

**Town of Montville Town Council  
Public Hearing Meeting Minutes of Monday, September 10, 2012  
6:30 p.m. – Town Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Buebendorf called the public hearing to order at 6:30 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, Tanner and Buebendorf. Absent were Councilors Jones, McFee, and Murphy. Also present was Mayor Ron McDaniel.

4. Public Hearing

Chairperson Buebendorf opened the public hearing and read the following into the record;

The following Ordinance, copies of which may be obtained at the office of the Town Clerk during office hours, was introduced at a regular meeting of the Town Council held August 13, 2012 and a public hearing thereon and for its consideration by the Town Council will be held at Town Hall Council Chambers, September 10, 2012 at 6:30 P.M.

Chairperson Buebendorf asked three times if there was anyone present who would like to come forward to discuss the proposed ordinance; no one spoke.

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 200 ORDINANCE NO. 2010-003**

**CHILD SAFETY ZONES**

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE HEREBY ORDAINS:

Purpose: Administration.

The Town of Montville has a compelling interest in protecting children from the threat of sexual abuse from sex offenders. It is hereby resolved that, to preserve and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the children of the Town, it is in the common interest to enact reasonable regulations restricting sex offenders from entering Child Safety Zones.

**Definitions:**

When used in this Ordinance, the terms, phrases, words, and derivations shall have the meanings set forth thereafter. When not inconsistent with the context, words in the plural number include the singular and words in the singular number include the plural. The word “shall” is always mandatory and not merely directory. Terms not defined below shall have the meanings set forth in Section 54-250 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended.

**Child Safety Zone.**

Any park, school, playground, recreation center, bathing beach, swimming pool or wading pool, gymnasium, sports field or sports facility, wherein children would congregate, which is: 1) under the jurisdiction of any department, agency or authority of the Town including, but not limited to, the Board of Education of the Town of Montville, or 2) leased by the Town to another person for

the purpose of operating a park, school, playground, recreation center, bathing beach, swimming pool or wading pool, gymnasium, sports field or sports facility; to include any and all buildings, land, parking areas or other improvements located on the same parcel on which any of the aforementioned facilities are located, but does not include any public street or public sidewalk located on the outside boundary of Child Safety Zones.

**Sex offender.**

- (a) A person who:
- 1) Has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect of a “criminal offense against a victim who is a minor”; “a nonviolent sexual offense”; a “sexually violent offense”; any felony that the Court finds was committed for a “sexual purpose” as those terms are defined in Subdivisions (2), (5), (11) and (12) of Section 54-250 of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended and who is required to register with the Commissioner of Public Safety pursuant to Sections 54-251, 54-252, 54-253 or 54-254 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended.
  - 2) a person who has been convicted or found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect in any other State, in a Federal or Military Court or in an foreign jurisdiction of any crime the essential elements of which are substantially the same as any of the crimes specified in Subdivisions (2), (5), (11) of Section 54-250 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, or which requires registration as a Sexual Offender in such other State or in the Federal or Military system, and who resides in this State on and after October 1, 1998.

**Prohibition.**

It shall be unlawful for a Sex Offender to be present in a Child Safety Zone.

**Exclusions.**

This Prohibition shall not apply to the following:

- (1) To any person whose name has been removed from the Connecticut Department of Public Safety’s Sex Offender Registry or from the registry of any other State or in the Federal or Military system by act of a Court or by expiration of the term.
- (2) To any person entering into a facility in a Child Safety Zone for the sole purpose of voting in any Municipal, State or Federal election or referendum, provided that the person leaves the facility immediately after voting.
- (3) To the extent that the conduct prohibited by this Ordinance is in conflict with any sentence or order of probation or parole imposed upon a sex offender.
- (4) To any person who enters a Child Safety Zone for the purposes of dropping off or picking up his or her own child, provided that the person leaves the Child Safety Zone immediately after dropping off or picking up his or her child.
- (5) To any person who enters a Child Safety Zone for the purpose of meeting with an adult, such as a teacher, administrator or nurse, to discuss his or her own child’s medical, educational or general welfare, provided that the person leaves the Child Safety Zone immediately after completing the meeting or discussion.

**Notice.**

The Mayor acting as Chief of Police or Resident State Trooper or his/her designee shall make reasonable efforts to provide prompt, actual written notice of the enactment of this Ordinance

(which notice shall contain a copy of the Ordinance) to all persons who are listed on the Sex Offender Registry as of the effective date of this Ordinance as well as those persons who are added to the Sex Offender Registry thereafter, which persons' addresses (as shown on the Sex Offender Registry) are within the Town. Such notice requirement may be satisfied by the mailing of such notice by Registered or Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to the last known address of such person as listed on the Sex Offender Registry or has otherwise known to the Mayor acting as Chief of Police or Resident State Trooper or his/her designee. The failure of any person to receive such actual written notice shall not be a defense to a violation of this Ordinance.

**Enforcement.**

- (a) If a Police Officer reasonably believes that a sex offender is in a Child Safety Zone in violation of this Ordinance, the Officer shall require the suspected child sex offender to provide his/her name, address and telephone number. If it is established that the individual is a sex offender, then the Officer may issue an Infraction ticket to the offender and require the offender to leave the Child Safety Zone.
- (b) Any person in violation of this Ordinance shall be fined in the amount of ninety-nine dollars (\$99.00) for each violation or the maximum imposed by State Statute.

**Severability.**

Any provision of this Ordinance held to be unconstitutional or superseded by State law or regulation shall not serve to invalidate the remaining unaffected provisions hereof. No provision of this Ordinance shall serve to validate any activity otherwise prohibited by State or local law or lawfully enacted zoning regulations.

**Child Safety Zones.**

Each Child Safety Zone may be identified by a sign conspicuously posted at the primary entrance to the Child Safety Zone and any building within the Child Safety Zone. In addition, the Town of Montville will make available a map outlining each Child Safety Zone in Montville and a document listing each Child Safety Zone at the Mayor's Office and the Montville Town Police Department. All maps or other listing identifying Child Safety Zones in Montville will be placed on the Town of Montville's web site for viewing.

This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days from the date of its adoption.

Dated at Montville Connecticut this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August 2012.

Lisa Terry, Town Clerk

5. Adjournment

Motion made by Councilor Tanner, seconded by Councilor Longton to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m., discussion, none, voice vote, 4-0, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Audrey Ulmer, Recording Secretary for the Town of Montville.