

Town of Montville
Public Safety Commission
310 Norwich New London Turnpike
Uncasville, Connecticut 06382

860-848-3030

**Town of Montville
Public Safety Commission –Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 22, 2009 -7:00 p.m.
Town Hall - Town Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order – Chairman Jetmore called the regular meeting of the Public Safety Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call – Present were Commissioners Allyn, Baxter, Butterworth, Jetmore, Scott and Wehner. Absent was Commissioner Wojcik. Also present were Mayor Jaskiewicz and Town Council Liaison Ed Radgwoski.
4. Consider and act on a motion to approve the April 27, 2009 regular meeting minutes.

Motion made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Baxter. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

5. Communications

Chairman Jetmore discussed a correspondence from Youth Services regarding a blood drive scheduled for June 25th.

6. Remarks from the Public – none.
7. Remarks from Department Heads

Lt. Bunnell, Town of Montville Police Department, distributed the statistics for the months of April and May for review. He indicated there is a recruit in his second month at the Police Academy and one Police Officer going overseas to serve in the military. He hopes to hire an additional officer in July with the money from the State grant to bring the number of officers to twenty three. He discussed the Vietnam Traveling Wall and indicated there were thirty five posts to cover that day and he was very impressed with the mutual aid response from nearby towns.

8. Reports from Committees – none.
- a. Reports from Public Safety Commission Liaisons – none.
9. Old Business – none.
10. New Business
 - a. Discuss attendance at meetings by Commissioners

Chairman Jetmore discussed attendance at the meetings by the Commissioners and encouraged them to call him if they can not attend the meetings, as there were a few times over this past year there were not enough members for a quorum. He stated the dates of the meetings are posted on the Town website as well as in the Town Clerk's office. The next regularly scheduled meeting will take place on July 27, 2009. He encouraged everyone to make an effort to improve attendance at the meetings.

- b. Review proposed New Crisis Intervention Policy/Procedure and act upon the same.

Sgt. Ernie Greenwood, Montville Police Department, was present to discuss the proposed CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) policy related to police procedures in accordance with the Town Charter Section 408 with a request for approval from the Public Safety Commission to forward the policy to the Town Council for their approval and adoption of the proposed policy. He indicated the purpose of the proposed policy is to establish guidelines and procedures under which the CIT shall operate to ensure a coordinated response in providing services to persons involved in a crisis. The CIT officers in partnership with the Police, Fire Department Dispatchers and mental health professionals and the community seeks to achieve the common goals of safety, understanding and service to persons in crisis, the mentally ill and their families. A trained CIT officer will have specialized training and knowledge that will benefit persons known to have mental illness or who are experiencing a crisis, persons displaying behavior indicative of mental illness who have attempted or threatened suicide or persons gravely disabled or may have emotional trauma. Currently it is the policy of the Montville Police Department to respond to incidents involving individuals with mental or behavioral problems with professionalism, compassion and concern for the safety of all involved. During these incidents and officer shall use the CIT training as a resource for identifying and providing services for the individual in crisis. He discussed various Department Dispatch responsibilities, responsibilities of the Patrol Officer and Patrol Supervisor in determining if the call requires a CIT officer response. He discussed policy for reporting and documenting CIT calls. He indicated training for the CIT program is on a voluntary basis only and officers who volunteer for training will not receive extra compensation for doing so. Any officer who wants to be trained will get the training.

Commissioner Allyn inquired regarding how many trained officers are in the program. Sgt. Greenwood indicated the team is made up of five total, one officer from each shift and a dispatcher. He discussed the wording on page five, section e.

Commissioner Scott expressed concern regarding EMS response if there is a call regarding suicide and liability issues if they do not respond accordingly.

Commissioner Baxter discussed the State grant for training CIT officers. Sgt. Greenwood indicated there is money available from the State for officer training up to fifteen hundred dollars per officer.

Commissioner Butterworth inquired if this training is available to firefighters as well as police officers. Sgt. Greenwood indicated training is available to anyone who volunteers to get the training.

Commissioner Jetmore discussed the sixty day timeline for reimbursement from the State and inquired if the wording for the proposed policy came from another town with the policy already in place. Sgt. Greenwood indicated the wording for the policy is copied from both Waterford and West Hartford documents with the same policy in place. The Town Attorney will look at the document prior to the adoption of the policy.

Motion made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Baxter to approve the CIT policy and to forward the document to the Town Council for review and adoption of the policy. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

11. Remarks from the Public

Steve Lawler expressed concern regarding the timeline for the reimbursement of the CIT officer training. Sgt. Greenwood stated he hopes to work it out with the proper authorities for additional time to train.

Lt. Bunnell indicated this policy is a requirement regardless if the money is reimbursed. The money is an incentive to train the officers and this policy needs to move forward per Charter.

John Geary strongly suggested that Sgt. Greenwood and Lt. Bunnell attend the Town Council meeting to address the proposal and to explain to the Council the benefits of the training.

12. Remarks from Mayor Jaskiewicz

Mayor Jaskiewicz discussed the grant available for the hire of an additional police officer. He stated the procession for the Traveling Vietnam Wall was very organized and he is very proud of the police and fire police that helped out with the event. He discussed a meeting regarding in Ledyard regarding regionalization of the police departments and

inquired if the Commission would like to appoint two members to attend the meetings and report back to the Commission. Commissioners Butterworth and Wehner volunteered to attend the meeting on Monday, June 29, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. at the Ledyard Town Hall.

13. Remarks from Town Council Liaison

Councilor Ed Radgowski stated there Council is appointing members to the Public Safety Building Commission.

14. Remarks from Commissioners

Commissioner Allyn discussed the Fire Act Grant, stating it is time to submit the paperwork. He thanked Sgt. Greenwood for his presentation.

Commissioner Baxter requested the Commission send notice to the various police and fire departments that helped out with the Traveling Vietnam Wall thanking them for their service. He commended Officer Jacobson for a job well done and thanked Sgt. Greenwood for a great presentation.

Commissioner Wehner thanked Sgt. Greenwood for this presentation.

Commissioner Butterworth stated the CIT program training is a great opportunity for public safety personnel. He stated it is a great program.

Chairman Jetmore thanked Sgt. Greenwood for his presentation.

15. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Baxter to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Discussion: none. Voice vote; 6-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville