

**Town of Montville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes for June 10, 2019 7:00 p.m.
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall**

1. Call to Order Chairman McNally 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 Pike, Pollard, Rogers, Rogulski and Chairman McNally. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel. Councilor Caron was absent.
4. Special Recognitions/Presentations –
 - a. Liaison Councilor Rogers announced that Builders Tile & Carpet was the recipient of the Excellence Award. Unfortunately, Steve Cohen was unable to attend and Councilor Rogers stated a special presentation would be scheduled at the business later in the week.
5. Alterations to the Agenda -
 - a. Motion made by Councilor Pike and seconded by Councilor Pollard to change the wording in Items 16. (i) and 16. (j) to “abandoned property.” Discussion: None; Voice Vote 6-0; all in favor. Motion Carried.
6. Regular Meeting Minutes –
 - a. Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz and seconded by Councilor Rogers to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2019. Discussion: None; Voice Vote 6-0; all in favor. Motion Carried.
 - b. Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Pollard to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2019. Discussion: None; Voice Vote 6-0; all in favor. Motion Carried.
7. Executive Session –
 - a. Entered Executive Session from 7:03pm to 7:23pm to interview candidates for appointment to the Public Safety Commission. Discussions to include members of the Town Council and Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
8. Remarks from the Public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit. None
9. Communications –
 - a. Copy of the May, 2019 budget report from Ms. Terry Hart, Finance Director.
 - b. Copy of the legal bills from Halloran & Sage dated May 10, 2019.
 - c. Email from Patrick Boyles commending Youth Services.
10. Report from Town Attorney on Matters Referred – None
11. Remarks from the Mayor and/or Administrative Department Heads to include Matters Referred –
 - a. Mayor Remarks:

Mayor McDaniel stated the Firefighter’s 990’s were being reviewed to confirm that the Town funds less than 50% so they can remain independent. Councilor Rogers inquired about the Halloran & Sage bill referencing Brian Lynch on the billing. The Mayor confirmed that must be a clerical error on their behalf as they were retained before Mr. Lynch left employment. Mayor McDaniel noted that paraprofessional awards and teacher retirements were given in front of the students this year and that it went over well.

Mayor McDaniel mentioned the road projects underway in Town (Meetinghouse Lane; Jerome Road). Councilor Pike questioned the work in front of Fellows Road; the Mayor said it was for a temporary block for the gas relocation project.

The Mayor mentioned having a Prison Safety with the new warden meeting but did not go into detail.
12. Reports from Standing Committees.
 - a. Town Administration/Rules of Procedure – Councilor Jaskiewicz reported discussions relative to the Youth Services Director’s request for salary increase. He stated the Commission took no vote and stated that it’s the Mayor who does the negotiating. .
 - b. Finance – Councilor Pike – No meeting.
 - c. Public Works/Solid Waste Disposal – Councilor McNally – No meeting.

13. Reports from Special Committees and Liaison Councilors –
 - a. Councilor Pike: **Board of Education** – Graduation dates were announced. There was discussion about the bussing issue. Councilor Pike stated schools had difficulty staying on time all year because the buses can't seem to get the children to school on time. He said the Transportation Director and Bus Garage manager would be looking into this issue and it may be that children in Oakdale Heights and Montville Manor would be "walkers" in the future. A decision would be made about this once safety issues were evaluated. **Planning & Zoning** – the solar field has been approved and will, hopefully, save the Town some money. Storage facility is looking to add two new buildings and 724's were reviewed and approved.
 - b. Councilor Pollard: **Non-Profit** – No report. **Commission on Aging** – No meeting but the Commission continues to work on legislation and on home health aid safety. She said Director, Kathy Doherty-Peck, has submitted one grants and has two coming up.
 - c. Councilor Rogers **Economic Development Commission** – said the Commission is working on the upcoming Small Business forum scheduled for 9/24/19 at MHS. Commission has reached out to Planning and Zoning to find out ways the Commission can help bring new businesses to Town. **Parks & Recreation Commission** – Commissioner Berardi resigned; Councilor Rogers said he would have a small presentation for Mr. Berardi at next month's meeting. The dog park is almost finished and Public Works will take control of the property. Commissioner Bushwack is working on getting some wooden signs for Camp Oakdale. The Carnival is June 21st 5pm-10pm; June 22, 10am-12am; June 23, 12pm-6pm. All day rides are \$25 and if you get \$5 off if you bring a non-perishable can good. Summer camp starts 6/24; Camp Oakdale will host the band, Fusion, for the Summer Concert; there will be an outdoor movie on 8/10 and a Children's Event is scheduled 4 year-olds and up. **Public Safety Commission** – nothing new to report. **Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA)** – the freightliner truck conversion is scheduled; there was a sewer backup due to a pipe failure and several residents' homes were damaged. Councilor Rogers noted the Town's insurance company was only willing to pay 50% of the damages and that through negotiations the Mayor was able to increase the percentage to 60. However, Councilor Rogers and Commissioner members were not satisfied with that and voted to pay the difference to the homeowner's so that they were not forced to pay out of pocket for damages that were beyond their control. He stated it was "the right things to do."
 - d. Councilor Rogulski: **Library Committee** – the Library held a book sale and is in need of boxes so it can box up books. **Youth Services Bureau** – Councilor Rogulski was unable to attend the meeting but did read the minutes. He said a \$5k grant was received and noted the DCF grant was increased to \$500k; a presentation was given on the DCF program and it was noted that Councilor members did not attend. There were, however, 65 people in attendance for the presentation. **Advisory Board** – nothing to report.
 - e. Councilor McNally: **Conservation Commission** – Commission members marked trails and continues to work with Eagle Scouts on a clean-up project. **Farmer's Market** – first Farmer's Market was held; great outcome, many patrons but still looking for vendors.
 - f. Councilor Caron was not in attendance; therefore, no report on **Volunteer Fire Fighters' Relief Fund/Social Services- Social Services**
14. Appointments and Resignations
 - a. Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Jaskiewicz to waive Rule 14c of the Town Council Rules and Procedures relative to Commission/Board Appointments. Discussion: None; Voice Vote 6-0. Motion Carried.
 - b. Vote taken to fill a vacancy on the Public Safety Commission with a term to expire on 1/9/22.

Discussion: Councilor Rogers read a statement on the record, which included the following:

- It has been brought to my attention that Mr. Leonard Bunnell may be using the opportunity to be appointed to the Public Safety Commission as one for personal gain and to further his pursuit of a political run for either Town Council or Mayor.
- I received several phone calls from various members of the Montville Public Safety and Service Community; the purpose of each and every call was to share views of Mr. Bunnell; not one caller had anything positive to say. Phrases used in these calls included: “He is vindictive”; “He is only trying to continue to pursue his personal agenda”; and “He really isn’t a friend or supporter of the PD.”
- It should be noted that when this Town Council attempted to honor Mr. Bunnell, publicly, for his work within the Police Department he refused to participate. In fact, according to Mayor McDaniel, he outright refused any recognition. However, this is clearly not Mr. Bunnell’s true feelings as I have obtained a photograph that in fact proves otherwise. This photograph proves that Mr. Bunnell did not mind being recognized by the Democrats of our Town at Councilor Caron’s house during the Democratic Town Committee Christmas Party. This picture reflects Mr. Bunnell receiving a General Assembly Citation for his efforts over his career that only included Senator Cathy Osten.
- A second photograph of a retirement card that was sent from one of our Town Officers to Mr. Bunnell thanking him for his dedication to the Town of Montville and the Montville Police Department, his support of the individual officer, and his words of advice. Mr. Bunnell’s response was what I found most troubling. Mr. Bunnell stated that he is ashamed of this officer and should have never hired him. He further stated that this officer does not deserve to wear the badge, and destroyed his sworn oath. The problem I have is this officer is one of the most proactive members of the department as he has been recognized for both his investigative and DUI enforcement efforts. It was conveyed to me that this card was the result of the officer’s union activity.
- Lastly, it should be taken into consideration that while Mr. Bunnell was in charge of the Montville Police Department he was investigated many times and brought the police department into several law suits due to his personal conflicts with his staff. He was investigated for Criminal use of the COLLECT System; a lawsuit was filed against him for Defamation of Character; and a harassment complaint was filed against him based upon the way he viewed a female officer.
- It is with a clear conscience that, I suggest to all Councilors, if you had any consideration to vote in favor of Mr. Bunnell that you reassess and reconsider.

VOTES WERE AS FOLLOWS:

| | Suarez | Stewart | Bunnell |
|------------|--------|---------|---------|
| Caron | | | |
| Jaskiewicz | | | x |
| Pike | | x | |
| Pollard | | x | |
| Rogers | x | | |
| Rogulski | | x | |
| McNally | | x | |

Stephen Stewart was appointed

15. Unfinished Business – None

16. New Business –

- a. **Resolution #2019-36.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to refund taxes due to overpayments and corrections in the amount of Two Hundred Forty-Nine Dollars and Two Cents (\$249.02) as requested by the Tax Collector. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz and seconded by Councilor Rogers.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
- b. **Resolution #2019-37.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the favorable 8-24 review for the sale of property located at Bridge Street (Map 82 Lot 53), as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Pollard.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
- c. **Resolution #2019-38.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the favorable 8-24 review for the sale of property located at 30 Church Road (Map 57 Lot 16), as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Pollard.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
- d. **Resolution #2019-39.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the favorable 8-24 review for the sale of property located at Oxoboxo Cross Road (Map 108 Lot 57), as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Pollard.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
- e. **Resolution #2019-40.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the favorable 8-24 review for the sale of property located at 47 Oxoboxo Cross Road (Map 108 Lot 216), as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Pollard.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
- f. **Resolution #2019-41.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the favorable 8-24 review for the sale of property located at 87 PTA Lane (Map 99 Lot 89), as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Pollard.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
- g. **Resolution #2019-42.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the favorable 8-24 review for the sale of property located at 309 Route 163 (Map 23 Lot 79-1E), as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz and seconded by Councilor Pollard.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
- h. **Resolution #2019-43.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the favorable 8-24 review for the sale of property located at 323 Route 163 (Map 23 Lot 79-1D), as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogulski and seconded by Councilor Rogers.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried

- i. **Resolution #2019-44.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the favorable 8-24 review for the abandonment of property located at 5 Linda Ave/Lathrop Court (Map 100 Lot 14), as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogulski and seconded by Councilor Pollard.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
 - j. **Resolution #2019-45.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the favorable 8-24 review for the abandonment of property located at 192-206 Chesterfield Rd (Map 29 Lot 80-83), as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz and seconded by Councilor Rogulski.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
 - k. **Resolution #2019-46.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to consider and act on a motion to introduce and set the date for a public hearing on an ordinance titled “An Ordinance Regarding the Conveyance of Real Property Located at Bridge Street (Map 82 Lot 53)” on July 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz and seconded by Councilor Rogulski.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
 - l. **Resolution #2019-47.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to consider and act on a motion to introduce and set the date for a public hearing on an ordinance titled “An Ordinance Regarding the Conveyance of Real Property Located at 30 Church Road (Map 57 Lot 16)” on July 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Rogulski.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
 - m. **Resolution #2019-48.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to consider and act on a motion to introduce and set the date for a public hearing on an ordinance titled “An Ordinance Regarding the Conveyance of Real Property Located at 87 PTA Lane (Map 99 Lot 89)” on July 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Rogulski.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
 - n. **Resolution #2019-49.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to consider and act on a motion to introduce and set the date for a public hearing on an ordinance titled “An Ordinance Regarding the Conveyance of Real Property Located at 309 Route 163 (Map 23 Lot 79-1E)” on July 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Pollard.
Discussion: None; Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
 - o. **Resolution #2019-50.** THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to consider and act on a motion to introduce and set the date for a public hearing on an ordinance titled “An Ordinance Regarding the Conveyance of Real Property Located at 323 Route 163 (Map 23 Lot 79-1D)” on July 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers. (Councilor McNally)
Motion made by Councilor Rogers and seconded by Councilor Pike.
Discussion: Councilor Pike stated this was a nice piece of land and right near the property at 309 Route 163. Roll Call Vote 6-0. Motion Carried
17. Remarks from the Public with a three minute limit.
- a. Matthew Suarez, 18 Cranberry Lane – thanked the Council for taking the time to consider his application for appointment to Public Safety Commission; congratulated Mr. Stewart; and asked that the Council keep his application on file for future consideration. Mr. Suarez touched on the bus issue relative to the possibility of some children becoming walkers and

he noted that not all homeowners on Old Colchester Road take care of the sidewalk in front of their homes as required. He suggested coming up with a way to enforce this rule in the event children are made walkers as they would need a clear path to stay off the road. He, additionally, brought up a pathway near Lathrop Road that children use in the Mohegan area and said if the walker idea passes, that the Town should maintain that path for children to use to get to school.

Councilor Rogers stated he was in the process of obtaining his CDL to become a bus driver for the Town. He discussed that obtaining a CDL is not all that easy and that bus drivers do not get paid a lot and despite the need for them not everyone is qualified to become one due to the CDL requirement.

18. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor –

- a. Councilor Jaskiewicz – None
- b. Mayor McDaniel – None
- c. Councilor Rogers – he stated that he attended the Senior Art Show and that it was a good turnout and that he even bought a painting. In addition, he mentioned the new restaurant in Town “Donatello’s” and encouraged residents to stop in to say hi and to get one of their great sandwiches. He also told Mr. Suarez that he would do what he could to try to enforce the ordinance requiring residents to maintain the sidewalks.
- d. Councilor Pike – None
- e. Councilor Pollard – thanked everyone for coming out and agreed she would also look into enforcement of sidewalk maintenance as well as the path near Mohegan.
- f. Councilor Rogulski – thanked the Mayor for his efforts to obtain funds from the Mohegan Tribe as he understands that is not an easy task. He also thanked the public for coming to the meeting.
- g. Chairman McNally – thanked the Police and Fire Departments for their work at the Memorial Day Parade and thanked the public for attending the meeting.

19. Adjournment 8:00pm

Motion made by Councilor Jaskiewicz and seconded by Councilor Rogers.
Discussion: None; Voice Vote: 6-0. Motion Carried