



Town of Montague
Department, Board, Committee, Commission
BUDGET NARRATIVE

FY 22

Complete this form electronically! Be clear and concise!

Department: Treasurer/Collector Submitted by: Eileen Seymour

1. Please describe and provide the rationale for any substantial changes in your FY22 line item budget submission.

N/A

2. Did you receive funding for any special articles in FY21? What is the status of those expenditures/investments?

N/A

3. Did you receive funding for a discretionary account in FY21? What have you purchased to date, at what cost? Looking forward in FY22, what do you expect to purchase at what cost?

N/A

4. To-date in FY21, has your department experienced any notable successes, such as improving or providing new programs or services, or implementing new technologies? If so, please describe.

Despite COVID, our collection rates remain stable currently, although we have seen an increase in the number of sewer liens to real estate this year, however, the dollar amount being placed as a lien is slightly lower this year. We made many adjustments to accommodate the public during COVID, including, but not limited to, lengthening due dates, and waiving interest for specific bills. We tried to always put the citizens first to ease concerns that they may have had, and continue to have. FY20 also featured another bonding for \$8.9M with the Town procuring a very competitive rate and maintaining our outstanding AA rating with Standard & Poors.

5. Are there challenges to your department's ability to meet its goals and objectives that are due to its FY21 operating budget? If so, offer your recommendation(s) for improving the situation.

The challenge this year will be determining staffing levels and office needs as we had a long-term employee retire in December of 2020. I will not be hiring a part-time associate to fill Tina's position (she moved to full-time with the retirement) until we know the budget impacts and how that will affect each department. I will be using this time to analyze the department needs and see what our staffing model should be both currently and for succession planning.