

Town of Montville Town Council
Special Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, May 14, 2013
6:00 p.m. – Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Call to Order
Chairman Jaskiewicz called the meeting to order at 6:00 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, Longton, May, McNally (6:08 p.m.), Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Also present was Mayor Ronald McDaniel.
4. Remarks from the public relating to matters on the agenda with a three-minute limit.
Lt. Leonard Bunnell, Montville Police Department, spoke with regards to item 6(c) and verified that the addition of a 24th Police Officer is not included. He urged that the Town Council include an additional police officer to the budget. This marks the 13th year he is requesting an additional officer based upon a \$50,000.00 study recommending additional officer(s) and the increasing number of calls they have been receiving over the past 13 (thirteen) years. The problem does not lie in responding to the calls, as all calls will be responded to, but has to do with all of the elements, i.e., arrests, warrants, investigations, etc., each response entails.

Carol Higham, Administrative Assistant, Parks & Recreation Department, urged the Town Council vote in favor of increasing the part-time administrative assistant's position to full-time. The Department is the only department without a full-time administrative assistant and has been suffering the consequences since its reduction of hours two (2) years ago including minimal or no office and telephone coverage, old/erroneous information on their website and brochures, and poor customer service and relations.

William O'Neill, IT Director, requested the Town Council return his hardware line item to the Mayor's proposed level. He felt that the amount budgeted is a reasonable amount and should also be adequate to handle any new initiatives and/or any unexpected issues. In the past, he has struggled and managed to keep his budget within the Mayor's proposed level.

Kevin Fritch, 12 Morgan Street, requested they take another look at the Board of Education items under the Capital Improvements budget that were not approved. Should the BOE need Capital improvements, their lack of funding would force them to dip into their Operating Budget. In addition, inclusion of the items in the Capital Plan would ensure that they are funded properly and improve their transparency.

Carmen Kneeland, 8 McCulley Place, urged the Town Council to reinstate the administrative assistant to 40 hours.
5. Executive Session — none.
6. New Business
 - a. **Resolution #2014-50. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to adopt the rate schedule as amended for all water service located within the Town of Montville service area billed on and after July 1, 2014. (Councilor May)

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Tanner. Discussion: Brian Lynch, Administrator, Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA), stated that the town of Groton is currently planning to make \$32 million in plant upgrades over the next four (4) years. While there is a possibility that another increase might be necessary, this increase should fund and cover the anticipated rate increase in October. The last water rate increase was in 2010. Roll Call vote, 6-1. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: Councilor Caron. Resolution passed.

- b. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to adopt the Town's five-year capital improvement plan in the total amount of \$13,781,753.00. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)
Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: None. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to amend the capital improvement plan line item by line item. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor May to add the line item in the Capital Improvement budget for Dispatch Equipment (10960-54040) in the Mayor's proposed budget and fund it at two-hundred fifty-thousand (\$250,000) dollars. Discussion: Mayor McDaniel stated that, should they decide to move forward with the consolidation plan and join a Regional dispatch model, these funds would show that the amount has been budgeted and is available allowing them to receive the grant from the State of CT. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Caron, to eliminate eighteen thousand (\$18,000) dollars in the Capital Plan budget for Pickup for Camp Oakdale (10960-54089) in the Mayor's proposed budget. Discussion: Finance Director Terry Hart stated that funding for the pick-up truck will be provided by a grant allowing them to eliminate that amount from the budget. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to eliminate twelve thousand (\$12,000) dollars in the Capital Plan budget for the All-purpose Field at Camp Oakdale (10960-54079) in the Mayor's proposed budget. Discussion: Finance Director Hart stated that, like the pick-up truck, funding will be provided by a grant. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor May, to eliminate one hundred nine thousand two hundred seventy two (\$109,272) dollars in the Capital Plan budget for Police Car Replacement (10960-54006) in the Mayor's proposed budget. Discussion: Finance Director Hart stated that this item is also being funded by grants. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.
- Chairman Jaskiewicz asked if there were any additional changes they would like to make to the Capital Plan.
- Councilor Caron requested that the \$34,000.00 (thirty-four thousand dollars) allocated to the demolition of the old Social Services Building (10960-54123) be changed to the refurbishing/rehab of the building.
- Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to change the line item from demolishing to refurbishing the Social Service Building. Discussion: Questions regarding whether it is cost-effective and the structure contains asbestos arose, to which Mayor McDaniel stated that they are in the process of obtaining estimates and, while the numbers have not been confirmed, it is estimated to cost less than \$34,000.00 to refurbish the structure. He suggested changing the motion to allocating the funds to refurbish/demolish.
- Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May, to withdraw the motion to change the line item from demolishing to refurbishing the Social Service Building.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor May to amend the line item to allocate \$34,000.00 to refurbish/demolish the Social Services Building. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

In response to Councilor Caron, Mayor McDaniel stated that the roofing is complete at the Raymond Hill Church; \$27,000.00 (twenty-seven thousand dollars) is being allocated in the budget to cover additional renovations including carpeting, windows, etc.

Councilor McNally inquired about the condition of the Animal Control Officer's vehicle, which is currently funded for the 2015/2016 budget. The Mayor stated that it was recently determined that the vehicle is in worse condition than originally thought and is not worth fixing or re-purposing. The estimated replacement cost is approximately \$28,000.00 (twenty-eight thousand dollars).

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Longton to move the amount of \$28,000.00 (twenty-eight thousand dollars) for an Animal Control Officer's vehicle from 2015/2016 to 2014/2015. Discussion: There will be no additional costs. Voice vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor McNally, to approve the amendments to the main motion. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Resolution #2014-51. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to adopt the Town's five-year capital improvement plan in the total amount of \$13,920,481 (thirteen-million nine-hundred twenty-thousand four-hundred and eighty-one dollars).

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor McNally, to approve the amendments as discussed. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- c. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to adopt the fiscal year 2014-2015 Budget. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Whereas, the Mayor has presented the budget to the Town Council; and

Whereas, the Board of Education has presented a budget to the Town Council; and

Whereas, the Town Council has caused to be published in a newspaper having circulation in the Town, a Notice of Public Hearings and a summary of the proposed budget estimates; and

Whereas, the Town Council held Public Hearings of the Board of Education proposed budget on April 23, 2014, and the General Government proposed budget on April 22, 2014, in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Charter of the Town of Montville.

Now Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the following budget on the estimated cost of current expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending on June 30, 2015, to be adopted as follows:

General Government	\$18,968,388
Board of Education	\$37,200,441
Capital Improvement	<u>\$ 1,043,914</u>
	\$57,212,743

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor McNally, to amend the budget line item by line item. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Caron, to increase the revenue line item for Prior Years Taxes (#10100-41012) in the Mayor's proposed budget by fifty thousand (\$50,000) dollars. Discussion: Finance Director, armed with more recent numbers of the revenues and from the State, was able to revise the numbers. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Pollard, to fund the revenue line item for Pequot Mohegan Grant (#10100-46045) in the Mayor's proposed budget at one-million sixty-onethousand eight hundred ninety-one (\$1,061,891) dollars. Discussion: Finance Director Hart stated that these are the final numbers from the State. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Tanner, to fund the revenue line item for PILOT: State Owned Property (#10100-46005) in the Mayor's proposed budget at one-million nine-hundred seventy-four thousand seven-hundred-four (\$1,974,704) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor Tanner to fund the revenue line item for Property Tax Relief (#10100-46046) at three hundred forty five thousand three hundred twenty seven (\$345,327) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Longton, seconded by Councilor McNally, to add the revenue line item for Municipal Revenue Sharing (10100-46041) and fund it at sixty-seven thousand two-hundred seventy-eight (\$67,278) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, to increase the revenue line item for Personal Property Audits (10100-48015) in the Mayor's proposed budget by one-hundred thousand (\$100,000) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, to increase the revenue line item for Millstone Reimbursement (10100-49020) in the Mayor's proposed budget by two hundred fifty thousand (\$250,000) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton to fund the Mayor Salary (10310-51001) in the Mayor's proposed budget at eighty-thousand (\$80,000) dollars. Discussion:

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Longton, to fund the Mayor's Salary at \$70,000.00 (seventy-thousand dollars). Discussion: Councilor Tanner stated that, in line with the other towns, she felt that a fair amount would be \$75,000.00 (seventy-five thousand dollars). The Mayor's current salary is \$61,000.00 (sixty-one thousand dollars). Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that the proposed amount would place his salary around the middle. Councilor McNally stated that the problem with a gradual raising of the Mayor's salary is that, in accordance to the Charter, the item can only be raised every two (2) years and Montville's Mayor is grossly underpaid, \$75,000.00 being on the low end. Roll Call vote, 1-6. Voting in Favor: Councilor Caron. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Motion failed.

Original motion: Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor May to fund the Mayor's Salary (10310-51001) in the Mayor's proposed budget at eighty-thousand (\$80,000) dollars. Roll Call vote, 5-2. Voting in Favor: Councilors Longton, May, McNally, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Caron and Pollard. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton to decrease the line item in the IT budget for Hardware (10440-52054) in the Mayor's proposed budget by fifteen thousand (\$15,000) dollars. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that, based upon the 2013 expenditures, the funds are necessary going forward. Mayor McDaniel added that the list he provided of necessary equipment includes all of the hardware items necessary for their infrastructure and, as they are becoming more and more IT dependent and recommended they maintain the current budget amount. Councilor Tanner stated that the costs included the new cameras and computers that will be installed in the three (3) new police vehicles. Roll Call vote, 0-7. Voting in Favor: None. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Caron, to increase the line item in the EDC budget for Secretary Salary (10650-51016) in the Mayor's proposed budget by eight hundred (\$800) dollars. Discussion: Councilor McNally stated that, while they had no need for a secretary for a long time due to a lack of obtaining a quorum, they are now in full swing and are in need of a secretary. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor May, to increase the line item in the EDC budget for Reference Materials (10650-53024) in the Mayor's proposed budget by five hundred (\$500) dollars. Discussion: Councilor McNally stated that the funds will be used for materials needed to set up booths at fairs, including tablecloths, backdrops, etc. Finance Director Hart clarified Councilor Longton's query, stating that the EDC, while listed in the same category as the Planning & Zoning Commission, the EDC has their own budget. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Longton, to decrease the line item in the Parks & Recreation budget for secretary salary (10730-51016) in the Mayor's proposed budget by twenty-one thousand one-hundred-twenty (\$21,120) dollars. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz felt that the full-time secretary position should be restored. Roll Call vote, 2-5. Voting in Favor: Councilors McNally and Pollard. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor Longton, to increase the line item in the Police budget for Police Salaries (10820-51040) in the Mayor's proposed budget by fifty-six thousand ninety-eight (\$56,098) dollars. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 3-4. Voting in Favor: Councilors McNally, Pollard, and Tanner. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, and Jaskiewicz. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, to decrease the line item in the Dispatch budget for Overtime (10870-51100) in the Mayor's proposed budget by thirteen-thousand seven-hundred thirty (\$13,730) dollars. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that it was determined that additional funding is necessary for Overtime. Councilor Tanner felt that a review of all of the contracts should be made with respect to overtime funding. Mayor McDaniel responded that this is common in all 24/7 departments. Roll Call vote, 0-7. Voting in Favor: None. Voting in Opposition: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton, to increase the line item in the Fire Protection budget for part time firefighters (10880-51133) in the Mayor's

proposed budget by two-thousand five-hundred (\$2,500) dollars. Discussion: Finance Director Hart stated that the increase was requested for the part-time dispatchers. Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that the Town is very fortunate to be able to obtain and retain part-time dispatchers in comparison to other Towns. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES to allocate \$100,000 from the undesignated fund balance to the assigned fund balance in the General Fund for the 10/1/2016 Revaluation.

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton. Discussion: Finance Director Hart stated that, in accordance to the auditor's recommendations, these funds would be earmarked for Revaluation and would not tie up the General Fund moneys and avoid the taxing of people. Mayor McDaniel added that the State has been providing the Towns with the option to postpone the funding for one year, but whether they will reauthorize it for the coming year is unknown. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Caron, seconded by Councilor Longton, to decrease the line item for a floating secretary (10310-51051) by \$17,635.00. Discussion: Chairman Jaskiewicz stated that this is as discussed at a previous Finance Committee meeting. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor May, seconded by Councilor Longton to take a five-minute recess. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 7-0, all in favor, motion carried. Recess began at 6:51 p.m. Council reconvened at 6:58 p.m.

- d. **Resolution #2014-52. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve all amendments to the main motion and to adopt the 2014/2015 budget as follows. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Whereas, the Mayor has presented the budget to the Town Council; and

Whereas, the Board of Education has presented a budget to the Town Council; and

Whereas, the Town Council has caused to be published in a newspaper having circulation in the Town, a Notice of Public Hearings and a summary of the proposed budget estimates; and

Whereas, the Town Council held Public Hearings of the Board of Education proposed budget on April 23, 2014, and the General Government proposed budget on April 22, 2014, in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Charter of the Town of Montville.

Now Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the following budget on the estimated cost of current expenses for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending on June 30, 2015, to be adopted as follows:

General Government	\$ 18,973,038
Board of Education	\$ 37,200,441
Capital Improvement	<u>\$ 932,642</u>
	\$57,106,121

Motion made by Councilor McNally, seconded by Councilor May. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote, 7-0, all in favor. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

- e. **Resolution #2014-53. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY RESOLVES** to set the mill rate for the 2014-2015 fiscal year at 29.37 mills. (Councilor Jaskiewicz)

Discussion: Mill rate will be increased by 0.31 mills. Chairman Jaskiewicz commended everyone for a job well done. Voting in Favor: Councilors Caron, Longton, May, McNally, Pollard, Tanner, and Jaskiewicz. Voting in Opposition: None. Motion carried.

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

Lt. Leonard Bunnell, Police Department, expressed his disappointment with the Town Council for ignoring the facts and the needs of the Police Department for an additional Police Officer.

8. Remarks from the Councilors and the Mayor

Councilor May commended everyone on a good job.

Councilor Tanner also commended everyone on a job well done and concurred with Lieutenant Bunnell and stated that she would like to eventually add another officer to the department.

Councilor Pollard expressed that she would have rather had an additional officer than an increase in the Mayor's salary.

Councilor Longton stated that difficult decisions were made, each of which were carefully thought through, and thanked everyone for their efforts

Councilor Caron disagreed with the Lieutenant, stating that, they do listen and are always in support of the Police Department. He added that, during a Finance Committee meeting, it was stated by one of the Police Officers that should the purchase of the three (3) police cars be approved, an additional Police Officer would not be necessary.

Chairman Jaskiewicz thanked both the Finance Committee and the Town Council for their efforts; some tough decisions were made and commended the Mayor.

Mayor McDaniel stated that it was a long process and adjustments may be made, as necessary, throughout the year.

9. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor McNally, to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice Vote, 7-0, all in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

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