

**MONTVERDE TOWN COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES  
August 26, 2025, AT 6:30 PM**

**TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Joe Wynkoop, Mayor  
Carol Womack, Vice Mayor  
Allan Hartle, Councilmember  
Joe Morganelli, Councilmember  
Grant Roberts, Councilmember

**STAFF PRESENT**

Paul Larino, Town Manager  
Anita Geraci-Carver, Town Attorney  
Lisa Busto, Associate Planner  
Caroline Trepanier, Administrative Assistant

**CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING CEREMONIES**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Invocation
- Roll Call

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEM**

**Final Review of Draft Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget**

Mayor Wynkoop explained that this is the final review of the draft budget.

Town Manager Larino briefly explained the draft budget.

Vice Mayor Womack spoke about the Florida League of Cities, the budget, FEMA, and asked if we could make a money transfer to an interest-bearing account.

Town Manager Larino explained the FEMA reimbursement process, the contractor costs and stated that he feels confident reimbursement will be provided.

Vice Mayor Womack asked where funds would come from should FEMA not reimburse the town.



Town Manager Larino explained that they would have to come from a non-restrictive fund, in the general funds. All other accounts are restrictive funds.

There was an elaborate discussion on FEMA and the budget.

Councilmember Morganelli shared his views on the proposed salaries.

There was additional discussion on the salaries.

Mayor Wynkoop explained the Town Manager salary breakdown.

There was further discussion on the Town Manager salary & the breakdown.

Mayor Wynkoop explained the reason he feels the salary increase is deserved.

There was further discussion about the salary increase.

Councilmember Hartle explained his views, agreed with Town Manager Larino's current salary and a \$10,000 increase as well as a 6% salary increase, he also agreed with a 6% salary increase for employees.

Vice Mayor Womack & Mayor Wynkoop agree with Councilmember Hartle.

Town Attorney Geraci-Carver explained that this will be voted on at the first hearing.

Councilmember Roberts spoke of the community building and pushing this to next year's budget.

Mayor Wynkoop would like to remove the kitchen, or remodel, and use the firehouse in 2 (two) to 3 (three) years and not spend money on a new building.

Vice Mayor Womack would like to renovate the community building where it is usable.

Councilmember Hartle agrees with Vice Mayor Womack and shared his views.

Councilmember Roberts inquired about the community building electricity and the renovations.

Town Manager will go back and get numbers from contractors and possibly make a budget amendment, if needed.

Councilmember Morganelli spoke of Town Manager Larino's salary increase of 14%.

Councilmember Roberts shared his views.

Councilmember Hartle explained his views on Town Manager's salary increase.

Vice Mayor Womack explained her views.

There was a brief discussion.

Mayor Wynkoop reminded everyone of the low millage rate and further explained his views.

There was additional discussion.



Councilmember Roberts asked Town Manager Larino if a Construction Manager will be needed once the library is completed and referred to the amount of \$35,000 which is currently allocated for a Construction Manager in the draft budget.

Town Manager Larino said that if the community building will not be worked on this year, the budget amount allocated to the Construction Manager will be reduced. He also shared on upcoming staff training as well as recently completed training.

There was an elaborate discussion.

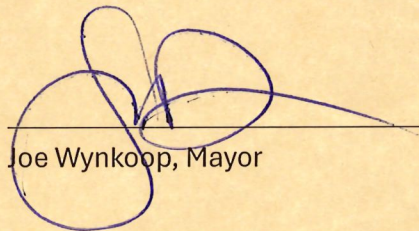
Councilmember Morganelli suggested giving the town staff a bonus with the difference from the initially allocated Construction Manager amount of \$35,000 and the new lower allocated amount.

Town Manager Larino provided details about performance and Christmas bonuses.

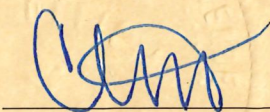
The Council discussed spending the salary difference on employee bonuses, and no one objected.

#### **REMINDERS AND ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Wynkoop moved to adjourn, Councilmember Morganelli seconded.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

  
Joe Wynkoop, Mayor

Attest:



Caroline Trepanier, Town Clerk