in honor of our military.
3. Roll Call
Present were Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations — none.
5. Alterations to the Agenda — none.
6. To consider and act on a motion to approve:
 - a. The Public Hearing Meeting Minutes on Monday, March 11, 2013;
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Jones. Motion carried.
 - b. The Special Meeting Minutes on Monday, March 11, 2013;
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Jones. Motion carried.
 - c. The Regular Meeting Minutes on Monday, March 11, 2013;
Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 6-0-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilor Jones. Motion carried.
 - d. The Joint Meeting Minutes of the Town Council and WPCA on Thursday, March 14, 2013, and;
Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 5-0-2. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilors Caron and Jones. Motion carried.
 - e. The Joint Meeting Minutes of the Town Council and BOE on Saturday, March 23, 2013.
Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz. Discussion: Councilor Buebendorf stated that a meeting took place, but there was no quorum for the Council. Voice vote, 3-0-4. Voting in Favor: Councilors Jaskiewicz, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Voting in Abstention: Councilors Caron, Jones, Longton, and McFee. Motion failed.
7. Executive Session — none.

8. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit — none.
9. Communications
 - a. A copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of January 2013.
 - b. A copy of the legal bills from Suisman-Shapiro for the month of February 2013 was also received by the Councilors.
 - c. An invitation to the Memorial Day Parade was also received by the Councilors from Mayor McDaniel. The invitation requires an R.S.V.P.
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 stated that the Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) re-convened in the past month to update the overall regional water supply plan. The WUCC is comprised of hundreds of members who are involved with running the public water system, including COG and other towns. Items for discussion include changes to service areas and, dovetailing off the COG regional water supply plan, there is a sub-committee dealing with regional water supply and, at request of several towns, sewer and waste-water treatment will be added to that planning committee. It is important that we start thinking long-term about water and waste-water treatment needs

The Mayor was pleased with the number of Mayors from around the state who participated in the Mayors for Meals on Wheels program. It is a great program and it was nice to be able to meet with everyone and talk with them in their homes.

The Mayor's office received a quote request from Ledyard for regional dispatch. He has also met with the state, which is actively seeking the regionalization of the E-911 system and hopes that Montville will become a hub for regional dispatch.

A firefighter, Mr. Dave Wheeler, has been hired and a start date is being determined. Mr. Wheeler will come to them with lots of experience, qualifications, and enthusiasm and the Mayor is looking forward to his filling the vacancy.

The Police Department's agility test is scheduled for this weekend and several candidates are ready to participate.

Closing arrangements with the State for the old Police Department is currently in process. The Town is not longer paying the rent, utilities have been transferred, and the keys will be returned. The State is seeking to re-purpose the building. At which time, the Town hopes to sell them the generator, which, rather than un-installing, removing, storing, and/or re-installing the generator, will work out better for the Town. Councilor Tanner questioned whether the Senior Center might be able to make use of the generator, but the generator would be too small for them and, the transfer switch would need to be disconnected by an electrician at a cost of approximately \$1,000.00-\$2,000.00, moved, stored, re-installed, and re-connected.

A Community Conversations event, sponsored by a Graustein Memorial Foundation grant and conducted by the Board of Education, is scheduled for May 8, 2013 at Montville High School, 5:00-8:00 p.m. Dinner and childcare will be provided. The event will involve the bringing together of approximately 100 people from the community, who will break out into five working groups to discuss school culture, in general, including school safety, what creates good school culture, and how to incorporate that which occurs at home, in school, and within the community.

Councilor McFee requested a letter to the State be written regarding the poor workmanship on the stonework of the wall on Route 32. Mayor McDaniel stated that, at his previous request, he did bring it to the State's attention, but they were satisfied with the workmanship, signed off on it, and paid the contract. He added that he would be more than happy to address a letter to the Commissioner of the DOT.

12. Reports from Standing Committees.

a. **Town Administration/Rules of Procedure** – Councilor Tanner.

No meeting was held last month. The Committee is waiting to receive the town attorney's review of the situation regarding the Registrar of Voters.

b. **Finance** – Councilor Jaskiewicz

Councilor Jaskiewicz was unable to attend the meeting due to a funeral. Councilor Buebendorf reported that the Police Department was in attendance to discuss their request for police cars and Chief Turner of the Fire Department also attended to discuss their request for a fire truck. Information was gathered, but no decisions were made due to the lack of a budget at the time.

c. **Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal** – Councilor Longton

A lively discussion regarding the official cessation of efforts for the curbside trash pick-up and a long discussion regarding the history of the ordinance took place. The ordinance came about in an effort to save the Town money and to address the misuse of the facility by non-paying households, which is conservatively estimated to be at least 500 households. They are seeking for different ways in which to alleviate the problem, one of which is instituting a punch card system in place of the annual stickers.

The reinstatement of Maynard Road, which was abandoned in 1997, was also discussed. An effort to restore the northern portion of the road back to the Town has begun and Mr. Don Bordeau, Public Works Director, is currently examining the road and will be presenting an estimate of costs to the Committee at its April meeting. Following his report, a Planning & Zoning Report will be obtained, as required by State Statutes, and, finally, brought before the Town Council, in accordance to the Town Charter.

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors

a. Councilor Caron: Commission on Aging; Social Services; Montville Youth Services; Senior Center; School Building Committee

The **Senior Center** has been very busy; the Directors are currently applying for three (3) grants, totaling approximately \$160,000.00.

Social Services have added 14 (fourteen) new families and distributed approximately 3,500 meals.

Commission on Aging was happy to hear of the appointment of Edith Prague as the Commissioner of the State Department on Aging by the Governor. She will be visiting and meeting with the Senior Center in two weeks. A lengthy meeting regarding the clarification of the use of the Senior Center with himself, Councilor Tanner, Mayor McDaniel, and the Director of the Senior Center took place.

The Director of **Montville Youth Services** is now certified in Mental Health First Aid, Suicide Prevention. She is currently working on a grant application for \$25,000.00, in addition to the \$3,300.00 grant, which has been secured from the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Approximately \$850.00 was raised during the Annual Penny Drive. The Juvenile Review Board has had approximately 15 cases to date and has been very successful. Youth Service Bureau Day at the Capitol will be held on

May 1, 2013. Discussions will be centered upon school safety and mental health and will be geared towards high school students.

- b. Councilor Jones: Library; Planning & Zoning Commission

The **Library's** application for becoming a satellite post office is currently underway so that, if approved, they will be compensated. The satellite post office will be able to provide basic services in addition to the Oakdale Post Office in the event that the hours are cut at the Oakdale Post Office. There are currently three (3) post offices (Montville, Uncasville, Oakdale) in Montville. The deletion of one post office will lead to the elimination of one zip code so that the consolidation of the post office is not an option.

Planning & Zoning Commission approved an application for a site plan review for a mixed-use development (retail, commercial, residential) at 1360 Norwich-New London Turnpike in Uncasville on March 26.

- c. Councilor Longton: Economic Development Commission — no meeting.

- d. Councilor McFee: Volunteer Firefighters Relief Fund; Public Safety Building Committee, Inland Wetlands Commission

The **Inland Wetlands Commission** held a site-walk of Montville Road Bridge, coming one step closer to its construction. They are hoping to break ground in October and its completion by 2014. Mayor McDaniel noted that the grant was transferred to DOT and a number of materials were also forwarded to them along with an emphasis on fast-tracking the project. Councilor Longton added that the Town engineers have promised not to ruin the fishing holes in the area.

- e. Councilor Jaskiewicz: Board of Education; WPCA

The **Board of Education** meeting was attended by WPCA Administrator Brian Lynch and Mayor McDaniel and discussion took place regarding the providing of water to the schools in the future. A presentation on a new program was presented by Mr. Mark Johnson, Principal of Oakdale School, as well as an acknowledgement of the Montville Marvels. The acceptance of the zero budget from the Board of Education was also discussed

The **WPCA** discussed providing water to the schools. Potential water may be coming up Route 163, for which some grants may be received.

- f. Councilor Tanner: Parks & Recreation Commission; Non-Profit Organizations

The **Parks & Recreation Commission**, as mentioned by Councilor Caron, has been working on resolving the issue regarding the use of the Senior Center.

A Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2013 in the Town Hall parking lot. A Farmer's Market may also be included. They are hoping that the traffic along Route 32 will help generate some cash flow. Interested parties may contact the Commission.

A successful Easter Egg Hunt including a Nighttime Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt for 9-15 year olds with movie tickets and gift cards among the give-aways.

The Adult Volleyball League has begun. Anyone interested in playing are welcome to play on Friday nights, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Tyl Middle School.

- g. Councilor Buebendorf: Public Safety Commission; Regional Dispatch Committee

While Mayor McDaniel covered the discussions of the Public Safety Commission and the Regional Dispatch Committee in his report, Councilor Buebendorf added that the Public Safety Commission also discussed the K-9 policy for the future and are continuing to work on scheduling meetings for the Public Safety Plan recommendations.

14. Appointments and Resignations

- a. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Mr. Robert Mastrandrea to the Building Code Board of Appeals with a term to expire on March 12, 2018.

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

- b. To Consider and Act on a motion to waive the rule requiring an interview for Mr. Howard Riske for the Inland Wetlands Commission.

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Jones. Discussion: Councilor Buebendorf stated that Mr. Riske broke his leg in two places, having slipped on the ice in January, and is incapacitated and unable to meet for an interview. As such, Councilor Buebendorf interviewed Mr. Riske, who expects to be mobile next month, on the telephone. He stated that he has served on the Commission for the past ten years and enjoys protecting the water. He feels that the Commission is functioning very well and would like to continue his involvement and asked to waive the formal interview process so that there is no gap in his term. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

- c. To Consider and Act on a motion to re-appoint Mr. Howard Riske to the Inland Wetlands Commission with a term to expire on May 13, 2017.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

- d. To Consider and Act on a motion to nominate and appoint either Ms. Elizabeth Adams or Mr. Eric Lee Rousseau to the Public Safety Commission with a term to expire on April 9, 2016.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor McFee to nominate Ms. Elizabeth Adams. Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron to nominate Mr. Eric Lee Rousseau. Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 4-3. Voting for Ms. Adams: Councilors Jones, McFee, and Tanner. Voting for Mr. Rousseau: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Longton, and Buebendorf. Mr. Eric Lee Rousseau has been appointed.

15. Unfinished Business

- a. **Resolution #2013-21. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to refer the ordinance titled "Ordinance Amending Chapter 289, Ordinance No. O-G-4, "Ordinance Regulating Peddlers, Vendors and Solicitors", to the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Economic Development Commission for review and revision with a request for an update from each of the Commissions at the Town Council Regular Meeting on Monday, July 8, 2013. (Councilor Longton)**

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Councilor Jaskiewicz questioned whether an update or an actual ordinance would be presented to the Council. Councilor Buebendorf, Tanner, and Longton stated their preference for an actual, workable Ordinance. The Ordinance, which was tabled and referred at the last meeting, should have been referred to the Planning & Zoning Commission and the EDC and not tabled. This resolution is to correct that error and to formally refer it to the Planning & Zoning and EDC. The Commissions will be reviewing the entire policy. Councilor Jones sought to clarify that, according to the March 11 meeting minutes, the original Ordinance appears to have been repealed. Councilor Buebendorf noted that the meeting minutes which Councilor Jones was referring to was the Public Hearing Meeting, which was held to amend the Ordinance by removing the one-mile restriction. Roll call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

16. New Business

- a. **Resolution #2013-22. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of \$13,859.53 (thirteen thousand eight hundred fifty-nine and fifty-three cents) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor Buebendorf)**

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Resolution adopted.

- b. To consider and act on a motion to receive the Mayor's budget proposal for fiscal year 2013-2014. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: The Mayor's Proposed Budget was handed out to the Councilors and attendees. Mayor McDaniel stated the proposed budget is a "snapshot in time", noting the difficulties in working with some of the operating and capital expenses without knowing what the legislature will do with the Governor's recommended budget. As usual, each of the departments were carefully examined, and, having been fortunate enough to attend most of the Finance Committee meetings, the Mayor had some awareness of the concerns of the Council and tried to incorporate them within the budget. In contrast to previous years, the Finance Committee met with the department heads prior to having the proposed budget. The budget includes a 0.17 mill increase. Councilor McFee questioned the inclusion of the \$300,000.00 AES funds, but the Mayor stated that that amount is actually a subtraction, the funds being held in abeyance since it is being appealed in the courts at this time. No funds currently in the reserve account, including the AES funds, were used to balance the budget. The 0.17 mill equates to an approximately \$330,000.00 budget change. The minimal increase was made possible due to the Board of Education coming in with a zero request. The Mayor expressed his appreciation of the Board of Education's ability to keep within their budget at a time when the Governor's priorities are in education. Finance Director Terry Hart added that, since the meeting last month, the restructuring of the bonds was reviewed and some of the funds were shifted allowing them to save some money and reduce the debt service by \$300,000.00. This also contributed to keeping the mill rate increase down. Councilor Jaskiewicz commended their work on the budget. Roll call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- c. To consider and act on a motion to receive the Mayor's proposed five year Capital Plan for fiscal years 2013-2018. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Jones, Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- d. To consider and act on a motion to send the Mayor's proposed five year Capital Plan to the Planning and Zoning Commission for comment. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz, seconded by Councilor Caron, Discussion: Mayor McDaniel noted that this was in accordance to the Charter. Roll call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- e. **Resolution #2013-23. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to amend Resolution #2012-85 previously adopted at the November 14, 2012 meeting to change the time of the May 13, 2013 regular meeting to 6PM striking out 7PM for this meeting only. (Councilor Buebendorf)**

Motion made by Councilor Jones, seconded by Councilor Tanner, Discussion: Councilor Buebendorf received the timeline suggestion from the town attorney so that the approval of the budget does not bump up against the deadline and to allow enough time for any issues that may arise. The town attorney suggested the budget meeting take place at the time of regular Council meeting in May. Councilor Buebendorf will request that the Council members submit all Liaison and Standing Committee reports in writing so as to expedite and dedicate the bulk of the meeting to budget discussion. Councilor Jaskiewicz requested confirmation that the town attorney suggested the revised timeline. The Mayor noted that this was at his request to the town attorney due to the fact that they continuously exceed the 30-day charter provision. This will, hopefully, provide enough time for any vetoes, overrides, petitions, etc. that may take place. The budget must be approved 30 days before the end of June when the tax bills are mailed. Councilor Buebendorf stated that, rather than having a special meeting, moving the regular meeting up to 6:00 p.m. will allow the Council to make adjustments during the meeting. Both Councilors McFee and Jones felt that this was a good decision. Councilor Longton questioned whether any revenues that are not finalized by that date are expected. The Mayor responded that that would be the case for pretty much all of them, but that decisions will need to be made with the information they have at hand at that particular time. Roll call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- f. **Resolution #2013-24. THE TOWN OF MONVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to amend Resolution #2012-86 previously adopted at the November 14, 2012 meeting to change the date of the Town Council Special Budget Meeting to May 13, 2013, 6PM at Town Hall Council Chambers by striking "~~Town Council Special Budget Meeting, 6 PM at Montville High School Auditorium.~~" (Councilor Buebendorf)**

Motion made by Councilor Jones, seconded by Councilor McFee. Discussion: None. Roll call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- g. **Resolution #2013-25. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to authorize Mayor Ronald K. McDaniel to execute a contract on behalf of the Town of Montville with the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of State Police for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2015 and any documents related thereto. (Mayor McDaniel)**

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Caron. Discussion: The document was scanned and sent to the Council Members. The terms and conditions of the contract remains the same as it has been for at least the past six (6) years, with the exception of the department's name change due to the State's reorganization. In response to Councilor Jones question, the Mayor responded that the Resident Trooper's salary is \$123,000. Roll call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- h. **Resolution #2013-26. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES that Ronald McDaniel, Mayor of the Town of Montville is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the**

Connecticut State Library for an Historic Documents Preservation Grant. (Mayor McDaniel)

Motion made by Councilor Jones, seconded by Councilor McFee. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that the Town Clerk applies for this grant on an annual basis in order to preserve documents and continue their efforts to have all of their material electronically recorded. Mayor McDaniel did not know the exact amount of the grant, but stated that it is approximately \$2,000.00. Roll call vote, 7-0. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Jaskiewicz, Jones, Longton, McFee, Tanner, and Buebendorf. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

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

Lynda Jean, 1583 Route 163, Lot Number 8, Oakdale, also known as Maynard Road, thanked Councilor Longton for bringing up the reinstatement of Maynard Road, but informed them that she was not the one who is pushing issue, though she has in previous years. He found the problem, he wants to fix it, and she hopes they hear him.

18. Executive Session — none.

19. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor Jones is looking forward to looking over the Mayor's budget proposal and, as modest as the 0.17 increase may be, she would like to see no increase at all given last year's substantial increase.

Councilor McFee commented on his surprise at having gone through the entire agenda without any objections or oppositions – he almost opposed the last one just to do it. While he, too, would like to see the budget at zero, he noted that he will not cry over 0.17 and commended the Mayor on a job well done.

Councilor Jaskiewicz also commended the Mayor on keeping the budget increase at a minimum, especially without knowing what the State is going to do.

Mayor McDaniel announced that he will be on vacation in Arizona next week, but will be reachable by phone and e-mail, though the latter may be delayed depending upon wi-fi availability.

20. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Longton, to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Agnes Miyuki, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville

AN AUDIO RECORD OF THE MEETING IS ON FILE IN THE MONTVILLE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE