

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Town of Montague

Massachusetts



FOR THE YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31, 2022

THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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SELECTBOARD

The Selectboard is pleased to submit its annual report to the Town of Montague for the calendar year 2022. The year featured a continued emphasis on recovery from the still-ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, with many operations fully normalized, but with public meetings and other activities continuing to reflect additional precautions. The Town's general budget and operational outlook remained positive, even as the Selectboard worked to strengthen its internal processes and the resilience of the Town's staffing plan in the face of numerous retirements anticipated within the coming three years.

Most notable in 2022 was an important move to "right-size" the capacity of the Selectboard Office through the hiring of an Assistant Town Administrator and a part-time Administrative Assistant. These additions were funded by the 2022 Annual Town Meeting and staff were in place by November. The goal of this expansion is to expand the office's ability to properly plan, execute and manage the increasingly broad scope of municipal operations and regulatory requirements, and to strengthen its ability to plan, fund, and execute projects that will benefit our community in the decades to come.

The new Assistant Town Administrator (ATA), long-time Town Planner Walter Ramsey, works under supervision of the Town Administrator. In this role he will lead initiatives related to economic and community development, facilities, and infrastructure; with the attendant planning, grant-making, and project management that accompany those endeavors. A highly collaborative position, the ATA will work closely with the Planning and Buildings departments and will support grant-making and capital project planning and execution initiated by our Parks, Libraries, Clean Water Facility and Public Works departments, in particular. Montague resident, Shayna Reardon, joins the administrative office team, under direction of Executive Assistant, Wendy Bogusz, who also assumed the role of IT Coordinator.

There were many other notable developments over the course of 2022, with the last news of the year – arriving on December 30th – among the best. Working through our Congressional Delegation, including Congressman McGovern and Senators Markey and Warren, the Town secured a \$975,000 earmark to accelerate streetscape improvements on Avenue A in Turners Falls. This work will complement similar CDBG-funded improvements that were made in front of the Shea Theater, Colle building and storefronts on the east side of Avenue A earlier in the year. The streetscape rehabilitation project will enhance the appeal and accessibility of the downtown business & arts district, facilitating economic revitalization.

The Town's engagement with state legislators and agencies also provided great dividends. MassDOT announced it would expand the scope of the previously planned Sixth Street Bridge replacement, to include replacement of the so-called White and Green bridges that carry vehicles over the power canal between Turners Falls and Greenfield. This \$60M mega-project will replace failing infrastructure and facilitate Canal District redevelopment, which itself was the focus of a state-funded master plan and redevelopment study that was completed in fall 2022. Note that this new MassDOT commitment led the Town to reduce the scope of the 5th Street Pedestrian Bridge project, focusing it on improvement of the Canal Street intersection, but not replacing the bridge, which would have been made obsolete by the expanded MassDOT project.

Montague's state legislators, Senator Jo Comerford and Representative Natalie Blais, were key supporters of the above grants and initiatives, and also came through with important capital project earmarks in the FY23 state budget. These included \$100,000 for replacement of the Clean Water Facility's antiquated emergency generator, and \$50,000 for the repair of municipal roofs. The latter earmark was essential to the Town Hall roof replacement project, completed in fall 2022, and will also support the Colle Building and Shea Theater lower roof projects, to be completed in spring 2023.

The Selectboard Office also focused its attention on the needs of our sanitary sewer collection system and its Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) structures, which are regulated by the EPA and State DEP. Collection system management responsibilities have been clarified in the wake of strict new regulations, and the Town leveraged a \$150,000 grant from the MA Cleanwater Trust to fund required studies of Inflow and Infiltration, and CSO remediation alternatives. These studies, coupled with substantial new reporting requirements, highlighted the need for better systems, focus, and capacity to meet regulatory requirements and responsibly manage the system. The purchase of a new sewer vacuum jet truck and robotic sewer camera reflects the focus on building this capacity.

Human Resources was another major focus of the calendar year 2022. The Selectboard Office successfully negotiated contracts with its three union organizations for fiscal years 23-25 and saw those contracts funded by Special Town Meeting in October 2022. This was a challenging negotiation as the country reels from inflation and an extraordinarily tight labor market. Cost of Living Adjustments of 3%, 2.5%, 2.5% were agreed to with all unions for each successive year of the contracts. While generous by historical standards, they were necessary to ensure the Town can retain and attract staff, which is fundamental to effective municipal performance. A state grant has been secured to fund a wage & classification study in FY24.

The Selectboard Office was also very busy managing the hiring of its two new staff positions, and filling vacancies in the Town Planner and Health Director positions. We were fortunate to secure the commitment of an experienced Town Planner in Maureen Pollock, who began in role at the start of 2023, but continue to look for a suitable new Health Director candidate, with that position still vacant at the end of 2022. Department head hiring and retention will remain a critical concern in 2023 and beyond, as the Town currently enjoys the services of several retirement-eligible staff in these positions.

We thank you for your interest in these highlights of the Selectboard's activity in 2022. We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure that Montague remains a great place to live, work, and visit.

SELECTBOARD

Rich Kuklewicz, Chairman
Chris Boutwell, Vice Chair
Matthew Lord, Clerk

STAFF

Steven Ellis, Town Administrator
Walter Ramsey, Assistant Town Administrator
Wendy Bogusz, Executive Assistant
Shayna Reardon, Administrative Assistant

**Town of
Montague
ELECTED OFFICIALS
For Municipal Year**

BOARD OF ASSESSOR	3 Years	Term End
ANN CENZANO		05/21/2024
ANN L FISK		05/20/2025
BOARD OF ASSESSORS - TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT		Term End
REBECCA SABELAWSKI		05/16/2023
BOARD OF HEALTH	3 Years	Term End
MELANIE AMES ZAMOJSKI		05/21/2024
MICHAEL M NELSON		05/16/2023
RACHEL A STOLER		05/20/2025
HOUSING AUTHORITY	5 Years	Term End
KAREN M. CASEY-CHRETIEN		05/16/2023
PAULA E. GIRARD		05/20/2025
JUDITH L. HASTINGS		05/19/2026
STANLEY F. ZERA, JR.		05/21/2024
LIBRARY TRUSTEE	3 Years	Term End
PAULETTE BILLIEL		05/16/2023
NANCY L CROWELL		05/20/2025
DAVID HARMON		05/16/2023
LYDIA IEVINS		05/16/2023
MARGOT G. MALACHOWSKI		05/20/2025
PATRICIA PERHAM		05/21/2024
WILLIAM C QUALE		05/20/2025
ELIZABETH SWIHART		05/21/2024
GRETCHEN W. WETHERBY		05/21/2024
LIBRARY TRUSTEE – TEMPORARY POSITION		Term End
LILLIAN MOSS		05/16/2023
MODERATOR	3 Years	Term End
RAYMOND GODIN		05/21/2024
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION	3 Years	Term End
ALBERT CUMMINGS		05/20/2025
DENNIS GRADER		05/15/2023
BARBARA KUKLEWICZ		05/21/2024
SELECTBOARD	3 Years	Term End
CHRISTOPHER M. BOUTWELL, SR.		05/20/2025
RICHARD KUKLEWICZ		05/21/2024
MATTHEW LORD		05/16/2023
TOWN CLERK	3 Years	Term End
DEBRA BOURBEAU		05/20/2025
TREASURER – TAX COLLECTOR	3 Years	Term End
EILEEN M. SEYMOUR		05/20/2025

TREE WARDEN	3 Years	Term End
MARK A. STEVENS		05/20/2025

TRUSTEE, SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL NON-VETERAN	3 Years	Term End
CHRISTOPHER M. BOUTWELL, SR.		05/16/2023
JEFFREY SINGLETON		05/21/2024

TRUSTEE, SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL VETERAN	3 Years	Term End
LORI LEE ADAMS		05/16/2023
ALBERT CUMMINGS		05/21/2024
JOHN T. MURPHY		05/20/2025

**TOWN OF MONTAGUE
APPOINTED OFFICIALS
For Municipal Year**

OFFICE/BOARD/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION	NAME	TERM END
ADA COORDINATOR	STEVEN F ELLIS	6/30/2023
AIRPORT COMMISSION	DAVID BRULE	6/30/2025
	GARY COLLINS	6/30/2023
	JOSEPH M MAZESKI	6/30/2024
	MAXWELL JOHN PELLERIN	6/30/2023
	SETH RUTHERFORD	6/30/2025
	SETH RUTHERFORD	6/30/2025
AIRPORT MANAGER	BRYAN CAMDEN	6/30/2023
ALTERNATE BUILDING INSPECTOR	DAVID JENSEN	6/30/2023
ASSESSOR – DIRECTOR	KAREN TONELLI	6/30/2023
ASSISTANT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	WALTER RAMSEY	10/02/2025
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK	KATHERN F. PIERCE	6/30/2023
AUCTION PERMIT AGENT	WENDY M BOGUSZ	6/30/2023
	DEBRA BOURBEAU	6/30/2023
BATTLEFIELD GRANT ADVISORY CMTE	DAVID BRULE	6/30/2023
	KIT CARPENTER	6/30/2023
	JOE GRAVELINE	6/30/2023
	DOUG HARRIS	6/30/2023
	RICH HOLSHUH	6/30/2023
	ROGER LONGTOE SHEEHAN	6/30/2023
	JOHN NOVE	6/30/2023
	ELIZABETH SANTANA KISER	6/30/2023
	BETTINA WASHINGTON	6/30/2023

BOARD OF HEALTH - DIRECTOR	DANIEL WASIUK	6/30/2023
CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE	JASON BURBANK	6/30/2023
	RICHARD KUKLEWICZ	6/30/2023
	RICHARD WIDMER	6/30/2023
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE	JASON BURBANK	6/30/2023
	ARIEL ELAN	6/30/2023
	STEVEN F ELLIS	6/30/2023
	GREG GARRISON	6/30/2023
	CHRISTOPHER MENEGONI	6/30/2023
CEMETERY COMMISSION	JAMIE FULLER	6/30/2023
	ANNABEL LEVINE	6/30/2023
	JUDITH LOREI	6/30/2023
	MARY KAY MATTIACE	6/30/2023
	JO-ANN PRESCOTT	6/30/2023
CLEAN WATER FACILITY SUPERINTENDENT	CHELSEY LITTLE	3/29/2023
CONSERVATION COMMISSION	TOBIAS CARTER	6/30/2025
	MARK FAIRBROTHER	6/30/2023
	JUSTIN T FERMAN	6/30/2024
	DONNA FRANCIS	6/30/2023
	MARGAUX RECKARD	6/30/2023
	ANTHONY REIBER	6/30/2024
CONSERVATION COMMISSION - ASSOCIATE	ALBERT N AVERILL	6/30/2024
CONSTABLE	WENDY M BOGUSZ	6/30/2023
	CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS	6/30/2023
COUNCIL ON AGING	DEBRA BOURBEAU	6/30/2023
	BARBARA KUKLEWICZ	6/30/2023
	LARRY PARKER	6/30/2023
COUNCIL ON AGING DIRECTOR	ROBERTA POTTER	6/30/2023
CULTURAL COORDINATOR	SUZANNE LOMANTO	6/30/2023
CULTURAL COUNCIL	DANIEL BRANDON	6/30/2023
	DEBORAH RUTH FRENKEL	6/30/2025
	JOHN FURBISH	6/30/2023
	ANNE HARDING	6/30/2025
	KATHY LYNCH	6/30/2025
	MARGARET HOMES MARTIN	6/30/2025
	KATE MARTINEAU	6/30/2023
	JAMES MUSSONI	6/30/2025
	BETTY TEGEL	6/30/2025
DPW SUPERINTENDENT	TOM BERGERON	6/30/2023

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRIAL CORP	LINDA ACKERMAN	6/30/2023
	JOHN FURBISH	6/30/2024
	ELLA INGRAHAM	6/30/2023
	JAMES MUSSONI	6/30/2023
	ROBERT STEINBERG	6/30/2024
	KIMBERLY WILLIAMS	6/30/2023
EMERGENCY MANAGER	JOHN ZELLMAN	6/30/2023
ENERGY COMMITTEE	JASON BURBANK	6/30/2023
	ARIEL ELAN	6/30/2023
	PAMELA F. HANOLD	6/30/2023
	SARAH (SALLY) PICK	6/30/2023
	BOB RUETER	6/30/2023
	TIMOTHY N. VAN EGMOND	6/30/2023
F.C. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT 2	CHRISTOPHER M. BOUTWELL.	6/30/2023
	RICHARD KUKLEWICZ	6/30/2023
FINANCE COMMITTEE	DORINDA C. BELL-UP	6/30/2025
	FREDERIC BOWMAN	6/30/2024
	GREG GARRISON	6/30/2024
	JOHN HANOLD	6/30/2025
	CHRISTOPHER MENEGONI	6/30/2024
	JENNIFER WARYAS	6/30/2023
	FRANCIA E WISNEWSKI	6/30/2023
FOREST WARDEN	RICHARD SAWIN JR	6/30/2023
FOREST WARDEN - DEPUTY	KYLE COGSWELL	6/30/2023
FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS	STEVEN F ELLIS	6/30/2023
	RICHARD KUKLEWICZ	6/30/2023
FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS - PLANNING BOARD REP	ELIZABETH IRVING	6/30/2023
FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS - SELECTBOARD REP	WALTER RAMSEY	6/30/2023
FRTA ADVISORY BOARD	RICHARD KUKLEWICZ	6/30/2023
	JEFFREY SINGLETON	6/30/2023
GAS & PLUMBING INSPECTOR	JOHN LETOURNEAU	6/30/2023
	ALTERNATE JEFFREY M BACHE	6/30/2023
GILL- MONTAGUE TRANSIT AUTHORITY	STEVEN F ELLIS	6/30/2024
	CAROLYN OLSEN	6/30/2024
HISTORICAL COMMISSION	CHRIS CLAWSON	6/30/2025
	EDWARD P GREGORY	6/30/2025
	SUZANNE LOMANTO	6/30/2024
	JANEL F NOCKLEBY	6/30/2025
	CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO	6/30/2025
PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR	JONATHAN DOBOSZ	6/30/2023
PERSONNEL BOARD	CHRISTOPHER M BOUTWELL	5/20/2025
	RICHARD KUKLEWICZ	5/21/2024
	MATTHEW LORD	5/16/2023
PLANNING AND CONSERVATION AGENT	WALTER RAMSEY	6/30/2023

PLANNING BOARD	GEORGE COOKE	6/30/2024
	ELIZABETH IRVING	6/30/2024
	MATTHEW LORD	6/30/2026
	ROBERT OBEAR	6/30/2023
	RON SICARD	6/30/2025
POLICE CHIEF	CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS	12/02/2024
PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY BUILDING CMTE	JASON BURBANK	6/30/2023
	JAY DIPUCCHIO	6/30/2023
	ARIEL ELAN	6/30/2023
	MARK FAIRBROTHER	6/30/2023
	PAMELA F HANOLD	6/30/2023
	DAVID JENSEN	6/30/2023
	ROBERT MACEWICZ	6/30/2023
	KEN MORIN	6/30/2023
ALTERNATE	RICHARD WIDMER	6/30/2023
REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING CMTE	JOHN ZELLMANN	6/30/2023
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS	DEBRA BOURBEAU	6/30/2025
	ELIZABETH IRVING	6/30/2024
	ANNE E STUART	6/30/2025
RETIREMENT BOARD	STEVEN F ELLIS	05/2024
RIVERCULTURE STEERING COMMITTEE	KRISTI A BODIN	6/30/2024
	TAMMY KETCHAM	6/30/2024
	KATHY LYNCH	6/30/2024
	ERIN MACLEAN	6/30/2023
	OLIVER MILLER	6/30/2023
	LILITH WOLINSKY	6/30/2024
SIX TOWN REGIONALIZATION COMMITTEE	MICHAEL NAUGHTON	6/30/2023
	MARLYN H REYNOLDS	6/30/2024
SOLAR PLANNING COMMITTEE	PETER CHILTON	6/30/2023
	GREG GARRISON	6/30/2023
	PAMELA F HANOLD	6/30/2023
	SARAH (SALLY) PICK	6/30/2023
	BOB RUETER	6/30/2023
TAX TITLE CUSTODIAN	EILEEN M SEYMOUR	6/30/2023
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	CAROLYN OLSEN	6/30/2023
TOWN COUNSEL	K P LAW, PC	6/30/2023
TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE	ROBERT AUSTIN	6/30/2023
	WILLIAM CODDINGTON	6/30/2023
	DAVID DETMOLD	6/30/2023
	CHARLES WALKER KORBY	6/30/2023
	ANNABEL LEVINE	6/30/2023
	TOM SULLIVAN	6/30/2023
	JEFFREY WARREN PUKIS	6/30/2023
VETERAN'S BURIAL AGENT	CHRISTOPHER DEMARS	6/30/2023

VETERAN'S DIRECTOR		CHRISTOPHER DEMARS	6/30/2023
VETERAN'S GRAVES OFFICER		JOHN T MURPHY	6/30/2023
WELLS TRUST		RON SICARD	6/30/2023
WIRING INSPECTOR		WAYNE SHAW	6/30/2023
	ALTERNATE	TODD WEED	6/30/2023
	ALTERNATE	THOMAS W. WYMAN	6/30/2023
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS		WILLIAM J DOYLE IV	6/30/2023
		DAVID JENSEN	6/30/2027
		JOSHUA LIVELY	6/30/2025
		ALLEN RIPINGILL, JR	6/30/2024
		RICHARD RUTH	6/30/2026
	ALTERNATE	ROBERT OBEAR	6/30/2023

PCT	NAME	TOWN MEETING MEMBERS		VILLAGE	TERM EXPIRATION
		ADDRESS			
1	ACKERMAN, LINDA N	86 TAYLOR HILL RD		MONTAGUE	21-May-2024
1	BLOOMBERG, SHEREE I.	25 CENTER STREET		MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
1	CLARK, MALCOLM	8 WHINEY'S WAY		MONTAGUE	21-May-2024
1	DEMPSEY, DAVID	143 WEST CHESTNUT HILL RD.		MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
1	DORAIS, SUSAN	Box 432, 22 UNION STREET		MONTAGUE	21-May-2024
1	EDWARDS, CHARLES Y.	48 TAYLOR HILL ROAD		MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
1	ELAN, ARIEL S.	Box 351, 506 Turners Falls Rd		MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
1	FAIRBROTHER, MARK	129 MEADOW ROAD		MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
1	FISK, MARK E.	15 MEADOW RD		MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
1	IRVING, ELIZABETH M.	7 NEWTON LANE		MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
1	LAPIERRE, ADRIENNE S.	BOX 8, 20 UNION ST.		MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
1	LORD, MATTHEW	59 CENTER STREET		MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
1	LOREI, JUDITH	7 NORTH ST.		MONTAGUE	21-May-2024
1	LOVEJOY, SAMUEL H.	BOX 177 46 MAIN ST		MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
1	MARIANI, EILEEN	PO BOX M [63 Main St]		MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
1	NELSON, MICHAEL	16 SUNDERLAND ROAD		MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
1	PERHAM, PATRICIA	BOX 185 93 E TAYLOR HILL RD		MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
1	PEZZATI, PATRICK S.	144 DRY HILL RD		MONTAGUE	21-May-2024
1	REYNOLDS, JOHN L.	62 EAST TAYLOR HILL RD.		MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
1	REYNOLDS, MARLYN H.	62 EAST TAYLOR HILL RD.		MONTAGUE	21-May-2024
1	SPATCHER, CLIFFORD	442 TURNERS FALLS RD.		MONTAGUE	21-May-2024
2	ATWOOD, MATTHEW	BOX 235, 9 BROADWAY		LAKE PLEASANT	15-May-2023
2	BOODY, JOANNA MAE	10 FEDERAL STREET		MILLERS FALLS	15-May-2023
2	CONSTANTINE, STEPHEN	80 SOUTH PROSPECT ST		MILLERS FALLS	21-May-2024
2	CROWELL, NANCY L.	4 GROUT CIRCLE		MILLERS FALLS	20-May-2025
2	FRENKEL, DEBORAH	PO BOX 116, 51 Montague Ave		LAKE PLEASANT	21-May-2024
2	GAJDA, GEORGE W.	14 BRIDGE ST		MILLERS FALLS	15-May-2023
2	HENRY, MICHAEL	57 SOUTH PROSPECT ST.		MILLERS FALLS	20-May-2025
2	JENSEN, DAVID E.	PO Box 44 [13 Denton St]		LAKE PLEASANT	21-May-2024
2	JENSEN, HAROLD "SANDY"	25 GREEN POND RD		MILLERS FALLS	20-May-2025
2	KETCHAM, MICHAEL A.	18 BRIDGE STREET		MILLERS FALLS	21-May-2024
2	KETCHAM, MICHAEL J.	18 BRIDGE STREET		MILLERS FALLS	20-May-2025
2	LIVELY, JOSHUA	194 TURNPIKE ROAD		MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
2	MARTINEAU, JAMES G.	4 GRAND AVE		MILLERS FALLS	21-May-2024
2	NAUGHTON, MICHAEL J.	11 S LYMAN ST		MILLERS FALLS	21-May-2024
2	PRENTICE, MICHAEL	323 FEDERAL ST		MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
2	SMITH, MEGHAN L.	BOX 47, 83 BROADWAY		LAKE PLEASANT	21-May-2024
2	STEIN, JACKLYN	BOX 235, 9 BROADWAY		LAKE PLEASANT	20-May-2025
2	TOBEY, JENNIFER	10 CRESCENT ST		MILLERS FALLS	20-May-2025
2	WETHERBY, GRETCHEN W.	14 BRIDGE ST		MILLERS FALLS	15-May-2023
2	WISNEWSKI, FRANCIJA	196 TURNPIKE ROAD		MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
2	WISNEWSKI, MARK P.	196 TURNPIKE ROAD		MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
3	BODIN, KRISTI A.	199 TURNPIKE RD		MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
3	DEREN, LOUISE	15 MORRIS AVE		TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025

3	DUCHARME, CHERI S.	1 BULKLEY ST	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
3	DUCHARME, RICHARD W.	1 BULKLEY ST	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
3	GLOSKI, CAROL J	18 VLADISH AVE	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
3	HOLMES, JENNIFER	53 MILLERS FALLS RD, #2	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
3	LAMONAKIS, SHARON	1 KEITH STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
3	MARTINEAU, SHANNON	18 CARLISLE AVE	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
3	PACKARD, ROLLAND	17 WORCESTER AVE	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
3	PHILLIPS, JOYCE A.	18 VLADISH AVE	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
3	STOLER, RACHEL	205 TURNPIKE ROAD	MONTAGUE	21-May-2024
3	WELLS, CODY	20 MORRIS AVE	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
4	AUDLEY, JENNIFER R.	27 X STREET	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
4	BOUTWELL, CHRIS M.	28 SUNSET DR	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
4	BOWMAN, FREDERIC H.	701 FAIRWAY AVE	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
4	DAMKOEHLER, ERIC	67 PARK STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
4	GRADER, DENNIS L.	72 DELL ST	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
4	HALL, THOMISINA	36 CENTRAL STREET	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
4	HARMON, DAVID	27 X STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
4	KATSOULIS, JAMES	89 HIGH STREET	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
4	KUKLEWICZ, LINDA M.	66 OAKMAN ST	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
4	KUKLEWICZ, RICHARD J.	66 OAKMAN ST	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
4	LICATA, NICHOLAS C.	1 DAVIS STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
4	LITTLE, CHELSEY	34 OAKMAN ST	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
4	LIVELY, DURAND D.	81 HIGH STREET	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
4	MENEGONI, CHRISTOPHER	37 K STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
4	PIERCE, ROBERT D.	9 OAKMAN ST.	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
4	REID, DONALD A.	7 COUNTRY CLUB LANE	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
4	SINGLETON, JEFFREY C.	18 CENTRAL ST. #1	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
4	SPRENGEL, MADDOX	36 HIGH STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
4	THOMPSON, DAVID P.	4 HIGH ST	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
4	WARYAS, JENNIFER	144 SEVENTH STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
5	BROWNELL, BRIAN	37 THIRD STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
5	CALLAHAN, LAURIE	65 FIFTH ST, #2B	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
5	CAMPBELL, MARCUS J.	30 THIRD ST., 1ST FLOOR	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
5	COHEN, NATAN M.	25 CENTAL ST. #2	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
5	CUNHA, M. EDITE	161 AVENUE A, PO BOX 149	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
5	DOBOSZ, STANLEY	29 GROVE STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
5	HAGER, RYNE	54 PROSPECT STREET	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
5	HANOLD, JOHN T.	62 PROSPECT ST	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
5	HANOLD, PAMELA F.	62 PROSPECT ST	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
5	HERRERA-ORTEGA, MISHEL	33 THIRD STREET, #4	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
5	HOWARD, SOFIE	42 THIRD ST, #2	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
5	LOMANTO, SUZANNE	26 MAPLE ST	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
5	MCMAMARA, MAUREEN	PO Box 173, 73 Fourth St. #2	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
5	NELSON, JACK	65 CANAL ST	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
5	NOCKLEBY, JANEL	14 THIRD STREET, #C	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
5	REIPOLD, APRIL J.	17 CHESTNUT ST.	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025

5	ROFFI, SHERRY L.	66 PROSPECT ST	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
5	ROY, RACHEL	5 PLEASANT ST	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
5	RUTH, JR., RICHARD R.	15 MAPLE ST	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
5	SAWYER LAUCANO, CHRIS	70 PROSPECT ST	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
6	BELL-UP, DORINDA	7 SOUTH HIGH STREET	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
6	BILLIEL, FREDERICK	21 TURNPIKE RD	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
6	BROWN, LESLIE P.	17 POPLAR ST	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
6	DEMERS, THOMAS J.	35 WALNUT STREET	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
6	GARRISON, GREGORY O.	27 RANDALL WOOD DR	MONTAGUE	15-May-2023
6	GRONEMAN, JESSIE A.	3 H STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
6	HASTINGS, KEVIN J.	34 RANDALL ROAD	MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
6	HEISIG, LAURA E.	83 G STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
6	HUDYMA, PETER J.	82 GREENFIELD RD	MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
6	JUNG, SARAH M.	385 MONTAGUE CITY RD	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
6	LATKA, KAREN	Box 431, 266 Turners Falls Rd	MONTAGUE	20-May-2025
6	LEVINE, ANNABEL	132 MONTAGUE CITY RD	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
6	MATTIACE, MARY K	370 MONTAGUE CITY RD.	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
6	MILKEY, DENISE A.	2 KINGSLEY AVENUE	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
6	MURPHY, JOHN T	22 O STREET	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
6	MUSSONI, JAMES J.	PO BOX 262, 149 GREENFIELD RD	MONTAGUE	21-May-2024
6	PITCHER, BRENT	11 GREENFIELD ROAD	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
6	TAPSCOTT, IAN E.	83 G STREET	TURNERS FALLS	21-May-2024
6	TRASK, KENNETH	17 POPLAR STREET	TURNERS FALLS	15-May-2023
6	WOLINSKY, LILITH G.	Box 541 Noho 01061, 312 M.C. RD	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025
6	ZAMOJSKI, MELANIE K.	33 O STREET	TURNERS FALLS	20-May-2025

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
March 3, 2022**

According to the foregoing warrant the legal voters met remotely via a Zoom Webinar on Thursday, March 3, 2022, when the meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM when checker Wendy Bogusz announced the presence of a quorum. All in all, seventy-two, (72), Town Meeting Members were in attendance while ten, (10), were excused and twenty-nine, (29), were no shows.

The first order of business was to elect a Moderator from the floor due to the unfortunate death of Moderator Chris Collins. Michael Nelson graciously offered his services to be elected. Michael was elected unanimously by the body.

The moderator led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and then asked the body for a moment of silence for the remembrance of Chris Collins, our late moderator and a truly dedicated man to our community.

The Officer's Return was read, and the Preliminary Motions were read and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned without day at 9:08 PM

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
March 3, 2022**

Franklin, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Montague in the County of Franklin:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Montague qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet remotely, via Zoom Webinar beginning at 6:30 P.M. on March 3, 2022, and to act on the following articles and any motions which may be presented.

Town Meeting members who have email addresses on file with the Town Clerk will be sent instructions via email as to how to log-in, view and participate in the meeting. Those Town Meeting members for whom we do not have a current email address, or any member who does not receive an email from the Town by the close of business on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, should contact the Town Clerk's Office at townclerk@montague-ma.gov or (413) 863-3200 ext. 203 to access support that would enable you to log-in, view and participate in the meeting.

Registered Town of Montague voters, who are not Town Meeting Members, wishing to view and participate in this remote Town Meeting must submit a request to participate in the Meeting to the Town Clerk, at townclerk@montague-ma.gov or (413) 863-3200 ext. 203, by no later than 6:30 pm on Tuesday, February 23, 2021. Upon receipt of the request and verification of the requester's voter registration status, the Town Clerk shall provide to the requester instructions for participating in the remote Town Meeting.

For individuals wishing to view the Town Meeting, it will be broadcast on Montague Community Television, Comcast Channel 17.

Town Meeting members are encouraged to begin the process of joining the meeting at 6:00 pm on March 3, 2022 so as to avoid any delays in the commencement of the meeting.

The first order of business at the Town Meeting shall be for the Town Meeting members present and voting to vote on whether to commence business at the Town Meeting remotely by means of the Zoom webinar.

If the Town Meeting members vote to continue conducting the Town Meeting remotely, the members shall proceed by remote participation to address the remaining articles included in the warrant therefor.

If the Town Meeting members do not vote to continue conducting the Town Meeting remotely, the Town Meeting shall immediately be dissolved without taking any votes on any other matters and the Select Board may call the Town Meeting for a future date pursuant to a new warrant that provides for the Town Meeting to be held in person at a physical location in accordance with all applicable laws and provisions of the Montague Town Meeting Act.

WARRANT ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1: To see if Town will vote to conduct this Special Town Meeting remotely with the aid of Zoom Webinar. (Moderator Request)

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$10,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of making emergency repairs to town cemeteries, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Cemetery Commission Request)

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$10,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of repairing a retaining wall and for other maintenance, renovations, and improvements at the Burnham Cemetery, including but not limited to grading and clearing of trees, to prevent future problems, and anything else incidental or related thereto, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Cemetery Commission Request)

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease purchase agreement in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c.44, §21C for a period in excess of three years for the purchase of a combination vacuum and sewer cleaner truck, also known as a vactor truck, and any equipment related thereto, and to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or otherwise provide the sum of \$125,000, or any other amount, for the first-year payment of such agreement, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (DPW Request)

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$20,377, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the Fiscal Year 2022 Airport Budget, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Airport Commission Request)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$2,500, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a riding mower for the Parks and Recreation Department, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Parks & Recreation Request)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$4,500, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing and installing additional security cameras and updating the surveillance system at Unity Park, 56 1st Street, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Parks & Recreation Request)

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$10,616, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the Fiscal Year 2022 Libraries budget, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Library Request)

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$5,270, or any other amount, for the purpose of obtaining an engineered plan for the Carnegie Library's driveway project, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Library Request)

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$25,100, or any other amount, for the purpose of upgrading the Board of Assessors' software and purchasing related computer equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Board of Assessors Request)

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$25,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of providing tuition and transportation for a Montague resident attending Smith Vocational School, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Town Accountant Request)

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$315,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of abating, replacing, and/or covering existing tile flooring in the Hillcrest Elementary School, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Gill Montague Regional School District Request)

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$66,481, or any other amount, for the purpose of making improvements to reduce flooding and related issues on and along Montague City Road, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Town Administrator Request)

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to amend Montague Zoning Bylaws sections 2, 5.2.8, 5.2.9, 8.9 and 9.1.2 to adopt a Zoning Bylaw Amendment relating to the regulation of Battery Energy Storage Facilities as below.

**Proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendment relating to the regulation of
Battery Energy Storage Facilities**

**PLANNING BOARD APPROVED DRAFT
for Town Meeting Approval
1.6.2022**

Proposed new text shown in *italicized yellow highlight*. Proposed text deletion shown as ~~bold-red strikethrough~~

Remove and replace the definition of Public Utility in Section 2 with the following text:

Section 2 Definitions

PUBLIC UTILITY: shall include power lines, power transmission, power generation facilities, and telecommunication facilities (See Section §8.6) but shall exclude solar energy installations, solar energy facilities, small scale battery energy storage systems, and battery energy storage facilities (See §8.9). A public utility may be privately owned but is otherwise regulated by the Mass Department of Public Utilities, the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or other governmental agencies.

Add “battery energy storage facilities” to the list of uses allowed by Special Permit in the Industrial District (Section 5.2.8 (b) ii.) and Historic Industrial District (Section 5.2.9(b)v) with the following text:

5.2.8 ID. Industrial District

(a) Permitted Uses:

- i. Business office or professional office
- ii. Manufacturing, processing, or research
- iii. Bulk storage, warehousing, distribution
- iv. Agriculture or forestry products processing

(b) Uses allowed by Special Permit from the Planning Board

- i. All uses in §5.2.8(a) that involve the construction or alteration of over 20,000 square feet of floor area or the development of over 217,800 square feet (5 acres) of land.
- ii. Solar energy *and battery energy storage* facilities, per §8.9
- iii. Self-service storage facilities, per §8.7
- iv. Retail sales and services
- v. Hotels
- vi. Earth removal, per §8.2
- vii. Open recreational enterprises
- viii. Public utilities
- ix. Marijuana cultivation, production, research, or testing, medical marijuana treatment center, or retail if accessory to cultivation or production as a primary use, per §8.10
- x. Other uses similar to §5.2.8(a) in externally observable attributes.

5.2.9 HI. Historic Industrial District

(a) Permitted Uses:

- i. Business, professional, or medical office in an existing building
- ii. Retail sales and services in an existing building
- iii. Manufacturing, processing, or research in an existing building
- iv. Bulk storage, warehousing, distribution in an existing building
- v. Craft workshop or light assembly shop in an existing building

(b) Uses allowed by Special Permit from the Planning Board:

- i. Uses listed in § 5.2.9(a) that are in new structures or additions to existing buildings
- ii. Multi-family dwelling
- iii. Hotels
- iv. Public utilities
- v. Solar energy **and battery energy storage** facilities, per §8.9
- vi. Marijuana retailer, medical marijuana treatment center, cultivation, production, research or testing, per §8.10
- vii. Self-service storage facilities, per §8.7
- viii. Open recreational enterprises
- ix. Farming and forestry on 5 acres or less
- x. Other uses similar to § 5.2.9(a) in externally observable attributes.

(c) Special Requirements

- i. Demolition of an existing structure requires a special permit from the Planning Board, excepting structures that have been deemed unsafe by the Inspector of Buildings.

Remove and replace Section 8.9 (Solar Energy Installations and Facilities) with the following text:

8.9 Solar Energy Installations & Facilities and **Battery Energy Storage Facilities**

8.9.1 Purpose

To facilitate the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy through the following:

- To encourage solar energy collection on roofs, over parking lots, and on degraded areas and to minimize the environmental impact when that is not otherwise practical.
- ***To allow properly sited battery energy storage facilities.***

8.9.2 Definitions

BUILDING MOUNTED SOLAR ENERGY INSTALLATION: A solar energy installation that is permanently affixed to a building, as defined by the building code. This definition is inclusive of canopy structures.

ACCESSORY GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR ENERGY INSTALLATION: A solar energy installation that primarily supports on-site energy needs that is mounted on the ground, either directly or on supports which do not constitute a building under the building code.

SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY: a ground-mounted solar energy installation that exceeds 2,000 square feet of panel surface area. Solar Energy Facilities shall not constitute a Public Utility for the purposes of this bylaw.

BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE FACILITY: a physical container providing secondary containment to one or more battery cells for storing electrical energy that is equipped with cooling, ventilation, fire suppression, and an electronic battery management system. It may be a primary use or accessory to a solar energy facility, power generation facility, an electrical substation or other similar uses. Battery Energy Storage Facilities shall not constitute a Public Utility for the purposes of this bylaw. For the purpose of this bylaw, the aggregate rating of the facility shall exceed 80 kWh.

SMALL SCALE BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM: a battery storage system that is ancillary to a residential, commercial, or industrial use. For the purpose of this bylaw, the aggregate rating of the system shall not exceed 80 kWh.

8.9.3 Building Mounted Solar Energy Installations

Building Mounted Solar Energy Installations are permitted in all zoning districts.

8.9.4 Accessory Ground-Mounted Solar Energy Installations

Ground Mounted Solar Energy Installations shall be considered an accessory structure and shall meet the setback requirements of the Zoning District in which it is located. Ground-Mounted Solar Energy Installations are permitted in accordance with the following table:

Zoning District	Requirement
Neighborhood Business, Central Business, and Recreation-Education	Special Permit Required
RS-1	Special Permit Required if exceeding 150 square feet of panel surface area
All other districts	Special Permit Required if exceeding 500 square feet of panel surface area

8.9.5 Solar Energy Facilities and Battery Energy Storage Facilities

Solar Energy Facilities and Battery Energy Storage Facilities are allowed in the Industrial and Historic-Industrial Districts by Special Permit and Site Plan Review from the Planning Board, subject to the submittal requirements and standards of this section. The Planning Board may require additional conditions or vary the prescribed conditions upon a finding that such action is reasonably necessary to meet the purpose and intent of the Bylaws.

- (a) Required Submittals. In addition to the required Site Plan elements in §9, the following materials are required for permitting approval of Solar Energy and Battery Storage Facilities:
 - i. A plan for the general procedures of operation and maintenance of the installation including security measures, maintenance of emergency access and the clear and available means of shutting down the facility in the event of an emergency.
 - ii. A fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal and site restoration, prepared by a professional engineer.

- iii. Owners and successors in title shall provide a satisfactory form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or otherwise, to cover the cost of removal and restoration of the landscape, in an amount determined to be reasonable by the Planning Board, but in no event to exceed more than 125 percent of the cost of removal. Such surety may be waived for municipally or state owned facilities. *The form of surety shall be subject to review and approval of Town Counsel.*
- iv. A stormwater management report prepared by a professional engineer.
- v. *A native flowering planting and maintenance plan that supports pollinator habitat within the project area and its perimeter. Plan to be developing in consistency with UMASS Clean Energy's Extension Pollinator Friendly Solar PV Guide.*

(b) Special Permit Standards

- i. Adequate access and parking shall be provided for service and emergency vehicles; however, there shall be no exterior long term storage of equipment or service vehicles on the site.
- ii. For every mature tree cleared for construction, measured in board feet of wood; at least an equivalent mass of living mature trees shall be retained on-site.
- iii. An 8 foot security fence shall be installed no closer to a property line than the setback required for a principal building. In addition, the site and its fencing shall be screened by buffering vegetation from general view from the surrounding ground level unless the Planning Board determines that there is no public benefit from such screening.
- iv. The facility shall provide a vegetated buffer strip of at least 100 feet from any street line property boundaries or from the property line of any abutting residential use.
- v. To the extent feasible, all network interconnections and power lines, to and from the facility, shall be via underground lines.
- vi. Drainage from impervious surfaces shall be fully accommodated onsite.
- vii. No **array facility** shall be floodlit.
- viii. Herbicides may not be used to control vegetation at the **solar electric installation facility**. *The operator shall conduct annual monitoring of the pollinator plantings and will remove invasive species and replant native flowering plants as needed.*
- ix. The owner of the **array facility** must provide for and post a 24 hour emergency contact phone number and identification of the owner. The information shall remain current and shall also be provided to the Police Chief and Fire Chief.
- x. Decommissioning Requirements. Any facility which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned shall be decommissioned by the owner or operator who shall notify the Board by certified mail of the proposed date of shut down and removal. Decommissioning shall consist of the following:
 - Physical removal of all panels, structures, equipment, security barriers and transmission lines from the site *within 180 days following the date of notice to the Board.*
 - Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.
 - Stabilization and re-vegetation of the site and erosion prevention.

- The Town shall have the right, upon determination of abandonment, but not the obligation, to claim the financial surety, enter the site and remove the facility in accordance with the requirements of this section.
 - All facilities, attachments, and accessory structures which have not been used for a period of ~~one (1) year~~ **two (2) years** shall be considered abandoned. The removal expense shall be secured with the performance guarantee.
- x. **Battery Energy Storage Facilities are encouraged to co-locate with solar energy facilities, energy, power generation stations, and electrical substations. Facilities that are a primary use shall be located within a physical building that is harmonious with the adjacent architecture. Relief from this requirement may be granted for exceptional screening or the provision of publicly accessible open space or recreational amenities.**
- xii. **All facilities must comply with the Massachusetts Electrical Code (527 CMR 12.00) and Fire Code (527 CMR 1.00).**

8.9.5 Small Scale Battery Energy Storage System

Small Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems that are ancillary to and located within a permitted primary use are allowed in all zoning districts. All such systems must comply with the Massachusetts Electrical Code (527 CMR 12.00) and Fire Code (527 CMR 1.00).

Remove and replace Site Plan Review section 9.1.2(e) with the following text:

9.1.2 Applicability

The following activities and uses are subject to site plan review:

- (a) All uses that involve the construction or expansion or change of use of over 3,000 square feet of floor area.
- (b) All uses that involve the development of over 130,680 square feet (3 acres) of land.
- (c) Any new structure, group of new structures, changes of use, or additions which result in an increase of 500 or more vehicle trips per day, as proposed in an applicant's business plan acceptable to the reviewing authority or estimated by a professional engineer.
- (d) All uses that involve the construction or expansion of a parking area that creates ten (10) or more new parking spaces, per §7.2.6
- (e) Specific Uses identified elsewhere in this bylaw:
 - Accessory Apartments within existing single family homes, per §8.5
 - Self-storage facilities, per §8.9
 - Solar energy **and battery energy storage** facilities, per §8.9
 - Medical Marijuana Treatment Center or Marijuana retailer, cultivation, production, research or testing, per §8.10
 - Open Space Residential Development, per §8.11
 - Planned Unit Development, per §8.12

or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Planning Board Request)

Given under our hands this ____ day of February in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

_____ Matthew Lord
Christopher M. Boutwell, Sr.
Richard Kuklewicz, Chairman

Selectmen, Town of Montague

Franklin, ss Montague, MA February 16th, 2022

Pursuant to the within warrant, I have warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Montague by posting attested copies of the same in a conspicuous place in each of the Post Offices, Libraries, and the Town Hall of the Town of Montague at least fourteen days before said meeting as within directed.

Montague Christopher Williams, Constable of

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
March 3, 2022**

MOTIONS

ARTICLE 1. MOVED: That the Town vote to conduct this Special Town Meeting remotely with the aid of Zoom Webinar.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 2. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of making emergency repairs to town cemeteries, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sale of Highland Cemetery Lots.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 3. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of repairing a retaining wall and for other related maintenance, renovations, and improvements at the Burnham Cemetery, including but not limited to the grading and clearing of trees to prevent future problems, and anything else incidental or related thereto, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 4. MOVED: That the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease purchase agreement in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c.44, §21C for a period in excess of three years for the purchase of a new combination vacuum and sewer cleaner truck, also known as a vactor truck, and any equipment related thereto and to appropriate the sum of \$125,000 for the first-year payment of such agreement, said sum to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

PASSED/TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 5. **Moved:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,377 for the purpose of increasing the FY22 Airport Budget, with \$3,000 to be transferred from Airport Benefits and \$17,377 to be raised from Airport Retained Earnings.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 6. **Moved:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,500 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a riding mower for the Parks and Recreation Department, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 7. **Moved:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$4,500 for the purpose of purchasing and installing additional security cameras and updating the surveillance system at Unity Park, 56 1st Street, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

DEFEATED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 8. **Moved:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,616 for the purpose of increasing the Fiscal Year 2022 Libraries budget, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 9. **Moved:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,270 for the purpose of obtaining an engineered plan for the Carnegie Library's driveway project, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 10. **Moved.** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,100 for the purpose of upgrading the Board of Assessors' software and purchasing related computer equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, said appropriation to be funded with the remaining \$4,750 in Article #13 of the May 3, 2014 Annual Town Meeting, which appropriated funds for this same purpose, and \$20,350 from Free Cash.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 11. **Moved:** That the Town vote to appropriate sum of **\$20,100** for the purpose of providing tuition and transportation for a Montague resident attending Smith Vocational School, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 12. **Moved:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of **\$295,000** for the purpose of abating, replacing, and/or covering existing tile flooring in the Hillcrest Elementary School, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

PASSED/TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 13. **Moved:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$66,481 for the purpose of making improvements to reduce flooding and related issues on and along Montague City Road, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

PASSED/TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 14. **Moved:** That the Town vote to amend Montague Zoning Bylaws sections 2, 5.2.8, 5.2.9, 8.9 and 9.1.2 to adopt a Zoning Bylaw Amendment relating to the regulation of Battery Energy Storage Facilities as shown below.

**Proposed Zoning Bylaw Amendment relating to the regulation of
Battery Energy Storage Facilities**

Proposed new text shown in **italicized yellow highlight**. Proposed text deletion shown as **bold-red-strikethrough**

Remove and replace the definition of Public Utility in Section 2 with the following text:

Section 2 Definitions

PUBLIC UTILITY: shall include power lines, power transmission, power generation facilities, and telecommunication facilities (See Section §8.6) but shall exclude solar energy installations, **solar energy facilities, small scale battery energy storage systems, and battery energy storage facilities** (See §8.9). A public utility may be privately owned but is otherwise regulated by the Mass Department of Public Utilities, the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or other governmental agencies.

Add “battery energy storage facilities” to the list of uses allowed by Special Permit in the Industrial District (Section 5.2.8 (b) ii.) and Historic Industrial District (Section 5.2.9(b)v) with the following text:

5.2.8 ID. Industrial District

(c) Permitted Uses:

- v. Business office or professional office
- vi. Manufacturing, processing, or research
- vii. Bulk storage, warehousing, distribution
- viii. Agriculture or forestry products processing

(d) Uses allowed by Special Permit from the Planning Board

- xi. All uses in §5.2.8(a) that involve the construction or alteration of over 20,000 square feet of floor area or the development of over 217,800 square feet (5 acres) of land.
- xii. Solar energy **and battery energy storage** facilities, per §8.9
- xiii. Self-service storage facilities, per §8.7
- xiv. Retail sales and services
- xv. Hotels
- xvi. Earth removal, per §8.2
- xvii. Open recreational enterprises
- xviii. Public utilities
- xix. Marijuana cultivation, production, research, or testing, medical marijuana treatment center, or retail if accessory to cultivation or production as a primary use, per §8.10
- xx. Other uses similar to §5.2.8(a) in externally observable attributes.

5.2.9 HI. Historic Industrial District

(c) Permitted Uses:

- vi. Business, professional, or medical office in an existing building
- vii. Retail sales and services in an existing building

- viii. Manufacturing, processing, or research in an existing building
 - ix. Bulk storage, warehousing, distribution in an existing building
 - x. Craft workshop or light assembly shop in an existing building
- (d) Uses allowed by Special Permit from the Planning Board:
- xi. Uses listed in § 5.2.9(a) that are in new structures or additions to existing buildings
 - xii. Multi-family dwelling
 - xiii. Hotels
 - xiv. Public utilities
 - xv. Solar energy **and battery energy storage** facilities, per §8.9
 - xvi. Marijuana retailer, medical marijuana treatment center, cultivation, production, research, or testing, per §8.10
 - xvii. Self-service storage facilities, per §8.7
 - xviii. Open recreational enterprises
 - xix. Farming and forestry on 5 acres or less
 - xx. Other uses similar to § 5.2.9(a) in externally observable attributes.
- (c) Special Requirements
- i. Demolition of an existing structure requires a special permit from the Planning Board, excepting structures that have been deemed unsafe by the Inspector of Buildings.

Remove and replace Section 8.9 (Solar Energy Installations and Facilities) with the following text:

8.9 Solar Energy Installations & Facilities and **Battery Energy Storage Facilities**

8.9.1 Purpose

To facilitate the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy through the following:

- To encourage solar energy collection on roofs, over parking lots, and on degraded areas and to minimize the environmental impact when that is not otherwise practical.
- ***To allow properly sited battery energy storage facilities.***

8.9.2 Definitions

BUILDING MOUNTED SOLAR ENERGY INSTALLATION: A solar energy installation that is permanently affixed to a building, as defined by the building code. This definition is inclusive of canopy structures.

ACCESSORY GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR ENERGY INSTALLATION: A solar energy installation that primarily supports on-site energy needs that is mounted on the ground, either directly or on supports which do not constitute a building under the building code.

SOLAR ENERGY FACILITY: a ground-mounted solar energy installation that exceeds 2,000 square feet of panel surface area. Solar Energy Facilities shall not constitute a Public Utility for the purposes of this bylaw.

BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE FACILITY: a physical container providing secondary containment to one or more battery cells for storing electrical energy that is equipped

with cooling, ventilation, fire suppression, and an electronic battery management system. It may be a primary use or accessory to a solar energy facility, power generation facility, an electrical substation or other similar uses. Battery Energy Storage Facilities shall not constitute a Public Utility for the purposes of this bylaw. For the purpose of this bylaw, the aggregate rating of the facility shall exceed 80 kWh.

SMALL SCALE BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM: a battery storage system that is ancillary to a residential, commercial, or industrial use. For the purpose of this bylaw, the aggregate rating of the system shall not exceed 80 kWh.

8.9.3 Building Mounted Solar Energy Installations

Building Mounted Solar Energy Installations are permitted in all zoning districts.

8.9.4 Accessory Ground-Mounted Solar Energy Installations

Ground Mounted Solar Energy Installations shall be considered an accessory structure and shall meet the setback requirements of the Zoning District in which it is located. Ground-Mounted Solar Energy Installations are permitted in accordance with the following table:

Zoning District	Requirement
Neighborhood Business, Central Business, and Recreation-Education	Special Permit Required
RS-1	Special Permit Required if exceeding 150 square feet of panel surface area
All other districts	Special Permit Required if exceeding 500 square feet of panel surface area

8.9.5 Solar Energy Facilities and Battery Energy Storage Facilities

Solar Energy Facilities and Battery Energy Storage Facilities are allowed in the Industrial and Historic-Industrial Districts by Special Permit and Site Plan Review from the Planning Board, subject to the submittal requirements and standards of this section. The Planning Board may require additional conditions or vary the prescribed conditions upon a finding that such action is reasonably necessary to meet the purpose and intent of the Bylaws.

- (a) Required Submittals. In addition to the required Site Plan elements in §9, the following materials are required for permitting approval of Solar Energy and Battery Storage Facilities:
 - vi. A plan for the general procedures of operation and maintenance of the installation including security measures, maintenance of emergency access and the clear and available means of shutting down the facility in the event of an emergency.
 - vii. A fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal and site restoration, prepared by a professional engineer.
 - viii. Owners and successors in title shall provide a satisfactory form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or otherwise, to cover the cost of removal and restoration of the landscape, in an amount determined to be reasonable by the Planning Board, but in no event to exceed more than 125 percent of the cost of removal. Such surety may be waived for

municipally or state owned facilities. *The form of surety shall be subject to review and approval of Town Counsel.*

ix. A stormwater management report prepared by a professional engineer.

x. *A native flowering planting and maintenance plan that supports pollinator habitat within the project area and its perimeter. Plan to be developing in consistency with UMASS Clean Energy's Extension Pollinator Friendly Solar PV Guide.*

(b) Special Permit Standards

xiii. Adequate access and parking shall be provided for service and emergency vehicles; however there shall be no exterior long term storage of equipment or service vehicles on the site.

xiv. For every mature tree cleared for construction, measured in board feet of wood; at least an equivalent mass of living mature trees shall be retained on-site.

xv. An 8 foot security fence shall be installed no closer to a property line than the setback required for a principal building. In addition, the site and its fencing shall be screened by buffering vegetation from general view from the surrounding ground level unless the Planning Board determines that there is no public benefit from such screening.

xvi. The facility shall provide a vegetated buffer strip of at least 100 feet from any street line property boundaries or from the property line of any abutting residential use.

xvii. To the extent feasible, all network interconnections and power lines, to and from the facility, shall be via underground lines.

xviii. Drainage from impervious surfaces shall be fully accommodated onsite.

xix. No **array facility** shall be floodlit.

xx. Herbicides may not be used to control vegetation at the **solar electric installation facility**. *The operator shall conduct annual monitoring of the pollinator plantings and will remove invasive species and replant native flowering plants as needed.*

xxi. The owner of the **array facility** must provide for and post a 24 hour emergency contact phone number and identification of the owner. The information shall remain current and shall also be provided to the Police Chief and Fire Chief.

xxii. Decommissioning Requirements. Any facility which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned shall be decommissioned by the owner or operator who shall notify the Board by certified mail of the proposed date of shut down and removal. Decommissioning shall consist of the following:

- Physical removal of all panels, structures, equipment, security barriers and transmission lines from the site *within 180 days following the date of notice to the Board.*
- Disposal of all solid and hazardous waste in accordance with local, state, and federal waste disposal regulations.
- Stabilization and re-vegetation of the site and erosion prevention.
- The Town shall have the right, upon determination of abandonment, but not the obligation, to claim the financial surety, enter the site and remove the facility in accordance with the requirements of this section.

- All facilities, attachments, and accessory structures which have not been used for a period of ~~one (1) year~~ **two (2) years** shall be considered abandoned. The removal expense shall be secured with the performance guarantee.

xxiii. **Battery Energy Storage Facilities are encouraged to co-locate with solar energy facilities, energy, power generation stations, and electrical sub-stations. Facilities that are a primary use shall be located within a physical building that is harmonious with the adjacent architecture. Relief from this requirement may be granted for exceptional screening or the provision of publicly accessible open space or recreational amenities.**

xxiv. **All facilities must comply with the Massachusetts Electrical Code (527 CMR 12.00) and Fire Code (527 CMR 1.00).**

8.9.5 Small Scale Battery Energy Storage System

Small Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems that are ancillary to and located within a permitted primary use are allowed in all zoning districts. All such systems must comply with the Massachusetts Electrical Code (527 CMR 12.00) and Fire Code (527 CMR 1.00).

Remove and replace Site Plan Review section 9.1.2(e) with the following text:

9.1.2 Applicability

The following activities and uses are subject to site plan review:

- (f) All uses that involve the construction or expansion or change of use of over 3,000 square feet of floor area.
- (g) All uses that involve the development of over 130,680 square feet (3 acres) of land.
- (h) Any new structure, group of new structures, changes of use, or additions which result in an increase of 500 or more vehicle trips per day, as proposed in an applicant’s business plan acceptable to the reviewing authority or estimated by a professional engineer.
- (i) All uses that involve the construction or expansion of a parking area that creates ten (10) or more new parking spaces, per §7.2.6
- (j) Specific Uses identified elsewhere in this bylaw:
 - Accessory Apartments within existing single family homes, per §8.5
 - Self-storage facilities, per §8.9
 - Solar energy **and battery energy storage** facilities, per §8.9
 - Medical Marijuana Treatment Center or Marijuana retailer, cultivation, production, research, or testing, per §8.10
 - Open Space Residential Development, per §8.11
 - Planned Unit Development, per §8.12

PASSED/TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE

9:08 PM Adjourn without Day

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
May 7, 2022**

According to the foregoing warrant the legal voters met at the Turners Falls High School Theater on Saturday, May 7, 2022, when the meeting was called to order at 9:38 AM when checker Wendy Bogusz announced the presence of a quorum. Unfortunately, a quorum was not able to be obtained by 8:30 AM as the warrant indicated. Wendy and Town Clerk, Deb Bourbeau, quickly called all town meeting members who did not show or ask to be excused. Police Chief, Chris Williams even acted as a taxicab for members who needed a ride. All in all, sixty-six, (66), Town Meeting Members were in attendance while twenty, (20), were excused and twenty-nine, (29), were no shows. I think it is time to review our Town Meeting Acts so that the Town can eliminate members that are constantly no shows but get re-elected over and over.

The first order of business was to elect a Moderator from the floor due to the unfortunate death of Moderator Chris Collins. Ray Godin graciously offered his services to be elected. Ray was elected unanimously by the body.

Moderator, Ray Godin led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and then asked the body for a moment of silence for the remembrance of Chris Collins, our late moderator and Mike Langknecht, who was a former town meeting member a long-time member of the GMRSD school committee. Both men dedicated much of their time to our town and our county to make it a better place for all.

The Officers Return was read, and the Preliminary Motions were read and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned without day at 4:01 PM.

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
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**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MAY 7, 2022**

Franklin, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Montague in the County of Franklin:

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Montague qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet in the Turners Falls High School Theater, 222 Turnpike Road, Turners Falls, Massachusetts, on Saturday, May 7, 2022, at 8:30 A.M. and to act on the following articles and any motions which may be presented.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to receive and act upon the reports of the Officers of the Town and to receive the report of any committees and act thereon.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard, or other Town departments with the approval of the Selectboard, to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Government, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or any other source, and to expend the same for purposes received without further appropriation or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 7 of Article II of the Town of Montague General Bylaws, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, by amending the Airport Fuel Revolving Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022, with the changes as shown in ~~strikeout~~ and **bold** below; or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Section 7: Revolving Funds

(a) There are hereby established in the Town of Montague pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, the following revolving funds:

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Spending Authority</u>	<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Allowed Expenses</u>
Hazardous Materials Response Planning Committee (a.k.a.	SARA Title III Comm	Fees collected from individuals responsible for oil and hazardous material spills	For the purpose of cleaning up oil and hazardous material spills

<u>Revolving Fund</u> SARA Title III Committee)	<u>Spending Authority</u>	<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Allowed Expenses</u>
Montague Tree Fund	Tree Warden	Fees received under the Public Tree Protection Bylaw	Tree planting and maintenance consistent with the Public Tree Protection Bylaw
Airport Fuel	Airport Manager	Fees from sale of Airport aviation fuel	Purchase of Airport aviation fuel to be sold and used at the Airport, system maintenance, parts, and inspections

(b) Expenditures from each revolving fund shall be subject to the limitations established by Town Meeting, and to any additional limitations as otherwise set forth in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½.
(Airport Commission Request)

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Classification Plan to add the position of Assistant Town Administrator at Grade I, with such benefits as are awarded to other non-union management personnel or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Classification Plan to add the position of Selectboard Administrative Assistant at Grade B or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Classification Plan to add the position of WPCF Laboratory Manager at Grade D or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of all elected officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, as set forth in Schedule I, Elected Officials, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and on the Town's website at <https://www.montague-ma.gov/p/374> or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of all appointed officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, as set forth in Schedule II, Appointed Officials, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and on the Town's website at <https://www.montague-ma.gov/p/374> or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$11,176,944, or any other amount, for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule III, Budget, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and on the Town's website at <https://www.montague-ma.gov/p/374> and for any other necessary charges, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$2,872,377, or any other amount, for the purpose of operating the Water Pollution Control Facility and associated pumping stations, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule IV, WPCF Budget, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and on the Town's website at <https://www.montague-ma.gov/p/374>, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$316,015, or any other amount, for the purpose of operating the Turners Falls Airport, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Airport Commission Request)

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$49,950, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the operations, maintenance, and debt service of the Colle Building, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$1,029,566, or any other amount, for the purpose of paying the Franklin County Technical School District for Montague's share of the assessment for the yearly operation of the Franklin County Technical School, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Franklin County Technical School Request)

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$11,341,466, or any other amount, for the purpose of paying the Gill-Montague Regional School District for Montague's share of the assessment for the yearly operation of the Gill-Montague Regional Schools, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Gill-Montague Regional School District Request)

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$10,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of supplementing the Henry Waidlich Conservation Trust Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Conservation Commission Request)

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$45,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of providing tuition and transportation for a Montague resident attending Smith Vocational School, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Town Accountant Request)

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$75,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing, equipping, and making major repairs to DPW vehicles and equipment, including all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Department of Public Works Request)

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$130,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing and installing a facility back-up generator for the Water Pollution Control Facility and all incidental installation costs to include but not be limited to the corresponding moving of transfer switches and fuel tank, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
 (WPCF Request)

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$21,584, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the amount appropriated pursuant to Article #18C of the May 22, 2021, Annual Town Meeting, which provided funds for bid and project overruns, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Town Administrator and CIC Requests)

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$415,000, or any other amount, for the following Town projects and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

- A. \$125,000 for Town Hall Roof
- B. \$60,000 for Shea Front/Lower Roof
- C. \$130,000 for Carnegie Basement Renovation
- D. \$100,000 for Montague Center Library Masonry Repair

(Town Administrator and CIC Requests)

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 4 at the March 3, 2022 Special Town Meeting, which appropriated the sum of \$125,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to pay the first year payment on a lease-purchase agreement for a new combination vacuum and sewer cleaner truck, also known as a vactor truck, and any equipment related thereto, by authorizing the Selectboard to use said appropriation toward the outright purchase of said vactor truck, with the remaining purchase price to be funded through the use of ARPA grant funds, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Town Accountant Request)

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the following sums, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the special purpose funds set forth below, or pass any vote or votes in relating thereto.

(Finance Committee Request)

Fund	Amount (\$)
Town Capital Stabilization Fund	131,200
OPEB Trust Fund	50,000
GMRSD Stabilization Fund	40,608
FCTS Stabilization Fund	124,356
Total:	346,164

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$173,800, or any other amount, for costs associated with the establishment and operation of a marijuana establishment known as 253 Farmacy, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

- A. \$86,900 for contracted services of a licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor and related curriculum material expenses for the Gill-Montague Regional School District
- B. \$86,900 for contracted services of a licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor and related curriculum material expenses for the Franklin County Technical School
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$40,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of providing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math afterschool enrichment programs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$25,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of developing a Feasibility Assessment and Preliminary Design for roadway safety improvements to the intersection of Millers Falls Road and Industrial Boulevard, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B, to establish a special purpose stabilization fund to be known as the “Canal District Utility Improvement Fund”, for the purpose of funding installations, repairs, and upgrades of utility services for the Canal District of the Town, and anything incidental or related thereto; and further to accept the provisions of the fourth paragraph of said Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B, to allow one hundred percent (100%) of the funds received pursuant to the Town’s August 9, 2021 Agreement with FirstLight MA Hydro, LLC to be dedicated to said Fund, without further appropriation, to be effective for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2022; or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unused \$286,081.30 borrowing authority as voted pursuant to Article #8 of the February 25, 2021, Special Town Meeting, which appropriated \$1,450,000 for the purpose of acquiring three properties for airport and aviation purposes, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Town Accountant Request)

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the unused \$1,305,011.05 borrowing authority as voted pursuant to Article #1 of the March 29, 2018, Special Town Meeting, which appropriated \$11,146,762 for the purpose of building and equipping a new DPW Facility, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Town Accountant Request)

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to petition the General Court for one (1) additional on premises all alcoholic beverages license to be exercised and located at 196 Turners Falls Road in the Montague Center village of the Town, said license not to be transferred to any other location; provided, however, that the General Court may make

clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Selectboard approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court which are within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

The petition for special legislation shall take the following form:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE TO GRANT ONE ADDITIONAL LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE SALE OF ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES TO BE DRUNK ON THE PREMISES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding section 17 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, the licensing authority of the town of Montague may grant one (1) additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises pursuant to section 12 of said chapter 138 to El Nopalito Restaurant, located at 196 Turners Falls Road, in the town of Montague. The license shall be subject to all of said chapter 138 except said section 17.

(b) The licensing authority of the town of Montague shall not approve the transfer of the license granted pursuant to this act to any other location, but it may grant the license to a new applicant at the same location if the applicant files with the licensing authority a letter from the department of revenue and a letter from the department of unemployment assistance indicating that the license is in good standing with those departments and that all applicable taxes, fees and contributions have been paid.

(c) If the license granted pursuant to this act is cancelled, revoked or no longer in use, it shall be returned physically, with all of the legal rights, privileges and restrictions pertaining thereto, to the licensing authority, which may then grant the license to a new applicant at the same location under the same conditions as specified in this act.

(d) The license granted pursuant to this act shall be issued not later than 2 years after the effective date of this act; provided however, that if the license is originally granted within that time period, it may be granted to a new applicant pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) anytime thereafter.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

(Board of Selectmen Request)

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to petition the General Court for special legislation providing that all of the positions in the Police Department after passage of the Act not be subject to the Civil Service statute, all as set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Selectboard approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court which are within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, and to authorize the Selectboard to approve such amendments, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

AN ACT EXEMPTING ALL POSITIONS IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all positions in the police department of the town of Montague shall be exempt from chapter 31 of the General Laws.

SECTION 2. This act shall not impair the civil service status of a person holding a position described in section 1 on the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2, no appointments or promotions made after the effective date of this act will be governed in any way by chapter 31 of the General Laws.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the 2022 Update to the Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation's Economic Development Plan developed in accordance with Mass General Laws Chapter 121 C, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and on the Town's website at https://www.montague-ma.gov/files/MEDIC_ECON_DEV_PLAN_2022_DRAFT.pdf, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (MEDIC Request)

ARTICLE 32. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the Town's Zoning Bylaws, in accordance with Chapter 40R of the Massachusetts General Laws, to add a new Section 10, to be titled "Smart Growth Overlay Districts (SGODs), as shown below, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Planning Board Request)

SECTION 10: SMART GROWTH OVERLAY DISTRICTS (SGODs)

1. PURPOSE

The purposes of this Section are:

1. To establish Smart Growth Overlay Districts (SGODs) to encourage smart growth in accordance with the purposes of G. L. Chapter 40R;
2. To encourage the revitalization of underutilized properties to benefit the general health and welfare of our residents and the region;
3. To encourage the creation of new multifamily and residential developments in appropriate locations at appropriate densities; and,
4. To maintain or increase the supply of affordable dwelling units;
5. To maintain a consistently high level of design quality.

2. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Section the following definitions shall apply. All capitalized terms shall be defined in accordance with the definitions established under the Governing Laws or Section 2.0,

or as set forth in the PAA Regulations. With respect to their application to Section 10, to the extent that there is any conflict between the definitions or terms set forth in, or otherwise regulated by, the Governing Laws and those defined or used in Section 10, inclusive of any applicable Design Standards, PAA Regulations, or any other applicable associated local zoning requirement (e.g., zoning requirement contained in another section of the Zoning Bylaw that is nonetheless incorporated by reference), the terms of the Governing Laws shall govern.

Affordable Homeownership Unit - an Affordable Housing unit required to be sold to an Eligible Household.

Affordable Housing - housing that is affordable to and occupied by Eligible Households.

Affordable Housing Restriction - a deed restriction of Affordable Housing meeting the statutory requirements in G.L. Chapter 184, Section 31 and the requirements of Section 5.5 of this Bylaw.

Affordable Rental Unit - an Affordable Housing unit required to be rented to an Eligible Household.

Applicant – the individual or entity that submits a Project application for Plan Approval.

As-of-right - a use allowed under Section 10.4.0 without recourse to a special permit, variance, zoning amendment, or other form of zoning relief. A Project that requires Plan Approval by the PAA pursuant to Sections 10. 8.0 through 10. 12.0 shall be considered an as-of-right Project, subject to review and approval by DHCD of any Municipal 40R regulations, guidelines, application forms, or other requirements applicable to review of Projects by the Plan Approval Authority under the 40R Zoning and 760 CMR 59.00.

Department or DHCD - the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, or any successor agency.

Design Standards – provisions of Section 12 made applicable to Projects within the SGOD that are subject to the Plan Approval process.

Eligible Household - an individual or household whose annual income is less than or equal to 80 percent of the area-wide median income as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), adjusted for household size, with income computed using HUD's rules for attribution of income to assets.

Governing Laws - G.L. Chapter 40R and 760 CMR 59.00.

Mixed-Use Development Project – a Project containing a mix of residential uses and non-residential uses, as allowed in Section 10. 4.2, and subject to all applicable provisions of Section 10.

Monitoring Agent or Administering Agent – the PAA or a qualified housing entity designated by the PAA, pursuant to Section 10. 5.2, to review and implement the Affordability requirements affecting Projects under Section 10. 5.0.

PAA Regulations – the rules and regulations of the PAA adopted pursuant to Section 10. 8.3.

Plan Approval Authority (PAA) - The local approval authority authorized under Section 10. 8.2

to conduct the Plan Approval process for purposes of reviewing Project applications and issuing Plan Approval decisions within the SGOD.

Project - a Residential Project or Mixed-use Development Project undertaken within the SGOD in accordance with the requirements of Section 10.

Residential Project - a Project that consists solely of residential and any allowed or required parking and/or accessory uses, as further defined in Section 4.1.

SGOD – A Smart Growth Overlay District established in accordance with Section 10 and as shown on the Smart Growth Overlay District Map referenced in Section 3 herein and as shown of the Town’s Zoning Map.

Zoning Bylaw - the Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Montague.

3. Applicability of SGODs – SCOPE AND AUTHORITY

3.1 Establishment. The Smart Growth Overlay District, herein referred to as the “SGOD,” is an overlay district having a land area of approximately 4 acres in size that is superimposed over the underlying zoning district(s) and is shown on the Zoning Map as set forth on the map entitled “Smart Growth Overlay District, dated ____, prepared by ____.” This map is hereby made a part of the Zoning Bylaw and is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

3.2 Subdistricts. The SGOD contains the following Sub-Districts:
Sub-District A: Griswold Mill comprising approximately 3.02 acres and;
Sub-District B: First Street comprising approximately 1.16 acres.

3.3 Applicability of SGODs. An applicant may seek development of a Project located within the SGOD in accordance with the provisions of the Governing Laws and Section 10, including a request for Plan Approval by the PAA. In such case, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Zoning Bylaw, such application shall not be subject to any other provisions of the Zoning Bylaw, including limitations upon the issuance of building permits for residential uses related to a rate of development or phased growth limitation or to a local moratorium on the issuance of such permits, or to other building permit or dwelling unit limitations. To the extent that there is any conflict between the Governing Laws and Section 10, inclusive of the Design Standards, the PAA Regulations, and any otherwise applicable associated local zoning requirement (e.g., zoning requirement contained in another section of the Zoning Bylaw that is nonetheless incorporated by reference), the Governing Laws shall govern.

3.4 Underlying Zoning. The SGOD is an overlay district superimposed on all underlying zoning districts. The regulations for use, dimension, and all other provisions of the Zoning Bylaw governing the underlying zoning district(s) shall remain in full force, except for those Projects undergoing development pursuant to Section 10. Within the boundaries of the SGOD, an Applicant may elect either to develop a Project in accordance with the requirements of the SGOD, or to develop a project in accordance with requirements of the regulations for use, dimension, and all other provisions of the Zoning Bylaw governing the underlying zoning district(s).

3.5 Administration, Enforcement, and Appeals. The provisions of Section 10 shall be administered by the Building Inspector, except as otherwise provided herein. Any legal appeal arising out of a Plan Approval decision by the PAA under Sections 8 through 12 shall be

governed by the applicable provisions of G. L. Chapter 40R. Any other request for enforcement or appeal arising under this Section shall be governed by the applicable provisions of G. L. Chapter 40A.

4. PERMITTED USES - GENERAL

The following uses are permitted As-of-Right for Projects within SGODs unless otherwise specified under the corresponding section of the District-specific requirements.

4.1 Sub-District A (Griswold Mill). The following uses are allowed:

- a) Multifamily residential uses
- b) Mixed-use Projects, incorporating multifamily residential uses and any of the following non-residential uses, where the minimum gross floor area devoted to residential uses shall be 51% of the gross floor area of the Project:
 - Offices, including medical offices.
 - Retail stores, including banks, but excluding wholesale establishments and establishments with drive-through windows.
 - General service establishments and personal service establishments, including daycares.
 - Bakeries and artisan food or beverage producers.
 - Restaurants and cafes, indoor or outdoor.
 - Hotels.
 - Community, education, or recreational uses, including museums, parks, playgrounds, health clubs and gym/fitness centers.
 - Municipal facilities.
 - Craft workshops or light assembly shops.
- c) Accessory uses, including home occupations, and parking accessory to any of the above permitted uses

4.2 Sub-District B (First Street). The following uses are allowed:

- a. Single-family, two-family, three-family, or multifamily residential uses, any of which may include live/work units.
- b. Mixed-use Projects, incorporating multifamily residential uses and any of the following non-residential uses, where the minimum gross floor area devoted to residential uses shall be 51% of the gross floor area of the Project:
 - Offices, including medical offices and co-working facilities
 - Retail stores, including banks, but excluding wholesale establishments and establishments with drive-through windows.
 - General service establishments and personal service establishments.
 - Bakeries and artisan food or beverage producers.
 - Restaurants and cafes, indoor or outdoor.
 - Hotels
- c) Accessory uses, including home occupations, and parking accessory to any of the above permitted uses.

5. Housing and Housing Affordability

5.1 Number of Affordable Housing Units. For all Projects, not less than twenty percent

(25%) of housing units constructed shall be Affordable Housing. For purposes of calculating the number of units of Affordable Housing required within a Project, any fractional unit of .5 or greater shall be deemed to constitute a whole unit.

5.2 Monitoring Agent. A Monitoring Agent which may be the PAA or other qualified housing entity shall be designated by the PAA. In a case where the Monitoring Agent cannot adequately carry out its administrative duties, upon certification of this fact by the designating official or by DHCD such duties shall devolve to and thereafter be administered by a qualified housing entity designated by the designating official. In any event, such Monitoring Agent shall ensure the following, both prior to issuance of a Building Permit for a Project within the SGOD, and on a continuing basis thereafter, as the case may be:

1. prices of Affordable Homeownership Units are properly computed; rental amounts of Affordable Rental Units are properly computed;
 2. income eligibility of households applying for Affordable Housing is properly and reliably determined;
 3. the housing marketing and resident selection plan conform to all requirements, have been approved by DHCD specifically with regard to conformance with M.G.L. c.40R and 760 CMR 59.00, and are properly administered;
 4. sales and rentals are made to Eligible Households chosen in accordance with the housing marketing and resident selection plan with appropriate unit size for each household being properly determined and proper preference being given; and
5. Affordable Housing Restrictions meeting the requirements of this section are approved by DHCD specifically with regard to conformance with M.G.L. c.40R and 760 CMR. 59.00, recorded with the proper registry of deeds.

5.3 Submission Requirements. As part of any application for Plan Approval for a Project within the SGOD submitted under Sections 10, the Applicant must submit the following documents to the PAA and the Monitoring Agent:

- 1) evidence that the Project complies with the cost and eligibility requirements of Section 10. 5.4;
- 2) Project plans that demonstrate compliance with the requirements of Section 10. 5.5; and
- 3) a form of Affordable Housing Restriction that satisfies the requirements of Section 10. 5.6.

These documents in combination, to be submitted with an application for Plan Approval, shall include details about construction related to the provision, within the development, of units that are accessible to the disabled and appropriate for diverse populations, including households with children, other households, individuals, households including individuals with disabilities, and the elderly.

5.4 Cost and Eligibility Requirements. Affordable Housing shall comply with the following requirements:

1. Affordable Housing required to be offered for rent or sale shall be rented or sold to and occupied only by Eligible Households.
2. For an Affordable Rental Unit, the monthly rent payment, including applicable utility allowances, shall not exceed 30 percent of the maximum monthly income permissible for

an Eligible Household, assuming a family size equal to the number of bedrooms in the unit plus one, unless another affordable housing program methodology for calculating rent limits, as approved by DHCD, applies.

3. For an Affordable Homeownership Unit the monthly housing payment, including mortgage principal and interest, private mortgage insurance, property taxes, condominium and/or homeowner's association fees, and insurance, shall not exceed 30 percent of the maximum monthly income permissible for an Eligible Household, assuming a family size equal to the number of bedrooms in the unit plus one, unless another affordable housing program methodology for calculating rent limits, as approved by DHCD, applies.

Prior to the granting of any Building Permit for a Project, the Applicant must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Monitoring Agent, that the method by which such affordable rents or affordable purchase prices are computed shall be consistent with state or federal guidelines for affordability applicable to Montague.

5.5 Design and Construction. Units of Affordable Housing shall be finished housing units. With respect to the minimum required number for a given Project, units of Affordable Housing shall be equitably integrated and proportionately dispersed throughout the residential portion of the Project of which they are part, across all residential buildings, floors, distinct unit types, and with respect to the gross floor area devoted to residential units, in accordance with the affordable housing restriction and marketing and tenant selection plan approved by DHCD and be comparable in initial construction quality, size, amenities, and exterior design to the other housing units in the Project. Unless expressly required otherwise under one or more applicable state or federal housing subsidy programs, the bedroom-per-unit average for the Affordable Housing must be equal to or greater than the bedroom-per-unit average for the unrestricted/market-rate units.

5.6 Affordable Housing Restriction. Each Project shall be subject to an Affordable Housing Restriction which is approved by DHCD pursuant to the Governing Laws and recorded with the appropriate registry of deeds or district registry of the Land Court and which contains the following:

1. specification of the term of the Affordable Housing Restriction which shall be stipulated in the Plan Approval decision but in no case be less than thirty years;
2. the name and address of the Monitoring Agent with a designation of its power to monitor and enforce the Affordable Housing Restriction;
3. a description of the Affordable Homeownership Unit(s), by address and number of bedrooms in a Project or portion of a Project which is homeownership; and a description of the overall quantity, initial unit designations and number of bedrooms and number of bedroom types of the Affordable Rental Unit(s) in a Project or portion of a Project which is rental. Such restriction shall apply individually to the specifically identified Affordable Homeownership Unit and shall apply to a percentage of rental units of a rental Project or the rental portion of a Project with the initially designated Affordable Rental Units identified in, and able to float subject to specific approval by DHCD in accordance with, the corresponding Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan (AFHMP) and DHCD's AFHMP guidelines.
4. reference to an affirmative fair housing marketing and resident selection plan, to which the Affordable Housing is subject, and which includes an affirmative fair housing marketing program, including public notice and a fair resident selection process. Such plan shall be consistent with DHCD guidance and approved by DHCD. Consistent with DHCD guidance, such plan shall include a preference based on need for the number of bedrooms in a unit and a preference based on need for the accessibility features of a

unit where applicable, and may only provide for additional preferences in resident selection to the extent such preferences are also consistent with applicable law and approved by DHCD.

5. a requirement that buyers or tenants will be selected at the initial sale or initial rental and upon all subsequent sales and rentals from a list of Eligible Households compiled in accordance with the housing marketing and selection plan;
6. reference to the formula pursuant to which rent of an Affordable Rental Unit or the maximum resale price of an Affordable Homeownership Unit will be set;
7. a requirement that only an Eligible Household may reside in Affordable Housing and that notice of any lease of any Affordable Rental Unit shall be given to the Monitoring Agent;
8. provision for effective monitoring and enforcement of the terms and provisions of the Affordable Housing Restriction by the Monitoring Agent;
9. provision that the AHR on an Affordable Homeownership Unit shall run in favor of the Monitoring Agent and/or the municipality, in a form approved by municipal counsel, and shall limit initial sale and re-sale to and occupancy by an Eligible Household;
10. provision that the AHR on Affordable Rental Units in a rental Project or rental portion of a Project shall run with the rental Project or rental portion of a Project and shall run in favor of the Monitoring Agent and/or the municipality, in a form approved by municipal counsel, and shall limit rental and occupancy to an Eligible Household;
11. provision that the owner[s] or manager[s] of Affordable Rental Unit[s] shall file an annual report to the Monitoring Agent, in a form specified by that agent certifying compliance with the Affordability provisions of this Bylaw and containing such other information as may be reasonably requested in order to ensure affordability; and
12. a requirement that residents in Affordable Housing provide such information as the Monitoring Agent may reasonably request in order to ensure affordability.

5.7 Costs of Housing Marketing and Selection Plan. The housing marketing and selection plan or any associated Monitoring Services Agreement may make provision for payment by the Project applicant of reasonable costs to the Monitoring Agent to develop, advertise, and maintain the list of Eligible Households and to monitor and enforce compliance with affordability requirements.

5.8 Age Restrictions. Nothing in Section 10 shall permit the imposition of restrictions on age upon Projects unless proposed or agreed to voluntarily by the Applicant. However, the PAA may, in its review of a submission under Section 10. 5.3, allow a specific Project within the SGOD designated exclusively for the elderly, persons with disabilities, or for assisted living, provided that any such Project shall be in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local fair housing laws and regulations and not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the housing units in such a restricted Project shall be restricted as Affordable Housing units.

5.9 Phasing. For any Project that is approved and developed in phases in accordance with Section 10. 8.4, the percentage of Affordable units in each phase shall be at least equal to the minimum percentage of Affordable Housing required under Section 10. 5.1. Where the percentage of Affordable Housing is not uniform across all phases, the unit dispersal and bedroom proportionality requirements under Section 10. 5.5 shall be applied proportionately to the Affordable Housing provided for in each respective phase.

5.10 No Waiver. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Affordability provisions in Section 10. 5.0 shall not be waived.

6. Dimensional and Density Requirements - GENERAL

6.1 Residential Density. Multifamily Residential (four or more dwelling units) and Mixed Use Development Projects in a SGOD, and in any Sub-District, may be developed as-of-right at a minimum density of 20 dwelling units per acre of Developable Land. Two-family and three-family residential Projects may be developed as-of-right in Sub-District B at a minimum density of 12 dwelling units per acre of Developable Land. Single-family residential use Projects may be developed as-of-right in Sub-District B at a minimum density of 8 dwelling units per acre of Developable Land.

6.2 Lot Area, Frontage, and Yard Setbacks

Each Project shall have:	
Minimum Project area:	4,000 square feet
Minimum length of frontage:	30 feet
Minimum front yard setback:	0 feet
Maximum front yard setback:	No maximum setback
Minimum side yard setback:	No requirement between buildings within a Project; 10 feet between any Project building and the boundary of the applicable Sub-District
Minimum rear yard setback:	No requirement between buildings within a Project; 10 feet between any Project building and the boundary of the applicable Sub-District

For the purposes of this subsection, frontage and front yard setbacks shall be determined with respect to public and private streets, as well as to private ways providing similar access.

Access: Individual buildings or parcels within a Project site shall have coordinated street access. There shall be not more than one driveway (curb cut) per 50 feet of frontage.

6.3 Open Space: A minimum of 20 percent of the total Project area shall be open space. For the purpose of this subsection, “open space” shall be defined as yards, playgrounds, walkways and other areas not covered by parking and driveways; such open space need not be accessible to the public. This minimum percentage may be reduced by the PAA through the Plan Approval process only if the Project provides for direct access or enjoyment of the Connecticut River.

6.4. Building Height, maximum:

Subdistrict A: 60 feet
Subdistrict B: 40 feet

7. Parking Requirements - GENERAL

The parking requirements applicable for Projects within the SGOD are as follows.

7.1 Number of parking spaces. Unless otherwise found to be Unduly Restrictive with respect to Project feasibility and approved by the PAA, the following minimum and maximum numbers of off-street parking spaces shall be provided and allowed, respectively, by use, either in surface parking, within garages or other structures, or on-street:

Residential Project: Minimum One parking space per residential unit, maximum 2 parking

spaces per residential unit.

Mixed-use Project: Same formula for residential units plus the applicable quantity computed per Section 7.2.2 of the Town's Zoning Bylaws for non-residential uses.

The PAA may allow for additional visitor parking spaces beyond the 2 maximum spaces per unit if deemed appropriate given the design, layout and density of the proposed residential or other development. The PAA may allow for a decrease in any required parking as provided in Sections 7.2 and 7.3 below.

7.2 Shared Parking. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the use of shared parking to fulfill parking demands noted above that occur at different times of day is strongly encouraged. Minimum parking requirements above may be reduced by the PAA through the Plan Approval process, if the Applicant can demonstrate that shared spaces will meet parking demands by using accepted methodologies (e.g. the Urban Land Institute Shared Parking Report, ITE Shared Parking Guidelines, or other approved studies) or the PAA is otherwise satisfied that the reduced parking is nonetheless sufficient and consistent with smart growth practices.

7.3 Reduction in parking requirements. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, any minimum required amount of parking may be reduced by the PAA through the Plan Approval process, if the Applicant can demonstrate that the lesser amount of parking will not cause excessive congestion, endanger public safety, or that lesser amount of parking will provide positive environmental or other benefits, taking into consideration:

- a) the availability of surplus off-street parking in the vicinity of the use being served and/or the proximity of a bus stop or transit station;
- b) the availability of public or commercial parking facilities in the vicinity of the use being served;
- c) shared use of off-street parking spaces serving other uses having peak user demands at different times;
- d) To the extent consistent with 760 CMR 59.04(1)(g) and 760 CMR 59.04(1)(i)1., age or other occupancy restrictions which are likely to result in a lower level of auto usage;
- e) impact of the parking requirement on the physical environment of the affected lot or the adjacent lots including reduction in green space, destruction of significant existing trees and other vegetation, destruction of existing dwelling units, or loss of pedestrian amenities along public ways; and
- f) Any applicable transportation demand management strategies that will be integrated into the Project or such other factors as may be considered by the PAA.

7.4 Location of Parking. Any surface parking lot shall, to the maximum extent feasible, be located at the rear or, where such location is deemed infeasible by the PAA, the side of a building, relative to any principal street, public open space, or pedestrian way.

8. PLAN APPROVAL OF PROJECTS: GENERAL PROVISIONS

8.1 Plan Approval. An application for Plan Approval shall be reviewed by the PAA for consistency with the purpose and intent of Section 10. Such Plan Approval process shall be construed as an As-of-Right review and approval process as required by and in accordance with the Governing Laws. Any Project with uses allowable in Section 4 shall be subject to the Plan Approval Process.

8.2 Plan Approval Authority (PAA). The Montague Planning Board consistent with G.L. Chapter 40R and 760 CMR 59.00, shall be the Plan Approval Authority (the “PAA”), and it is authorized to conduct the Plan Approval process for purposes of reviewing Project applications and issuing Plan Approval decisions within the SGOD.

8.3 PAA Regulations. The Plan Approval Authority may adopt administrative rules and regulations relative to Plan Approval. Such rules and regulations and any amendments thereof must be approved by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

8.4 Project Phasing. An Applicant may propose, in a Plan Approval submission, that a Project be developed in phases, provided that the submission shows the full buildout of the Project and all associated impacts as of the completion of the final phase, and subject to the approval of the PAA. Any phased Project shall comply with the provisions of Section 10.5.9.

9. PLAN APPROVAL PROCEDURES

9.1 Preapplication. Prior to the submittal of a Plan Approval submission, a “Concept Plan” may be submitted to help guide the development of the definitive submission for Project buildout and individual elements thereof. Such Concept Plan should reflect the following:

1. Overall building envelope areas;
2. Open space and natural resource areas; and
3. General site improvements, groupings of buildings, and proposed land uses.

The Concept Plan is intended to be used as a tool for both the Applicant and the PAA to ensure that the proposed Project design will be consistent with the Design Standards and other requirements of the SGOD.

9.2 Required Submittals. An application for Plan Approval shall be submitted to the PAA on the form provided by the PAA and approved by DHCD, along with application fee(s) which shall be as set forth in the PAA Regulations. The application shall be accompanied by such plans and documents as may be required and set forth in the PAA Regulations. For all Projects, the application shall be accompanied by all materials required under Section 10.

5.3. All site plans shall be prepared by a certified architect, landscape architect, and/or a civil engineer registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. All landscape plans shall be prepared by a certified landscape architect registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. All building elevations shall be prepared by a certified architect registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. All plans shall be signed and stamped, and drawings prepared at a scale of [one inch equals forty feet (1"=40') or larger], or at a scale as approved in advance by the PAA.

9.3 Filing. An Applicant for Plan Approval shall file the required number of copies of the application form and the other required submittals as set forth in the PAA Regulations with the Montague Clerk and a copy of the application including the date of filing certified by the Montague Clerk shall be filed forthwith with the PAA.

9.4 Circulation to Other Boards. Upon receipt of the application, the PAA shall immediately provide a copy of the application materials to the Select Board, Board of Appeals, Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Fire Department, Police Department, Building Department, Department of Public Works, the Monitoring Agent (if already identified, for any Project subject to the Affordability requirements of Section 10. 5.0), and other municipal officers, agencies or boards for comment, and any such board, agency or officer shall provide any written comments within 60 days of its receipt of a copy of the plan and application for approval.

9.5 Hearing. The PAA shall hold a public hearing for which notice has been given as provided in Section 11 of G.L. Chapter 40A. The decision of the PAA shall be made, and a written notice of the decision filed with the Town Clerk, within 120 days of the receipt of the application by the Town Clerk. The required time limits for such action may be extended by written agreement between the Applicant and the PAA, with a copy of such agreement being filed in the office of the Town Clerk. Failure of the PAA to take action within said 120 days or extended time, if applicable, shall be deemed to be an approval of the Plan Approval application.

9.6 Peer Review. The Applicant shall be required to pay for reasonable consulting fees to provide peer review of the Plan Approval application, pursuant to G.L. Chapter 40R, Section 11(a). Such fees shall be held by the Town in a separate account and used only for expenses associated with the review of the application by outside consultants, including, but not limited to, attorneys, engineers, urban designers, housing consultants, planners, and others. Any surplus remaining after the completion of such review, including any interest accrued, shall be returned to the Applicant forthwith.

10. PLAN APPROVAL DECISIONS

10.1 Plan Approval. Plan Approval shall be granted where the PAA finds that:

1. the Applicant has submitted the required fees and information as set forth in the PAA Regulations; and
2. the Project as described in the application meets all of the requirements and standards set forth in Section 10 and the PAA Regulations, or a waiver has been granted therefrom; and
3. any extraordinary adverse potential impacts of the Project on nearby properties have been adequately mitigated.

For all Projects, compliance with condition (2) above shall include written confirmation by the Monitoring Agent that all requirements of Section 10. 5.0 have been satisfied. Any Plan Approval decision for a Project shall specify the term of such affordability, which shall be no less than thirty years. The PAA may attach conditions to the Plan Approval decision that are necessary to ensure substantial compliance with Section 10, or to mitigate any extraordinary adverse potential impacts of the Project on nearby properties.

10.2 Plan Disapproval. A Plan Approval application may be disapproved only where the PAA finds that:

1. the Applicant has not submitted the required fees and information as set forth in the Regulations; or
2. the Project as described in the application does not meet all of the requirements and standards set forth in Section 10 and the PAA Regulations, or that a requested waiver therefrom has not been granted; or
3. it is not possible to adequately mitigate significant adverse Project impacts on nearby properties by means of suitable conditions.

10.3 Waivers. Upon the request of the Applicant and subject to compliance with the Governing Laws and Section 10. 5.10, the Plan Approval Authority may waive dimensional and other requirements of Section 10, including the Design Standards, in the interests of design flexibility and overall project quality, and upon a finding of consistency of such variation with the overall purpose and objectives of the SGOD, or if it finds that such waiver will allow the Project to achieve the density, affordability, mix of uses, and/or physical character allowable under Section 10.

10.4 Project Phasing. The PAA, as a condition of any Plan Approval, may allow a Project to be phased at the request of the Applicant, or it may require a Project to be phased for the purpose of coordinating its development with the construction of Planned Infrastructure Improvements (as that term is defined under 760 CMR 59.00), or to mitigate any extraordinary adverse Project impacts on nearby properties. For Projects that are approved and developed in phases, unless otherwise explicitly approved in writing by the Department in relation to the specific Project, the proportion of Affordable units in each phase shall be at least equal to the minimum percentage of Affordable Housing required under Section 10. 5.1.

10.5 Form of Decision. The PAA shall issue to the Applicant a copy of its decision containing the name and address of the owner, identifying the land affected, and the plans that were the subject of the decision, and certifying that a copy of the decision has been filed with the Town Clerk and that all plans referred to in the decision are on file with the PAA. If twenty (20) days have elapsed after the decision has been filed in the office of the Town Clerk without an appeal having been filed or if such appeal, having been filed, is dismissed or denied, the Town Clerk shall so certify on a copy of the decision. If a plan is approved by reason of the failure of the PAA to timely act, the Town Clerk shall make such certification on a copy of the application. A copy of the decision or application bearing such certification shall be recorded in the registry of deeds for the county and district in which the land is located and indexed in the grantor index under the name of the owner of record or recorded and noted on the owner's certificate of title. The fee for recording or registering shall be paid by the Applicant.

10.6 Validity of Decision. A Plan Approval shall remain valid and shall run with the land indefinitely, provided that construction has commenced within two years after the decision is issued, which time shall be extended by the time required to adjudicate any appeal from such approval and which time shall also be extended if the Project proponent is actively pursuing other required permits for the Project or there is other good cause for the failure to commence construction, or as may be provided in a Plan Approval for a multi-phase Project.

11. CHANGE IN PLANS AFTER APPROVAL BY PAA

11.1 Minor Change. After Plan Approval, an Applicant may apply to make minor changes in a Project involving minor utility or building orientation adjustments, or minor adjustments to parking or other site details that do not affect the overall buildout or building envelope of the site, or provision of open space, number of housing units, or housing need or affordability features. Such minor changes must be submitted to the PAA on redlined prints of the approved plan, reflecting the proposed change, and on application forms provided by the PAA. The PAA may authorize such changes at any regularly scheduled meeting, without the need to hold a public hearing. The PAA shall set forth any decision to approve or deny such minor change by motion and written decision and provide a copy to the Applicant for filing with the Town Clerk.

11.2 Major Change. Those changes deemed by the PAA to constitute a major change in a Project because of the nature of the change in relation to the prior approved plan, or because such change cannot be appropriately characterized as a minor change as described above, shall be processed by the PAA as a new application for Plan Approval pursuant to Sections 10. 8.0 - through 10. 12.0.

12. DESIGN STANDARDS - GENERAL

12.1. Design Standards. The Plan Approval Authority may adopt, by simple majority vote,

Design Standards which shall be applicable to Development Projects subject to Plan Approval by the Plan Approval Authority. Such Design Standards must be objective and not subjective and may only address the scale and proportions of buildings, the alignment, width, and grade of streets and sidewalks, the type and location of infrastructure, the location of building and garage entrances, off street parking, the protection of significant natural site features, the location and design of on-site open spaces, exterior signs, and buffering in relation to adjacent properties. DHCD may, at its discretion, may require Design Standards to contain graphics illustrating a particular standard or definition in order to make such standard or definition clear and understandable.

12.2. DHCD Approval. After adopting Design Standards, the PAA shall submit Design Standards to DHCD for approval. Design Standards shall not take effect until approved by DHCD and filed with the Town Clerk. In submitting proposed Design Standard for DHCD approval, the PAA shall also submit sufficient documentation clearly showing that the proposed Design Standards will not add unreasonable costs to Development Projects or unreasonably impair the economic feasibility of a Development Project. A letter from a developer, property owner or other interested party indicating that the Design Standards will not add unreasonable costs or unreasonably impair (as such term is defined under 760 CMR 59.02) the economic feasibility of a Development Project shall not constitute sufficient documentation. At its discretion, DHCD may disapprove Design Standards if it finds that the PAA has not adopted objective Design Standards or has not submitted such documentation.

12.3. Plan Approval. An application for Plan Approval that has been submitted to the Town Clerk pursuant to this Section 10 shall not be subject to Design Standards that have not been approved by DHCD and filed with the Town Clerk.

13. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of Section 10 is found to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of Section 10 shall not be affected but shall remain in full force. The invalidity of any provision of Section 10 shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the Montague Zoning Bylaws.

ARTICLE 33: That the Town vote in accordance with MGL c. 40, § 15A to transfer from the board or commission having the care, custody, and control of a parcel of land containing 2.27 acres of land, more or less, located at 11 Power Street and identified as Assessors' Parcel ID 03-0-027 further described in a deed recorded with the Franklin Registry of Deeds in Book 6418, Page 65, and referenced in a judgement in a tax lien case recorded with said Registry in Book 7959, Page 332 and shown on a plan recorded with said Registry in Plan Book 133, Page 21 to the Selectboard for the purposes of economic development or the development of low or moderate income housing; and further, that the Selectboard be authorized to sell, lease, transfer or convey any portion or all of the aforesaid property upon such terms and conditions and for such amounts as the Selectboard shall deem fit, subject to the approval of the Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation, and further that the Selectboard be authorized to execute any and all instruments, including deeds, leases or other agreements and take all other actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the vote taken hereunder, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Planning Department Request)

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to transfer care, custody and control of a parcel of land containing 0.65 acres of land, more or less, located on First Street and identified as Assessors' Parcel ID 04-0-0031, from the Selectboard for general municipal purposes to the

Selectboard for general municipal purposes or for developing low or moderate income housing and to authorize the Selectboard to sell or lease, transfer or convey all or any portion of such land for such sum and upon such conditions determined by the Selectboard to be in the best interests of the Town, pursuant to G.L. c. 30B, and to authorize the Selectboard to execute any and all instruments, including deeds, leases or other agreements and take all other actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the vote taken hereunder, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Planning Department Request)

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town's General Bylaws to add a new Bylaw, to be titled "Demolition Delay", as shown below, and to authorize the Town Clerk to assign such numbering as is appropriate to bring said bylaw into conformance with the existing codification, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Montague Demolition Delay Bylaw

§ 1 Purpose.

The purpose of this Bylaw is to preserve and protect, through advance notice of their proposed demolition, Significant Buildings within the Town of Montague which constitute or reflect distinctive features of the architectural, cultural, political, economic, or social history of the Town, to encourage owners of Preferably Preserved Significant Buildings to seek out persons who might be willing to purchase and to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore such buildings rather than demolish them, to alert residents of the Town to impending demolitions of Significant Buildings, and by furthering these purposes to promote the public welfare, to preserve the resources of the Town, and to make the Town a more attractive and desirable place to live. To achieve these purposes, the Montague Historical Commission is empowered to advise the Montague Inspector of Buildings with respect to the issuance of permits involving demolition, and the issuance of demolition permits for Significant Buildings is regulated as provided in this Bylaw.

§ 2 Definitions.

As used in this Bylaw, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

APPLICATION

An application for a permit involving the demolition of a Significant Building. Every application shall include the address of the building to be demolished, the owner's name, address and telephone number, photographs of all sides of the building visible from a public way taken within the past year, plans, a narrative description of the building and justification of the proposed demolition, and a brief description of the proposed reuse, reconstruction, or replacement.

BUILDING

Any combination of materials capable of providing shelter for persons, animals, or property.

COMMISSION

The Montague Historical Commission.

DEMOLITION

Any act of pulling down, destroying, removing, or razing a structure or significant portion thereof, or commencing the work of total or substantial destruction with the intent of completing the same. Significant portion is defined as twenty-five percent (25%) of the volume of the building or

structure, or twenty-five percent (25%) of the roof structure. For purposes of this Bylaw, the term "demolition" shall not include the ordinary maintenance or repair of any building or structure, interior renovations, or removal or demolition of any ancillary portion of a structure such as porches, decks, or windows, provided that in the instance of demolition of said ancillary portions for the purpose of repair or replacement, said repair or replacement shall be done using like-kind or better materials.

DEMOLITION PERMIT

A permit issued by the Inspector of Buildings under the State Building Code for the demolition of a building or structure.

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

The administrative chief of the building department in a municipality who is charged with the administration and enforcement of 780 CMR, the Massachusetts State Building Code.

SIGNIFICANT BUILDING

- A.** Any building or structure individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places or is the subject of a pending application for listing on said National Register; or
- B.** Any building or structure evaluated by Massachusetts Historical Commission to be a contributing building within a National Register or State Register District; or
- C.** Any building or structure which has been certified by the Massachusetts Historical Commission to meet eligibility requirements for individual listing on the National Register of Historical Buildings; or
- D.** Any Building or structure constructed, or a portion of which was constructed, over 100 years ago that contributes to the historical or architectural heritage or resources of the Town.

§ 3 Preferably Preserved Significant Buildings.

A. A Preferably Preserved Significant Building is any Significant Building which the Montague Historical Commission determines, pursuant to the procedure detailed in § 4, is in the public interest to be preserved or rehabilitated rather than to be demolished. A Preferably Preserved Significant Building is subject to the one-year delay period of this Bylaw.

B. The Montague Historical Commission may determine that a building or structure be designated as a Preferably Preserved Significant Building if it meets one or more of the following criteria:

(1) It is listed on, or is within an area listed on, the National Register of Historic Places, or is the subject of a pending application for listing on said National Register; or

(2) The Montague Historical Commission determines that the structure meets one or more of the following three criteria:

(a) Historical importance. The structure meets the criteria of historical importance if it:

[1] Has character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the Town of Montague, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or the nation; or
[2] Is the site of an historic event; or
[3] Is identified with a person or group of persons who had some influence on society; or
[4] Exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social, or historic heritage of the community.

(b) Architectural importance. The structure meets the criteria of architectural importance if it:

[1] Portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style; or
[2] Embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type; or
[3] Is the work of an architect, master builder or craftsman whose individual work has influenced the development of the Town; or
[4] Contains elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation.

(c) Geographic importance. The structure meets the criteria of geographic importance if:

[1] The site is part of, or related to, a square, park, or other distinctive area; or
[2] The structure, as to its unique location or its physical characteristics, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, or the community as a whole.

§ 4 Procedure.

A. No permit for the demolition of any building or structure shall be issued other than in conformity with this Bylaw. The Inspector of Buildings, on the day of receipt of an application for demolition of a Significant Building or within seven days, shall cause a copy of each such permit application to be forwarded to the Montague Historical Commission. At such time, the applicant will be notified that their permit application has been submitted to the Montague Historical Commission. No demolition permit shall be issued at that time, unless the Inspector of Buildings deems the building is in need of emergency demolition and the emergency demolition provisions of this Bylaw have been met.

B. The Montague Historical Commission shall hold a public hearing within 45 days of receiving a copy of such application and shall give public notice thereof by publishing notice of the time, place, and purpose of the hearing in a local newspaper at least 14 days before said hearing. The Montague Historical Commission shall mail a copy of said notice to the applicant and shall, at least seven days prior to said hearing, notify the Selectboard, Town Administrator, Inspector of Buildings, Planning Department, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and such other persons as the Montague Historical Commission shall deem entitled to notice. The applicant shall notify all abutting

landowners as they appear on the most recent local tax list no later than seven days prior to said hearing.

- C.** If, after such hearing, the Montague Historical Commission determines that the demolition of the Significant Building would not be detrimental to the historical or architectural heritage or resources of the Town, the Montague Historical Commission shall so notify the Inspector of Buildings and Selectboard within seven days of such determination. Upon receipt of such notification, or after the expiration of 21 days from the date of the close of the public hearing, if he or she has not received notification from the Montague Historical Commission, the Inspector of Buildings may, subject to the requirements of the State Building Code and any other applicable laws, rules, or regulations, issue the demolition permit.
- D.** If, after such hearing, the Montague Historical Commission determines that the demolition of the Significant Building would be detrimental to the historical or architectural heritage or resources of the Town, such building shall be considered a Preferably Preserved Significant Building. The Montague Historical Commission's determination remains in effect for one year from the date of decision. Upon a determination by the Montague Historical Commission that the Significant Building which is the subject of the application for a demolition permit is a Preferably Preserved Significant Building, the Montague Historical Commission shall, within seven days, so advise the applicant by registered mail, and the Inspector of Buildings, and no demolition permit may be issued until at least one year after the date of designation as a Preferably Preserved Significant Building. The applicant shall, upon notice of said designation, secure the building or site against vandalism, fire or other destruction and post a copy of said designation on the building in a place visible from the nearest public way. The applicant shall give reasonable access to the building or site to the Montague Historical Commission.
- E.** Notwithstanding the preceding section, the Inspector of Buildings may issue a demolition permit for a Preferably Preserved Significant Building at any time after receipt of written advice from the Montague Historical Commission to the effect that either:

 - (1)** The Montague Historical Commission is satisfied that there is no reasonable likelihood that either the owner or some other person or group is willing to purchase, preserve, rehabilitate, or restore such building; or
 - (2)** The Montague Historical Commission is satisfied that reasonable efforts have been made to identify a purchaser to preserve, rehabilitate or restore the subject building, and that such efforts have been unsuccessful.

§ 5 Emergency demolition.

Nothing in this Bylaw shall be construed to derogate in any way from the authority of the Inspector of Buildings derived from Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 143.

- A.** If a building poses an immediate threat to public health or safety due to its deteriorated condition, the owner of such building or structure may request issuance of an emergency demolition permit from the Inspector of Buildings.
- B.** Upon receipt of any application for an emergency demolition permit, the Inspector of

Buildings shall within five days transmit a copy thereof to the Montague Historical Commission.

- C.** As soon as is practicable, but within 14 days after receipt of such an application, and regardless as to whether a copy of the emergency demolition permit has been transmitted to the Montague Historical Commission, the Inspector of Buildings shall inspect the building with an inspection team consisting of the Inspector of Buildings, Fire Chief, Montague Historical Commission Chair, or the designees of said officials.
- D.** Within five days after inspection of the building and after consultation with other members of the inspection team, the Inspector of Buildings shall determine:

 - (1)** Whether the condition of the building or structure represents a serious and imminent threat to public health and safety; and
 - (2)** Whether there is any reasonable alternative to the immediate demolition of the building which would protect public health and safety.
- E.** If the Inspector of Buildings finds 1) that the condition of the building or structure poses a serious and imminent threat to public health and safety, and 2) that there is no reasonable alternative to the immediate demolition of the building or structure which would protect public health and safety, then the Inspector of Buildings may issue an emergency demolition permit to the owner of the building.
- F.** If the Inspector of Buildings finds 1) that the condition of the building does not pose a serious and imminent threat to public health and safety, and/or 2) that there are reasonable alternatives to the immediate demolition of the building which would protect public health and safety, then the Inspector of Buildings may refuse to issue an emergency demolition permit to the owner of the building or structure.
- G.** Upon issuing an emergency demolition permit under the provisions of this section, the Inspector of Buildings shall submit a brief written report to the Montague Historical Commission describing the condition of the building and the basis for his/her decision to issue an emergency demolition permit. Nothing in this section shall be inconsistent with the procedure for the demolition and/or securing of buildings and structures established by G.L. c. 143, §§ 6 through 10.

§ 6 Enforcement and remedies.

The Inspector of Buildings is specifically authorized to institute any and all actions and proceedings, in law or equity, as he/she may deem necessary and appropriate to obtain compliance with the provisions of this Bylaw or to prevent a threatened violation thereof.

- A.** No permit for erection of a new structure on the site of an existing Preferably Preserved Significant Building may be issued prior to issuance of a permit for demolition of such existing building.
- B.** No permit for erection of a new building, paving of drives or for parking shall be issued for one year from the commencement of such work if a structure is demolished in violation of this Bylaw. The Commission may suspend this moratorium if it determines that earlier reconstruction, restoration, or other remediation of any demolition in violation of this Bylaw better serves the intent and purpose of this Bylaw.

C. Any owner of a building and/or structure subject to this Bylaw who knowingly acts to demolish said building and/or structure, or damage a portion of a building or structure in a way which increases its likelihood of total failure, without first obtaining a building permit for demolition in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw, or who likewise by some causative action contributes to the deterioration of said building or structure during the demolition review period, shall be in violation of this Bylaw and subject to enforcement by a noncriminal complaint pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 21D, as amended.

D. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 30 of the Town of Montague Bylaws, the fine for any such violation shall be \$300 for each offense. Each day the violation exists shall constitute a separate offense until the demolished building is rebuilt or recreated as directed by the Montague Historical Commission, or unless otherwise agreed to by the Montague Historical Commission.

§ 7 Historic Districts Act.

If any provision of this Bylaw conflicts with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40C, the Historic District Act, that Act shall prevail.

(Historical Commission Request)

ARTICLE 36:

FAIR SHARE AMENDMENT-MONTAGUE RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

WHEREAS, Massachusetts needed new investments in our transportation and public education systems even before the COVID-19 pandemic, and those investments are needed more than ever to lift our economy into an equitable and long-lasting recovery;

WHEREAS, the best way to help working families and rebuild a strong economy for us all is to make sure that we have quality public schools for our children, affordable public higher education, and a reliable transportation system; and

WHEREAS, Montague has numerous structurally deficient bridges and overdue road repair and replacement projects; and

WHEREAS, students need a well-rounded education and major investments in public education are needed to help students recover academically, socially, and emotionally from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, tuitions and fees at our public colleges are among the highest in the country, forcing students to take on enormous debt just to receive a degree; and

WHEREAS, new state revenue is necessary to rebuild crumbling roads and bridges, improve our public schools from Pre-K through college, expand access to vocational and technical training invest in reliable and decarbonized public transportation, make public higher education affordable again, and expand opportunities for healthy walking and bicycling; and

WHEREAS, wealth Massachusetts residents saw their investments grow during the pandemic while working families struggled, and Massachusetts' wealthiest residents should pay their fair share to support our communities and grow our economy; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature's Constitutional Convention voted 159-41 to place the Fair Share Amendment on the November 2022 statewide ballot;

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Montague Town Meeting Supports the proposed Fair Share Amendment that would create an additional tax of four percentage points on annual income above one million dollars and dedicate the funds raised by this tax to quality public education, affordable public colleges and universities, and for the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges, and public transportation.

(Petitioned Article)

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof in some conspicuous place in each of the Post Offices, Libraries, Website, and Town Hall of the Town, at least fourteen days before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this document with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk fourteen days before said meeting.

Given under our hands this 11th day of April in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

_____ Matthew Lord

_____ Christopher M. Boutwell, Sr.

_____ Richard Kuklewicz,
Chairman
Selectboard, Town of Montague

Franklin, ss Montague, MA April ____, 2022

Pursuant to the within warrant, I have warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Montague by posting attested copies of the same in a conspicuous place in each of the Post Offices, Libraries, and the Town Hall of the Town of Montague at least seven days before said meeting as within directed.

_____ Constable of Montague

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MAY 7, 2022**

MOTIONS

ARTICLE 1. MOVED: That the Town vote to receive and act upon the reports of the Officers of the Town and to receive the report of any committees and act thereon.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 2. **MOVED:** That the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard, or other Town departments with the approval of the Selectboard, to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Government, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or any other source, and to expend the same for purposes received without further appropriation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 3. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend Section 7 of Article II of the Town of Montague General Bylaws, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, by amending the Airport Fuel Revolving Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2022, with the changes as shown in ~~strikeout~~ and **bold** below.

Section 7: Revolving Funds

(c) There are hereby established in the Town of Montague pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, the following revolving funds:

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Spending Authority</u>	<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Allowed Expenses</u>
Hazardous Materials Response Planning Committee (a.k.a. SARA Title III Committee)	SARA Title III Comm	Fees collected from individuals responsible for oil and hazardous material spills	For the purpose of cleaning up oil and hazardous material spills
Montague Tree Fund	Tree Warden	Fees received under the Public Tree Protection Bylaw	Tree planting and maintenance consistent with the Public Tree Protection Bylaw
Airport Fuel Revolving Fund	Airport Manager <u>Spending Authority</u>	Fees from sale of Airport aviation fuel <u>Revenue Source</u>	Purchase of Airport aviation fuel to be sold and used at the Airport, system maintenance, parts, and inspections <u>Allowed Expenses</u>

(d) Expenditures from each revolving fund shall be subject to the limitations established by Town Meeting, and to any additional limitations as otherwise set forth in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 4. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the Classification Plan to add the position of Assistant Town Administrator at Grade I, with such benefits as are awarded to other non-union management personnel.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE YES/39 NO/25

ARTICLE 5. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the Classification Plan to add the position of Selectboard Administrative Assistant at Grade B.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 6. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the Classification Plan to add the position

of WPCF Laboratory Manager at Grade D.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 7. MOVED: That the Town vote to fix the salaries of all elected officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, as set forth in Schedule I, Elected Officials.

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY22 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY23 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY23 RECOMMEND</u>
MODERATOR	370	370	370
SELECTBOARD			
Chairman	2,355	2,355	2,355
Second/Third Members	2,140	2,140	2,140
BOARD OF ASSESSOR			
Chairman	1,765	1,765	1,765
Second/Third Members	1,605	1,605	1,605

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY22 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY23 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY23 RECOMMEND</u>
TREASURER/COLLECTOR	71,396* *G-8	72,824** **G-9	72,824
TOWN CLERK	76,139 G-11	76,139	76,139
BOARD OF REGISTRARS			
Town Clerk	840	840	840
TREE WARDEN	1,575	1,575	1,575
BOARD OF HEALTH			
Chairman	1,765	1,765	1,765
Second/Third Members	1,605	1,605	1,605

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 8. MOVED: That the Town vote to fix the salaries of all appointed officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, as set forth in Schedule II, Appointed Officials.

**SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY22 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY23 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY23 RECOMMEND</u>
<u>ANNUAL STIPENDS</u>			
BOARD OF REGISTRARS (3)	525	525	525
EMERGENCY MGMT DIRECTOR	5,765	5,765	5,765
ANIMAL INSPECTOR	1,575	1,575	1,575
BARN INSPECTOR	1,050	1,050	1,050
IT COORDINATOR	2,100	2,100	2,100

**SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY22 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY23 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY23 RECOMMEND</u>
<u>ANNUAL STIPENDS</u>			
MEDIC COORDINATOR	4,000	4,000	4,000
POLICE IT ADMINISTRATOR	3,000	3,000	3,000
FOREST WARDEN	1,710	1,710	1,710
<u>RATES PER INSPECTION</u>			
ASST. BUILDING INSPECTOR	35.00	35.00	35.00
GAS INSPECTOR	35.00	35.00	35.00
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	35.00	35.00	35.00
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR	35.00	35.00	35.00
<u>HOURLY RATES</u>	<u>Ranges/hr.</u>	<u>Ranges/hr.</u>	<u>Ranges/hr.</u>
EXTRA CLERICAL	13.50-15.25	14.25-16.00	14.25-16.00
ELECTION WORKERS	13.50-16.25	14.25-17.00	14.25-17.00
SUMMER HIGHWAY	13.50-15.25	14.25-16.00	14.25-16.00
SNOW PLOW DRIVERS	15.00-25.00	15.00-25.00	15.00-25.00
PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS	17.00-21.00	25.00-28.00	25.00-28.00
PART TIME DISPATCHERS	17.00-21.00	22.00-25.00	22.00-25.00
PARKS & RECREATION	13.25-20.75	14.25-21.50	14.25-21.50
AIRPORT INTERN	13.50-15.20	14.25-16.00	14.25-16.00

Note: Minimum Wage is \$14.25/hr as of 1/1/22 and goes to \$15/hr 1/1/2023

SCHEDULE II

Appointed Officials

NON-UNION EMPLOYEES NOT SHOWN ABOVE

	Grade	Range FY2022		Range FY2023	
		Start	End	Start	End
<u>SALARIED</u>					
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	J	95,616	117,673	95,616	117,673
ASSISTANT TOWN ADMIN	I	86,924	106,976	86,924	106,976
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	G	62,170	76,139	62,170	76,139
CHIEF OF POLICE	I	86,924	106,976	86,924	106,976
DPW SUPERINTENDENT	H	79,022	97,250	79,022	97,250
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH	G	62,170	76,139	62,170	76,139
LIBRARY DIRECTOR	G	62,170	76,139	62,170	76,139
WPCF SUPERINTENDENT	H	79,022	97,250	79,022	97,250
<u>HOURLY</u>					
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	E	23.11	28.44	23.11	28.44
POLICE LIEUTENANT	G+8.5%	37.85	41.99	37.85	41.99
POLICE CUSTODIAN	A	15.49	19.06	15.49	19.06

Informational Only: Fiscal Year 2023 budgeted wages –

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	117,673	DPW SUPERINTENDENT	97,250
ASSISTANT TOWN ADMIN	86,924	DIRECTOR OF HEALTH	71,396
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	76,139	LIBRARY DIRECTOR	74,282
CHIEF OF POLICE*	125,239	WPCF SUPERINTENDENT	89,407
POLICE LIEUTENANT	41.99	POLICE CUSTODIAN	18.23
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	28.44		

*includes additional 20% educational incentive pay

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 9. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$11,176,944 for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule III, Budget, with \$13.20 to be raised from Transportation Infrastructure Fund Receipts Reserved for Appropriation and \$11,176,930.80 to be raised from Taxation.

**Schedule III
Town Operating Budget**

DEPT NO.	BUDGET FY22	REQUEST FY23	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY23
GENERAL GOVERNMENT			
113 TOWN MEETING	2,140	2,390	2,390
122 SELECTBOARD	194,729	313,510	313,510
131 FINANCE COMMITTEE	2,000	2,000	2,000

132	RESERVE FUND	60,000	50,000	50,000
135	TOWN ACCOUNTANT	83,400	88,600	88,600
141	ASSESSORS	179,761	187,261	187,261
145	TREASURER/COLLECTOR	228,963	215,888	215,888
151	TOWN COUNSEL	85,000	75,000	75,000
155	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	97,800	79,000	79,000
159	SHARED COSTS	77,579	78,079	78,079
161	TOWN CLERK	155,173	192,153	192,153
175	PLANNING	123,121	129,007	129,007
176	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	700	700	700
182	MEDIC	5,000	5,000	5,000
190	PUBLIC BLDG UTILITIES	109,846	112,782	112,782
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVT	1,405,212	1,531,370	1,531,370
	PUBLIC SAFETY			
211	POLICE	1,761,945	1,832,757	1,832,757
211	POLICE CRUISER	53,000	54,000	54,000
212	DISPATCH	310,291	372,901	372,901
241	BUILDING INSPECTOR	143,080	137,382	137,382
244	SEALER OF WEIGHTS	2,750	2,750	2,750
291	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	6,265	6,265	6,265
292	ANIMAL CONTROL	21,527	21,765	21,765
294	FOREST WARDEN	1,710	1,710	1,710
299	TREE WARDEN	30,285	30,285	30,285
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	2,330,853	2,459,815	2,459,815
	PUBLIC WORKS			

420	DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS	1,518,825	1,548,375	1,548,375
420	EQUIPMENT LEASE PAYMENT	21,321	-	-
423	SNOW & ICE	278,050	278,050	278,050
433	SOLID WASTE	624,796	655,985	655,985
480	CHARGING STATIONS	6,000	6,000	6,000

**Schedule III
Town Operating Budget**

DEPT NO.		BUDGET FY22	REQUEST FY23	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY23
491	CEMETERIES	13,440	13,440	13,440
	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	2,462,432	2,501,850	2,501,850
	HUMAN SERVICES			
511	BOARD OF HEALTH	160,324	163,987	163,987
541	COUNCIL ON AGING	46,521	55,340	55,340
543	VETERANS' SERVICES	87,800	76,500	76,500
	TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	294,645	295,827	295,827
	CULTURE & RECREATION			
610	LIBRARIES	437,744	452,485	452,485
630	PARKS & RECREATION	147,944	150,081	150,081
691	HISTORICAL COMMISSION	500	500	500
693	WAR MEMORIALS	1,300	1,300	1,300
	TOTAL CULTURE/RECREATION	587,488	604,366	604,366
	DEBT SERVICE			
700	DEBT SERVICE	1,066,809	1,162,189	1,162,189

INTERGOVERNMENTAL				
840	INTERGOVERNMENTAL	110,720	110,647	110,647
MISCELLANEOUS				
910	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	2,397,861	2,391,280	2,391,280
946	GENERAL INSURANCE	115,000	119,600	119,600
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS		2,512,861	2,510,880	2,510,880
TOTAL TOWN BUDGET		10,771,020	11,176,944	11,176,944
PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE				

ARTICLE 10. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,872,377 for the purpose of operating the Water Pollution Control Facility and associated pumping stations, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule IV, WPCF Budget, with \$266,439 to be raised from Taxation and \$2,605,938 to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

(Selectboard Request)

**Schedule IV
WPCF Budget**

DEPT NO.		BUDGET FY22	REQUEST FY23	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY23
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL				
440	Wages & Expenses	1,751,791	1,898,655	1,898,655
440	Capital Outlay		58,500	58,500
700	Debt Service	514,047	505,270	505,270
910	Employee Benefits	270,333	359,152	359,152
SUBTOTAL WPCF		2,536,171	2,821,577	2,821,577
DPW SUBSIDIARY				
	Wages & Expenses	42,800	42,800	42,800
	Capital Outlay	8,000	8,000	8,000
SUBTOTAL DPW SUBSIDIARY		50,800	50,800	50,800
TOTAL WPCF		2,586,971	2,872,377	2,872,377
PASSED/UNANIMOUS				

VOTE

ARTICLE 11. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$316,015 for the purpose of operating the Turners Falls Airport, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule V, Airport Budget, to be raised from Airport Revenue.

Schedule V				
Airport Budget				
DEPT NO.		BUDGET FY22	REQUEST FY23	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY23
	AIRPORT			
482	Wages & Expenses	156,483	181,794	181,794
700	Debt Service	37,789	101,120	101,120
910	Employee Benefits	11,892	33,101	33,101
	TOTAL AIRPORT	206,164	316,015	316,015

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 12. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$49,950 for the purpose of funding the operations, maintenance, and debt service of the Colle Building, said sum to be raised from Colle Receipts Reserved for Appropriation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 13. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,029,566 for the purpose of paying the Franklin County Technical School District for Montague’s share of the assessment for the yearly operation of the Franklin County Technical School, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 14. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$11,341,466 for the purpose of paying the Gill-Montague Regional School District for Montague’s share of the assessment for the yearly operation of the Gill-Montague Regional Schools, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 15. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of supplementing the Henry Waidlich Conservation Trust Fund, said sum to be raised from Free Cash. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 16. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$45,000 for the purpose of providing tuition and transportation for a Montague resident attending Smith Vocational School, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 17. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for the purpose of purchasing, equipping, and making major repairs to DPW vehicles and equipment, including all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 18. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$130,000 for the purpose of purchasing and installing a facility back-up generator for the Water Pollution Control Facility and all incidental installation costs to include but not be limited to the corresponding moving of transfer switches and fuel tank, said sum to be raised from the WPCF Capital Stabilization Fund.
PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 19. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$21,584 for the purpose of increasing the amount appropriated pursuant to Article #18C of the May 22, 2021, Annual Town Meeting, which provided funds for bid and project overruns, said sum to be raised from Taxation.
PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 20. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$415,000 for the following Town projects and all incidental and related costs, with \$190,000 to be raised from Free Cash and \$225,000 to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

- E. \$125,000 for Town Hall Roof (TCSF)
- F. \$60,000 for Shea Front/Lower Roof (Free Cash)
- G. \$130,000 for Carnegie Basement Renovation (Free Cash)
- H. \$100,000 for Montague Center Library Masonry Repair (TCSF)

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 21. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 4 at the March 3, 2022 Special Town Meeting, which appropriated the sum of \$125,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to pay the first year payment on a lease-purchase agreement for a new combination vacuum and sewer cleaner truck, also known as a vactor truck, and any equipment related thereto, by authorizing the Selectboard to use said appropriation toward the outright purchase of said vactor truck, with the remaining purchase price to be funded through the use of ARPA grant funds.
PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 22. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the following sums for the purpose of increasing the special purpose funds set forth below, said sums to be raised from Taxation.

Fund	Amount (\$)
Town Capital Stabilization Fund	131,200
OPEB Trust Fund	50,000
GMRSD Stabilization Fund	40,608
FCTS Stabilization Fund	124,356
Total:	346,164

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 23. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$173,800 for costs associated with the establishment and operation of a marijuana establishment known as 253 Farmacy, said sums to be raised from the Cannabis Impact Fee Stabilization Fund.

- C. \$86,900 for contracted services of a licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor and related curriculum material expenses for the Gill-Montague Regional School District; and
- D. \$86,900 for contracted services of a licensed alcohol and drug abuse counselor and related curriculum material expenses for the Franklin County Technical School

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 24. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the purpose of providing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math afterschool enrichment programs, said sum to be raised from the Cannabis Impact Fee Stabilization Fund.

PASSED/TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 25. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the purpose of developing a Feasibility Assessment and Preliminary Design for roadway safety improvements to the intersection of Millers Falls Road and Industrial Boulevard, said sum to be raised from the Cannabis Impact Fee Stabilization Fund.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 26. MOVED: That the Town vote, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B, to establish a special purpose stabilization fund to be known as the “Canal District Utility Improvement Fund”, for the purpose of funding installations, repairs, and upgrades of utility services for the Canal District of the Town, and anything incidental or related thereto; and further to accept the provisions of the fourth paragraph of said Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 5B, to allow one hundred percent (100%) of the funds received pursuant to the Town’s August 9, 2021 Agreement with FirstLight MA Hydro, LLC to be dedicated to said Fund, without further appropriation, to be effective for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2022.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 27. MOVED: That the Town vote to rescind the unused \$286,081.30 borrowing authority as voted pursuant to Article #8 of the February 25, 2021, Special Town Meeting, which appropriated \$1,450,000 for the purpose of acquiring three properties for airport and aviation purposes.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 28. MOVED: That the Town vote to rescind the unused \$1,305,011.05 borrowing authority as voted pursuant to Article #1 of the March 29, 2018, Special Town Meeting, which appropriated \$11,146,762 for the purpose of building and equipping a new DPW Facility.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 29. MOVED: That the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to petition the General Court for one (1) additional on premises all alcoholic beverages license to be exercised and located at 196 Turners Falls Road in the Montague Center village of the Town, said license not to be transferred to any other location; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Selectboard approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court which are within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

The petition for special legislation shall take the following form:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE TO GRANT ONE ADDITIONAL LIQUOR

LICENSE FOR THE SALE OF ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES TO BE DRUNK ON THE PREMISES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding section 17 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, the licensing authority of the town of Montague may grant one (1) additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises pursuant to section 12 of said chapter 138 to El Nopalito Restaurant, located at 196 Turners Falls Road, in the town of Montague. The license shall be subject to all of said chapter 138 except said section 17.

(b) The licensing authority of the town of Montague shall not approve the transfer of the license granted pursuant to this act to any other location, but it may grant the license to a new applicant at the same location if the applicant files with the licensing authority a letter from the department of revenue and a letter from the department of unemployment assistance indicating that the license is in good standing with those departments and that all applicable taxes, fees and contributions have been paid.

(c) If the license granted pursuant to this act is cancelled, revoked or no longer in use, it shall be returned physically, with all of the legal rights, privileges and restrictions pertaining thereto, to the licensing authority, which may then grant the license to a new applicant at the same location under the same conditions as specified in this act.

(d) The license granted pursuant to this act shall be issued not later than 2 years after the effective date of this act; provided however, that if the license is originally granted within that time period, it may be granted to a new applicant pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) anytime thereafter.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 30. MOVED: That the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to petition the General Court for special legislation providing that all of the positions in the Police Department after passage of the Act not be subject to the Civil Service statute, all as set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Selectboard approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court which are within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, and to authorize the Selectboard to approve such amendments.

AN ACT EXEMPTING ALL POSITIONS IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE FROM THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all positions in the police department of the town of Montague shall be exempt from chapter 31 of the General Laws.

SECTION 2. This act shall not impair the civil service status of a person holding a position described in section 1 on the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2, no appointments or promotions made after the effective date of this act will be governed in any way by chapter 31 of the General Laws.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 31. MOVED: That the Town vote to adopt the 2022 Update to the Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation’s Economic Development Plan developed in accordance with Mass General Laws Chapter 121 C, as shown in the hand-out titled “2022 Update to the Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation’s Economic Development Plan”.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 32. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the Town’s Zoning Bylaws, in accordance with Chapter 40R of the Massachusetts General Laws, to add a new Section 10, to be titled “Smart Growth Overlay Districts (SGODs), as shown below.

SECTION 10: SMART GROWTH OVERLAY DISTRICTS (SGODs)

1. PURPOSE

The purposes of this Section are:

1. To establish Smart Growth Overlay Districts (SGODs) to encourage smart growth in accordance with the purposes of G. L. Chapter 40R;
2. To encourage the revitalization of underutilized properties to benefit the general health and welfare of our residents and the region;
3. To encourage the creation of new multifamily and residential developments in appropriate locations at appropriate densities; and,
4. To maintain or increase the supply of affordable dwelling units;
5. To maintain a consistently high level of design quality.

2. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Section the following definitions shall apply. All capitalized terms shall be defined in accordance with the definitions established under the Governing Laws or Section 2.0, or as set forth in the PAA Regulations. With respect to their application to Section 10, to the extent that there is any conflict between the definitions or terms set forth in, or otherwise regulated by, the Governing Laws and those defined or used in Section 10, inclusive of any applicable Design Standards, PAA Regulations, or any other applicable associated local zoning requirement (e.g., zoning requirement contained in another section of the Zoning Bylaw that is nonetheless incorporated by reference), the terms of the Governing Laws shall govern.

Affordable Homeownership Unit - an Affordable Housing unit required to be sold to an Eligible Household.

Affordable Housing - housing that is affordable to and occupied by Eligible Households.

Affordable Housing Restriction - a deed restriction of Affordable Housing meeting the statutory requirements in G.L. Chapter 184, Section 31 and the requirements of Section 5.5 of this Bylaw.

Affordable Rental Unit - an Affordable Housing unit required to be rented to an Eligible Household.

Applicant – the individual or entity that submits a Project application for Plan Approval.

As-of-right - a use allowed under Section 10.4.0 without recourse to a special permit, variance, zoning amendment, or other form of zoning relief. A Project that requires Plan Approval by the PAA pursuant to Sections 10. 8.0 through 10. 12.0 shall be considered an as-of-right Project, subject to review and approval by DHCD of any Municipal 40R regulations, guidelines, application forms, or other requirements applicable to review of Projects by the Plan Approval Authority under the 40R Zoning and 760 CMR 59.00.

Department or DHCD - the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, or any successor agency.

Design Standards – provisions of Section 12 made applicable to Projects within the SGOD that are subject to the Plan Approval process.

Eligible Household - an individual or household whose annual income is less than or equal to 80 percent of the area-wide median income as determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), adjusted for household size, with income computed using HUD's rules for attribution of income to assets.

Governing Laws - G.L. Chapter 40R and 760 CMR 59.00.

Mixed-Use Development Project – a Project containing a mix of residential uses and non-residential uses, as allowed in Section 10. 4.2, and subject to all applicable provisions of Section 10.

Monitoring Agent or Administering Agent – the PAA or a qualified housing entity designated by the PAA, pursuant to Section 10. 5.2, to review and implement the Affordability requirements affecting Projects under Section 10. 5.0.

PAA Regulations – the rules and regulations of the PAA adopted pursuant to Section 10. 8.3.

Plan Approval Authority (PAA) - The local approval authority authorized under Section 10. 8.2 to conduct the Plan Approval process for purposes of reviewing Project applications and issuing Plan Approval decisions within the SGOD.

Project - a Residential Project or Mixed-use Development Project undertaken within the SGOD in accordance with the requirements of Section 10.

Residential Project - a Project that consists solely of residential and any allowed or required parking and/or accessory uses, as further defined in Section 4.1.

SGOD – A Smart Growth Overlay District established in accordance with Section 10 and as

shown on the Smart Growth Overlay District Map referenced in Section 3 herein and as shown of the Town's Zoning Map.

Zoning Bylaw - the Zoning Bylaw of the Town of Montague.

3. Applicability of SGODs – SCOPE AND AUTHORITY

3.1 Establishment. The Smart Growth Overlay District, herein referred to as the “SGOD,” is an overlay district having a land area of approximately 4 acres in size that is superimposed over the underlying zoning district(s) and is shown on the Zoning Map as set forth on the map entitled “Smart Growth Overlay District, dated ____, prepared by ____.” This map is hereby made a part of the Zoning Bylaw and is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

3.2 Subdistricts. The SGOD contains the following Sub-Districts:
Sub-District A: Griswold Mill comprising approximately 3.02 acres and;
Sub-District B: First Street comprising approximately 1.16 acres.

3.3 Applicability of SGODs. An applicant may seek development of a Project located within the SGOD in accordance with the provisions of the Governing Laws and Section 10, including a request for Plan Approval by the PAA. In such case, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Zoning Bylaw, such application shall not be subject to any other provisions of the Zoning Bylaw, including limitations upon the issuance of building permits for residential uses related to a rate of development or phased growth limitation or to a local moratorium on the issuance of such permits, or to other building permit or dwelling unit limitations. To the extent that there is any conflict between the Governing Laws and Section 10, inclusive of the Design Standards, the PAA Regulations, and any otherwise applicable associated local zoning requirement (e.g., zoning requirement contained in another section of the Zoning Bylaw that is nonetheless incorporated by reference), the Governing Laws shall govern.

3.4 Underlying Zoning. The SGOD is an overlay district superimposed on all underlying zoning districts. The regulations for use, dimension, and all other provisions of the Zoning Bylaw governing the underlying zoning district(s) shall remain in full force, except for those Projects undergoing development pursuant to Section 10. Within the boundaries of the SGOD, an Applicant may elect either to develop a Project in accordance with the requirements of the SGOD, or to develop a project in accordance with requirements of the regulations for use, dimension, and all other provisions of the Zoning Bylaw governing the underlying zoning district(s).

3.5 Administration, Enforcement, and Appeals. The provisions of Section 10 shall be administered by the Building Inspector, except as otherwise provided herein. Any legal appeal arising out of a Plan Approval decision by the PAA under Sections 8 through 12 shall be governed by the applicable provisions of G. L. Chapter 40R. Any other request for enforcement or appeal arising under this Section shall be governed by the applicable provisions of G. L. Chapter 40A.

4. PERMITTED USES - GENERAL

The following uses are permitted As-of-Right for Projects within SGODs unless otherwise specified under the corresponding section of the District-specific requirements.

4.1 Sub-District A (Griswold Mill). The following uses are allowed:

- a) Multifamily residential uses
- b) Mixed-use Projects, incorporating multifamily residential uses and any of the following non-residential uses, where the minimum gross floor area devoted to residential uses shall be 51% of the gross floor area of the Project:
 - Offices, including medical offices.
 - Retail stores, including banks, but excluding wholesale establishments and establishments with drive-through windows.
 - General service establishments and personal service establishments, including daycares.
 - Bakeries and artisan food or beverage producers.
 - Restaurants and cafes, indoor or outdoor.
 - Hotels.
 - Community, education, or recreational uses, including museums, parks, playgrounds, health clubs and gym/fitness centers.
 - Municipal facilities.
 - Craft workshops or light assembly shops.
- c) Accessory uses, including home occupations, and parking accessory to any of the above permitted uses

4.2 Sub-District B (First Street). The following uses are allowed:

- a. Single-family, two-family, three-family, or multifamily residential uses, any of which may include live/work units.
- b. Mixed-use Projects, incorporating multifamily residential uses and any of the following non-residential uses, where the minimum gross floor area devoted to residential uses shall be 51% of the gross floor area of the Project:
 - Offices, including medical offices and co-working facilities
 - Retail stores, including banks, but excluding wholesale establishments and establishments with drive-through windows.
 - General service establishments and personal service establishments.
 - Bakeries and artisan food or beverage producers.
 - Restaurants and cafes, indoor or outdoor.
 - Hotels
- c) Accessory uses, including home occupations, and parking accessory to any of the above permitted uses.

5. Housing and Housing Affordability

5.1 Number of Affordable Housing Units. For all Projects, not less than twenty percent (25%) of housing units constructed shall be Affordable Housing. For purposes of calculating the number of units of Affordable Housing required within a Project, any fractional unit of .5 or greater shall be deemed to constitute a whole unit.

5.2 Monitoring Agent. A Monitoring Agent which may be the PAA or other qualified housing entity shall be designated by the PAA. In a case where the Monitoring Agent cannot adequately carry out its administrative duties, upon certification of this fact by the designating official or by DHCD such duties shall devolve to and thereafter be administered by a qualified housing entity designated by the designating official. In any event, such Monitoring Agent shall ensure the following, both prior to issuance of a Building Permit for a Project within the SGOD,

and on a continuing basis thereafter, as the case may be:

1. prices of Affordable Homeownership Units are properly computed; rental amounts of Affordable Rental Units are properly computed;
2. income eligibility of households applying for Affordable Housing is properly and reliably determined;
3. the housing marketing and resident selection plan conform to all requirements, have been approved by DHCD specifically with regard to conformance with M.G.L. c.40R and 760 CMR 59.00, and are properly administered;
4. sales and rentals are made to Eligible Households chosen in accordance with the housing marketing and resident selection plan with appropriate unit size for each household being properly determined and proper preference being given; and
5. Affordable Housing Restrictions meeting the requirements of this section are approved by DHCD specifically with regard to conformance with M.G.L. c.40R and 760 CMR. 59.00, recorded with the proper registry of deeds.

5.3 Submission Requirements. As part of any application for Plan Approval for a Project within the SGOD submitted under Sections 10, the Applicant must submit the following documents to the PAA and the Monitoring Agent:

- 1) evidence that the Project complies with the cost and eligibility requirements of Section 10. 5.4:
- 2) Project plans that demonstrate compliance with the requirements of Section 10. 5.5; and
- 3) a form of Affordable Housing Restriction that satisfies the requirements of Section 10. 5.6.

These documents in combination, to be submitted with an application for Plan Approval, shall include details about construction related to the provision, within the development, of units that are accessible to the disabled and appropriate for diverse populations, including households with children, other households, individuals, households including individuals with disabilities, and the elderly.

5.4 Cost and Eligibility Requirements. Affordable Housing shall comply with the following requirements:

1. Affordable Housing required to be offered for rent or sale shall be rented or sold to and occupied only by Eligible Households.
2. For an Affordable Rental Unit, the monthly rent payment, including applicable utility allowances, shall not exceed 30 percent of the maximum monthly income permissible for an Eligible Household, assuming a family size equal to the number of bedrooms in the unit plus one, unless another affordable housing program methodology for calculating rent limits, as approved by DHCD, applies.
3. For an Affordable Homeownership Unit the monthly housing payment, including mortgage principal and interest, private mortgage insurance, property taxes, condominium and/or homeowner's association fees, and insurance, shall not exceed 30 percent of the maximum monthly income permissible for an Eligible Household, assuming a family size equal to the number of bedrooms in the unit plus one, unless another affordable housing program methodology for calculating rent limits, as approved by DHCD, applies.

Prior to the granting of any Building Permit for a Project, the Applicant must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Monitoring Agent, that the method by which such affordable rents or affordable purchase prices are computed shall be consistent with state or federal guidelines for affordability applicable to Montague.

5.5 Design and Construction. Units of Affordable Housing shall be finished housing units. With respect to the minimum required number for a given Project, units of Affordable Housing shall be equitably integrated and proportionately dispersed throughout the residential portion of the Project of which they are part, across all residential buildings, floors, distinct unit types, and with respect to the gross floor area devoted to residential units, in accordance with the affordable housing restriction and marketing and tenant selection plan approved by DHCD and be comparable in initial construction quality, size, amenities, and exterior design to the other housing units in the Project. Unless expressly required otherwise under one or more applicable state or federal housing subsidy programs, the bedroom-per-unit average for the Affordable Housing must be equal to or greater than the bedroom-per-unit average for the unrestricted/market-rate units.

5.6 Affordable Housing Restriction. Each Project shall be subject to an Affordable Housing Restriction which is approved by DHCD pursuant to the Governing Laws and recorded with the appropriate registry of deeds or district registry of the Land Court and which contains the following:

1. specification of the term of the Affordable Housing Restriction which shall be stipulated in the Plan Approval decision but in no case be less than thirty years;
2. the name and address of the Monitoring Agent with a designation of its power to monitor and enforce the Affordable Housing Restriction;
3. a description of the Affordable Homeownership Unit(s), by address and number of bedrooms in a Project or portion of a Project which is homeownership; and a description of the overall quantity, initial unit designations and number of bedrooms and number of bedroom types of the Affordable Rental Unit(s) in a Project or portion of a Project which is rental. Such restriction shall apply individually to the specifically identified Affordable Homeownership Unit and shall apply to a percentage of rental units of a rental Project or the rental portion of a Project with the initially designated Affordable Rental Units identified in, and able to float subject to specific approval by DHCD in accordance with, the corresponding Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan (AFHMP) and DHCD's AFHMP guidelines.
4. reference to an affirmative fair housing marketing and resident selection plan, to which the Affordable Housing is subject, and which includes an affirmative fair housing marketing program, including public notice and a fair resident selection process. Such plan shall be consistent with DHCD guidance and approved by DHCD. Consistent with DHCD guidance, such plan shall include a preference based on need for the number of bedrooms in a unit and a preference based on need for the accessibility features of a unit where applicable, and may only provide for additional preferences in resident selection to the extent such preferences are also consistent with applicable law and approved by DHCD.
5. a requirement that buyers or tenants will be selected at the initial sale or initial rental and upon all subsequent sales and rentals from a list of Eligible Households compiled in accordance with the housing marketing and selection plan;
6. reference to the formula pursuant to which rent of an Affordable Rental Unit or the maximum resale price of an Affordable Homeownership Unit will be set;
7. a requirement that only an Eligible Household may reside in Affordable Housing and that notice of any lease of any Affordable Rental Unit shall be given to the Monitoring Agent;

8. provision for effective monitoring and enforcement of the terms and provisions of the Affordable Housing Restriction by the Monitoring Agent;
9. provision that the AHR on an Affordable Homeownership Unit shall run in favor of the Monitoring Agent and/or the municipality, in a form approved by municipal counsel, and shall limit initial sale and re-sale to and occupancy by an Eligible Household;
10. provision that the AHR on Affordable Rental Units in a rental Project or rental portion of a Project shall run with the rental Project or rental portion of a Project and shall run in favor of the Monitoring Agent and/or the municipality, in a form approved by municipal counsel, and shall limit rental and occupancy to an Eligible Household;
11. provision that the owner[s] or manager[s] of Affordable Rental Unit[s] shall file an annual report to the Monitoring Agent, in a form specified by that agent certifying compliance with the Affordability provisions of this Bylaw and containing such other information as may be reasonably requested in order to ensure affordability; and
12. a requirement that residents in Affordable Housing provide such information as the Monitoring Agent may reasonably request in order to ensure affordability.

5.7 Costs of Housing Marketing and Selection Plan. The housing marketing and selection plan or any associated Monitoring Services Agreement may make provision for payment by the Project applicant of reasonable costs to the Monitoring Agent to develop, advertise, and maintain the list of Eligible Households and to monitor and enforce compliance with affordability requirements.

5.8 Age Restrictions. Nothing in Section 10 shall permit the imposition of restrictions on age upon Projects unless proposed or agreed to voluntarily by the Applicant. However, the PAA may, in its review of a submission under Section 10. 5.3, allow a specific Project within the SGOD designated exclusively for the elderly, persons with disabilities, or for assisted living, provided that any such Project shall be in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local fair housing laws and regulations and not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the housing units in such a restricted Project shall be restricted as Affordable Housing units.

5.9 Phasing. For any Project that is approved and developed in phases in accordance with Section 10. 8.4, the percentage of Affordable units in each phase shall be at least equal to the minimum percentage of Affordable Housing required under Section 10. 5.1. Where the percentage of Affordable Housing is not uniform across all phases, the unit dispersal and bedroom proportionality requirements under Section 10. 5.5 shall be applied proportionately to the Affordable Housing provided for in each respective phase.

5.10 No Waiver. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the Affordability provisions in Section 10. 5.0 shall not be waived.

6. Dimensional and Density Requirements - GENERAL

6.1 Residential Density. Multifamily Residential (four or more dwelling units) and Mixed Use Development Projects in a SGOD, and in any Sub-District, may be developed as-of-right at a minimum density of 20 dwelling units per acre of Developable Land. Two-family and three-family residential Projects may be developed as-of-right in Sub-District B at a minimum density of 12 dwelling units per acre of Developable Land. Single-family residential use Projects may be developed as-of-right in Sub-District B at a minimum density of 8 dwelling units per acre of Developable Land.

6.2 Lot Area, Frontage, and Yard Setbacks

Each Project shall have:

- Minimum Project area: 4,000 square feet
- Minimum length of frontage: 30 feet
- Minimum front yard setback: 0 feet
- Maximum front yard setback: no maximum setback
- Minimum side yard setback: no requirement between buildings within a Project; 10 feet between any Project building and the boundary of the applicable Sub-District
- Minimum rear yard setback: no requirement between buildings within a Project; 10 feet between any Project building and the boundary of the applicable Sub-District

For the purposes of this subsection, frontage and front yard setbacks shall be determined with respect to public and private streets, as well as to private ways providing similar access.

Access: Individual buildings or parcels within a Project site shall have coordinated street access. There shall be not more than one driveway (curb cut) per 50 feet of frontage.

6.3 Open Space: A minimum of 20 percent of the total Project area shall be open space. For the purpose of this subsection, “open space” shall be defined as yards, playgrounds, walkways and other areas not covered by parking and driveways; such open space need not be accessible to the public. This minimum percentage may be reduced by the PAA through the Plan Approval process only if the Project provides for direct access or enjoyment of the Connecticut River.

6.4. Building Height, maximum:

- Subdistrict A: 60 feet
- Subdistrict B: 40 feet

7. Parking Requirements - GENERAL

The parking requirements applicable for Projects within the SGOD are as follows.

7.1 Number of parking spaces. Unless otherwise found to be Unduly Restrictive with respect to Project feasibility and approved by the PAA, the following minimum and maximum numbers of off-street parking spaces shall be provided and allowed, respectively, by use, either in surface parking, within garages or other structures, or on-street:

Residential Project: Minimum One parking space per residential unit, maximum 2 parking spaces per residential unit.

Mixed-use Project: Same formula for residential units plus the applicable quantity computed per Section 7.2.2 of the Town’s Zoning Bylaws for non-residential uses.

The PAA may allow for additional visitor parking spaces beyond the 2 maximum spaces per unit if deemed appropriate given the design, layout and density of the proposed residential or other development. The PAA may allow for a decrease in any required parking as provided in Sections 7.2 and 7.3 below.

7.2 Shared Parking. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the use of shared

parking to fulfill parking demands noted above that occur at different times of day is strongly encouraged. Minimum parking requirements above may be reduced by the PAA through the Plan Approval process, if the Applicant can demonstrate that shared spaces will meet parking demands by using accepted methodologies (e.g. the Urban Land Institute Shared Parking Report, ITE Shared Parking Guidelines, or other approved studies) or the PAA is otherwise satisfied that the reduced parking is nonetheless sufficient and consistent with smart growth practices.

7.3 Reduction in parking requirements. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, any minimum required amount of parking may be reduced by the PAA through the Plan Approval process, if the Applicant can demonstrate that the lesser amount of parking will not cause excessive congestion, endanger public safety, or that lesser amount of parking will provide positive environmental or other benefits, taking into consideration:

- a) the availability of surplus off-street parking in the vicinity of the use being served and/or the proximity of a bus stop or transit station;
- b) the availability of public or commercial parking facilities in the vicinity of the use being served;
- c) shared use of off-street parking spaces serving other uses having peak user demands at different times;
- d) To the extent consistent with 760 CMR 59.04(1)(g) and 760 CMR 59.04(l)(i)1., age or other occupancy restrictions which are likely to result in a lower level of auto usage;
- e) impact of the parking requirement on the physical environment of the affected lot or the adjacent lots including reduction in green space, destruction of significant existing trees and other vegetation, destruction of existing dwelling units, or loss of pedestrian amenities along public ways; and
- f) Any applicable transportation demand management strategies that will be integrated into the Project or such other factors as may be considered by the PAA.

7.4 Location of Parking. Any surface parking lot shall, to the maximum extent feasible, be located at the rear or, where such location is deemed infeasible by the PAA, the side of a building, relative to any principal street, public open space, or pedestrian way.

8. PLAN APPROVAL OF PROJECTS: GENERAL PROVISIONS

8.1 Plan Approval. An application for Plan Approval shall be reviewed by the PAA for consistency with the purpose and intent of Section 10. Such Plan Approval process shall be construed as an As-of-Right review and approval process as required by and in accordance with the Governing Laws. Any Project with uses allowable in Section 4 shall be subject to the Plan Approval Process.

8.2 Plan Approval Authority (PAA). The Montague Planning Board consistent with G.L. Chapter 40R and 760 CMR 59.00, shall be the Plan Approval Authority (the "PAA"), and it is authorized to conduct the Plan Approval process for purposes of reviewing Project applications and issuing Plan Approval decisions within the SGOD.

8.3 PAA Regulations. The Plan Approval Authority may adopt administrative rules and regulations relative to Plan Approval. Such rules and regulations and any amendments thereof must be approved by the Department of Housing and Community Development.

8.4 Project Phasing. An Applicant may propose, in a Plan Approval submission, that a Project be developed in phases, provided that the submission shows the full buildout of the

Project and all associated impacts as of the completion of the final phase, and subject to the approval of the PAA. Any phased Project shall comply with the provisions of Section 10.5.9.

9. PLAN APPROVAL PROCEDURES

9.1 Preapplication. Prior to the submittal of a Plan Approval submission, a "Concept Plan" may be submitted to help guide the development of the definitive submission for Project buildout and individual elements thereof. Such Concept Plan should reflect the following:

1. Overall building envelope areas;
2. Open space and natural resource areas; and
3. General site improvements, groupings of buildings, and proposed land uses.

The Concept Plan is intended to be used as a tool for both the Applicant and the PAA to ensure that the proposed Project design will be consistent with the Design Standards and other requirements of the SGOD.

9.2 Required Submittals. An application for Plan Approval shall be submitted to the PAA on the form provided by the PAA and approved by DHCD, along with application fee(s) which shall be as set forth in the PAA Regulations. The application shall be accompanied by such plans and documents as may be required and set forth in the PAA Regulations. For all Projects, the application shall be accompanied by all materials required under Section 10.

5.3. All site plans shall be prepared by a certified architect, landscape architect, and/or a civil engineer registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. All landscape plans shall be prepared by a certified landscape architect registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. All building elevations shall be prepared by a certified architect registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. All plans shall be signed and stamped, and drawings prepared at a scale of [one inch equals forty feet (1"=40') or larger], or at a scale as approved in advance by the PAA.

9.3 Filing. An Applicant for Plan Approval shall file the required number of copies of the application form and the other required submittals as set forth in the PAA Regulations with the Montague Clerk and a copy of the application including the date of filing certified by the Montague Clerk shall be filed forthwith with the PAA.

9.4 Circulation to Other Boards. Upon receipt of the application, the PAA shall immediately provide a copy of the application materials to the Select Board, Board of Appeals, Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Fire Department, Police Department, Building Department, Department of Public Works, the Monitoring Agent (if already identified, for any Project subject to the Affordability requirements of Section 10. 5.0), and other municipal officers, agencies or boards for comment, and any such board, agency or officer shall provide any written comments within 60 days of its receipt of a copy of the plan and application for approval.

9.5 Hearing. The PAA shall hold a public hearing for which notice has been given as provided in Section 11 of G.L. Chapter 40A. The decision of the PAA shall be made, and a written notice of the decision filed with the Town Clerk, within 120 days of the receipt of the application by the Town Clerk. The required time limits for such action may be extended by written agreement between the Applicant and the PAA, with a copy of such agreement being filed in the office of the Town Clerk. Failure of the PAA to take action within said 120 days or extended time, if applicable, shall be deemed to be an approval of the Plan Approval application.

9.6 Peer Review. The Applicant shall be required to pay for reasonable consulting fees to

provide peer review of the Plan Approval application, pursuant to G.L. Chapter 40R, Section 11(a). Such fees shall be held by the Town in a separate account and used only for expenses associated with the review of the application by outside consultants, including, but not limited to, attorneys, engineers, urban designers, housing consultants, planners, and others. Any surplus remaining after the completion of such review, including any interest accrued, shall be returned to the Applicant forthwith.

10. PLAN APPROVAL DECISIONS

10.1 Plan Approval. Plan Approval shall be granted where the PAA finds that:

1. the Applicant has submitted the required fees and information as set forth in the PAA Regulations; and
2. the Project as described in the application meets all of the requirements and standards set forth in Section 10 and the PAA Regulations, or a waiver has been granted therefrom; and
3. any extraordinary adverse potential impacts of the Project on nearby properties have been adequately mitigated.

For all Projects, compliance with condition (2) above shall include written confirmation by the Monitoring Agent that all requirements of Section 10. 5.0 have been satisfied. Any Plan Approval decision for a Project shall specify the term of such affordability, which shall be no less than thirty years. The PAA may attach conditions to the Plan Approval decision that are necessary to ensure substantial compliance with Section 10, or to mitigate any extraordinary adverse potential impacts of the Project on nearby properties.

10.2 Plan Disapproval. A Plan Approval application may be disapproved only where the PAA finds that:

1. the Applicant has not submitted the required fees and information as set forth in the Regulations; or
2. the Project as described in the application does not meet all of the requirements and standards set forth in Section 10 and the PAA Regulations, or that a requested waiver therefrom has not been granted; or
3. it is not possible to adequately mitigate significant adverse Project impacts on nearby properties by means of suitable conditions.

10.3 Waivers. Upon the request of the Applicant and subject to compliance with the Governing Laws and Section 10. 5.10, the Plan Approval Authority may waive dimensional and other requirements of Section 10, including the Design Standards, in the interests of design flexibility and overall project quality, and upon a finding of consistency of such variation with the overall purpose and objectives of the SGOD, or if it finds that such waiver will allow the Project to achieve the density, affordability, mix of uses, and/or physical character allowable under Section 10.

10.4 Project Phasing. The PAA, as a condition of any Plan Approval, may allow a Project to be phased at the request of the Applicant, or it may require a Project to be phased for the purpose of coordinating its development with the construction of Planned Infrastructure Improvements (as that term is defined under 760 CMR 59.00), or to mitigate any extraordinary adverse Project impacts on nearby properties. For Projects that are approved and developed in phases, unless otherwise explicitly approved in writing by the Department in relation to the specific Project, the proportion of Affordable units in each phase shall be at least equal to the minimum percentage of Affordable Housing required under Section 10. 5.1.

10.5 Form of Decision. The PAA shall issue to the Applicant a copy of its decision containing the name and address of the owner, identifying the land affected, and the plans that were the subject of the decision, and certifying that a copy of the decision has been filed with the Town Clerk and that all plans referred to in the decision are on file with the PAA. If twenty (20) days have elapsed after the decision has been filed in the office of the Town Clerk without an appeal having been filed or if such appeal, having been filed, is dismissed or denied, the Town Clerk shall so certify on a copy of the decision. If a plan is approved by reason of the failure of the PAA to timely act, the Town Clerk shall make such certification on a copy of the application. A copy of the decision or application bearing such certification shall be recorded in the registry of deeds for the county and district in which the land is located and indexed in the grantor index under the name of the owner of record or recorded and noted on the owner's certificate of title. The fee for recording or registering shall be paid by the Applicant.

10.6 Validity of Decision. A Plan Approval shall remain valid and shall run with the land indefinitely, provided that construction has commenced within two years after the decision is issued, which time shall be extended by the time required to adjudicate any appeal from such approval and which time shall also be extended if the Project proponent is actively pursuing other required permits for the Project or there is other good cause for the failure to commence construction, or as may be provided in a Plan Approval for a multi-phase Project.

11. CHANGE IN PLANS AFTER APPROVAL BY PAA

11.1 Minor Change. After Plan Approval, an Applicant may apply to make minor changes in a Project involving minor utility or building orientation adjustments, or minor adjustments to parking or other site details that do not affect the overall buildout or building envelope of the site, or provision of open space, number of housing units, or housing need or affordability features. Such minor changes must be submitted to the PAA on redlined prints of the approved plan, reflecting the proposed change, and on application forms provided by the PAA. The PAA may authorize such changes at any regularly scheduled meeting, without the need to hold a public hearing. The PAA shall set forth any decision to approve or deny such minor change by motion and written decision and provide a copy to the Applicant for filing with the Town Clerk.

11.2 Major Change. Those changes deemed by the PAA to constitute a major change in a Project because of the nature of the change in relation to the prior approved plan, or because such change cannot be appropriately characterized as a minor change as described above, shall be processed by the PAA as a new application for Plan Approval pursuant to Sections 10.8.0 - through 10.12.0.

12. DESIGN STANDARDS - GENERAL

12.1. Design Standards. The Plan Approval Authority may adopt, by simple majority vote, Design Standards which shall be applicable to Development Projects subject to Plan Approval by the Plan Approval Authority. Such Design Standards must be objective and not subjective and may only address the scale and proportions of buildings, the alignment, width, and grade of streets and sidewalks, the type and location of infrastructure, the location of building and garage entrances, off street parking, the protection of significant natural site features, the location and design of on-site open spaces, exterior signs, and buffering in relation to adjacent properties. DHCD may, at its discretion, may require Design Standards to contain graphics illustrating a particular standard or definition in order to make such standard or definition clear and understandable.

12.2. DHCD Approval. After adopting Design Standards, the PAA shall submit Design Standards to DHCD for approval. Design Standards shall not take effect until approved by DHCD and filed with the Town Clerk. In submitting proposed Design Standard for DHCD approval, the PAA shall also submit sufficient documentation clearly showing that the proposed Design Standards will not add unreasonable costs to Development Projects or unreasonably impair the economic feasibility of a Development Project. A letter from a developer, property owner or other interested party indicating that the Design Standards will not add unreasonable costs or unreasonably impair (as such term is defined under 760 CMR 59.02) the economic feasibility of a Development Project shall not constitute sufficient documentation. At its discretion, DHCD may disapprove Design Standards if it finds that the PAA has not adopted objective Design Standards or has not submitted such documentation.

12.3. Plan Approval. An application for Plan Approval that has been submitted to the Town Clerk pursuant to this Section 10 shall not be subject to Design Standards that have not been approved by DHCD and filed with the Town Clerk.

13. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of Section 10 is found to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of Section 10 shall not be affected but shall remain in full force. The invalidity of any provision of Section 10 shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the Montague Zoning Bylaws.

PASSED/DECLARED TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 33. MOVED: That the Town vote in accordance with MGL c. 40, § 15A to transfer from the board or commission having the care, custody, and control of a parcel of land containing 2.27 acres of land, more or less, located at 11 Power Street and identified as Assessors' Parcel ID 03-0-027 further described in a deed recorded with the Franklin Registry of Deeds in Book 6418, Page 65, and referenced in a judgement in a tax lien case recorded with said Registry in Book 7959, Page 332 and shown on a plan recorded with said Registry in Plan Book 133, Page 21 to the Selectboard for the purposes of economic development or the development of low or moderate income housing; and further, that the Selectboard be authorized to sell, lease, transfer or convey any portion or all of the aforesaid property upon such terms and conditions and for such amounts as the Selectboard shall deem fit, subject to the approval of the Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation, and further that the Selectboard be authorized to execute any and all instruments, including deeds, leases or other agreements and take all other actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the vote taken hereunder.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 34. MOVED: To see if the Town will vote to transfer care, custody and control of a parcel of land containing 0.65 acres of land, more or less, located on First Street and identified as Assessors' Parcel ID 04-0-0031, from the Selectboard for general municipal purposes to the Selectboard for general municipal purposes or for developing low or moderate income housing and to authorize the Selectboard to sell or lease, transfer or convey all or any portion of such land for such sum and upon such conditions determined by the Selectboard to be in the best interests of the Town, pursuant to G.L. c. 30B, and to authorize the Selectboard to execute any and all instruments, including deeds, leases or other agreements and take all other actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the vote taken hereunder.

PASSED/TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 35. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the Town’s General Bylaws to add a new Bylaw, to be titled “Demolition Delay”, as shown below, and to authorize the Town Clerk to assign such numbering as is appropriate to bring said bylaw into conformance with the existing codification.

Montague Demolition Delay Bylaw

§ 1 Purpose.

The purpose of this Bylaw is to preserve and protect, through advance notice of their proposed demolition, Significant Buildings within the Town of Montague which constitute or reflect distinctive features of the architectural, cultural, political, economic, or social history of the Town, to encourage owners of Preferably Preserved Significant Buildings to seek out persons who might be willing to purchase and to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore such buildings rather than demolish them, to alert residents of the Town to impending demolitions of Significant Buildings, and by furthering these purposes to promote the public welfare, to preserve the resources of the Town, and to make the Town a more attractive and desirable place to live. To achieve these purposes, the Montague Historical Commission is empowered to advise the Montague Inspector of Buildings with respect to the issuance of permits involving demolition, and the issuance of demolition permits for Significant Buildings is regulated as provided in this Bylaw.

§ 2 Definitions.

As used in this Bylaw, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

APPLICATION

An application for a permit involving the demolition of a Significant Building. Every application shall include the address of the building to be demolished, the owner's name, address and telephone number, photographs of all sides of the building visible from a public way taken within the past year, plans, a narrative description of the building and justification of the proposed demolition, and a brief description of the proposed reuse, reconstruction, or replacement.

BUILDING

Any combination of materials capable of providing shelter for persons, animals, or property.

COMMISSION

The Montague Historical Commission.

DEMOLITION

Any act of pulling down, destroying, removing, or razing a structure or significant portion thereof, or commencing the work of total or substantial destruction with the intent of completing the same. Significant portion is defined as twenty-five percent (25%) of the volume of the building or structure, or twenty-five percent (25%) of the roof structure. For purposes of this Bylaw, the term "demolition" shall not include the ordinary maintenance or repair of any building or structure, interior renovations, or removal or demolition of any ancillary portion of a structure such as porches, decks, or windows, provided that in the instance of demolition of said ancillary portions for the purpose of repair or replacement, said repair or replacement shall be done using like-kind or better materials.

DEMOLITION PERMIT

A permit issued by the Inspector of Buildings under the State Building Code for the demolition of a building or structure.

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

The administrative chief of the building department in a municipality who is charged with the administration and enforcement of 780 CMR, the Massachusetts State Building Code.

SIGNIFICANT BUILDING

- A.** Any building or structure individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places or is the subject of a pending application for listing on said National Register; or
- B.** Any building or structure evaluated by Massachusetts Historical Commission to be a contributing building within a National Register or State Register District; or
- C.** Any building or structure which has been certified by the Massachusetts Historical Commission to meet eligibility requirements for individual listing on the National Register of Historical Buildings; or
- D.** Any Building or structure constructed, or a portion of which was constructed, over 100 years ago that contributes to the historical or architectural heritage or resources of the Town.

§ 3 Preferably Preserved Significant Buildings.

- A.** A Preferably Preserved Significant Building is any Significant Building which the Montague Historical Commission determines, pursuant to the procedure detailed in § 4, is in the public interest to be preserved or rehabilitated rather than to be demolished. A Preferably Preserved Significant Building is subject to the one-year delay period of this Bylaw.

- B.** The Montague Historical Commission may determine that a building or structure be designated as a Preferably Preserved Significant Building if it meets one or more of the following criteria:
 - (1)** It is listed on, or is within an area listed on, the National Register of Historic Places, or is the subject of a pending application for listing on said National Register; or

 - (2)** The Montague Historical Commission determines that the structure meets one or more of the following three criteria:
 - (a)** Historical importance. The structure meets the criteria of historical importance if it:
 - [1]** Has character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the Town of Montague, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or the nation; or
 - [2]** Is the site of an historic event; or
 - [3]** Is identified with a person or group of persons who had some influence on society; or
 - [4]** Exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social, or historic heritage of the community.

 - (b)** Architectural importance. The structure meets the criteria of architectural importance if it:
 - [1]** Portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style; or

- [2] Embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type; or
- [3] Is the work of an architect, master builder or craftsman whose individual work has influenced the development of the Town; or
- [4] Contains elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation.

(c) Geographic importance. The structure meets the criteria of geographic importance if:

- [1] The site is part of, or related to, a square, park, or other distinctive area; or
- [2] The structure, as to its unique location or its physical characteristics, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, or the community as a whole.

§ 4 Procedure.

- A. No permit for the demolition of any building or structure shall be issued other than in conformity with this Bylaw. The Inspector of Buildings, on the day of receipt of an application for demolition of a Significant Building or within seven days, shall cause a copy of each such permit application to be forwarded to the Montague Historical Commission. At such time, the applicant will be notified that their permit application has been submitted to the Montague Historical Commission. No demolition permit shall be issued at that time, unless the Inspector of Buildings deems the building is in need of emergency demolition and the emergency demolition provisions of this Bylaw have been met.
- B. The Montague Historical Commission shall hold a public hearing within 45 days of receiving a copy of such application and shall give public notice thereof by publishing notice of the time, place, and purpose of the hearing in a local newspaper at least 14 days before said hearing. The Montague Historical Commission shall mail a copy of said notice to the applicant and shall, at least seven days prior to said hearing, notify the Selectboard, Town Administrator, Inspector of Buildings, Planning Department, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and such other persons as the Montague Historical Commission shall deem entitled to notice. The applicant shall notify all abutting landowners as they appear on the most recent local tax list no later than seven days prior to said hearing.
- C. If, after such hearing, the Montague Historical Commission determines that the demolition of the Significant Building would not be detrimental to the historical or architectural heritage or resources of the Town, the Montague Historical Commission shall so notify the Inspector of Buildings and Selectboard within seven days of such determination. Upon receipt of such notification, or after the expiration of 21 days from the date of the close of the public hearing, if he or she has not received notification from the Montague Historical Commission, the Inspector of Buildings may, subject to the requirements of the State Building Code and any other applicable laws, rules, or regulations, issue the demolition permit.
- D. If, after such hearing, the Montague Historical Commission determines that the demolition of the Significant Building would be detrimental to the historical or architectural heritage or resources of the Town, such building shall be considered a

Preferably Preserved Significant Building. The Montague Historical Commission's determination remains in effect for one year from the date of decision. Upon a determination by the Montague Historical Commission that the Significant Building which is the subject of the application for a demolition permit is a Preferably Preserved Significant Building, the Montague Historical Commission shall, within seven days, so advise the applicant by registered mail, and the Inspector of Buildings, and no demolition permit may be issued until at least one year after the date of designation as a Preferably Preserved Significant Building. The applicant shall, upon notice of said designation, secure the building or site against vandalism, fire or other destruction and post a copy of said designation on the building in a place visible from the nearest public way. The applicant shall give reasonable access to the building or site to the Montague Historical Commission.

E. Notwithstanding the preceding section, the Inspector of Buildings may issue a demolition permit for a Preferably Preserved Significant Building at any time after receipt of written advice from the Montague Historical Commission to the effect that either:

(1) The Montague Historical Commission is satisfied that there is no reasonable likelihood that either the owner or some other person or group is willing to purchase, preserve, rehabilitate, or restore such building; or

(2) The Montague Historical Commission is satisfied that reasonable efforts have been made to identify a purchaser to preserve, rehabilitate or restore the subject building, and that such efforts have been unsuccessful.

§ 5 Emergency demolition.

Nothing in this Bylaw shall be construed to derogate in any way from the authority of the Inspector of Buildings derived from Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 143.

A. If a building poses an immediate threat to public health or safety due to its deteriorated condition, the owner of such building or structure may request issuance of an emergency demolition permit from the Inspector of Buildings.

B. Upon receipt of any application for an emergency demolition permit, the Inspector of Buildings shall within five days transmit a copy thereof to the Montague Historical Commission.

C. As soon as is practicable, but within 14 days after receipt of such an application, and regardless as to whether a copy of the emergency demolition permit has been transmitted to the Montague Historical Commission, the Inspector of Buildings shall inspect the building with an inspection team consisting of the Inspector of Buildings, Fire Chief, Montague Historical Commission Chair, or the designees of said officials.

D. Within five days after inspection of the building and after consultation with other members of the inspection team, the Inspector of Buildings shall determine:

(1) Whether the condition of the building or structure represents a serious and imminent threat to public health and safety; and

(2) Whether there is any reasonable alternative to the immediate demolition of

the building which would protect public health and safety.

- E.** If the Inspector of Buildings finds 1) that the condition of the building or structure poses a serious and imminent threat to public health and safety, and 2) that there is no reasonable alternative to the immediate demolition of the building or structure which would protect public health and safety, then the Inspector of Buildings may issue an emergency demolition permit to the owner of the building.
- F.** If the Inspector of Buildings finds 1) that the condition of the building does not pose a serious and imminent threat to public health and safety, and/or 2) that there are reasonable alternatives to the immediate demolition of the building which would protect public health and safety, then the Inspector of Buildings may refuse to issue an emergency demolition permit to the owner of the building or structure.
- G.** Upon issuing an emergency demolition permit under the provisions of this section, the Inspector of Buildings shall submit a brief written report to the Montague Historical Commission describing the condition of the building and the basis for his/her decision to issue an emergency demolition permit. Nothing in this section shall be inconsistent with the procedure for the demolition and/or securing of buildings and structures established by G.L. c. 143, §§ 6 through 10.

§ 6 Enforcement and remedies.

The Inspector of Buildings is specifically authorized to institute any and all actions and proceedings, in law or equity, as he/she may deem necessary and appropriate to obtain compliance with the provisions of this Bylaw or to prevent a threatened violation thereof.

- A.** No permit for erection of a new structure on the site of an existing Preferably Preserved Significant Building may be issued prior to issuance of a permit for demolition of such existing building.
- B.** No permit for erection of a new building, paving of drives or for parking shall be issued for one year from the commencement of such work if a structure is demolished in violation of this Bylaw. The Commission may suspend this moratorium if it determines that earlier reconstruction, restoration, or other remediation of any demolition in violation of this Bylaw better serves the intent and purpose of this Bylaw.
- C.** Any owner of a building and/or structure subject to this Bylaw who knowingly acts to demolish said building and/or structure, or damage a portion of a building or structure in a way which increases its likelihood of total failure, without first obtaining a building permit for demolition in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw, or who likewise by some causative action contributes to the deterioration of said building or structure during the demolition review period, shall be in violation of this Bylaw and subject to enforcement by a noncriminal complaint pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 21D, as amended.
- D.** Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 30 of the Town of Montague Bylaws, the fine for any such violation shall be \$300 for each offense. Each day the violation exists shall constitute a separate offense until the demolished building is rebuilt or recreated as directed by the Montague Historical Commission, or unless otherwise agreed to by the Montague Historical Commission.

§ 7 Historic Districts Act.

If any provision of this Bylaw conflicts with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40C, the Historic District Act, that Act shall prevail.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town vote to amend the Town's General Bylaws to add a new Bylaw, to be titled "Demolition Delay", as shown below, and to authorize the Town Clerk to assign such numbering as is appropriate to bring said bylaw into conformance with the existing codification.

Montague Demolition Delay Bylaw

§ 1 Purpose.

The purpose of this Bylaw is to preserve and protect, through advance notice of their proposed demolition, Significant Buildings within the Town of Montague which constitute or reflect distinctive features of the architectural, cultural, political, economic, or social history of the Town, to encourage owners of Preferably Preserved Significant Buildings to seek out persons who might be willing to purchase and to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore such buildings rather than demolish them, to alert residents of the Town to impending demolitions of Significant Buildings, and by furthering these purposes to promote the public welfare, to preserve the resources of the Town, and to make the Town a more attractive and desirable place to live. To achieve these purposes, the Montague Historical Commission is empowered to advise the Montague Inspector of Buildings with respect to the issuance of permits involving demolition, and the issuance of demolition permits for Significant Buildings is regulated as provided in this Bylaw.

§ 2 Definitions.

As used in this Bylaw, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

APPLICATION

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BUILDING

Any combination of materials capable of providing shelter for persons, animals, or property.

COMMISSION

The Montague Historical Commission.

DEMOLITION

Any act of pulling down, destroying, removing, or razing a structure or significant portion thereof, or commencing the work of total or substantial destruction with the intent of completing the same. Significant portion is defined as twenty-five percent (25%) of the volume of the building or structure, or twenty-five percent (25%) of the roof structure. For purposes of this Bylaw, the term "demolition" shall not include the ordinary maintenance or repair of any building or structure, interior renovations, or removal or demolition of any ancillary portion of a structure such as

porches, decks, or windows, provided that in the instance of demolition of said ancillary portions for the purpose of repair or replacement, said repair or replacement shall be done using like-kind or better materials.

DEMOLITION PERMIT

A permit issued by the Inspector of Buildings under the State Building Code for the demolition of a building or structure.

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS

The administrative chief of the building department in a municipality who is charged with the administration and enforcement of 780 CMR, the Massachusetts State Building Code.

SIGNIFICANT BUILDING

- A.** Any building or structure individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places or is the subject of a pending application for listing on said National Register; or
- B.** Any building or structure evaluated by Massachusetts Historical Commission to be a contributing building within a National Register or State Register District; or
- C.** Any building or structure which has been certified by the Massachusetts Historical Commission to meet eligibility requirements for individual listing on the National Register of Historical Buildings; or

§ 3 Preferably Preserved Significant Buildings.

- A.** A Preferably Preserved Significant Building is any Significant Building which the Montague Historical Commission determines, pursuant to the procedure detailed in § 4, is in the public interest to be preserved or rehabilitated rather than to be demolished. A Preferably Preserved Significant Building is subject to the one-year delay period of this Bylaw.
- B.** The Montague Historical Commission may determine that a building or structure be designated as a Preferably Preserved Significant Building if it meets one or more of the following criteria:
 - (1)** It is listed on, or is within an area listed on, the National Register of Historic Places, or is the subject of a pending application for listing on said National Register; or
 - (2)** The Montague Historical Commission determines that the structure meets one or more of the following three criteria:
 - (a)** Historical importance. The structure meets the criteria of historical importance if it:
 - [1]** Has character, interest, or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the Town of Montague, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or the nation; or
 - [2]** Is the site of an historic event; or
 - [3]** Is identified with a person or group of persons who had some influence on society; or

[4] Exemplifies the cultural, political, economic, social, or historic heritage of the community.

(b) Architectural importance. The structure meets the criteria of architectural importance if it:

[1] Portrays the environment of a group of people in an era of history characterized by a distinctive architectural style; or

[2] Embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type; or

[3] Is the work of an architect, master builder or craftsman whose individual work has influenced the development of the Town; or

[4] Contains elements of architectural design, detail, materials, or craftsmanship which represent a significant innovation.

(c) Geographic importance. The structure meets the criteria of geographic importance if:

[1] The site is part of, or related to, a square, park, or other distinctive area; or

[2] The structure, as to its unique location or its physical characteristics, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, or the community as a whole.

§ 4 Procedure.

A. No permit for the demolition of any building or structure shall be issued other than in conformity with this Bylaw. The Inspector of Buildings, on the day of receipt of an application for demolition of a Significant Building or within seven days, shall cause a copy of each such permit application to be forwarded to the Montague Historical Commission. At such time, the applicant will be notified that their permit application has been submitted to the Montague Historical Commission. No demolition permit shall be issued at that time, unless the Inspector of Buildings deems the building is in need of emergency demolition and the emergency demolition provisions of this Bylaw have been met.

B. The Montague Historical Commission shall hold a public hearing within 45 days of receiving a copy of such application and shall give public notice thereof by publishing notice of the time, place, and purpose of the hearing in a local newspaper at least 14 days before said hearing. The Montague Historical Commission shall mail a copy of said notice to the applicant and shall, at least seven days prior to said hearing, notify the Selectboard, Town Administrator, Inspector of Buildings, Planning Department, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, and such other persons as the Montague Historical Commission shall deem entitled to notice. The applicant shall notify all abutting landowners as they appear on the most recent local tax list no later than seven days prior to said hearing.

C. If, after such hearing, the Montague Historical Commission determines that the demolition of the Significant Building would not be detrimental to the historical or architectural heritage or resources of the Town, the Montague Historical Commission shall so notify the Inspector of Buildings and Selectboard within seven days of such

determination. Upon receipt of such notification, or after the expiration of 21 days from the date of the close of the public hearing, if he or she has not received notification from the Montague Historical Commission, the Inspector of Buildings may, subject to the requirements of the State Building Code and any other applicable laws, rules, or regulations, issue the demolition permit.

D. If, after such hearing, the Montague Historical Commission determines that the demolition of the Significant Building would be detrimental to the historical or architectural heritage or resources of the Town, such building shall be considered a Preferably Preserved Significant Building. The Montague Historical Commission's determination remains in effect for one year from the date of decision. Upon a determination by the Montague Historical Commission that the Significant Building which is the subject of the application for a demolition permit is a Preferably Preserved Significant Building, the Montague Historical Commission shall, within seven days, so advise the applicant by registered mail, and the Inspector of Buildings, and no demolition permit may be issued until at least one year after the date of designation as a Preferably Preserved Significant Building. The applicant shall, upon notice of said designation, secure the building or site against vandalism, fire or other destruction and post a copy of said designation on the building in a place visible from the nearest public way. The applicant shall give reasonable access to the building or site to the Montague Historical Commission.

E. Notwithstanding the preceding section, the Inspector of Buildings may issue a demolition permit for a Preferably Preserved Significant Building at any time after receipt of written advice from the Montague Historical Commission to the effect that either:

(1) The Montague Historical Commission is satisfied that there is no reasonable likelihood that either the owner or some other person or group is willing to purchase, preserve, rehabilitate, or restore such building; or

(2) The Montague Historical Commission is satisfied that reasonable efforts have been made to identify a purchaser to preserve, rehabilitate or restore the subject building, and that such efforts have been unsuccessful.

§ 5 Emergency demolition.

Nothing in this Bylaw shall be construed to derogate in any way from the authority of the Inspector of Buildings derived from Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 143.

A. If a building poses an immediate threat to public health or safety due to its deteriorated condition, the owner of such building or structure may request issuance of an emergency demolition permit from the Inspector of Buildings.

B. Upon receipt of any application for an emergency demolition permit, the Inspector of Buildings shall within five days transmit a copy thereof to the Montague Historical Commission.

C. As soon as is practicable, but within 14 days after receipt of such an application, and regardless as to whether a copy of the emergency demolition permit has been transmitted to the Montague Historical Commission, the Inspector of Buildings shall

inspect the building with an inspection team consisting of the Inspector of Buildings, Fire Chief, Montague Historical Commission Chair, or the designees of said officials.

- D.** Within five days after inspection of the building and after consultation with other members of the inspection team, the Inspector of Buildings shall determine:
- (1)** Whether the condition of the building or structure represents a serious and imminent threat to public health and safety; and
 - (2)** Whether there is any reasonable alternative to the immediate demolition of the building which would protect public health and safety.
- E.** If the Inspector of Buildings finds 1) that the condition of the building or structure poses a serious and imminent threat to public health and safety, and 2) that there is no reasonable alternative to the immediate demolition of the building or structure which would protect public health and safety, then the Inspector of Buildings may issue an emergency demolition permit to the owner of the building.
- F.** If the Inspector of Buildings finds 1) that the condition of the building does not pose a serious and imminent threat to public health and safety, and/or 2) that there are reasonable alternatives to the immediate demolition of the building which would protect public health and safety, then the Inspector of Buildings may refuse to issue an emergency demolition permit to the owner of the building or structure.
- G.** Upon issuing an emergency demolition permit under the provisions of this section, the Inspector of Buildings shall submit a brief written report to the Montague Historical Commission describing the condition of the building and the basis for his/her decision to issue an emergency demolition permit. Nothing in this section shall be inconsistent with the procedure for the demolition and/or securing of buildings and structures established by G.L. c. 143, §§ 6 through 10.

§ 6 Enforcement and remedies.

The Inspector of Buildings is specifically authorized to institute any and all actions and proceedings, in law or equity, as he/she may deem necessary and appropriate to obtain compliance with the provisions of this Bylaw or to prevent a threatened violation thereof.

- A.** No permit for erection of a new structure on the site of an existing Preferably Preserved Significant Building may be issued prior to issuance of a permit for demolition of such existing building.
- B.** No permit for erection of a new building, paving of drives or for parking shall be issued for one year from the commencement of such work if a structure is demolished in violation of this Bylaw. The Commission may suspend this moratorium if it determines that earlier reconstruction, restoration, or other remediation of any demolition in violation of this Bylaw better serves the intent and purpose of this Bylaw.
- C.** Any owner of a building and/or structure subject to this Bylaw who knowingly acts to demolish said building and/or structure, or damage a portion of a building or structure in a way which increases its likelihood of total failure, without first obtaining a building permit for demolition in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw, or who likewise by some causative action contributes to the deterioration of said building or structure during

the demolition review period, shall be in violation of this Bylaw and subject to enforcement by a noncriminal complaint pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 21D, as amended.

D. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 30 of the Town of Montague Bylaws, the fine for any such violation shall be \$300 for each offense. Each day the violation exists shall constitute a separate offense until the demolished building is rebuilt or recreated as directed by the Montague Historical Commission, or unless otherwise agreed to by the Montague Historical Commission.

§ 7 Historic Districts Act.

If any provision of this Bylaw conflicts with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40C, the Historic District Act, that Act shall prevail.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE AS AMENDED

ARTICLE 36. MOVED:

FAIR SHARE AMENDMENT-MONTAGUE RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

WHEREAS, Massachusetts needed new investments in our transportation and public education systems even before the COVID-19 pandemic, and those investments are needed more than ever to lift our economy into an equitable and long-lasting recovery;

WHEREAS, the best way to help working families and rebuild a strong economy for us all is to make sure that we have quality public schools for our children, affordable public higher education, and a reliable transportation system; and

WHEREAS, Montague has numerous structurally deficient bridges and overdue road repair and replacement projects; and

WHEREAS, students need a well-rounded education and major investments in public education are needed to help students recover academically, socially, and emotionally from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, tuitions and fees at our public colleges are among the highest in the country, forcing students to take on enormous debt just to receive a degree; and

WHEREAS, new state revenue is necessary to rebuild crumbling roads and bridges, improve our public schools from Pre-K through college, expand access to vocational and technical training invest in reliable and decarbonized public transportation, make public higher education affordable again, and expand opportunities for healthy walking and bicycling; and

WHEREAS, wealth Massachusetts residents saw their investments grow during the pandemic while working families struggled, and Massachusetts' wealthiest residents should pay their fair share to support our communities and grow our economy; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature's Constitutional Convention voted 159-41 to place the Fair Share Amendment on the November 2022 statewide ballot;

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Montague Town Meeting Supports the proposed Fair Share Amendment that would create an additional tax of four percentage points on annual income above one million dollars and dedicate the funds raised by this tax to quality public education, affordable public colleges and universities, and for the repair and maintenance of

roads, bridges, and public transportation.
(Petitioned Article)

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

Adjourn Without Day, 4:01 PM

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OCTOBER 13, 2022**

According to the foregoing warrant the legal voters met at the Turners Falls High School Theater on Thursday, October 13, 2022, when the meeting was called to order at 9:38 AM when checker Wendy Bogusz announced the presence of a quorum at 6:36 PM. All in all, seventy, (70), Town Meeting Members were in attendance while twenty-one, (21), were excused and twenty-four, (24), were no shows.

Moderator, Ray Godin led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The new and newly re-elected town meeting members were asked to stand and introduce themselves to the body after which they were sworn in by Town Clerk, Deb Bourbeau.

The Officer's Return was read, and the Preliminary Motions were read and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned without day at 8:02 PM.

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
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The Officer's Return was read, and the Preliminary Motions were read and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned without day at 8:02 PM.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

**TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OCTOBER 13, 2022**

Franklin, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Montague in the County of Franklin:

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Montague qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet in the Turners Falls High School Theater, 222 Turnpike Road, Montague on Thursday, October 13, 2022, at 6:30 P.M. and to act on the following articles and any motions which may be presented.

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$37,940, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the New England Police Benevolent Association for Fiscal Year 2023, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2022, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$34,834, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the National Association of Government Employees for Fiscal Year 2023, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2022, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$19,732, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 274 for Fiscal Year 2023, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2022, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Classification Plan to add the position of DPW Lead Operator at Grade E or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 7 of the May 7, 2022 Annual Town Meeting by increasing the annual salary of the Treasurer/Tax Collector to \$75,009 and increasing the annual salary of the Town Clerk to \$78,423, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

SCHEDULE I

Elected Officials

<u>TITLE</u>	FY23 CURRENT	FY23 REQUESTED
TREASURER/COLLECTOR	72,824*	75,009**
*Grade G -old Step 9		
**Grade G – new Step 8		
TOWN CLERK	76,139***	78,423****
***Grade G – old Step 11		
****Grade G - new Step 10		

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 8 of the May 7, 2022 Annual Town Meeting by changing the wage ranges for the following Non-Union employees as shown, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials**

	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Current FY2023</u>		<u>Requested FY2023</u>	
<u>SALARIED</u>		Start	End	Start	End
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	J	95,616	117,673	98,484	121,203
ASSISTANT TOWN ADM	I	86,924	106,976	89,532	110,185
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	G	62,170	76,139	64,035	78,423
CHIEF OF POLICE	I	86,924	106,976	89,532	110,185
DPW SUPERINTENDENT	H	79,000	97,250	81,393	100,168
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH	G	62,170	76,139	64,035	78,423
LIBRARY DIRECTOR	G	62,170	76,139	64,035	78,423
MCWF SUPERINTENDENT	H	79,000	97,250	81,393	100,168
<u>HOURLY</u>					
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	E	23.11	28.44	23.80	29.29
POLICE LIEUTENANT	G+8.5%	37.85	41.99	38.98	43.25
POLICE CUSTODIAN	A	15.49	19.06	15.95	19.63

Informational Only: Fiscal Year 2023 budgeted wages

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	121,203	DPW SUPERINTENDENT	100,168
ASSISTANT TOWN ADM	89,532	DIRECTOR OF HEALTH	73,538
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	78,423	LIBRARY DIRECTOR	76,510

Informational Only: Fiscal Year 2023 budgeted wages

CHIEF OF POLICE*	128,996	MCWF SUPERINTENDENT	92,089
POLICE LIEUTENANT	43.25	POLICE CUSTODIAN	18.78
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	29.29		

*includes add'l 20% educational incentive pay for Police Chief

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$22,318, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding a Wage Adjustment for the pay schedule for elected officials shown on Schedule I for

Fiscal Year 2023 as set forth under Article 4 of this warrant and non-union employees shown on Schedule II for Fiscal Year 2023 as set forth under Article 5 of this Warrant, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2022, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to reduce the FY2023 MEDIC Budget by \$3,077, or any other amount, (the pro-rated amount of the unused MEDIC stipend) or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$22,100, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the FY2023 budgets for the following departments to accommodate expected increases in electricity costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

190 Public Building Utilities	18,000
610 Libraries	4,000
693 Memorials	100

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$4,432, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the Sealer of Weights FY2023 budget, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$3,684, or any other amount, for the purpose of paying prior year bills of the Clean Water Facility operating budget, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$12,500, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing and installing cable related equipment for MCTV and anything incidental or related thereto, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$56,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of designing, constructing, and installing improvements to floors in the Hillcrest Elementary School and any related improvements, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(GMRSD Request)

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$22,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of designing and constructing the replacement of the Colle Building roof and any related improvements, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$12,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of

funding professional engineering services associated with the closure of the Burn Dump Landfill on Sandy Lane and anything incidental or related thereto, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Town Planner Request)

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to establish a special purpose Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund in accordance with MGL Chapter 40 Section 5B and further to see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of the fourth paragraph of MGL Chapter 40 Section 5B and pursuant to such acceptance to dedicate all or a percentage, which may not be less than 25 percent, of the opioid settlement revenues to said Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 6 of Article II of the Town of Montague General Bylaws, relating to the Capital Improvements Committee, with the deletions as shown in ~~strikeout~~ and additions shown **bold** below or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Section 6: Capital Improvements Committee: There shall be a Capital Improvements Committee consisting of ~~one member appointed by and from the Planning Board, and four additional~~ **five** members to be appointed by the Moderator, with powers and duties to include (a) to conduct an annual review of the capital improvements program of the Town as well as proposals for the construction of municipal buildings and acquisition of property, (b) to make recommendations to the Town Meeting regarding the above, and (c) to prepare an annual report. **The terms of the existing members of the Capital Improvements Committee shall terminate on June 30, 2023 and the Moderator shall appoint five individuals to fill those positions for staggered terms beginning on July 1, 2023 as follows: two members for initial three year terms, two members for initial two year terms, and one member for an initial one year term; with all subsequent terms to be three years in length.**

(Capital Improvements Committee Request)

Given under our hands this 26th day of September in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

_____ Richard Kuklewicz, Chairman
Matthew Lord
Christopher M. Boutwell, Sr

Selectboard, Town of Montague

Franklin, ss Montague, MA September, 2022

Pursuant to the within warrant, I have warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Montague by posting attested copies of the same in a conspicuous place in each of the Post Offices, Libraries, and the Town Hall of the Town of Montague at least fourteen days before said meeting as within directed.

Constable of Montague

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OCTOBER 13, 2022**

MOTIONS

ARTICLE 1. Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$37,940 for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the New England Police Benevolent Association for Fiscal Year 2023, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2022, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 2: Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$34,834 for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the National Association of Government Employees for Fiscal Year 2023, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2022, with \$34,142 to be raised from Taxation and \$692 to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 3. Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$19,732 for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 274 for Fiscal Year 2023, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2022, with \$17,831 to be raised from Taxation and \$1,901 to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 4. Moved: That the Town vote to amend the Classification Plan to add the position of DPW Lead Operator at Grade E.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 5. Moved: That the Town vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 7 of the May 7, 2022 Annual Town Meeting by increasing the annual salary of the Treasurer/Tax Collector to \$75,009 and increasing the annual salary of the Town Clerk to \$78,423.

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	FY23 CURRENT	FY23 REQUESTED
TREASURER/COLLECTOR	72,824* *Grade G -old Step 9	75,009** **Grade G – new Step 8

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	FY23 CURRENT	FY23 REQUESTED
TOWN CLERK	76,139*** ***Grade G – old Step 11	78,423**** ****Grade G - new Step 10

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 6. Moved: That the Town vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 8 of the May 7, 2022 Annual Town Meeting by changing the wage ranges for the following Non-Union employees as shown.

SCHEDULE II					
Appointed Officials					
	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Current FY2023</u>		<u>Requested FY2023</u>	
		Start	End	Start	End
<u>SALARIED</u>					
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	J	95,616	117,673	98,484	121,203
ASSISTANT TOWN ADM	I	86,924	106,976	89,532	110,185
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	G	62,170	76,139	64,035	78,423
CHIEF OF POLICE	I	86,924	106,976	89,532	110,185
DPW SUPERINTENDENT	H	79,000	97,250	81,393	100,168
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH	G	62,170	76,139	64,035	78,423
LIBRARY DIRECTOR	G	62,170	76,139	64,035	78,423
MCWF SUPERINTENDENT	H	79,000	97,250	81,393	100,168
<u>HOURLY</u>					
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	E	23.11	28.44	23.80	29.29
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POLICE CUSTODIAN	A	15.49	19.06	15.95	19.63
PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE					

ARTICLE 7. Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$22,318 for the purpose of funding a Wage Adjustment for the pay schedule for elected officials shown on Schedule I for Fiscal Year 2023 as set forth under Article 5 of this warrant and non-union employees shown on Schedule II for Fiscal Year 2023 as set forth under Article 6 of this Warrant, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2022, with \$19,636 to be raised from Taxation and \$2,682 to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 8. Moved: That the Town vote to reduce the FY2023 MEDIC Budget by \$3,077.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 9. Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$22,100 for the purpose of increasing the FY2023 budgets for the following departments to accommodate expected increases in electricity costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

190 Public Building Utilities	18,000
610 Libraries	4,000
693 Memorials	100

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 10. Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$4,432 for the purpose of increasing the Sealer of Weights FY2023 budget, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 11. Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,684 for the purpose of paying prior year bills of the Clean Water Facility operating budget, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 12. Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$12,500 for the purpose of purchasing and installing cable related equipment for MCTV and anything incidental or related thereto said sum to be raised from PEG Access Funds.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 13. Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$56,000 for the purpose of designing and constructing improvements to floors in the Hillcrest Elementary School and any related improvements, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from the GMRSD Stabilization Fund.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 14. Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$22,000 for the purpose of designing and constructing the replacement of the Colle Building roof and any related improvements, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Colle Receipts Reserved for Appropriation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 15. Moved: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$12,000 for the purpose of funding professional engineering services associated with the closure of the Burn Dump Landfill on Sandy Lane and anything incidental or related thereto, said sum to be funded from Taxation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 16. Moved: That the Town vote to establish a special purpose Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund in accordance with MGL Chapter 40 Section 5B and dedicate 100% of the opioid settlement revenues to the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, effective for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2023.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 17. Moved: That the Town vote to amend Section 6 of Article II of the Town of Montague General Bylaws, relating to the Capital Improvements Committee, with the deletions as shown in ~~strikeout~~ and additions shown **bold** below.

Section 6: Capital Improvements Committee: There shall be a Capital Improvements Committee consisting of ~~one member appointed by and from the Planning Board, and four additional~~ **five** members to be appointed by the Moderator, with powers and duties to include (a) to conduct an annual review of the capital improvements program of the Town as well as proposals for the construction of municipal buildings and acquisition of property, (b) to make recommendations to the Town Meeting regarding the above, and (c) to prepare an annual report. **The terms of the existing members of the Capital Improvements Committee shall terminate on June 30, 2023 and the Moderator shall appoint five individuals to fill those positions for staggered terms beginning on July 1, 2023 as follows: two members for initial three year terms, two members for initial two year terms, and one member for an initial one year term; with all subsequent terms to be three years in length.**

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION	
MONTAGUE, MA	Tuesday, May 17, 2022

According to the forgoing warrant, the legal votes of the six precincts of the Town of Montague met in their respective polling places and cast votes for the following named offices of which the following is the total vote as returned by the Precinct Officers.

TOTAL NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST		
		Turnout by precinct
Precinct No. 1	213	17.33%
Precinct No. 2	79	7.10%
Precinct No. 3	72	6.97%
Precinct No. 4	80	7.84%
Precinct No. 5	77	8.02%
Precinct No. 6	55	5.56%
Total	576	9.08% TOWN

SELECTMAN, For three years						Vote for one	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
CHRISTOPHER M. BOUTWELL Sr	147	55	58	63	46	38	407
OTHERS	3	5	0	1	5	4	18
BLANKS	63	19	14	16	26	13	151
TOTALS	213	79	72	80	77	55	576

MODERATOR, For two years						Vote for one	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
RAYMOND GODIN	167	65	69	73	57	41	472
OTHERS	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
BLANKS	46	13	3	7	20	13	102
TOTALS	213	79	72	80	77	55	576

TOWN CLERK, For three years						Vote for one	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
DEBRA A. BOURBEAU	178	69	69	74	67	46	503
OTHERS	1	2	0	0			3
BLANKS	34	8	3	6	10	9	70
TOTALS	213	79	72	80	77	55	576

TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR, For three years						Vote for one	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
EILEEN M. SEYMOUR	167	68	68	70	57	45	475
OTHERS	0	0	0	1	2	0	3
BLANKS	46	11	4	9	18	10	98
TOTALS	213	79	72	80	77	55	576

ASSESSOR, For three years						Vote for one	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
ANN L. FISK	175	64	69	66	57	42	473
OTHERS					1	0	1
BLANKS	38	15	3	14	19	13	102
TOTALS	213	79	72	80	77	55	576

BOARD OF HEALTH, For three years						Vote for one	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
KATHLEEN BUREK	70	39	24	25	19	18	195
CATHERINE DODDS	14	13	15	18	7	4	71
MAUREEN MCNAMARA	6	1	2	2	11	3	25
RACHEL STOLER	120	25	29	31	40	29	274
OTHERS	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
BLANKS	3		2	4	0	1	10
TOTALS	213	79	72	80	77	55	576

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION, For three years						Vote for one	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
Al Cummings				1	1	2	4
OTHERS	8	4	7	14	9	4	46
BLANKS	205	75	65	65	67	49	526
TOTALS	213	79	72	80	77	55	576

TREE WARDEN, For three years						Vote for one	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
MARK A. STEVENS	147	61	64	64	50	40	426
BLANKS	66	18	8	14	24	15	145
TOTALS	213	79	72	80	77	55	576

PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEE, For three Years						Vote for three	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
MARGOT G. MALACHOWSKI	149	60	60	70	52	39	430
NANCY L. CROWELL	125	52	56	58	48	34	373
WILLIAM QUALE	144	48	52	62	46	33	385
OTHERS	0	1		0	0	0	1
BLANKS	221	76	48	50	85	59	539
TOTALS	639	237	216	240	231	165	1728

TRUSTEE, SOLDIERS MEMORIAL (Veteran), For three years						Vote for one	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
JOHN T. MURPHY	156	63	64	71	55	41	450
BLANKS	57	16	8	9	22	14	126
TOTALS	213	79	72	80	77	55	576

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS, For three years		Vote for not more than seven
PRECINCT 1		
PATRICIA PERHAM	132	
ARIEL ELAN	135	
SAMUEL LOVEJOY	148	
DAVID DEMPSEY	132	
CHARLES EDWARDS	141	
ELIZABETH IRVING	135	
MARK FAIRBROTHER	131	
OTHERS	9	
BLANKS	528	
TOTAL	1491	

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For three years		Vote for not more than seven
PRECINCT 2		
JENNIFER TOBEY	55	
HAROLD JENSEN	63	
MICHAEL KETCHAM	53	
NANCY CROWELL	59	
Michael Henry	4	
Jaqueline Stine	2	
Michael Prentice	2	
OTHER	17	
BLANKS	298	
TOTALS	553	

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For one year		Vote for not more than one
PRECINCT 2		
Joshua Lively	2	
OTHER	9	
BLANKS	68	
TOTALS	79	

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For three years		Vote for not more than seven
PRECINCT 3		
ROLLAND PACKARD	58	
KRISTI BODIN	57	
RICHARD DUCHARME	60	
LOUISE DEREN	51	
BLANKS	278	
TOTAL	504	

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS, For two years		Vote for not more than two
PRECINCT 3		
OTHERS	1	
BLANKS	143	
TOTALS	144	

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS, For one year		Vote for not more than four
PRECINCT 3		
OTHERS		
BLANKS	288	
TOTALS	288	

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For three years		Vote for not more than seven
PRECINCT 4		
CHRISTOPHER BOUTWELL	57	
JEFFREY SINGLETON	60	
DONALD REID	55	
DENNIS GRADER	55	
JENNIFER AUDLEY	62	
Chelsey Little	5	
James Katsoulis	2	
OTHER	13	
BLANKS	251	
TOTALS	560	

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For three years		Vote for not more than seven
PRECINCT 5		
JOHN HANOLD	49	
RYNE HAGER	46	
PAMELA HANOLD	47	
APRIL REIPOLD	51	
Sofie Howard	4	
Janel Nockleby	9	
Maureen McNamara	2	
OTHERS	13	
BLANKS	318	
TOTAL	539	

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS, For two years		Vote for not more than four
PRECINCT 5		
Chris Sawyer Laucano	3	
Suzanne LoManto	2	
Rachel Roy	1	
OTHERS	11	
BLANKS	291	
TOTALS	308	

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS, For one year		Vote for not more than one
PRECINCT 5		
Marcus J. Campbell	3	
OTHERS	5	
BLANKS	69	
TOTALS	77	

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For three years		Vote for not more than seven
PRECINCT 6		
LILITH WOLINSKY	33	
JOHYN MURPHY	38	
KEVIN HASTINGS	35	
KAREN LATKA	38	
MELANIE AMES ZAMOJSKI	37	
PETER HUDYMA	35	
Frederick Billiel	2	
OTHERS	3	
BLANKS	164	
TOTAL	385	

This is a return of the total votes cast in the various precincts and returned to the Board of Registrars by the precinct clerks for the Town of Montague.

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Debra A. Bourbeau	
Stanley Dobosz	
Elizabeth Irving	
Anne Stuart	

Weather: Warm in the high 70's and Sunny

Attest:

Debra A. Bourbeau, Montague Town Clerk

**STATE PRIMARY ELECTION
OFFICIAL BALLOT
RESULTS
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
Tuesday, September 6, 2022**

According to the forgoing warrant, the legal votes of the six precincts of the Town of Montague, met in their respective polling places and cast votes for the following named offices of which the following is the total vote as returned by the Precinct Officers.

TOTAL NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST			
			Turnout by precinct
PRECINCT 1		430	34.68%
PRECINCT 2		223	19.72%
PRECINCT 3		234	22.50%
PRECINCT 4		225	21.89%
PRECINCT 5		138	14.04%
PRECINCT 6		176	17.36%
TOTAL		1426	22.16%

**STATE PRIMARY
OFFICIAL BALLOT OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY
TOWN OF MONTAGUE**

NUMBER OF <u>DEMOCRATIC</u> BALLOTS CAST			
			Turnout by precinct
PRECINCT 1		390	81.42%
PRECINCT 2		174	65.66%
PRECINCT 3		189	68.98%
PRECINCT 4		192	62.75%
PRECINCT 5		119	38.02%
PRECINCT 6		148	54.61%
TOTAL		1212	63.52%

PRECINCT	GOVERNOR						Vote for One	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	
SONIA ROSA CHANG-DIAZ	53	25	24	19	28	23	172	
MAURA HEALY	330	144	161	168	89	120	1012	
others	0	2	0	2	0	0	4	
BLANKS	7	3	4	3	2	5	24	
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212	

	LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR					Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL	127	54	49	48	29	35	342
TAMI GOUVEIA	62	21	23	31	41	26	204
ERIC P. LESSER	179	94	111	105	46	86	621
others	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
BLANKS	21	4	6	8	3	1	43
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212
	ATTORNEY GENERAL					Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
ANDREA JOY CAMPBELL	182	69	57	68	43	58	477
SHANNON ERIKA LISS-RIORDAN	129	56	72	77	54	69	457
QUENTIN PALFREY	56	43	54	39	20	19	231
others	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
BLANKS	22	6	6	8	2	2	46
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212
	SECRETARY OF STATE					Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN	209	123	155	128	59	94	768
TANISHA M. SULLIVAN	160	49	32	60	57	51	409
others	3	0	0	1	0	0	4
BLANKS	18	2	2	3	3	3	31
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212
	TREASURER					Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
DEBORAH B. GOLDBERG	314	156	159	174	97	130	1030
others	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
BLANKS	75	18	30	17	21	18	179
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212
	AUDITOR					Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
CHRISTOPHER S. DEMPSEY	190	83	72	72	35	64	516
DIANA DIZOGLIO	145	83	95	103	73	80	579
others	1	1	0	1	0	0	3
BLANKS	54	7	22	16	11	4	114
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212

	REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS						Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	
JAMES P. MCGOVERN	355	161	173	185	107	137	1118	
others	2	1	0	0	1	0	4	
BLANKS	33	12	16	7	11	11	90	
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212	
	COUNCILLOR						Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	
SHAWN P. ALLYN	58	36	41	26	14	33	208	
MICHAEL ANTHONY FENTON	65	37	44	41	23	33	243	
TARA J. JACOBS	122	60	54	72	51	40	399	
JEFFREY S. MORNEAU	83	28	32	33	15	26	217	
others	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	
BLANKS	60	13	18	20	16	16	143	
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212	
	SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT						Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	
JO COMERFORD	356	161	176	180	108	137	1118	
other	2	1	0	1	1	0	5	
BLANKS	32	12	13	11	10	11	89	
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212	
	REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT						Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	
NATALIE M. BLAIS	350	161	170	181	108	136	1106	
others	1	1	0	0	1	0	3	
BLANKS	39	12	19	11	10	12	103	
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212	
	DISTRICT ATTORNEY						Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	
DAVID E. SULLIVAN	328	155	163	174	101	131	1052	
others	1	0	1	1	0	0	3	
BLANKS	61	19	25	17	18	17	157	
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212	
	SHERIFF						Vote for One	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	
CHRISTOPHER J. DONELAN	322	153	168	170	92	130	1035	
other	1	1	1	2	0	0	5	
BLANKS	67	20	20	20	27	18	172	
TOTALS	390	174	189	192	119	148	1212	

STATE ELECTION
Montague, MA
Tuesday, November 8, 2022

According to the forgoing warrant, the legal votes of the six precincts of the Town of Montague, met in their respective polling places and cast votes for the following named offices is of which the following the total vote as returned by the Precinct Officers.

TOTAL NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST

Turnout by precinct

PRECINCT 1	840	66.61%
PRECINCT 2	543	47.01%
PRECINCT 3	601	57.51%
PRECINCT 4	553	53.33%
PRECINCT 5	392	39.56%
PRECINCT 6	500	48.36%
TOTAL	3429	52.57%

GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR							Vote for One
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
Diehl and Allen	137	174	204	149	70	133	867
Healey and Driscoll	686	349	384	397	306	352	2474
Reed and Everett	14	15	8	4	10	11	62
Write-Ins	1	0	1	0	1	0	3
BLANKS	2	5	4	3	5	4	23
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

ATTORNEY GENERAL							Vote for One
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
Andrea Joy Campbell	690	354	380	387	316	362	2489
James R. McMahon, III	138	177	210	151	71	130	877
Write-Ins	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
BLANKS	12	12	11	14	5	8	62
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

SECRETARY OF STATE							Vote for One
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
William Francis Galvin	645	354	410	389	274	346	2418
Rayla Campbell	110	148	158	128	55	111	710
Juan Sanchez	79	36	23	27	55	37	257
Write-Ins	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
BLANKS	6	5	10	8	8	6	43
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

TREASURER							Vote for One
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
Deborah B. Goldberg	706	378	441	427	313	366	2631
Cristina Crawford	90	122	104	81	52	96	545
Write-Ins	2	0	2	4	1	0	9
BLANKS	42	43	54	41	26	38	244
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

AUDITOR							Vote for One
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
Anthony Amore	129	169	202	141	62	121	824
Diana DiZoglio	553	276	319	328	234	291	2001
Gloria A. Caballero-Roca	97	38	30	33	49	42	289
Dominic Giannone, III	21	23	11	16	21	20	112
Daniel Reik	10	14	7	8	11	10	60
Write-Ins	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
BLANKS	30	23	32	26	15	16	142
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS							Vote for One
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
James P. McGovern	713	364	420	404	312	370	2583
Jeffrey A. Sossa-Paquette	117	164	171	134	61	121	768
Write-Ins	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
BLANKS	10	15	10	14	19	9	77
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

Second District COUNCILLOR							Vote for One
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
John M. Comerford	144	186	232	159	78	137	936
Tara J. Jacobs	671	334	341	369	298	342	2355
Write-Ins	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
BLANKS	24	23	28	24	16	20	135
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

Eighth District SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT							Vote for One
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
Jo Comerford	738	433	474	445	338	411	2839
Write-Ins	9	6	9	9	2	1	36
BLANKS	93	104	118	99	52	88	554
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

Hampshire, Franklin & Worcester District REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT							Vote for One
--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--------------

PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
Natalie M. Blais	740	433	474	448	328	412	2835
Write-Ins	8	2	12	7	2	3	34
BLANKS	92	108	115	98	62	85	560
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

First Franklin District								DISTRICT ATTORNEY								Vote for One							
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL																
David E. Sullivan	719	429	482	440	324	411	2805																
Write-Ins	7	3	10	9	2	2	33																
BLANKS	114	111	109	104	66	87	591																
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429																

Northwestern District								SHERIFF								Vote for One							
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL																
Christopher J. Donelan	706	433	490	453	324	406	2812																
Write-Ins	8	8	11	6	4	2	39																
BLANKS	126	102	100	94	64	92	578																
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429																

Franklin County								COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE								Vote for One							
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL																
Jane M. Pierce	593	394	462	406	284	371	2510																
Write-Ins	7	3	5	7	2	1	25																
BLANKS	240	146	134	140	106	128	894																
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429																

QUESTION 1							
PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT							
QUESTION 1				QUESTION 1			
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
YES	628	358	364	354	303	345	2352
NO	190	176	217	183	74	145	985
BLANKS	22	9	20	16	15	10	92
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

QUESTION 2							
LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION							
QUESTION 2						QUESTION 2	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
YES	705	412	429	415	306	382	2649
NO	116	116	158	121	69	110	690
BLANKS	19	15	14	17	17	8	90
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

QUESTION 3							
LAW PROPOSED BY INITIATIVE PETITION							
QUESTION 3						QUESTION 3	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
YES	439	230	247	274	202	217	1609
NO	347	285	335	258	167	260	1652
BLANKS	54	28	19	21	23	23	168
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

QUESTION 4							
REFERENDUM ON AN EXISTING LAW							
QUESTION 4						QUESTION 4	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
YES	638	302	296	326	295	294	2151
NO	188	230	293	213	90	197	1211
BLANKS	14	11	12	14	7	9	67
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

QUESTION 5							
THIS QUESTION IS NOT BINDING							
QUESTION 5						QUESTION 5	
PRECINCT	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL
YES	531	263	257	284	268	249	1852
NO	223	242	282	212	90	205	1254
BLANKS	86	38	62	57	34	46	323
TOTALS	840	543	601	553	392	500	3429

Stanley Dobosz _____
 Elizabeth Irving _____
 Anne Stuart _____
 Debra Bourbeau _____
 BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Attest

 Debra Bourbeau, Montague Town Clerk

WEATHER: Sunny and Breezy, low 50s. Gorgeous fall day

Town of Montague
Combining Balance Sheet
Year Ended June 30, 2022

Assets	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise Fund	Trust & Agency	Total Memo-Only
Cash	5,554,268	2,887,804	(39,503)	713,189	4,961,124	14,076,882
Receivables:						-
Personal Property Taxes	188,475					188,475
Real Estate Taxes	516,089					516,089
Allowance For Abatements	(759,625)					(759,625)
Tax Liens	297,146			195,108		492,254
MV Excise	150,327					150,327
Other Excise Taxes	1,248					1,248
User Fees				151,213		151,213
Utility Liens Added to Taxes				20,789		20,789
Departmental	985			-		985
Due from Other						
Governments	3,875					3,875
Other Receivables	107,016			440		107,456
Tax Foreclosures	329,661			1,261		330,922
Due From Other Funds	650			20,449	-	21,099
Total Assets	6,390,115	2,887,804	(39,503)	1,102,449	4,961,124	15,301,989
Liabilities						
Warrants Payable	530,266	235,161	37,373	64,617	-	867,417
Accrued Payroll	69,391	4,889		8,972		83,252
Withholdings Payable	28,913					28,913
Due to Other Funds	1,566	-		-	-	1,566
Due To Other Govt	107,712					107,712

Town of Montague
Combining Balance Sheet
Year Ended June 30, 2022

Assets	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise Fund	Trust & Agency	Total Memo-Only
Other Liabilities	50,987	9,584				60,571
Deferred Revenue:						-
Real & Personal Property	(55,060)					(55,060)
Tax Liens	297,146			195,108		492,254
Foreclosures/Possessions	329,661			1,261		330,922
MV Excise	150,327					150,327
Other Excise	1,248					1,248
User Fees				151,213		151,213
Utility Liens Added to Taxes				20,789		20,789
Departmental	984					984
Prepaid Taxes/Fees				949		949
Tailings				50		50
Total Liabilities	1,513,141	249,634	37,373	442,959	-	2,243,107
Fund Balance						
Reserved For Encumbrances	28,528			110		28,638
Reserved For Expenditures	200,000					200,000
Reserved For Continuing Approp.	1,247,172	2,638,170	(76,876)	234,765		4,043,231
Reserved for Debt Service					184,643	184,643
Reserved for Premiums	487					487
Undesignated Fund Balance	3,400,787				4,776,481	8,177,268
Undesignated Retained Earnings				424,615		424,615
Total Fund Balance	4,876,974	2,638,170	(76,876)	659,490	4,961,124	13,058,882
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	6,390,115	2,887,804	(39,503)	1,102,449	4,961,124	15,301,989

Town of Montague
Combining Income Statement
Year Ended June 30, 2022

Revenues	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise Fund	Trust & Agency	Total Memo Only
General Government	24,476,826	3,047,944			347,980	27,872,750
Public Safety	232,162	320,594			3,127	555,883
Education					2,423	2,423
Public Works	363,805	431,296		2,823,659	332,977	3,951,737
Human Services	70,185	158,759				228,944
Culture/Recreation	1,376	120,641			268	122,285
Intergovernmental			645,402	16,500		661,902
Miscellaneous		476,240	109,386	50		585,676
Proceeds from Bonds/Notes			2,785,000			2,785,000
Transfers In	973,008		207,719	268,628	1,097,580	2,546,935
Total Revenues & OFS	26,117,362	4,555,474	3,747,507	3,108,837	1,784,355	39,313,535
Expenditures						
General Government	1,208,662	1,968,641			6,700	3,184,003
Public Safety	2,271,632	261,892			3,752	2,537,276
Education	12,171,859				2,200	12,174,059
Public Works	2,239,033	403,112	637,509	2,016,655		5,296,309
Human Services	258,377	79,535				337,912
Culture/Recreation	598,268	130,110				728,378
Debt	1,054,155			492,272		1,546,427
Intergovernmental	204,643			17,265		221,908
Miscellaneous	3,121,203			465,066		3,586,269
Transfers Out	1,328,927	37,185		392,000	990,304	2,748,416

Town of Montague
Combining Income Statement
Year Ended June 30, 2022

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Enterprise Fund	Trust & Agency	Total Memo Only
Net Revenues - Expenditures	1,660,603	1,674,999	3,109,998	(274,421)	781,399	6,952,578
Beginning Fund Balance	3,216,370	1,118,004	(3,186,874)	933,910	4,179,725	6,261,135
Ending Fund Balance	4,876,973	2,793,003	(76,876)	659,489	4,961,124	13,213,713

Town of Montague
Appropriation Analysis FY2022

Name	FY2022 ATM	Prior Yr Bal Fwd	STM Votes	Transfers/ Other	Adjusted Budget	Expended	Balance Closed	Balance Forwarded
GENERAL FUND page 1 of 4								
Town Meeting	2,140				2,140	2,140	-	
Selectmen	194,971				194,971	190,330	4,641	
Finance Committee	700		1,300		2,000	1,916	84	
Reserve Fund	60,000			(28,650)	31,350		31,350	
Town Accountant	83,400				83,400	82,671	729	
Assessors	179,952				179,952	156,650	9,526	13,776
Collector/Treasurer	229,164				229,164	212,738	16,426	
Town Counsel	85,000				85,000	62,526	22,474	
Information Technology	97,800				97,800	54,706	28,428	14,666
Shared Costs	77,579				77,579	66,014	11,565	
Town Clerk	155,379			7,000	162,379	162,170	123	86
Planning	123,121				123,121	122,406	715	
Zoning Board of Appeals	700				700	309	391	
MEDIC	5,000				5,000	4,884	116	
Building Utilities	109,846				109,846	89,201	20,645	
Police	1,814,945				1,814,945	1,757,918	57,027	
Dispatch	310,291		29,000		339,291	328,764	10,527	
Building Inspector	143,080				143,080	126,712	16,368	
Sealer of Weights/Measures	2,750				2,750	2,750	-	
Emergency Management	6,265				6,265	5,765	500	
Animal Control	21,527				21,527	20,390	1,137	
Forest Warden	1,710				1,710	1,710	-	
Tree Warden	30,285				30,285	27,622	2,663	
Education	12,171,859				12,171,859	12,171,859	-	
DPW	1,544,245				1,544,245	1,419,474	124,771	
Snow & Ice	278,050				278,050	236,596	41,454	
Solid Waste	624,796				624,796	565,345	59,451	

Town of Montague
Appropriation Analysis FY2022

GENERAL FUND page 2 of 4 Name	FY2022 ATM	Prior Yr Bal Fwd	STM Votes	Transfers	Adjusted Budget	Expended	Balance Closed	Balance Forwarded
EV Charging Stations	6,000				6,000	4,250	1,750	
Cemeteries	13,440				13,440	13,367	73	
Board of Health	160,507			350	160,857	160,829	28	
Council on Aging	46,521				46,521	38,780	7,741	
Veteran's Services	87,800				87,800	58,768	29,032	
Library	437,744		10,616		448,360	446,391	1,969	
Parks & Recreation	147,944			3,900	151,844	150,685	1,159	
Historical Commission	500				500	-	500	
War Memorials	1,300				1,300	1,192	108	
Debt Service	1,066,809				1,066,809	1,054,154	12,655	
State Assessments	91,919				91,919	93,259	(1,340)	
Other Intergovernmental	111,609				111,609	111,384	225	
Employee Benefits	2,397,861				2,397,861	2,161,815	236,046	
Insurance	115,000				115,000	104,259	10,741	
Transfers to Other Funds	468,808		842,719	17,400	1,328,927	1,328,927	-	
<u>Special Articles</u>					-		-	
#1 5/5/12 Repair 38 Ave A		12,099			12,099		-	12,099
#10 3/2/17 Stabilize Strathmore		3,352			3,352		-	3,352
#44 5/6/17 Millers Falls Comm.		954			954		-	954
#2 2/19/19 Town Hall Roofs		20,830			20,830	413	-	20,417
#18A 5/22/21 Unsafe Bldgs	25,000				25,000		-	25,000
#18C 5/22/21 Project Overruns	25,000				25,000	18,861	-	6,139
#19 5/22/21 BldgAssess/CapPlan	50,000				50,000		-	50,000
#21A 5/22/21 PY Town Cannabis	14,012				14,012	14,012	-	
#21B 5/22/21 PY TFFD Cannabis	5,538				5,538	5,538	-	
#21D 5/22/21 Prevention Program	8,500				8,500	4,279	-	4,221
#21E 5/22/21 Sch SubAbuse Couns	85,000				85,000	72,576	-	12,424

Town of Montague
Appropriation Analysis FY2022

GENERAL FUND page 3 of 4 Name	FY2022 ATM	Prior Yr Bal Fwd	STM Votes	Transfers	Adjusted Budget	Expended	Balance Closed	Balance Forwarded
#24 5th St Bridge Easement	700				700	700	-	
#9 10/16/21 Sub Abuse Prevent			50,000		50,000	11,120	-	38,880
#15 5/4/19 Hydroelectric Valuation		50,000			50,000	21,000	-	29,000
#13 5/22/21 Utility Valuation	13,130				13,130	11,130	-	2,000
#10 3/3/22 AssesPro + Comp			25,100		25,100	6,441	-	18,659
#27 5/5/18 Town Map Storage		3,902			3,902		-	3,902
#7 10/10/18 Subdivision Plans		859			859		859	
#8 10/10/18 Technical Review		12,250			12,250	12,250	-	
#25 5/4/19 In Park Signs		1,767			1,767		-	1,767
#15 6/13/20 Fix Walking Paths		19,060			19,060		-	19,060
#18B 5/22/21 Unexp Engineering	25,000				25,000	1,385	-	23,615
#20 5/22/21 Phase II 500 Ave A	32,500				32,500	25,731	-	6,769
#22 5/4/19 Police Equipment		8,483			8,483	8,483	-	
#21C 5/22/21 Cannabis Intox	7,000				7,000		-	7,000
#16 5/5/18 Sheffield Intercom		30,000			30,000		-	30,000
#17 5/5/18 Hillcrest Intercom		25,000			25,000		-	25,000
#13 6/13/20 Ctrl Office Canopy		10,000			10,000		-	10,000
#13 6/13/20 Hillcrest Roof		3,297			3,297	2,000	-	1,297
#13 6/13/20 GMRSD Bldgs Study		6,953			6,953		-	6,953
#14A 5/22/21 Hillcrest Façade	55,000				55,000		-	55,000
#14B 5/22/21 Sheffield Façade	45,000				45,000		-	45,000
#14C 5/22/21 Sheffield Fire Alarm	90,000				90,000	908	-	89,092
#15 5/22/21 GMRSD Tennis Ct	56,511				56,511	27,345	-	29,166
#11 3/3/22 Smith Votech FY22			20,100		20,100	19,427	673	
#12 3/3/22 Hillcrest Flooring			295,000		295,000	899	-	294,101
#15 6/13/20 DPW Equipment		10,111			10,111	10,111	-	
#16 5/22/21 DPW Equipment	100,000				100,000	55,787	-	44,213

Town of Montague
Appropriation Analysis FY2022

GENERAL FUND page 4 of 4 Name	FY2022 ATM	Prior Yr Bal Fwd	STM Votes	Transfers	Adjusted Budget	Expended	Balance Closed	Balance Forwarded
#10 10/16/21 Robotic Camera		114,382			114,382	114,382	-	
#4 3/3/22 Sewer Vactor		125,000			125,000		-	125,000
#8 9/25/01 Cap Burn Dump		24,415			24,415	12,250	-	12,165
#10 10/13/20 Burn Dump		82,000			82,000	69,500	-	12,500
#2 3/3/22 Cem Emerg Exp			10,000		10,000	1,000	-	9,000
#3 3/2/22 Burnham Cem Repair			10,000		10,000	3,200	-	6,800
#26 5/22/21 Mosquito Control	10,000				10,000		-	10,000
#15 6/13/20 Sr Ctr Chimney		700			700		-	700
#2 10/13/20 Sr Ctr Roof		49,200			49,200	25,986	-	23,214
#23 5/7/16 Carnegie Roof		2,505			2,505		-	2,505
#25 5/6/17 Carnegie Air Exchange		5,000			5,000		-	5,000
#26 5/6/17 Carnegie Roof		2,035			2,035		-	2,035
#27 5/6/17 Library Blgs Study		36,000			36,000	750	-	35,250
#24 5/4/19 Carnegie Doors		1,000			1,000	998	2	
#25 5/4/19 MC Library Moisture		22,050			22,050	17,950	-	4,100
#26 5/4/19 MF Library Moisture		5,600			5,600	3,150	-	2,450
#9 3/3/22 Carnegie Driveway			5,270		5,270	5,270	-	
#29 5/6/17 Unity Park Walkways		15,000			15,000	15,000	-	
#11 10/2/19 Fieldhouse Roof		79,372			79,372		-	79,372
#3 10/13/20 MC Park Survey		5,000			5,000	3,000	-	2,000
#5 3/3/22 P&R Riding Mower			2,500		2,500	2,299	201	
Total General Fund	24,406,208	788,176	1,301,605	-	26,495,989	24,456,757	763,533	1,275,699

Town of Montague
Appropriation Analysis FY2022

Name	FY2021 ATM	Prior Yr Bal Fwd	STM Votes	Transfers	Adjusted Budget	Expended	Balance Closed	Balance Forwarded
<u>AIRPORT ENTERPRISE FUND</u>								
Airport Commission	156,483		32,377	34,559	223,419	222,949	470	
Debt	37,789			(34,559)	3,230	3,230	-	
Employee Benefits	11,892		(3,000)		8,892	8,526	366	
Total Airport Enterprise Fund	206,164	-	29,377	-	235,541	234,705	836	-
<u>CWF ENTERPRISE FUND</u>								
CWF	1,751,791	-	13,367		1,765,158	1,662,653	102,395	110
Highway Subsidiary	50,800				50,800	34,833	15,967	
Debt	514,047				514,047	489,042	25,005	
Employee Benefits	270,333		(3,000)		267,333	228,343	38,990	
Transfers to Other Funds	180,000		200,000		380,000	380,000	-	
<u>Special Articles</u>								
#7 10/29/14 Lab Software		20,000			20,000		-	20,000
#17 5/4/19 Composting Study		42,000			42,000	34,619	-	7,381
#18 5/4/19 Millers Falls I & I		2,613			2,613	2,613	-	
#19 5/4/19 TS Pump Stations		288			288		288	
#10 10/2/19 MF Infiltration		39,753			39,753	21,637	-	18,116
#7 3/5/20 Oil Tank/Vault		63,100			63,100	-	-	63,100
#14 6/13/20 Fine Bubble Diffuser		87,919			87,919	8,139	-	79,780
#5 2/25/21 Chlorination System		211,992			211,992	132,999	-	78,993
#6 2/25/21 De-Watering Press		14,823			14,823	14,823	-	
	2,766,971	482,488	210,367	-	3,459,826	3,009,701	182,645	267,480

Town of Montague
Special Revenue Fund Activity
Year Ended June 30, 2022

Name	Balance 7/1/2021	Receipts	Expended	Balance 7/15/2022
Police Extra Duty	(48,252)	237,974	238,052	(48,330)
Ins Reimb < \$20K	1,776	12,857		14,633
Chapter 90	-	362,065	362,065	-
Financial Planning Grant	15,000		15,000	-
ARPA Grant	429,769	798,553	135,747	1,092,575
ARPA Municipal Relief		82,574	16,633	65,941
Greenhouse Mobility	4,316			4,316
Hydro Flower	(537)	537		-
Early Voting Grant	2,790		1,348	1,442
CTCL Grant	259		259	-
Wetlands Protection	19,043	723	190	19,576
River Culture Grant	9,282	25,671	21,997	12,956
Agricultural Commission	6			6
ConComm SRRHMF Gifts	11,000			11,000
MVP Planning FY17	20,310			20,310
Green Communities	-	16,182	5,910	10,272
MC Road Flooding		201,481	11,039	190,442
Cultural District	1,379	9,000	5,356	5,023
MassDOT Share Streets	78	127,337	127,415	-
Resurgent Places	2,347		2,077	270
Green Infrastructure		10,522	10,522	-
Ferry Rd Culvert Design		7,517	15,127	(7,610)
Pesky Park Audio Tour		9,000	8,402	598
Master Plan Elements			5,256	(5,256)
Urban Agenda		100,000	100,000	-
REDO State Grant		59,500	15,241	44,259
Festival Grants		1,500	1,500	-
Complete Streets	-	399,676	399,676	-
Judd Wire - Complete Streets	-	21,000	21,000	-
Chestnut Hill Loop Bridge	30,712	450,000	421,255	59,457
CDBG FCRHA	-	560,269	560,269	-
Comm Dev Discretionary	48,689	52,857	23,165	78,381
Bullet Proof Vests	-	5,625	5,625	-
Dispatch Incentive Grant	-	27,125	27,125	-
911 Grant	-	2,663	2,874	(211)
Byrne Grant	(29,810)	29,810		-

Town of Montague
Special Revenue Fund Activity
Year Ended June 30, 2022

Name	Balance 7/1/2021	Receipts	Expended	Balance 7/15/2022
Drug Forfeiture	1,609	452		2,061
K-9 Donations	27,173	940	2,080	26,033
Police DMH Grant			11,858	(11,858)
Wood Bank Donations		60		60
Wood Bank	(1,133)	1,133		-
Memorial Tree	924	680	225	1,379
MF Tree Planting	250			250
Transportation Infrastructure	73	7	60	20
Eversource Flail Lease	(24,372)	24,372	24,372	(24,372)
Recycling Dividends Program	7,124	9,600	16,675	49
COVID-19 FEMA/CARES	(72,900)	123,023	50,123	-
FRCOG COVID-19	1,506			1,506
FEMA COVID Vaccinations	(7,278)	7,278		-
State COA Grant	23,421	23,052	27,728	18,745
COA Memorial Gifts	8,188	5,407	1,684	11,911
Program Income	27			27
State Aid to Library	63,128	17,683	14,652	66,159
Library Preservation Grant	30,000		30,000	-
Library Donations	40,164	303	1,211	39,256
Library Festival Grant		1,500	1,500	-
Skatepark Donation	2,114		8	2,106
Montague Center Park	5,295	3,400	4,056	4,639
Unity Festival Grant		1,500	1,205	295
Cultural Council	7,361	13,808	4,570	16,599
War Memorial Grant	10,043			10,043
PEG Access Funds		12,500	12,500	-
Total Fund 225	699,807	3,247,095	2,165,693	1,781,209
Sale of Cemetery Lots	3,800	300		4,100
Sale of Highland Lots		34,953	10,000	24,953
Sale of Real Estate	139,206	476,240		615,446
Total Fund 226	143,006	511,493	10,000	644,499
Recreation Revolving	(5,029)	69,946	60,408	4,509
Total Fund 227	(5,029)	69,946	60,408	4,509
Colle Operations	326,697	114,046	44,258	396,485

**TOWN OF MONTAGUE
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS ACTIVITY SCHEDULE
6/30/2022**

<u>Account</u>	<u>Balance 7/1/2021</u>	<u>Bonds</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Transfer In/Out</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balance 6/30/22</u>
						-
#24 5/7/11 Turnpike Rd Town	15,360					15,360
Buildings/Infrastructure	(369,528)	276,000	93,091	200,000	263,277	(63,714)
#1 3/29/18 DPW Facility	(1,318,318)	1,295,000	85,196	7,719	17,235	52,362
Airport Capital Projects	(1,514,387)	1,214,000	576,501		356,997	(80,883)
WPCF Capital Projects	-					-
Totals	<u>(3,186,873)</u>	<u>2,785,000</u>	<u>754,788</u>	<u>207,719</u>	<u>637,509</u>	<u>(76,875)</u>

TOWN OF MONTAGUE
REVENUE DETAIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

GENERAL FUND

General Revenue

Taxes (net of refunds)	
Personal Property	\$ 3,599,354
Real Estate	17,026,051
Tax Liens Redeemed	89,245
Tax Foreclosures	-
Motor Vehicle Excise	962,540
Boat Excise	-
Penalties & Interest on Taxes	287,005
RMV Non-Renewal Surcharge	12,100
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	11,692
Trailer Park Taxes	3,264
Meals Tax	62,284
Total Taxes	<u>22,053,535</u>

State Revenues

State Owned Land	252,976
Abatements to Veterans/Elderly	45,052
Unrestricted Local Aid	1,575,096
Court Fines	763
Comm MA Motor Vehicle Infractions	1,862
Other State Revenue	11,963
Veteran's Benefits (State Reimb)	63,287
Total State Revenue	<u>1,950,999</u>

Other

FCTS SRO Reimb	78,999
GMRSD SRO Reimb	50,250
Earnings on Investments	1,713
Miscellaneous Revenue	127,975
Kearsarge Rental	164,494
Premium from Sale of Debt	487
Transfers from Other Funds	973,008
Airport Overhead to Town	1,405
WPCF Overhead to Town	54,087
Total Other	<u>1,452,418</u>

Departmental Revenue

Board of Selectmen	17,677
Board of Assessors	4,603
Treasurer/Collector	14,473

TOWN OF MONTAGUE
REVENUE DETAIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

Town Clerk	17,830
Planning & Conservation	1,035
Zoning Board of Appeals	550
Police	39,983
Dispatch	
Building	183,528
Sealer of Weights & Measures	3,103
Dog Licenses	5,549
Hwy - Trash	326,610
Hwy - Other	2,427
Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	763
Board of Health	34,005
Council on Aging - Gill Reimbursement	6,898
Libraries	1,376
Total Departmental Revenue	<u>660,410</u>
Total General Fund Revenue	<u><u>\$ 26,117,362</u></u>

AIRPORT ENTERPRISE FUND

Airport PILOTS	\$ 16,066
Rentals/Leases	170,158
Investment Income	47
Other Fees	10,085
Transfer from General Fund (Tax Share)	9,900
Total Airport Enterprise Fund Revenue	<u><u>\$ 206,256</u></u>

CWF ENTERPRISE FUND

Tax Liens Redeemed	\$ 7,516
Sewer Liens Redeemed	76,504
Interest & Demands	15,548
Industrial Sewer Fees	509,669
Residential Sewer Fees	1,752,954
Septage Fees	173,818
Grants	16,500
Sewer Permits	355
Investment Income	3
Miscellaneous Receipts	5,715
Transfer from General Fund (Tax Share)	251,228
Total WPCF Enterprise Fund Revenue	<u><u>\$ 2,809,810</u></u>

Airport

The Turners Falls Municipal Airport, overseen by the Airport Commission, completed multiple projects in 2022 totaling over six hundred thousand dollars. Most notably, the first year of loan repayments for the 2021 purchase of the Pioneer Aviation property was made totaling just over \$105,000. Other notable achievements in 2022 include the completion of a multi-level study that will guide the current and future development of the Pioneer Aviation property. In 2022 the airport employed 5 people, consisting of an Airport Manager, 30-hour per week Operations Manager, and 3 part time Franklin County Technical School co-op grounds maintenance team members. The slower than desired yet steady increase in operations in 2022 totaled 42,000 +/-, of which 42% directly related to flight training and another 28% was passenger arrival or departure related. The grant funded solar canopy, located in the administration office parking lot off Millers Falls Road generated 37.07 Mwh of clean, renewable energy, offsetting 31% of electricity consumption airport wide. Our electric vehicle charging stations dispensed 582 kWh of free, clean energy to users in 2022.

The Pioneer Aviation purchase, completed on April 15th, 2021, continues to be extremely beneficial to the airport and the aviation community. Ongoing property repairs and upgrades in 2022 included some roof replacement, electrical system overhaul, fire suppression upgrades, and exterior painting. Fuel sales were at expected levels for the duration of 2022, totaling just over \$78,000. New to the airport this year was a Jet-A fueling system, which will allow refueling services to be provided to helicopter and some charter operators. These sales were previously lost to surrounding airport and should generate an additional \$7,000 to \$9,000 in annual revenue for 2023.

Staffing continues to be maintained at near to adequate levels for the duties of running the facility. The Operations Manager position continues to oversee the day-to-day operations of the airfield. In 2022 the employee in the position continued his professional development, obtaining the proper credentials and experience to act as an airport manager. The intern / co-op student position continues to benefit the airport and is under the supervision of the Operations Manager. The program in its fifth year now has resulted in a drastic reduction to the workload of the Airport Manager. The duties of the Airport Manager have shifted over the last few year from a property maintenance person to a business development and customer relations role. Some of the duties for the students and the Operations Manager include but are not limited to snow removal, painting, mowing, grounds upkeep, lighting system repairs and LED upgrades, public relations, aircraft fueling, trash removal, vegetation management, and pavement maintenance.

Currently the Turners Falls Municipal Airport is home to 42 aircraft, an increase from 41 based aircraft in 2021. The airport is the home to Fly Pioneer Valley, a long-term business offering all aspects of flight training. R.B. Gray Aircraft Maintenance continues to support the flying community with top notch repairs and service. The airport continues to have a strong work study program with the Franklin County Technical School, located next to the airfield. In late December 2022 it was announced that the Technical School was awarded 4.2 million dollars to establish an Aviation Maintenance Training technical program. This was extremely exciting news, and in the spring of 2023 the construction of a large hangar will begin on airport property to house the program. This will result in additional rental income for the land lease and growth in both the based aircraft population and transient traffic. The school has on many occasions provided the airport with quality and cost-effective work to maintain and improve the grounds and systems. The Airport Commission thanks the citizens of the Town of Montague for the support as the airport continues to thrive. The entire airport team is looking forward to a successful 2023 as the airport will continue to see the positive return from the continued investment in the facilities.

Airport Commission:

Gary Collins

David Brule

Seth Rutherford

Max Pellerin

Joe Mazeski

Airport Manager:

Bryan Camden

Board of Assessors

Listed below are figures taken from the FY2022 Tax Recapitulation Sheet.

Total Appropriations	\$28,804,364.45
Offsets to Cherry Sheet	18,651.00
State Assessments	91,919.00
Overlay for abatements/exemptions	69,424.73
Court Judgment and Debt Expense	0.00

Total to be Raised **\$28,984,359.18**

Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue Sources

Cherry Sheet Receipts	\$ 1,934,825.00
Local Receipts	1,614,837.00
Enterprise funds	3,232,274.33
Free Cash	1,314,682.00
Other available funds	680,201.92
	<u>\$8,776,820.25</u>

New Growth: \$ 169,792.00

Taxable Valuation

Real Property	\$909,001,782.00
Personal Property	\$115,892,440.00
Total Taxable Valuation	<u>1,024,892,222.00</u>

Total Exempt Valuation **\$171,049,730.00**

Total Tax Levy: **\$ 20,207,538.93**

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann M. Cenzano, Chairman
Ann E. Fisk
Rebecca Sabelawski
Montague Board of Assessors

Board of Health

The 2022 Annual Report of the Montague Board of Health is herewith submitted to the Honorable Select Board and the Citizens of Montague for the calendar year ending December 31, 2022.

As the Board of Health continued to navigate and respond to the changing public health landscape and needs of our residents the town saw economic expansion with a couple of new restaurants opening along with the continuation of community events including the Soap Box Derby, and the final Great Falls Festival.

In the office, we continued to meet and complete routine duties including but not limited to septic, housing, wells, burial permitting, complaints, and all the permitting for events and businesses. Additionally, the office took on many new and expanded duties in the COVID-19 public health world. The management and responsibility of COVID-19 and Flu vaccines were done in partnership with the Franklin Regional Council of Government. The office also continued to disseminate COVID-19 information, fliers, and test kits from DPH while keeping the community informed of the ever-changing needs during this time. Finally, the Board of Health found a balance between internal and external expectations all the while meeting the needs of providing the best possible outcome for our residents.

Melanie Ames Zamojski MSN, RN serves as Board of Health Chair for Montague. Melanie and her family have lived in Montague for 20 years. Her extensive nursing experience includes nursing at a Regional Trauma Center, local community hospital and most recently she has worked as a COVID-19 contact tracing nurse in Franklin County. She is currently an Assistant Dean of Nursing at Greenfield Community College. She and her family enjoy camping, hiking, and walking their Field Spaniel, Ben on the Canal Trail.

Rachel Stoler was elected to the Board of Health in 2022. She has lived in Turners Falls for the past 20 years, where she raised two children who are now committed voters! She is passionate about community health and values getting to know her fellow community members. She loves the outdoors, local food, and local music. She is excited about the Crossroads: Change in Rural America exhibit and related events, and the Montague Comprehensive Planning workshops.

Michael Nelson works full time as a public health emergency preparedness planner for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Michael donates considerable time and expertise to Montague's emergency preparedness program. Michael is the coordinator of the popular Great Falls Festival held for the last time this past October and is the President of the Franklin County Fairgrounds located in Greenfield Massachusetts.

Daniel Wasiuk, Director of Public Health for Montague. He has met the continuing challenges head on including extensive COVID-19 meetings, community updates and various stages of the vaccine roll out. Daniel came to Montague with a wealth of knowledge from his previous jobs in the towns of Greenfield and Northampton, Massachusetts as well as working and traveling the country for National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) as a Food Safety Auditor/Consultant, Food Assessments and Studies. Daniel's skill base of planning and management has been an asset to both the welfare of the community and the Montague Board of Health as a whole. Daniel graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a degree in science. Daniel enjoys the Pioneer Valley and the outdoors in general. In his free time, you can find him in the mountains skiing or in the woods taking in the scenery with family and friends.

Anne E. H. Stuart, Board of Health Clerk for Montague continues to be a dedicated staff member with over twelve years of experience and a keen sense of what needs to get done without hesitation. Anne continues to excel and be instrumental in the daily running of the department with her attention to detail in the handling of various permits, complaints, rabies exposures and situations that are ever-changing

and a daily occurrence here in the office. Anne exceeded in going above and beyond to help our residents with the ever-changing landscape of COVID-19 both in person, over the phone and through various communication lines to meet their needs or connect them to the appropriate resources. The addition of bringing Public Health nursing back to the community through the partnership with Town Nurse Cheryl Volpe RN, BSN has led Anne to be able to put her diverse skills to work to help with community engagement, UMASS School of Nursing program collaboration, State reporting on behalf of Montague. Anne holds a BFA in Interior Design and Architecture from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. In Anne's free time she is committed to many individuals and organizations across the state including 4H (Franklin County), Girl Scouts (Worcester County) and is a Rotarian (Hampshire County).

Cheryl Volpe, RN, BSN Cheryl's presence, knowledge, and expertise has shown to be an invaluable asset to the town and its residents. She remains exceedingly flexible and is current with her knowledge, education, and skill set in both general nursing best practices, TB and infectious disease surveillance and the constant evolving landscape of public health. She has been continuously available for Montague residents, business owners and town employees as they have navigated their way through the Pandemic. Cheryl has an extensive military, emergency preparedness, and public health nurse background with experience at the hospital, local government, and community levels. In her free time, you can find her with her feet in the sand enjoying some sunshine.

Kathleen Burek, with over a decade of experience, continues to serve as the Animal Inspector. Kathy's knowledge about animals and her commitment to the job of Animal Inspector is greatly appreciated. The role of preventing a case of human or animal rabies in town cannot be overstated-that is what Kathy does, it is not an easy job. Kathy as she did the barn animal census saw a decrease in barns but still with many animals. In her free time Kathy enjoys her family and animals including a dog, chickens and makes award winning goat cheese!

The following is a partial list of the responsibilities of the Board of Health:

Ensuring minimum standards for human habitation are met (safe, clean housing).

- Remediation of all sources of filth and disease risk
- Protecting groundwater by overseeing the location of septic systems and private drinking wells
- Ensuring safe food through inspectional services and investigation of complaints
- Investigate nuisances that may affect human health and safety.
- Inspect and enforce the law regarding semi-public and public swimming pools.
- Investigate all reported animal bites and scratches while maintaining a rigorous rabies prevention program.
- Permit and/or inspect body artists, food establishments, schools, septic system installers, funeral directors, beaver, septage haulers, trash haulers, recreational camps for children and mobile/manufactured home, and many other duties as necessary to protect public health.

2022 REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Beaver trapping permit	05
Burial Permits	55
Complaints (non covid-19)	44
Complaints Covid -19	87
Emergency Preparedness Meetings Attended	32
Temporary Food Permits and Inspections	46
Farmers Market	07
Other Temporary Food Events	06
Mobile Food Vendor	06
Total Food Establishment Inspections (Brick and mortar)	108
Annual Food Establishment Permits Issued (Brick and mortar)	54
Funeral Director License	02
Hoarding Complaints	06
Perc Tests	16
Pumping/Hauling License	08
Records Searches for Public	54
Residential Kitchen Permits	01
Septic Installers Permits	14
Septic plan review and installation Inspections	38
Septic Tank Pumping reports	173
Title Five Reports Reviewed	42
Tobacco Permits	09
Trailer Park License	02
Trash Hauler Permits	06
Well Permits	06

Animal Quarantines 2022

Humans bitten by
animals **7**
Humans bitten by
Bats **0**

Animals with bites of
unknown origin **13**
Bat encounters **5**

Barn Animal
Census **2023**

43 Barns **738** barn
animals counted

Burial Agent 2022

2022	January December		- Totals
	Female	Male	
January	1	3	4
February	2	1	3
March	1	0	1
April	3	5	8
May	2	2	4
June	0	3	3
July	5	3	8
August	6	1	7
September	2	1	3
October	2	2	4
November	4	2	6
December	3	1	4
Total Deaths	31	24	55

As you can expect, events and other annual Board of Health duties continued with the responsibilities that expanded during the pandemic continuing. The Board of Health had to prepare to educate, enforce, and respond to numerous questions, concerns & complaints throughout the community.

The dissemination of information through the Board of Health office continued through various media platforms (electronic & print), signage throughout the villages, to be current was challenging at times, but helped to inform the greater community to keep them abreast of the ever-evolving landscape in the Public Health field. Daniel and Anne continued a continuity of services by not only continuing to handle pandemic needs but the daily operations of the Board of Health office. Having a Public Health nurse continues to be a valuable resource both for the board members, staff, residents, and business owners in the town. Cheryl continues to inform and respond to their questions and needs as they arise along with doing a community and education collaboration with UMASS Amherst School of Nursing students.

Board of Health Members

Melanie Ames Zamojski, Chair

Rachel Stoler, Secretary

Michael Nelson, Member

Building Department

The Building Department received a steady flow of permit applications for 2022. Despite rising construction costs and material shortages, the amount of issued permits for 2022 maintained at the average of the last five years. There was an increase in gas permits from 47 in 2021 to 57 in 2022. Home Occupation permits decreased with 32 issued in 2022, down from 43 issued in 2021.

The online permitting system is continuing to be an important asset in achieving our goal of 100% customer satisfaction.

We continue to strive for quality and timely customer service.

The majority of the permits that were issued were for renovations to existing buildings. The most common permits issued were for new roofs, insulation and window upgrades, and solar photovoltaic installations.

INCOME FROM PERMIT FEES-2022

Building Permits	387	\$147,206.00
Gas Permits	57	\$4,115.00
Plumbing Permits	46	\$6,665.00
Electrical Permits	<u>178</u>	<u>\$25,076.00</u>
Total Construction Permits	668	\$183,062.00
Annual Inspections	35	\$1,400.00
Home Occupation Permits	<u>32</u>	<u>\$400.00</u>
TOTAL	<u>735</u>	<u>\$184,862.00</u>

William Ketchen
Inspector of Buildings

Capital Improvements Committee

The Capital Improvements Committee (CIC) met frequently throughout 2022 to hear and evaluate capital requests, and issue recommendations for funding to the Selectboard, Finance Committee, and Town Meeting.

A summary of capital requests recommended and advanced to Annual and Special Town Meeting in calendar year 2022 appears below. The work primarily involves planned facility maintenance and investment in sewer/wastewater infrastructure.

Special Town Meeting March 3, 2022 Description	Recommended Appropriation
Hillcrest School Flooring Replacement	\$295,000
DPW Vactor Truck	\$125,000
Montague City Road Flooding Improvements	\$66,481

Annual Town Meeting May 7, 2022 Description	Recommended Appropriation
CWF Facility Screw Pumps	\$730,000 (not voted at ATM)
CWF Back-up Generator	\$130,000
DPW Discretionary	\$50,000
Carnegie Library Basement Renovation	\$130,000
Montague Center Library Masonry Repair	\$100,000
Town Hall Main Roof Replacement	\$125,000
Shea Theater Lower Roof Replacement	\$60,000

Special Town Meeting October 13, 2022 Description	Recommended Appropriation
Hillcrest School Flooring- Supplemental	\$56,000
Colle Roof Replacement	\$22,000
Burn Dump Engineering (supplemental)	\$12,000

The full slate of projects addressed through appropriations shows the Town's increased commitment and capacity to address capital needs. The CIC continues to make considerable headway relative to the backlog of capital projects in Montague, however, the CIC recognizes that there are numerous requests on the horizon. Recently completed facility assessments of the three town-owned library branches and two town-owned elementary schools revealed millions in pending expenses and suggest major building projects may soon be needed. Likewise, the Town sewer and stormwater collection system, the focus of ongoing regulatory oversight and requirements, will also present major capital expenses.

The CIC is working to shift the Town from a reactive to proactive approach to capital improvement. In 2022, the Town Administrator's office secured studies of municipal building roof maintenance and repair needs, and a pavement condition study. All of these data sources will contribute to the

development of the Town's Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan, which is expected to be completed in 2023 and maintained from that time forward. In October 2022, Walter Ramsey, Assistant Town Administrator was assigned to provide staff support to the CIC. He began work on the FY24 Budget Cycle and the 6 Year Capital Plan.

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Garrison, Chair
Jason Burbank
Chris Menegoni
Ariel Elan

Cemetery Commission

The Montague Cemetery's five-member Commission oversees the town's eight municipal cemeteries. The Commission works with a few dedicated volunteers and is looking for more residents to get involved.

Highland Cemetery

Improvements continue at Highland Cemetery (Millers Falls Road).

- Removal of a large cargo container at the back of the cemetery. A wildflower garden was planted in its place (thanks to Montague residents for plant donations).
- A section of the dirt road along the edge of the cemetery (leading to the paved road) was repaired after a washout.
- The archway that was destroyed in a storm 3 years ago is being rebuilt by Franklin County Vocational Technical School students. The archway will be installed Spring 2023 (thanks to the students and instructor, John Passiglia).
- Work was conducted on the wooded section of the cemetery being designated for green burial in 2023. Tasks included marking boundaries, creating a base map and planned phase of development, flagging small hazardous trees in need of removal and flagging a walking path. Fourteen graves were marked with additional graves being mapped out in 2023.
- Two on-site information sessions on green burial were held at the cemetery.

Burials

The Commission coordinated a total of 15 burials in 2022 – fourteen at Highland cemetery (body burial and cremation burial) and one cremation burial at Burnham Cemetery.

Digital Commonwealth - Boston Public Library

The commission submitted cemetery records to Digital Commonwealth, a service of the Library of the Commonwealth Program. The free service is coordinated by the Boston Public Library. Records are being digitized and will be available for online access by the public. The work is ongoing.

Mapping

The cemetery mapping work continues. Hand drawn maps of Burnham, East Mineral, Chestnut Hill and Fairway are now complete and in PDF format. Mapping work is underway for the other town cemeteries.

Caretaker retirement

Mike Fleming has been maintaining the town cemetery grounds for 20 years. He will retire in June, 2023. The commission researched costs associated with a new contract and will propose a new budget at annual town meeting, 2023. A big thanks to Mike for his dedication to the town cemeteries over the years.

Montague Cemetery Commission members*

Judith Lorei, Mary Kay Mattiace, Annabel Levine, Jo-Anne Prescott, Jamie Fuller

*The Commission expanded from 3 members to 5 members in January 2023.

Clean Water Facility

The Montague Clean Water Facility (CWF) (previously Montague Water Pollution Control Facility WPCF) has recently rebranded over the last year, with a focus on highlighting the benefits of wastewater treatment as it impacts the environment, and in acknowledging the crucial and skilled work performed by dedicated professionals that operate the facility on a daily basis.

The CWF currently services residences and commercial/ industrial businesses, in Turners Falls, Montague City, Montague Center, Lake Pleasant, and the Riverside section of Gill. As there are no pump stations or gravity mains that connect from Millers Falls to the treatment facility, all residents and businesses located on that collection system are serviced by the Town of Erving Wastewater Treatment Facility. In addition, CWF staff operate and maintain eight remote pump stations and four grinder pump stations.

Financial support is based on Enterprise Funding where the users of the system pay based on the volume of water used. The sewer rates increased 11.54% for FY 2023. Operational, capital expenditure and debt service expenses are supported by the sewer users with the Town paying an annual Inflow & Infiltration (I/I) surcharge.

The facility's average design flow is 1.83 million gallons per day (MGD) and presently treats an average of 0.83 MGD. The facility currently operates a conventional activated sludge treatment model, which uses primary settling tanks for the separation of settleable solids, aeration tanks for biological degradation, and secondary clarifiers for the separation of sludge from treated wastewater.

The facility has a strong working relationship with its regulatory agencies and continues to work diligently to satisfy the requirements of both its presiding local and federal departments.

The facility has acted as the general contractor for large projects such as the screw press installation, and the chlorine conversion project. In doing so, the facility has saved hundreds of thousands of dollars on capital project costs. The facility has also taken advantage of multiple grant opportunities, receiving grants for lighting, new blowers, new aeration diffusers, pump station pump replacements, asset management planning, and a composting facility study.

The facility has an unbelievably talented, hard-working staff, who come with many exceptional talents such as carpentry, mechanics, plumbing, and laboratory experience. The CWF takes pride in its highly skilled and motivated personnel, who have been essential to the efficient operations of the facility.

The CWF places priority in protecting the environmental public health of its residents. Without proper treatment, pathogens and diseases such as *E. coli*, cholera, dysentery, Hepatitis A, and salmonella would become extensive and widespread. The facility is also constantly looking for ways to create a smaller carbon footprint, especially as it pertains to mitigating the effects of climate change and human health.

The facility would like to send a special thank you to all of the departments, committees, boards, and residents it works with throughout the year. Our forward progress wouldn't be possible without your continued support.

Council on Aging

The Gill Montague Council on Aging serves residents of Montague and Gill who are 60 years of age and older. The two towns fund the Council on Aging and Senior Center proportionately and the Council on Aging receives and administers annual formula grant funds from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs for both towns. Ongoing services focus on fitness and health, assistance with personal needs, and the provision of social events and programs all with a focus on helping seniors live their best and most independent lives.

The Council on aging has only one part time paid staff member. Ten regularly scheduled volunteers who worked a total of 1,470 hours representing \$22,052 at the equivalent of Massachusetts minimum wage. Many other volunteers served at the senior center in less structured but equally important roles.

This year the COA partnered with LifePath and the Greenfield YMCA respectively to provide evidence based Healthy Living classes and exercise programs. The Senior Center offered nine hours of regular fitness classes per week including aerobics, chair exercise, yoga, and tai chi. The COA also held a ten-week intensive mindful meditation program with local instructor Jean Erlbaum, shared a six week "Walk with Ease" fitness program with the Greenfield YMCA, and held a "Hip Hop Chair Dance" program with funds from the Gill Cultural Council. The Turners Falls Fire Department taught a two session CPR training and presented a one-hour general home safety workshop.

In partnership with the Food Bank of Western Mass, the COA provided monthly Brown Bag grocery distributions for low-income seniors and sponsored a monthly public mobile food bank in the Senior Center parking lot. The COA also offered a ten-week summer farm share program for low income seniors in partnership with CISA and Red Fire Farm. The COA distributed weekly food donations from TRIAD, annual Thanksgiving baskets and Easter hams. The COA also administered applications to the Montague Wood Bank and processed applications for fuel assistance (LIHEAP) through Community Action Pioneer Valley. Our local SHINE agency held an annual Medicare / insurance information session at the Senior Center in preparation for the Medicare Open Enrollment Period and our area SHINE advisor held office appointments at the Senior Center for private consultations. The COA made individual grant funds available to low to moderate income seniors to make safety modifications to their homes, processed SNAP applications, and provided emergency direct aid to individuals when no other services were available. The COA held monthly foot care clinics with services provided by "Foot Care by Nurses" and provided free tax return preparation for 42 seniors with AARP Tax Aid volunteers. Information and referrals were made to other agencies, particularly for matters involving legal aid, housing issues, home health care, and transportation. Over 400 home Covid test kits and more than 800 KN95 masks were sourced and distributed. Regular information was distributed about Covid case counts, community risk levels, and vaccine access. Seniors without internet access or digital ability were regularly assisted with online searches, forms, appointments, and applications.

Social programs included three music revues, monthly potluck lunches, monthly pizza parties and movies, weekly bingo, card games, knitting groups, and daily open drop-in hours.

Cultural Council

The aim of the Montague Cultural Council is to increase the cultural vitality of our town by supporting activities that enrich the lives of residents of its five villages: Turners Falls, Millers Falls, Montague Center, Montague City, and Lake Pleasant. We are part of a network of 329 local cultural councils serving all 351 Massachusetts cities and towns. Montague’s cultural councilors are volunteers, appointed by the Select board for a 3-year term. Through its Local Cultural Council (LCC) Program, the Mass Cultural Council allocates funding to each LCC, and the LCCs distribute those funds in the form of grants for cultural programs.

The amount of funding each municipality receives is based on its population; Montague is classified in the lowest funding tier. We received 48 applications for grant funding in FY23 and had \$8300 to distribute. In December, we voted to award grants to 20 applicants. Grants ranged in size from \$100-\$764 and were awarded to many worthwhile projects:

Antenna Cloud Farm
Bendiksen, David
Ferguson, Carrie
Finders Collective
Lynch, Kathleen
Means, Pamela
Montague Catholic Social Ministries, Inc.
Musica Franklin, Inc.
Peters, Kamil
Pioneer Valley Symphony, Inc.
Piti Theatre Company
Richardson, Richie
Serrilli, Elyssa
The Nolumbeka Project, Inc.
The Nolumbeka Project, Inc.
The Performance Project, Inc.
Tincknell, Roger L.
Transhealth, Inc.
Valley Art Salon
Young Shakespeare Players East

The application window for FY23 grants through the Local Cultural Council program was opened in Sept and ending in October. We held video/phone/in-person meetings and met in November and December to decide who would receive this year’s funding awards. Please visit <https://www.mass-culture.org/montague> for details on the awards for the current grant cycle.

We work with applicants to understand how to meet the requirement that their events are physically accessible. In addition, this past year in keeping with local cultural councils throughout the state, maintained the need for programs which emphasize cultural/racial equity, social equity and inclusion in their content and/or as underrepresented creators. We will continue to encourage and support applicants to make their projects and events inclusive and relevant to the Montague community.

We look forward to continued collaboration with Suzanne LoManto of RiverCulture to publicize events,

support artists and extend our reach throughout the five villages as we have aligned our council with the state's goals of incorporating inclusion and equity into our granting criteria and will be seeking a municipal funds match to our 2023 and future allocations in an effort to deepen our impact and increase the Council's fully fund cultural applicants who are enriching our collective quality of life.

As always, all are welcome to attend the cultural council meetings, and we encourage Montague citizens from all five villages to join the committee and help shape the direction of the town's cultural programming. We hope to see you at some of Montague's many cultural events this year! Council meeting times can be found on the town calendar at <https://www.montague-ma.gov/> and information about upcoming events can be found there, as well as on our Facebook page and the Riverculture web page.

Cultural Council: Kathleen Lynch, Chair; James Musoni, Vice Chair; Maggie Martin, Treasurer; Kate Martineau, Secretary; Members: Deb Frenkel, Betty Tegel

Department of Public Works

The DPW had a remarkably busy summer, we were able to mill and repave many roads with the funding we received from WRAP (Winter Recovery Assistance Program) funding and our annual Chapter 90 funds. This gave the DPW extra funding to do extra road work. Roads that were milled then repaved are: Route 47 from Gunn Road to the Sunderland town line, Turners Falls Road from Hatchery Road to the four-way intersection of Turnpike Road, Turners Falls Road and Montague Street starting from Stevens Street and ending at the corner of Seventh and L Street including the intersection to Avenue A. Finally, we coordinated with the construction crew, that was working on the intersection of Canal Street and Third Street, to have Third Street on to Canal Street ending at the lights on Avenue A milled and repaved. All the milled and repaved roads that were accomplished was at a cost of approximately \$800,000. Along with all the roads that were milled and repaved, the DPW replaced and repaired several sidewalks around town.

The DPW was very fortunate to receive a new 2022 Vactor to replace the 19-year-old vactor truck. This new vactor truck will help keep our main sewer lines clean with much more efficiency. The cost of the new truck was \$480,000, which was paid for by ARPA funds.

The DPW spent a good deal of time with the engineering company, Wright-Pierce, who we have been working with on sewer line conditions and the I&I (Inflow & Infiltration). We are also working with RCAP Solutions, who is creating a GIS (Geographic Information System) program to help us have a greater efficiency and a more productive field work, mobile applications for daily workflows, and reduce or eliminate use of outdated system maps.

The DPW also replaced the Carnegie Library driveway, added a new handicapped parking area, and fixed the drainage. By replacing the driveway, it allows the water to shed away from the building, keeping it out of the basement. The DPW also replaced the sidewalk beside the library. Thank you to all the dedicated employees and their families for their constant dedication throughout the year.

Emergency Management

To the Residents of Montague

As your Emergency Management Director, I am responsible for providing management and coordination of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery activities within the Town of Montague. This is accomplished via hazard mitigation as well as preparation and response planning done in partnership with other Towns, Cities and County agencies, regional and state level partners, non-profit entities, schools, and the private sector.

As I write this report The COVID-19 Pandemic continues. The good news is many of our residents are vaccinated and boosted, protecting themselves from the severe effects of this virus.

So again, I ask you to be safe and cautious but enjoy your life.

Climate Change

Emergency Management plays an essential role when planning for the impacts of climate change by identifying risks and reducing the vulnerabilities to those risks within a given jurisdiction by developing a mitigation, preparedness, and response and recovery framework. The mission is to safeguard life and property from all-hazards and to protect the environment and economy.

How is climate change affecting emergency management?

Many scientists and emergency managers recognize that storms are becoming more intense. They see the effects of climate change in events such as intensified wildfires, higher sea levels, extreme rainfall, windstorms, snowstorms, diseases spreading to new areas, and heat waves.

What issues current emergency managers are running into when trying to plan for climate risks?

Emergency managers use climate research data to target emergency mitigation, preparedness, and response actions for their communities. More immediate challenges include preparing for more intense storms, frequent and/or heavy precipitation and flooding, heat waves, and droughts.

In saying this, this year's mild winter may have a significant impact on wildfires and drought this year.

I would like to personally thank all who have dedicated their lives and time to serve their community it is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted

John Zellmann
Emergency Management Director

Energy Committee

- **Wrote and presented to Select Board a municipal endorsement letter for Green Future Act, approved by Select Board.**
- Two committee members attended Montague Center Light District (MCLD) meetings to support them in upgrading streetlights to LED technology, keeping Energy Committee informed of discussions. One of these two members joined the MCLD at their annual meeting. Discussed possibility of Green Communities Grant funding for LED streetlights with Town Planner Walter Ramsey.
- Met with Town Planner Walter Ramsey to discuss Town energy-saving projects for the Green Communities Grant Application.
- Began ongoing discussion within MEC and with the Town Planner on prioritizing municipal energy-saving projects to recommend to the Town in preparation for new federal and state energy funds becoming available as a result of passage of the federal American Rescue Plan Act, Infrastructure law, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the 2021 and 2022 state climate laws that have mandated greenhouse gas emission reductions. For example, noted potential opportunity for Town to install energy efficiency and all-electric building retrofits for low-income tenants. Also, for the Town to put solar on municipal buildings, using new federal payments to municipalities covering 30% of the cost of solar power installations.
- Continued to monitor utility bills and overall performance of HVAC system at new Department of Public Works building.
- Kept current on town matters that might be within MEC's purview through a member attending CIC meetings.
- Inquired about management of ventilation in the Hillcrest and Sheffield school buildings, possibility of turning off exhaust at night, weekends and vacations to save energy.
- Discussed gas industry and its actions to prolong use of methane and candidate for Governor Maura Healy's approach to the situation.
- Brainstormed Town energy-saving projects to recommend for federal American Rescue Plan Act's initial funding distributed by the state to Montague.
- Discussed state policies regarding an opt-in Specialized Net Zero Stretch Code being drafted by the MA Department of Energy Resources.
- *Met with Chelsey Little*, Superintendent Montague Water Pollution Control Facility, to support replacing truck with electric transit van.
- Discussed and supported formation of a Solar Planning Committee, consulting with U Mass Clean Energy Extension.
- Discussed concept of a Climate Director for Town, group of towns, or region.
- Considered geothermal heating and cooling for Town Hall building.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee mirrors the role of the House Ways and Means Committee in the State Legislature. We convene to understand our financial trends and key issues that will impact our town. To support our knowledge we also engage in the various webinars and in person conferences offered by Massachusetts Municipal Association and the Association for Town Finance Committees.

In July of 2022, we elected new officers, transitioning from former chair and member Jen Audley to elect Francia Wisnewski into this role. Gregory Garrison continued as Co-Chair and Dorinda Bell-Upp was elected as Clerk. This past year, we met primarily remotely and supported the legislative case to continue access through keeping remote/ hybrid meetings.

In December of 2022, we received narratives from each of the 19 departments of the town. From January through April 2023, we met in joint sessions with the Selectboard to review and discuss the department's budget requests and special article requests for Fiscal Year 2024. We invited department heads, boards, and representatives from the Gill-Montague Regional School District and Franklin County Regional Technical School to provide information and answer questions. We also met with the Capital Improvements Committee and reviewed their recommendations on capital requests.

Before the end of 2022, we updated and completed our financial policy manual which guides decisions related to the town's budget and financial assets, and which strengthens the budget process and roles of the decision makers (Selectboard, Finance Committee, Town Administrator, Assistant Town Administrator, and Town Meeting Members). Our prior set of policies was adopted in 2014 and did not include an explanation on how the annual budget is prepared; we also adjusted language for consistency in definitions with capital policies. This last part is important, we worked in close collaboration with the Capital Improvements Committee to draft a policy that calls for a multi-year capital plan as a way to improve transparency in the process of developing the Annual Capital Plan as part of the annual budget process.

This year saw a large, unexpected amount of New Growth, which was an byproduct of greater than expected increase in Eversource utility valuation. The committee decided what amount of excess capacity we should retain – which is to say, not included in the Town budget and spending plan – in order to support the town's financial needs, while not unduly increasing the average tax bill. You will also see growth in the Town's reserves in anticipation of the significant capital projects that the Town and its sewer enterprise fund will need to consider in the coming years .

We recommend investing three-quarters of our uncommitted free cash to support the town's capital improvement plan and one quarter of that balance to Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB), to partially fund our obligation to our town retirees. It's our intention that these recommendations will help to ameliorate the budgetary pressures for the upcoming years.

It's our intention that these recommendations will help to ameliorate the budgetary pressures for the upcoming years.

Respectfully,

Francia Wisnewski (Chair), Greg Garrison (Co-Chair), Dorinda Bell-Upp (Clerk), Fred Bowman, John Hanold, Chris Menegoni, and Jennifer Waryas.

Franklin County Sheriff's Office Regional Dog Shelter

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office Regional Dog Shelter has been in operation since 2012. The shelter was started by Sheriff Christopher Donelan who saw the need in the community for a dog sheltering facility and is currently the only brick and mortar dog shelter in Franklin County.

As of this date, the dog shelter provides services to 23 of the 26 Franklin County towns. During the course of 2022, the Regional Dog Shelter logged 190 canine intakes, (164 where brought in as strays, and 26 where Surrendered, Transferred or Returned to our facility)

- 🐾 102 where returned to their owners;
- 🐾 74 where adopted into new fur-ever homes; and
- 🐾 11 where transferred to another facility to better meet their specific needs.

While we are primarily a dog facility with the addition of the Sheriff's Office Regional Animal Control Position the shelter assisted in the holding and transfer of 18 felines. At this time, the shelter does not have the capability to process cat adoptions, therefore all felines are transferred to an appropriate agency.

Working with the Community:

Food Pantries: If you are struggling to feed your pet or know of a food pantry that could use dog/cat food please let us know!

Rabies Clinics: In 2022, the shelter partnered with (2) local veterinarians to sponsor rabies clinics in Turners Falls and Heath.

Dog Licensing: Some Town Clerks have granted the ability for the shelter to issue a dog license for a dog that is brought in and not licensed. As Massachusetts General Law requires every dog be licensed and vaccinated for rabies before it can be released from the shelter. This ability has drastically reduced the time that an owned dog must stay at the shelter, if it was unlicensed upon intake.

Volunteers: Volunteers are essential to the smooth operation of the shelter, without them, we would not have the success that we have today. Donating over 6,167 hours in 2022, volunteers helped with Daily Kennel Chores, Foster Homes, Event Staffing and providing Enrichment specific to each dog's needs. We are always in need of new volunteers if you are interested in joining our volunteer team; please check out the volunteer application on our website.

Did you know? The overall average length of stay for a dog at our kennel is 30 days. During this time, all their costs and care are covered by the Friends of the Franklin County Regional Dog Shelter.

Franklin County Solid Waste Management

To the Residents of the Solid Waste District:

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste – recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge, and trash. We continue to provide assistance to twenty-one member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

A review of recycling tonnage for 2022 shows a decrease of 200 tons of recycling compared to 2021. District residents recycled just over 2,500 tons of paper and containers. The recyclables were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility and sold, primarily to domestic companies, to be recycled.

We returned to holding our Clean Sweep bulky waste collections in 2022 with events in May and October. Events were held at Mohawk Trail Regional High School, Northfield highway Garage, and Whately transfer station. The May event was the first one held since October 2019 due to the pandemic. Combined, the events served almost 600 households and collected over 60 tons of bulky waste, scrap metal, appliances, electronics, propane tanks, tires, and other items.

We held our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2022 at Greenfield Community College and Orange transfer station. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A total of 374 households participated in this event. Residents have access to other hazardous waste collection events in the Pioneer Valley.

We applied for and received grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection worth \$101,400 for District towns. This grant funding is a result of a town's successful waste management infrastructure.

If you have questions about District programs, call us at 413-772-2438 (MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 TTY/TDD), visit our website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org or visit us at 117 Main St. in Greenfield.

Jan Ameen - *Executive Director*

Terry Narkewicz, Shelburne - *Vice-Chair*

Chris Boutwell, Montague - *Chair*

M.A. Swedlund, Deerfield - *Treasurer*

Franklin County Technical School District

We submit this annual report for 2022-23 school year on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students. As a reminder, the FY24 budget represents October 1, 2022 count, which is always a year behind the state budget process. FCTS has an enrollment submission of 559 students with town breakouts as follows:

Bernardston	25	Erving	28	Montague	93	Sunderland	9
Buckland	17	Gill	15	New Salem	11	Warwick	6
Colrain	21	Greenfield	117	Northfield	40	Wendell	9
Conway	9	Heath	8	Orange	94	Whately	22
Deerfield	25	Leyden	1	Shelburne	9		

Franklin County Technical School awarded 113 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2022. Massachusetts students are required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma and once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. The state has adjusted their measures for evaluating district/school accountability and FCTS maintained the equivalent of a Level 2 accountability status out of a 5-point scale with 1 being the highest and 5 the lowest. Additionally, the district is meeting targets set by the Department of Education for passing rates of students of high risk with disabilities.

FCTS has the advantage of utilizing vocational students and licensed instructors from carpentry, electrical, plumbing and landscaping to provide maintenance and repairs to our school grounds and facility saving member towns tens of thousands of dollars annually. These shop programs also saved member towns an estimated \$100,000 with the bond authorization projects.

Franklin County Technical School students are learning the value of paid work opportunities through a newly revamped Cooperative Education Program (Coop). In 2019 FCTS had approximately 50% of our seniors involved in paid Coop jobs related to their vocational field of study. FCTS offers excellent academic offerings with increased courses in Advanced Placement, Honors, Foreign Language, credit recovery, and special education to provide all students with the opportunity to be prepared for college and career readiness.

Franklin County Technical School continues to experience increased enrollment and popularity within Franklin County, which has translated to new vocational technical programs in the fields of Veterinary Animal Science, Medical Assisting, and a future new Aviation Technician program. These new vibrant programs are the first new vocational programs at FCTS in more than 40 years and bring the total number of Chapter 74 vocational-technical programs to 14 and soon to be 15. Unlike other school districts which may offer a 45-minute course in a trade, FCTS students must follow strict Chapter 74 guidelines where students are in their vocational shop program for 6.5 hours per day for a full week to meet industry standard competency guidelines and in academics the next week.

FCTS is in the final process of completing a new 4800 sq. ft. Veterinary Science Learning Center and Clinic. The new building is located on Industrial Blvd next to FCTS. The facility is planning to open in the fall of 2023 and will be used for our relatively new FCTS Veterinary program and provide students with real world experiences in the veterinary field.

The new Aviation program is slated to start during the 2024-25 school year. This program will provide students with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) credentials to be certified as an Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT). FCTS was fortunate to receive a 4.1 million-dollar grant to build a new 12,000 sq. ft. aviation hangar, which will include airplanes, equipment, engine simulators, and tools and materials required by the FAA to start a new program. FCTS is planning to become one of the few high schools in the United States to offer a credentialed FAA program.

FCTS is nearly 50 years old and is one of the few remaining regional vocational schools in Massachusetts without a Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) funded facility. FCTS has been invited into the eligibility stage of the process during the 2022-23 school year and then will move into the Design Phase followed by a Feasibility Study during the next several years. FCTS anticipates going out to towns for a district wide vote for a core building project as part of a Feasibility Study in the next several years.

Franklin County Technical School's technical programs continue to improve and evolve through the use of competitive Skills Capital Grants. FCTS has received more than 6.2 million dollars in grants over the last 6 years without using tax dollars from member communities. These funds have significantly enhanced our Welding, Medical Assisting, Veterinary Science, Machine Technology and Aviation vocational technical programs. FCTS also partners with the Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board and Greenfield Community College to offer an evening program for underemployed and displaced workers to obtain a certification in Advanced Precision Machining using our 21st Century modernized CNC machines. Through the highly competitive skills grant FCTS also received \$500,000 to build a mobile welding simulator lab to be used to develop technical skills towards certification. FCTS reached out to the Franklin County House of Corrections to utilize the new mobile welding simulator lab as an opportunity to help inmates acquire advanced technical skills which can lead to employment upon release. The welding mobile simulator lab should be ready by the Spring of 2023.

In addition, FCTS applied and received a \$660,000 grant to start adult evening training programs through the Commonwealth's Career Technical Initiative (CTI). During the Fall of 2022, FCTS initiated two adult training courses in Welding and Auto Technology through the CTI grant, and plans to add two more programs for the Spring of 2023. FCTS also started it's own Electrical adult program and plans to add more in the near future. To accomplish these goals to meet community needs, FCTS hired a full-time adult coordinator.

Franklin County Tech's Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, and Landscaping programs established a foundation in collaboration with the Greenfield Savings Bank to build a new home for the community on an annual basis. FCTS has finished its second new home in Erving and is beginning a new home building project in Greenfield.

FCTS vocational programs consistently reach out to support community needs to save tax payer dollars. Plumbing and Electrical students continues to work on the House Project and recently completed the Conway D.P.W. Electrical students support camera hookups, computer and telecommunication cables, rewiring switches, outlets, changing halogen lighting to LED, laying conduit and pipe for outside service, and retrofitting offices at the Heath Town Hall. Cosmetology is open to the public and provide outreach to the Athol, Poet Seat, Linda Manor Nursing Homes and provide service to the Bernardston Senior Center. Welding students built a water wheel to power a home, building a steel gate for Highland Cemetery, and building steel carts for Judd Wire. Culinary Arts is open to the public for lunch, provide special luncheons for the Western MA. SROs, Franklin County Supt. Award Banquet, and Montague Housing Authority. The Health Technology/Medical Assistant students organized a hygiene drive to donate to the needy and homeless, have public blood pressure clinics and nail care for the Erving Senior Center and volunteer at the Arbors and Regal Care in Greenfield.

Landscaping did fall cleanup for the Hill Cemetery in Shelburne, Source to Sea River cleanup in Turners, and the Franklin County Fairgrounds tree planting and fence installation in Greenfield. Landscaping students also provide maintenance to FCTS grounds care, installation of sprinkler system, and provide plants and flowers for events and for the community.

Franklin County Tech is forward thinking as it continues to review labor demand and market analysis to add new programs and skills to support students to obtain competencies and training to make them competitive in the workplace, college, and career.

Our partnerships with our communities are important for our programs, and we thank those which allow our students the opportunity to practice their trades out in the field.

Respectfully,
Richard J. Kuklewicz
School Committee Chairman

Mr. Richard J. Martin
Superintendent-Director

Franklin Regional Council of Governments

The FRCOG provides planning services, programming, and advocacy to all Franklin County municipalities. Our municipal service programs – Collective Purchasing, Cooperative Public Health, Cooperative Inspection, and Town Accounting – are available to any municipality. The Community Health programs provide substance use and chronic disease prevention; the Planning Department assists with local planning and larger regional projects; and the Emergency Preparedness and Homeland Security Programs prepare and train first responders and health officials.

The following pages list services specific to Montague.

Climate Resilience and Land Use

- Provided technical assistance related to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission relicensing of the Northfield Mountain pumped storage and the Turners Falls dam hydroelectric projects.
- Provided technical assistance for Montague Visioning and Goal Setting (Phase 1) for the development of a Montague Comprehensive Plan
- Provided the town planner a draft scope of work and technical assistance for securing grant funding in support of the Montague Comprehensive Plan.

Community Health

- Conducted the annual student health survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Gill-Montague Regional School District (GMRSD) administrators on results from 124 Gill-Montague students, representing 78% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Staff reported to Franklin County Technical School administrators on results from 256 FCTS students representing 93% of the 10th and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant writing and program planning.
- Provided funding to Montague Catholic Social Ministries to create an after-school STEM program for low income and immigrant young women and girls.
- Provided coaching on restorative practices in GMRSD.
- Provided resources for advancing racial justice in schools to the GMRSD and the Franklin County Technical School.
- Provided training, materials, and technical assistance for the new, evidence-based PreVenture substance use prevention and mental health promotion program in the Gill-Montague Regional School District.
- Provided information on the Mass in Motion age-friendly municipal planning initiative and a memorandum of understanding to the select board for work to be done in 2023.
- Provided training/stipends to parent leaders — “PEER Ambassadors” — to provide outreach to other parents on topics such as positive parenting, youth substance use prevention, and mental health resources.
- Provided technical assistance on best practices in using cannabis impact fees to support youth health.
- Supported the Montague Board of Health with marketing and outreach for mobile vaccine vendor clinics held at town hall and the elementary and high schools.

Economic Development

- Converted the FRCOG Brownfields loan for the cleanup of the Strathmore Building #10 debris pile to a grant and closed out the loan.
- Supported access to the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Region 1 Targeted Brownfields Assessment program to assess two town-owned sites. Coordinated a site visit by EPA staff.
- Worked with MassDevelopment to include Turners Falls in a federal grant application for a statewide pilot project to support downtown revitalization.
- Met with the assistant town administrator to discuss the municipality's priority town projects seeking funding.

Shared Municipal Services

- Montague contracted with the FRCOG to receive collective bid pricing for highway products and services, including rental equipment, heating and vehicle fuel, elevator maintenance, fire alarm and fire extinguisher services, dog tags and licenses, and water treatment chemicals. Staff facilitated a bid for flooring replacement at Hillcrest Elementary School and the fire alarm system at Sheffield Elementary School.

Training and Education

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops, roundtables, and training sessions that Montague public officials, staff, and residents attended, and the number in attendance.

Emergency Prep & Homeland Security

- Fire Officer Training – 2
- Vehicle Lift & Stabilization– 1
- Tactical Emergency Casualty Care – 2
- WMA Technical Rescue Team Exercise – 5

Municipal Officials' Continuing Education

- State Funding for Western MA – 4
- Town Administrator Roundtable (qtrly) – 1

Planning, Conservation & Development

- Diversifying Rural Housing Opportunities--2
- Small Town Housing--4

Public Health & Community Awareness:

- Youth Mental Health—1
- Three-In-One Food Safety Training—11
- Public Health Roundtable (monthly)—1

Additionally, staff organized and facilitated educational information meetings for members of town energy committees, including presenting information on various topics and conducting follow-up communication.

Transportation

- Completed an inventory of outdoor recreation assets in town.
- Conducted a pavement management assessment of all town-maintained roads.
- Assisted town to reactivate regular meetings of the Route 2 Task Force.
- Assisted the town with implementation of project funded through the MA Shared Streets and Spaces Program to improve the bus stop at Millers Falls Road and Industrial Boulevard.
- Conducted an assessment of age-friendly/dementia-friendly transportation infrastructure near Unity Park and the Canalside Trail in Turners Falls.
- Completed planning and pre-implementation work for the installation of Franklin County Bikeway wayfinding signs.
- Participated in the Northern Tier Rail study to examine the feasibility of passenger rail service connecting North Adams, Greenfield, and Boston.
- Conducted traffic counts on Greenfield Road, Turnpike Road, Unity Street, and Third Street
-

Gill-Montague Regional School District

The Gill-Montague Regional School District's vision is to be ***“A community that empowers every student for continuous learning, active citizenship, and personal fulfillment”***. Examining instructional data from across all schools, consulting with district staff, students, and families, as we are examining research related to pandemic learning loss, the District Administrative Team developed a 3-year long-term strategic plan. The research foundation for our approach to post-pandemic improvement strategy has been the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's *Acceleration Roadmap*, which can be found through the following link: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/roadmap/> . We are continuing the second year of implementation. In order for our students to recover from lost learning opportunities, we are committing to the following priorities in the development and implementation of the district and school-based annual strategic plans: foster a sense of belonging and partnership among students and families; continuously monitor students' understanding; ensure strong grade-appropriate instruction, with scaffolding to provide access to new content and skills. What follows are the long-term strategic goals.

Strategic Plan Goals:

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT- Our schools will welcome and engage families as active partners to support the academic and social-emotional development of students.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT- Staff will welcome and engage students as active partners in their learning, who take pride in their efforts, and make positive contributions to the school.

GROWTH & ACHIEVEMENT- Educators will regularly monitor the impact of instruction on student learning and will make adjustments to maximize student growth and achievement.

GRADE-APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTION- Educators will deliver grade-appropriate instruction with high expectations for all students and provide scaffolding to ensure access to learning.

INCLUSION & EQUITY- Educators commit to creating an inclusive and equitable school environment that provides relevant and accessible educational opportunities, embodies social justice practices, and affirms all students' cultures and identities.

Student Enrollment:

Total student enrollment has gone from 951 in 2016 to 863 in 2022. The distribution of student enrollment across the district in the fall of 2021 was as follows:

Gill Elementary (Grades K-6)	105
Hillcrest Elementary (Grades Pre K-1)	146
Sheffield Elementary (Grades 2-5)	211
Great Falls Middle School (Grades 6-8)	207
Turners Falls High School (Grades 9-12)	194

Finances:

In May, 2022, the citizens of Montague, and in June, 2022, the citizens of Gill, showed their support for the district with their approval of a FY23 Budget that reflected a 3.29% increase in local assessments from the prior year. The general fund budget for FY23 was \$ 22,985,805, a 6.4% increase from the FY22 budget of \$21,597,185.

Gill-Montague Regional School District – General Fund
Statement of Revenues & Other Sources, & Expenditures & Other Uses – Budget & Actual
For the Year Ended June 30, 2022 (Unaudited)

FY22	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget Positive/(Negative)
Revenues and Other Sources:				
Assessments to member towns	12,675,489	12,675,489	12,675,489	-
Tuition	1,150,000	1,150,000	976,812	(173,188)
Intergovernmental	7,561,696	7,561,696	7,813,389	251,693
Investment Income	7,000	7,000	6,886	(114)
Miscellaneous	-	-	46,241	46,241
Other Sources	203,000	203,000	212,020	9,020
		-		
Total Revenues and Other Sources	\$21,597,185	\$21,597,185	\$21,730,837	\$ 133,652
			\$ 133,652	
Expenditures and Other Uses:				
Administration	660,087	683,321	676,788	6,533
Instruction	9,813,941	9,809,410	9,519,230	290,180
Other School Services	1,353,716	1,354,716	1,327,663	27,053
Operation and maintenance	1,929,520	1,940,270	1,887,813	52,457
Fixed charges benefits	4,759,542	4,712,389	4,593,788	118,601
Community Services	26,082	26,082	24,822	1,260
Capital Equipment	-	16,700	-	16,700
Debt Service	190,368	190,368	190,368	-
Special education tuitions	120,298	120,298	66,016	54,282
School choice/charter	2,743,631	2,743,631	2,880,156	(136,525)
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	\$21,597,185	\$21,597,185	\$21,166,645	\$ 430,540
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditure and othe				\$ 564,192

The surplus in funds at the end of FY22 are a continued reflection of the pandemic. Between the struggle to fill vacant positions and the short-term funds made available since the pandemic, we have a surplus in the instructional and benefits accounts. We were also able to keep a couple of Special Education Out of District Students In-District, resulting in a savings in the Special Education tuitions line.

Gill Elementary School
2021-2022

We are pleased to present you with the School Annual Report, which provides key information about the 2021-2022 school year for Gill Elementary School.

Student Data

Statistics describing the student population served by Gill Elementary School during the 2021-2022 school year may be found below:

- Gill Elementary School served grades K-6 with a single class for each grade level.
- There were 115 students enrolled during the school year.
- 37.1% of the students were economically disadvantaged.
- English Language Learners made up 1.6% of our student population.
- 26.7% of our students had educational disabilities.

Overview of School Improvement Goals 2021-2022

Goal 1: Growth & Achievement

Educators will regularly monitor the impact of instruction on student learning, provide scaffolding to ensure access to learning, and make adjustments to maximize student growth and achievement.

- **Initiative A:** Literacy data meetings were held throughout the year to review student literacy data, develop tiered instructional groupings, and plan instructional approaches.
- **Initiative B:** Educators met in grade level teams to review implementation of Wit & Wisdom curriculum, making adjustments to ensure access for all students, and monitor student progress on Wit & Wisdom assessments.
- **Initiative C-** Educators utilized a variety of resources to focus on social-emotional learning and development.

Goal 2: Inclusion & Equity

Educators commit to creating an inclusive and equitable school environment that provides relevant and accessible educational opportunities, embodies social justice practices, and affirms all students' cultures and identities.

- **Initiative A:** GMRSD provided professional development workshops for elementary staff during Early Release days.
- **Initiative B:** Gill staff organized and utilized a Diverse Books Collection for use in all classrooms. Titles focused on a range of topics to promote social justice and social-emotional growth.
- **Initiative C:** The school developed and administered a school climate survey for school staff and families.

Goal 3: Student Engagement

Staff will welcome and engage students as active partners in their learning, who take pride in their efforts, and make positive contributions to the school community.

- **Initiative A:** Student work and projects were showcased on bulletin boards and display cases throughout the school.

- **Initiative B:** Staff implemented the “100 Mile Club” challenge for all grade levels with over 70% of the students participating.
- **Initiative C:** Students were encouraged to contribute to the school newsletter and to present at Whole School Meets whenever possible.

Goal 4: Family Engagement

The district will welcome and engage families as active partners to support the academic and social-emotional development of all students.

- **Initiative A:** Staff created slideshows to introduce families to classroom expectations, curriculum, programs, and how to help at home.
- **Initiative B:** Staff planned and held 2 Whole School Meets for families and community members.
- **Initiative C:** Members of the staff created a Story Walk featuring a book that supported social-emotional learning. The story walk was set up on the campus at Gill Elementary School for the community to see.
- **Initiative D:** Staff contributed on a rotating basis to the weekly school newsletter.

Hillcrest Elementary School **2021-2022**

We are pleased to present you with the School Annual Report, which provides key information about the 2021-2022 progress at Hillcrest Elementary School.

Student Data

Statistics describing the student population served by Hillcrest Elementary School during the 2021-2022 school year may be found below:

- Hillcrest Elementary School served grades PK, K & 1 with 3 preschool classes, 3 kindergarten classes, 3 first grade classes, a Therapeutic Special Education Classroom and a Special Education Classroom serving students with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- There were 142 students enrolled during the school year.
- Our student population included the following racial/ethnic groups:
 - African American 2.1%
 - Asian 0.7%
 - Hispanic 21.1%
 - Native American 0%
 - White 69%
 - Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander 0%
 - Multi-Race/Non-Hispanic 7%
- 52.3% of the students were categorized as Low Income
- English Language Learners made up 12.3 % of our student population
- 33.6% of our students were Students with Disabilities
- 69.9% of our students were categorized as High Needs

Overview of School Improvement Goals 2021-2022

Goal 1: Engagement

We will welcome and engage families as active partners to support the academic and social-emotional development of all students.

- **Initiative A:** Preschool and Kindergarten Families will be invited to individualized Orientation Sessions with their child's classroom teacher.
- **Initiative B:** Teaching staff will create Open House slide shows to introduce families to classroom expectations, curriculum programs and strategies to support learning at home.
- **Initiative C:** We will create a Story Walk featuring a book that supports social-emotional learning. This Story Walk will be set up on campus at Hillcrest Elementary School.

Goal 2: Growth & Achievement

Educators will regularly monitor the impact of instruction on student learning and will make adjustments to maximize student growth and achievement.

- **Initiative A:** Literacy data meetings will be held three times a year to review student literacy data, develop tier one and tier two instructional groupings, and plan instructional approaches.
- **Initiative B:** Kindergarten and First Grade educators will meet in grade level teams to review implementation of Wit & Wisdom curriculum and monitor student progress on Wit & Wisdom assessments.
- **Initiative C:** Preschool Educators will meet in grade level teams to plan units of study and to monitor student progress.

Goal 3: Grade Appropriate Instruction

Educators will deliver grade-appropriate instruction with high expectations for all students and provide scaffolding to ensure access to learning.

- **Initiative A:** Kindergarten and First Grade educators will implement Wit & Wisdom and Geodes as outlined in the GMRSD Literacy Plan.
- **Initiative B:** Preschool educators will collaborate with the principal and Director of Teaching & Learning to develop a working draft of a Literacy Plan for Preschool.
- **Initiative C:** Preschool educators will collaborate with the Occupational Therapist and Physical Therapist to implement the *Ready Bodies, Learning Minds* program on a daily basis.

Goal 4: Inclusion & Equity

Educators commit to creating an inclusive and equitable school environment that provides relevant and accessible educational opportunities, embodies social justice practices, and affirms all students' cultures and identities.

- **Initiative A:** GMRSD will provide three professional development workshops: Brave Elementary Educators Talk about Race for elementary staff during Early Release days on October 20, December 8 and March 9.
- **Initiative B:** Additional titles will be added to the Hillcrest Diverse Books Collection for use in all classrooms.
- **Initiative C:** Develop and administer a school climate survey for school staff and families.

Sheffield Elementary School 2021-2022

We are pleased to present you with the School Annual Report, which provides key information about the 2021-2022 progress at Sheffield Elementary School.

Student Data

Statistics describing the student population served by Sheffield Elementary School during the 2021-2022 school year may be found below:

- Sheffield Elementary School served grades 2-5 with 3-2nd grade classrooms, 3-3rd grade classrooms, 3-4th grade classrooms, 3-5th grade classrooms, 1-Therapeutic Special Education Classroom and 1-Special Education Classroom serving students with Developmental Disabilities and Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- There were 211 students enrolled during the school year.
- Our student population included the following racial/ethnic groups:
 - African American 3.3%
 - Asian 0.5%
 - Hispanic 19.4%
 - Native American 0%
 - White 72%
 - Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander 0%
 - Multi-Race/Non-Hispanic 4.7%
- 63.5% of the students were Economically Disadvantaged
- 9.5% of the students were English Language Learners
- 28.9% of our students had Educational Disabilities

Overview of School Improvement Goals 2021-2022

Goal 1:

We will welcome and engage families as active partners to support the academic and social-emotional development of all students.

- **Initiative:** Teaching staff will create a slideshow to introduce classroom expectations, curriculum programs and strategies to support at home for a virtual Open House.
- **Initiative:** Host a Story Walk that supports Social Emotional Learning on school grounds.

Goal 2:

We will welcome and engage students as active partners in their learning, who take pride in their efforts, and make positive contributions to the school community.

- **Initiative:** Each grade level will partner with a local organization to promote a common community project/goal.
- **Initiative:** School wide bi-monthly enrichment activities that engage students in hands-on learning heterogeneously.

Goal 3: Educators will regularly monitor the impact of instruction on student learning and will make adjustments to maximize student growth and achievement.

- **Initiative:** Literacy data meetings will be held three times a year to review student literacy data, develop tier one and tier two instructional groupings, and plan instructional approaches.

- **Initiative:** Educators will meet in grade level teams to plan implementation of Wit & Wisdom curriculum.

Goal 4:

Educators will deliver grade-appropriate instruction with high expectations for all students and provide scaffolding to ensure access to learning.

- **Initiative:** Educators will implement with fidelity the Wit and Wisdom curriculum.
- **Initiative:** Utilize staff meetings to define and share scaffolding strategies and techniques.

Goal 5:

We will commit to creating an inclusive and equitable school environment that provides relevant and accessible educational opportunities, embodies social justice practices, and affirms all students' cultures and identities.

- **Initiative:** Educators will participate in three professional development workshops: Brave Elementary Educators Talk about Race during Early Release days on October 20, December 8 and March 9.
- **Initiative:** Counselors and staff will utilize diverse literature consistently throughout the year to explore and discuss topics that impact students and incorporate Teaching Tolerance Standards.
- **Initiative:** Staff will continue year two of RULER professional development.

Great Falls Middle School
2021-2022

At Great Falls Middle School, we provide a welcoming, nurturing, and academically challenging learning environment for our enrollment of over 200 students in grades six through eight. The philosophy that guides our educators is to empower and inspire our early adolescent learners by guiding them in their development as they recognize their strengths and interests, and begin to find their value and place in the local and global community. Through our middle school programming model, we deliver a structured, supportive, and intentionally designed transition to secondary school in the Gill Montague District. The grade level team structure offers a cohesive group of educators who collaborate on a daily basis to organize curriculum, programming, and to respond to student needs. Within this structure, the teachers on each grade level are provided with common planning time and the ability to flex the schedule according to student and program needs. This meeting time also provides the opportunity for reflection on our practices, so that we may respond with improvements to our instruction and programmatic design.

Our middle school incorporates Developmental Design (DD), which is a program model for middle grades education. The philosophy and practice of DD includes dedicated time for teachers to lead small groups in the Circle of Power and Respect (CPR) as they develop supportive relationships, a positive culture, and attend to social-emotional teaching and learning. The CPR's meet on a daily basis, and in addition to this, Great Falls Middle School also utilizes an all-school, morning meeting twice a week to build community. Like Turners Falls High School, our aim is to increase our implementation of Restorative Practices, and thereby, teach our students to understand how their behavior impacts the people around them.

We know that when students are involved in school activities, they have a greater degree of success. To this end, Great Falls Middle School offers and encourages students to become involved in the great

variety of extra-curricular activities that we offer as a means of becoming invested in the school, and exploring interests beyond the classroom. Great Falls Middle School offers concert band, chorus, yearbook, as well as Student Council and the Gender Sexuality Alliance. In addition, many students participate in our theatrical performances and our interscholastic athletics program which includes soccer, cheer, volleyball, golf, basketball, swimming, baseball, softball, tennis, and track. Some of the events that we held for Great Falls Middle School include: new family orientations, parent conference nights, the annual “Great Falls Challenge” field day, middle school dances, the 7th grade trip to a ropes course, and other activities hosted on Friday afternoons in the spring to increase motivation and performance.

As we opened school in the fall of 2022, we prioritized our work through the goals set forth in the School Improvement Plan; they are listed below in the TFHS report.

Turners Falls High School **2021-2022**

Turners Falls High School is a four-year, comprehensive high school with a wide array of offerings, and during the 2021-2022 school year, we enrolled approximately 200 students. Although we are a small school, at TFHS we are proud of the amazing array of academics, programs, and activities that we offer. In addition to typical core content classes in English, mathematics, science, and social studies, TFHS provides a diverse set of elective courses, including three world languages (Latin, Spanish, and French), business and technology education (including graphic arts, digital filmmaking, television studio production, Maker Lab with 3D printing, and CNC machining), health education, physical education, art, and band and chorus. During the 2021-2022 school year, TFHS became an Innovation Pathways school recognized by DESE. Healthcare and Social Assistance was the first pathway we implemented, and we added Manufacturing as a second pathway in the Fall of 2022. Our Band, Chorus, and Theater programs continue to grow dramatically and improve in their levels of performance. The strength of these programs has become a draw for students to stay at our school or to Choose in. We also offer ten Advanced Placement courses through which students may simultaneously earn college credit and meet TFHS graduation requirements. To enhance our students’ learning, we partner with Greenfield Community College to provide dual enrollment opportunities.

At Turners Falls High School, we pride ourselves on knowing all of our students. This empowers our dedication to promoting a caring atmosphere, building a strong sense of community, and to student learning and experiences. Our students participate in a great variety of leadership opportunities including Student Council, National Honor Society, MIAA Student Ambassadors, and Student Government. Each Tuesday, the entire TFHS community gathers for morning meeting to deliver news, to celebrate students, and to acknowledge accomplishments. On Thursdays, students participate in an Advisory that includes team building, upstander/anti-bullying curriculum, and academic check-ins. The Advisory group and their Advisor stay together for four years in order to meet our goal of having long-lasting relationships with teachers in our school. The curriculum for our Advisory Block is teacher driven with a focus on the academic and social-emotional well-being of our students.

Our school hosts many events throughout the year, of which, a few notable ones include; the Senior Sunrise Breakfast, Spirit Week, a Pep Rally and Homecoming, Prom, Unity Day, and both a play and a musical. Additionally, in order to promote our school as a great place with exciting things happening, in March of 2022, we hosted the first annual TFHS Extravaganza. We had an amazing turnout and a large group of students who matriculated to the high school as our Freshman class.

End of Year Athletics Report 2021-2022, and Fall of 2022

During the 2021-2022 School Year, we were able to offer:

- Golf- 7 team members, Joey Mosca qualified for WMASS and finished 16/68.
- Field Hockey - qualified for the WMASS, Paige Sulda Named All-League
- Volleyball - Won league, went to WMASS and State Tournaments
- Football - 1 Player on the Greenfield team, made it to the State Tournament
- Girls Soccer - Co-op with Franklin Tech, Anne Kolodziej named Captain as a Sophomore
- Boys Soccer - Co-op with Franklin Tech, went to WMASS and State Tournaments
- Swim - Co-op with Franklin Tech and Frontier
- HS Boys Basketball - Players had fun and competed hard in every game
- HS Girls Basketball - League Champs, went to WMASS and State Tournaments
- Cheer - Co-op with Franklin Tech, went to 4 competitions, winning one competition
- Boys Tennis - Co-op with Franklin Tech
- Girls Tennis - Co-op with Franklin Tech
- Girls Track - Co-op with Franklin Tech, 2 WMASS qualifiers
- Boys Track - Guest school of Franklin Tech, 1 WMASS qualifier
- HS Baseball - went to WMASS and State Tournaments
- HS Softball - went to WMASS and State Tournaments

Great Falls Middle School

Soccer

Basketball

Baseball

Softball

Overall Participation Numbers

Fall- 100

Winter- 125

Spring 115

During the Fall of 2022:

Golf- Competed in the WMASS Championships

Football: Co-op with Greenfield

Field Hockey- Lost in WMASS Semifinals

Volleyball: WMASS and State Tournaments

Girls Soccer: Co-op with Franklin Tech – qualified for State Tournament

Boys Soccer: Co-op with Franklin Tech – qualified for State Tournament

MS Soccer

Other notable accomplishments and news in extracurricular activities:

- The Theatre Program has added a fall play, along with the spring musical
- The 6-12 Music Program has grown from 18 students to more than 100, in 3 years
- Over 90% of student/athletes made the Honor Roll
- Continued with the Athletic Leadership Council (ALC) and Helping Hands as clubs
- ALC provided 24 Thanksgiving Baskets and 30 “everyday food baskets” in December
- Added an Auxiliary Scoreboard to our Gymnasium
- Purchased NFHS cameras, installed March 2023 to our gym, baseball, and softball fields
- Reconditioned our Tennis Courts
- Added Red Ball Field Clay mix to all of our baseball and softball fields
- New Lighting in the Pool
- New Record Board in the Pool

At Turners Falls High School, we have a great appreciation of the community’s support of our many activities, athletic events, fundraisers, concerts, and field trips, as well as the help of the many volunteers who assist our school.

Overall, our priorities are built upon our mission and philosophy, which are then transformed into goals for our School Improvement Plan. These goals for both schools are listed here.

Welcome and engage students in support of their academic and social-emotional development.

- School Counselors will use data from social-emotional health diagnostics to initiate counseling groups and more efficiently target students with similar concerns.
- TFHS teaching staff will deliver an Advisory curriculum to support social-emotional learning. The GFMS teaching staff will deliver a Circle of Power and Respect (CPR) curriculum to build community and to support social-emotional learning.

Engage students and families as active partners in the learning process, who take pride in student efforts, and make positive contributions to the school community.

- A minimum of four parent/guardian/student surveys will be conducted to gain feedback from community members on how we might improve our welcoming, programming, and engagement of students as active partners in their learning.
- We will host the second annual TFHS Extravaganza to highlight our great programming and to engage GFMS and TFHS students and families in the opportunities that we offer.
- We will redesign and promote the TFHS Open House for the 2nd Semester in effort to build more excitement around it and have greater family participation.

Monitor the impact of instruction on student learning and make adjustments to maximize student growth and achievement.

- Teachers will deliver writing prompts at least two times per quarter and evaluate them using department designed rubrics. Data will inform instruction to improve writing.
- Educators will dedicate their in-service time to developing and reviewing writing rubrics, prompts, and exemplars.

Deliver grade-appropriate instruction with high expectations for all students and provide scaffolding to ensure access to learning

- Educators will utilize norm-referenced assessments in ELA and Mathematics to determine student performance levels and then target improved student performance.
- Teachers will collaborate during faculty meetings and professional development time to share Tier 1 & 2 academic supports and strategies.

Creating an inclusive and equitable school that provides relevant opportunities, embodies social justice practices, and affirms all students' cultures and identities.

- TFHS teachers have designed Social Justice Lessons for Advisory that will be delivered throughout the year.
- Teachers will deliver the MEFA Pathway to help students plan for academic success. They will also deliver DESE's MyCAP to engage students in postsecondary planning.

Historical Commission

The Montague Historical Commission, under MGL 40 section 8d, has as its charge to “conduct research for places of historic or archaeological value, cooperate with the state archaeologist in conducting such researches and other surveys ...for the purpose of protecting and preserving such places, it may make recommendations as it seems necessary to the selectmen...”

To accomplish this mission, the Commission intends to:

- Maintain the integrity of the town’s historic districts
- Contribute to community awareness and maintain interest in Montague’s historical heritage during its monthly meetings and when applicable, on the Town’s webpage in order to promote preservation of those assets.
- Serve to provide an historical perspective as mandated under the MGL as a partner with other town boards and committees.
- Advise and guide the Town of Montague in all matters pertaining to the proposed destruction, exterior renovation, or relocation of historical assets, the commercial excavation or soil disturbance in what is deemed to be in proximity of an historical site.

During the past year, the Historical Commission has actively participated as a member of the Advisory Board of the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program, which oversees historical and cultural research as well as archaeological field work on the site of the May 19, 1676 Falls Fight. As such, the Montague commission collaborated with the Historical Commissions of Gill, Greenfield, Northfield, and Deerfield as well as with the Native American tribes of the Narragansett, Wampanoag, Nipmuck and Abenaki.

The Commission, during its meetings on the last Monday of each month, regularly reviewed and maintained updates on the following projects and buildings: the Farren buildings, the Canal St. Buildings, the Cutlery Block and Crocker Building plans for renovations, the Montague Center library potential renovations, the General Pierce Bridge, the so-called “Blacksmith Shop” in Montague Center, the future of Cabot Camp.

The Commission also oversaw the drafting, proposal, and passage of the Montague Demolition Delay By-Law. This By-law was passed by the annual Town Meeting of 5/7/2022 Article 35.

On December 6, 2022, during a public hearing to consider the request by Trinity Health Senior Communities to demolish the Farren buildings, the commission declined to invoke the Demolition Delay in a split vote. Voting against invoking the delay were Commissioners Clawson, Gregory, Lo Monto. Voting for the delay were Commissioners Brule, Nockleby, Sawyer-Lauçanno.

Submitted by David Brule Chair and Secretary

Commissioners: Chris Clawson

Ed Gregory

Suzanne LoManto, Vice-Chair

Janel Nockleby

Chris Sawyer-Lauçanno

Montague Public Libraries

2022 was a good year for the Montague Public Libraries. Though the year started in the midst of a COVID-19 spike, the libraries met that challenge by offering free antigen tests to the community, organizing programming for adults over Zoom, and providing take-and-make craft and activity kits for both children and adults.

Efforts were made to increase the libraries' online engagement with the community by creating an MPL Instagram account and by emphasizing the libraries' online resources, such as Novelist and Kanopy. Over the course of the year, patrons checked out e-content at record levels, but frequently had to wait over a month for popular e-book and e-audiobook titles. To address this problem, the libraries started an e-content collection that only MPL patrons can access. Additionally, in response to demonstrated patron interest in genealogy and local history, the libraries began offering in-house access to Ancestry.com Library Edition.

Of course, not all of the libraries' new materials are digital in nature. In March the Carnegie Seed Library opened with so much interest we quickly ran out of registration forms. Later in spring, the Library of Things was released at the Carnegie Library and then expanded to all three library locations. This collection features board games, lawn games, crafting kits, snow shoes, binoculars, tool sets, and ice cream makers. Library of Things items had circulated 449 times by the end of year, with the most popular items being: #1 Telescope, #2 Hotspot, and #3 Metal Detector.

Early last winter, the trustees unanimously approved a new borrowing policy, which eliminated overdue fines. Since then, they have approved a Library of Things borrower's agreement, a volunteer policy and application form, a laptop borrower's agreement, and a policy on the selection of library materials and maintenance of the library collection. All of these policies are available on the MPL website and were composed to promote transparency, equality, fairness.

Over the course of the year, the libraries' trustees and I did our best to make good on our promise to be good stewards of all three Montague library buildings. Millers Falls got a new energy service and panel, which supported the later installation of grant-funded mini splits. Montague Center had a roof truss repaired and reinforced. Its ductwork was upgraded and two mini splits were installed there as well. David Dempsey volunteered his time to construct new book shelves for the children's area and helped create an art display hanging system, which allows that branch to showcase artworks by local residents. Thanks to a collaboration between the trustees' building committee and both Tom Bergeron and Will Stratford at the DPW, the Carnegie Library has a new driveway, which successfully directs water away from the building's foundation. Re-paving the driveway also allowed the DPW to add a handicap parking space. In the fall, the Carnegie's windows were washed for the first time in over a decade, revealing wavy glass that has been much appreciated by patrons and staff. Two articles were passed during town meeting to support the libraries, one for renovations of the Carnegie Library's basement and another for masonry repair at the Montague Center Library.

After many months of work, the Trustees and I submitted our new strategic plan to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) in October. The following month, we submitted an action plan for the year. These documents were informed by a community survey, a focus group led by an MLS consultant, a dozen one-on-one interviews, US Census Bureau data, and a space consultation report, reviewing all three MPL library

buildings, by an MBLC consultant. The feedback we received highlighted the great job that library staff are doing in serving the community and noted the limitations of library hours and the inaccessibility at the Carnegie Library.

Feedback from the community led to additional hours at the Montague Center Branch, which, since last July, has been open to the public on Friday mornings from 10:00AM to 1:00PM. Branch Library Assistant, Kate Martineau, has done an excellent job bringing additional programming to that location. She frequently hosts local author readings and book clubs in addition to the rotating exhibitions of artworks displayed on the branch's walls.

At the Millers Falls Branch, a collaboration with Montague Catholic Social Ministries led to the expansion of the branch's food pantry. MCSM supplements library food donations with additional canned goods and hygiene products, which are available to all patrons. In early fall, the trustees approved the purchase of a chest freezer, refrigerator and wire shelving to support a new monthly grocery pick up program. The program, which MCSM has facilitated since October, serves 10 families and is partially funded by a Community Development Block Grant that they received and an Association of Small and Rural Libraries grant that the library received. The program will run through September 2023. Though branch patrons and library staff were sad to lose Taelour Cornett as branch library assistant last July, Abbey Buedinger has done a great job cheerfully running the place.

Finally, the Montague Public Libraries offered numerous program opportunities for patrons of all ages. Youth events are detailed below. For adults, a variety of programs were held by Zoom and in person on topics as diverse as genealogical research, gardening for birds, amphibian migration, the experience of racism in Franklin County, workers' rights, and hiking across America. In June, MPL hosted an all-ages Summer Kick-Off event at Peskeomskut Park. In October, in collaboration with members of the Historic Commission and Historical Society, the libraries presented a series of programs exploring the past, present, and future of the Turners Falls Canal District.

Youth Programs Annual Report 2022

The year began with weekly Story Time and once-a-month Music and Movement, continuing online. The very popular Take-and-Make Craft bags and Grab & Go Science themed bags continued on a monthly basis. The Youth Advisory Committee began meeting indoors mid-January at which local tweens and teens shared their program ideas and made plans to volunteer at the libraries. Paws to Read, offered twice a month, began inside the Carnegie and Montague Center Libraries late January then moved outside, under the tent at Carnegie Library late spring and throughout the summer. Two different trained dogs, with wagging tails and fuzzy ears forward, listened to children practice their reading skills.

Once again, a tent was rented at the Carnegie Library from late April to late September for families to enjoy programs outside. Several programs kicked off the spring under the tent. A Seed Start event included an artist on hand to teach children techniques to draw the growing cycle of the seeds they planted. Children and teens made seed paper using recycled paper and seeds from the Carnegie Seed Library. During April school vacation, children dropped off their stuffed animals for a Stuffed Animal Sleepover. Children and teens made masks, and designed their own comic book at Free Comic Book Day in May. Free comic books were provided at a huge discount by Comics N' More in Easthampton. Summer Reading Program: The summer kicked off with a presentation given by a local beekeeper about beekeeping and the Rainforest Reptiles presenting a show all about

Alligators and Crocodiles, featuring a live baby alligator. Summer STEAM, with hands-on science experiments, was offered under the tent. A weekly playgroup, added in June, provided opportunities for free and guided play. The summer ended with a Teen Art series, taught by a local artist, and the popular, annual No Strings Puppet Show at Peskeompskut Park.

The annual Halloween Party was held outdoors on the same day at the Great Falls Festival with live music, crafts, a scavenger hunt, and a special guest from Turners Falls High School. Children and teens enjoyed the STEM activity teacher, Brian Lamore, offered. Patrons also often had lunch or worked on laptops under the shade of the tent.

Outreach programs throughout the year included a library table at the Hillcrest Spring Festival, visiting schools to spread the word about the Summer Reading Program, decorating a trunk at the Sheffield Trunk-or-Treat event, monthly visits to the Great Falls Farmers Market to offer crafts and library cards, and research instruction to Four Winds school in Gill.

Children's Programs Assistant, Meghan Doyle, provided her last Story Time on November 9. We'll miss her cheerful demeanor and creativity but we wish her luck in the next chapter of her career in children's services!

2022 Circulation Stats	Carnegie	Montague Center	Millers Falls	Total
Adult Printed Material	17139	7702	1478	10352
YA Printed Material	1028	432	133	1593
Children's Printed Material	13274	6711	1172	21157
Adult/YA Audio	1272	247	53	1572
Adult/YA Video	17429	1991	5991	25411
Children's Audio	205	85	29	319
Children's Video/DVD	2093	493	48	2634
E-books and E-magazines	-	-	-	6508
Downloadable Audio	-	-	-	8447
Downloadable Video	-	-	-	10
Kanopy	-	-	-	691 plays
Misc. (includes passes)	397	130	39	566
TOTAL CIRCS: 85,395				
Electronic Database Use				
Ancestry Library Edition (7/1/2022-12/31/2022)	-	-	-	765 searches
Novelist Plus	-	-	-	42 Searches
Gale Databases	-	-	-	7,873 searches
TOTAL SEARCHES: 8,680				

2022 C/WMARS Consortium ILL Stats:	2022 Non-Consortium ILL Stats:
Items Received, total: 21,799	Items Received: 134
TF 14,561	TF 113
MC 5,705	MC 17
MF 1,533	MF 4
Items Sent, total: 15,904	Items Sent: 93
TF 9,772	TF 69
MC 3,433	MC 19
MF 2,699	MF 15
Items sent between Montague Libraries: 2,336	

	2022 Library Visits	2022 Questions Asked, total	Reference Questions	Reader's Advisory	Technology Questions
TF	16,056	3,821	1,527	961	703
MC	3,938	545	79	112	168
MF	1,983	1,249	593	326	105
Total	21,977	5,615	2,199	1,399	976

Montague Community Cable, Inc. (MCCI)

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY CABLE INC.

ANNUAL REPORT January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

Montague Community Cable Inc., Home of Montague Community Television

34 Second Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376, Phone (413) 863-9200, www.montaguetv.org,
infomontaguetv@gmail.com

Montague Community Cable Incorporated (MCCI) is the Access Management Organization (AMO) awarded the contract by the town to run Montague Community Television (MCTV).

MCTV's mission as the public access provider for Montague, Gill and Erving, is to make the tools of modern electronic mass communication easy and convenient to use. We encourage all citizens, organizations and institutions in Montague and the broadcast viewing area to produce and be involved in quality programming by and for this community. We also offer the community a range of production services to record local meetings and events- from full equipment, staffing and production to simple technical assistance-including all necessary training. MCTV is committed to providing a professional and welcoming environment where Montague citizens may obtain hands-on training in video production. While MCTV's first focus is the town of Montague, it actively engages in networking with other local PEG Access stations in the Franklin/Hampshire region to increase producer reach and viewer choices.

Content:

Despite the ongoing effects of Covid, we were still able to get 202 new programs produced and uploaded to Vimeo. Currently there are over 2511 videos posted on that site. A variety of producers have contributed their time and skills in the creation of their own shows or participation in covering of Station Manager identified events of interest. Most active producers this year were Hannah Brookman, Ben Lombardi-Barrell, Atticus Belmonte, Emma Hurst.

In 2022, MCTV continued to cover local events, but also collaborated with organizations and individuals to enhance or host of cultural events:

- o Soapbox Derby
- o Shea Theater. The Outerspace Band, Linda Rondstadt Tribute
- o Brickhouse: Brickhouse Spooktacular
- o Great Falls Festival

Description of facility and equipment use:

2022 stats: Equipment Reservations: 202

Facilities Reservations: 56

2022: 202 Videos Uploaded to Vimeo

Public: 69 Videos

Government: 133 Videos

Despite Covid our local vs out of town content that was being broadcast remained consistent with 2021 stats. Thankfully we have vast reservoir of local content to utilize for programming that spans years.

Weekly Programming Breakdown:
Local: 136 Hours
Out of Town: 33 Hours

Outreach:

MCCI has employed a wide range of outreach strategies and activities over our years of service. Through it all, we made a lot of new friends but didn't see much of a return in the form of video content or increased participation. Currently, we continue to send out our weekly news blasts and share our station news with The Montague Reporter, but we focus most of our outreach energy on networking and sending our crews out to record meetings and events. MCTV's collaboration with the following entities resulted in local content for our community.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Town of Montague | WestMass Brass Band |
| Selectboard | Greenfield Community College |
| Finance Committee | Great Falls Discovery Center |
| Town Clerks Office | Gill Montague Regional School District |
| Zoning Board of Appeals | Eggtooth Productions |
| Planning Board | Montague Congo Church |
| DPW | Montague Community Band |
| Parks and Recreation | Montague Catholic Social Ministries |
| Montague Tree Advisory Committee | Franklin Regional Transit Authority |
| Police Department | Franklin County Chamber Of Commerce |
| Fire Department | Department of Conservation and Recreation |
| Riverculture | Northfield Mountain Recreation |
| Greenfield Media | Senior Center |
| Greenfield Savings Bank | Looky Here |
| Shea Theater | Brick House |
| Carnegie Library | Opiod Task Force |
| Cielito Lindo | Fab Fashion |
| Nolumbeka Project | Franklin County Varsity Sports |
| Food Bank of Western MA | Lovelights |
| Root Yoga | Rod & Gun Club |
| Nova Motorcycles | Montague Reporter |
| 253 Farmacy | Montague Bookmill |
| Nina's Nook | Holy Trinity-All Church |
| Friends of the Coffeehouse | Salasin Center |
| Black Lives Matter Movement Turners Falls | Rendevous |
| Musica Franklin | Great Falls Harvest |
| National Spiritual Alliance | Skeleton Crew Theater |
| Young Shakespeare Players East | |

TRAINING

MCTV can provide the full range of technical support and training for local meeting and events. Some producers will require no training at all. Others we tailor our training and support to meet the individual producers needs.

FISCAL MANAGEMENT:

One of our first and best deliberations, upon regaining the Montague public access contract, was to secure the services of a business manager, The Brick House' Michael Bosworth. He installed high quality, financially conservative business practices for us that have been fundamental to our robust sustainability. During the years of our collaboration, we adopted

sound accounting practices; established clear and secure purchasing procedures; engaged an auditing and tax accountant with specialization in non-profits; and mandated a minimum liquidity standard whereby we maintain a balance of operating funds never lower than the equivalent of two months operating expenses. We also have a long standing and regular relationship with a local bookkeeper of high repute.

The organization-wide adherence to these practices and investment in these intrinsic relationships has enabled us, over the years, to accrue a six month operating cushion in addition to a substantial reserve.

In accepting the PEG Access assignment from Montague, MCCI embraced a fiduciary responsibility to the Town and citizens of Montague. Central to meeting that responsibility is financial transparency in managing MCTV's resources. Pursuant to our contract with the Town, MCCI submits quarterly financial reports and a complete annual report. These documents, our budget, our profit and loss statements, our balance sheet and all our board minutes are available to the public on our website at Montagutv.org. We also share our tax return and independent financial audit with the Town each year. The following yearly financial reports show that MCCI is healthy, sustainable and continues to apply our founding practices.

CAPITAL ASSET AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT:

In addition to providing unobstructed access to our financial trail, MCCI's fiduciary responsibility to the Town and to our community includes responsible and productive capital asset and equipment management. This year we upgraded school committee meeting room at the high school. The room now has 3 PTZ cameras and HD mixer.

MCTV 2022 GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMING

Selectboard Meeting 1/3/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 1/3/22
Selectboard Meeting 1/10/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 1/18/22
Selectboard Meeting 1/18/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 2/1/22
Selectboard Meeting 1/24/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 2/14/22
Selectboard Meeting 1/25/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 2/28/22
Selectboard Meeting 1/31/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 3/14/22
Selectboard Meeting 2/7/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 3/28/22
Selectboard Meeting 2/14/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 4/11/22
Selectboard Meeting 2/28/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 4/25/22
Selectboard Meeting 3/7/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 5/9/22
Selectboard Meeting 3/14/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 5/23/22
Selectboard Meeting 3/21/22	Gill Annual Town Meeting 5/23/22
Selectboard Meeting 3/28/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 6/6/22
Selectboard Meeting 4/4/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 6/22/22
Selectboard Meeting 4/11/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 7/5/22
Selectboard Meeting 4/25/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 8/1/22
Selectboard Meeting 5/2/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 8/15/22
Selectboard Meeting 5/9/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 8/29/22
Selectboard Meeting 5/16/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 9/12/22
Selectboard/Dog Hearing 5/11/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 9/26/22
Selectboard Meeting 5/23/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 10/11/22
Selectboard Meeting 6/6/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 10/24/22
Selectboard Meeting 6/13/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 11/7/22
Selectboard Meeting 6/27/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 11/21/22
Selectboard Meeting 7/11/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 12/5/22
Selectboard Meeting 7/18/22	Gill Selectboard Meeting 12/19/22
Selectboard/Dog Hearing 8/3/22	Gill Special Town Meeting 12/21/22
Selectboard Meeting 8/8/22	Gill Finance Committee Meeting 4/11/22
Selectboard Meeting 8/22/22	GMRSD Meeting 1/11/22
Selectboard Meeting 8/29/22	GMRSD Meeting 1/25/22
Selectboard Meeting 9/12/22	GMRSD Meeting 2/8/22
Selectboard Meeting 9/19/22	GMRSD Meeting 2/15/22
Selectboard Meeting 9/26/22	GMRSD Meeting 3/8/22
Selectboard Meeting 10/3/22	GMRSD Meeting 3/22/22
Selectboard/Dog Hearing 10/4/22	GMRSD Meeting 4/12/22
Selectboard Meeting 10/17/22	GMRSD Meeting 4/26/22
Selectboard Meeting 10/24/22	GMRSD Meeting 5/10/22
Selectboard Meeting 11/1/22	GMRSD Reorganization Meeting 5/18/22
Selectboard Meeting 11/7/22	GMRSD Meeting 5/24/22
Selectboard Meeting 11/14/22	GMRSD Meeting 6/28/22
Selectboard Meeting 11/21/22	GMRSD Meeting 7/12/22
Selectboard Meeting 11/28/22	GMRSD Meeting 7/26/22
Selectboard Meeting 12/5/22	GMRSD Meeting 8/9/22
Selectboard/Assessors Meeting 12/7/22	GMRSD Meeting 8/23/22
Selectboard Meeting 12/12/22	GMRSD Meeting 9/6/22
Selectboard Meeting 12/19/22	GMRSD Meeting 9/20/22
Annual Town Meeting 5/7/22	GMRSD Meeting 10/11/22
Special Town Meeting 3/3/22	GMRSD Meeting 10/25/22
Special Town Meeting 10/13/22	GMRSD Meeting 11/8/22

Finance Committee Meeting 1/5/22
Finance Committee Meeting 1/12/22
Finance Committee Meeting 1/26/22
Finance Committee Meeting 2/2/22
Finance Committee Meeting 2/9/22
Finance Committee Meeting 2/23/22
Finance Committee Meeting 2/16/22
Finance Committee Meeting 3/9/22
Finance Committee Meeting 3/16/22
Finance Committee Meeting 3/23/22
Finance Committee Meeting 3/30/22
Finance Committee Meeting 4/6/22
Finance Committee Meeting 4/13/22
Finance Committee Meeting 6/1/22
Finance Committee Meeting 6/5/22
Finance Committee Meeting 7/13/22
Finance Committee Meeting 8/24/22
Finance Committee Meeting 9/14/22
Finance Committee Meeting 9/21/22
Finance Committee Meeting 10/19/22
Finance Committee Meeting 11/9/22
Finance Committee Meeting 12/7/22
Finance Committee Meeting 12/14/22

GMRSD Meeting 11/22/22
GMRSD Meeting 12/6/22
GMRSD Meeting 12/20/22
Board of Assessors Meeting 4/19/22
Board of Assessors Meeting 7/18/22
Board of Assessors Meeting 10/18/22
Board of Assessors Meeting 11/28/22
Cable Advisory Committee Meeting 4/7/22
Asst. Town Admin. Interview Walter Ramsey
Asst. Town Admin. Interview Kevin Flynn
Canal District Revitalization Plan 7/26/22
Canal District Revitalization Plan 10/27/22

MCTV 2022 LOCAL PROGRAMMING

<p>West Mass Brass Band St Mary's Valley Vaudville Variety Show Welcome Yule The Official Lovelights Rag Shag Parade Great Falls Festival After-Glo at Great Falls Festival Holy Basil at Great Falls Festival Full Beaver Moon Gathering Winter Seed Sowing Linda Rondstadt Tribute with Tristan Mcintosh The Canal at Montague with Chris Clawson The Outerspace Band National Spiritual Alliance 109th Anniversary Brick House Spooktacular Juggler Meadow Spring Band Genesis of Turners Falls 6th Annual Migration Festival Attracting Native Pollinators: Just Roots Farm Attracting Native Pollinators: Astarte Farm Attracting Native Pollinators: Intros & NRCS Music in the Park: Caroline Davis/Ramon?Jessica Power Canal Draw Down Let Food Be Your Medicine Regional Student Health Survey Soapbox Derby Franklin County Fair Parade Honoring The Land Do It Now Christmas On The River Hurricane and Homebody Fun Fest: Abenaki Story Telling & African Dance Fun Fest: Percussion Duo Fun Fest: Kaoru Watanabe Fun Fest: Matan Rubenstein Fun Fest: Lily Rakia & David Brule</p>	<p>Immigrant Voices 15th Annual Family Fishing Day Vanity Park Festival & Maker's Market Carlos Anderson: Ancestral Bridges Carlos Anderson: A Garden Song Vanity Maker's Market: Jimmy Just Quit Peskeomskut Noisecapade Memorial Day Ceremony Montague Center Memorial Day Ceremony Turners Falls George F. Bush Unity Park Dedication The Drag Sisters: Dragspringa Eggstravaganza MA Towns Vote to Change State Flag & Seal Robert Darr West Country Prints Professor Louie & The Crowmatix Arbor Day Four Rivers School Variety Show Echoes of Floyd Mud Season: Cloudbelly Mud Season: Eric Lee Mud Season: Love Crumbs Mud Season: Big Fut Mud Season: Kids Morning Rough Cut: A Sawmill Tour with Jim Conkey Tree Pruning Franklin County Varsity Sports 3/15/22 Franklin County Varsity Sports 2/1/22 The Phantom Of The Opera New York Staff Band Story Palooza Drone For Historical Archive Discovery Shenyun Join MCTV Promo</p>
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Montague Housing Authority

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen, and the Citizens of the Town of Montague. I hereby submit the Annual Report of the Montague Housing Authority for the year ending December 31, 2022.

Regular monthly meetings of the Montague Housing Authority Board were held the second Friday of the month, to transact routine business of the authority. The monthly meeting usually starts at 9:00 AM, unless is change for some reason.

In 2022 Montague Housing Authority has total of 5912 applications. 4623 applications are applying for family housing, chapter 200-1, and 1156 application are applying for Elderly/Younger Disabled housing, chapter 667-1,2,3. (This total amount is including 425 for elderly and 1297 for Handicapped). In 2022 we able to Lease/House 1 unit of 2 bedrooms apartment and 1 unit of 3 bedrooms to chapter 200-1 family housing, and 5 units of 1 bedroom to chapter 667-1 and 2, Elderly/Handicapped. All the elderly applicant is local from Town of Montague and one for the family is not local.

Montague Housing Authority has four developments all State-Aided Public Housing. Montague Housing Authority's Elderly/Handicapped chapter 667-1,2,3 housing has a total of 80 apartments at three different sites. Family Housing, chapter 200-1 has 30 apartments one site.

In 2022 Montague Housing Authority continue received a funding/award from DHCD for Capital Improvement, Project #192072, Replacement of Federal Pacific Unit Panel at Hillcrest Home Apartment, chapter 200-1, Phase 4 Project #192073, Under Force Account project at Sunrise Terrace Development, Chapter 667-1, replacement of Kitchen Cabinet and floors and Project #192074 Exterior painting job at Sunrise Terrace Development, Chapter 667-1.

On behalf of the Montague Housing Authority and our Board of Commissioners, I want to express my sincere thanks, and appreciation to all who have supported our housing needs.

Montague Housing Authority Board of Commissioners
Judith Hastings, Chairman
Paula Girard, Vice Chairman
Karen Casey-Chretien, Treasurer
Stanley Zera, Member

Bellamine Dickerman
- Executive Director

Parks and Recreation Department

The start of 2022 began with dealing with the remnants of the pandemic, with all our programs operating under a limited set of guidelines. Youth Basketball pretty much returned to standard operation, with having two, 3 & 4 grade teams and approximately twenty little ones participating in our K-2 program. The Bluefish Swim Team participated in virtual meets in the winter. Not exactly ideal but keeping the swimmers in the pool was no doubt essential for their development. Open Swim at the Turners Falls High School experienced solid participation through the winter, operating Tuesday and Friday evenings that included Family Swim and Adult Lap Swim sessions.

The spring saw the return of an in-person Peter Cottontail's EGGstravaganza at Unity Park. The popularity of this event certainly did not wane, as we saw a few hundred community members participate in Peter's famous egg hunt that included 5,000 candy and toy-filled eggs. We were also able to operate our Tee Ball and Rookie Baseball programs in full measure, as we had over forty Tee-Ballers and about twenty Rookies participating in the program. In May we also dedicated the Unity Park Ballfields to Mr. George F. Bush of Turners Falls. Mr. Bush was not only a teacher at Turners Falls High School, but also a Summer Playground Director for the department back in the 1950's and '60's. His positive impact on local youth over the decades was significant, and there is no one more deserving of such an honor than having the Unity Park ballfields dedicated to Mr. Bush. In June, we also hosted the first Unity Fest & Makers Market at Unity Park and Second Street, which Nova Motorcycles and Pioneer Valley Brewing spearheaded. This event was partially funded through the Massachusetts Cultural Council, and it was a great day of art and music for our community down here in "Unityville". We hope to continue to offer this great event for years to come.

The summer we offered a variety of programs and events. Our most popular, Summer Camp, continued to be a major success. We served almost sixty kids a week between the ages of 5 to 12 during our seven-week program. Aside from our daily, on-site activities at Unity Park, we also embarked on weekly trips to Laurel Lake at Erving State Forest, in addition to field trips to local attractions and amusements. MPRD also partnered with RiverCulture to sponsor the Movies in The Park series at Peskeomskut Park. We showed a total of three movies over the summer which has become a nice tradition this time of year. The Turners Falls High School Music Boosters provided snacks, and Turners Falls resident Paul Wonsey served as our "tech dude". We are already looking ahead to seeing what great films we can show in '23. We also hosted three Night Skates at the Unity Skate Park, with solid attendance as usual. We borrow light towers from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office to light up the park until 10:00pm. No summer is complete without the Montague Soap Box Races, which was held on September 18 at Unity Park. Over twenty racers of all ages built and designed their own custom-made carts and raced down Unity Hill. A few hundred spectators were on hand and enjoyed what will be a great tradition for years to come. The success of the event would not have been possible without our partnership with Nova Motorcycles and Northeast Soapbox Races.

The Fall proved extremely successful with regards to our Youth Soccer Program. For the first time in almost twenty years, we had four travel teams; two Junior teams (Grades 2 & 3) and two senior teams (Grades 4 – 6). Including our K-2 intro program, we had approximately sixty kids play soccer in Montague this year! Since the pandemic we have seen a resurgence in youth sports participation, and we're hoping that energy continues.

MPRD also made improvements to facilities and parks in 2022. In the spring we had the Unity Park Basketball Court and playground walkways sealed and re-painted and they look fantastic! However, the most notable park effort involved the Montague Center Park Improvement Project.

This project has garnered a lot of interest in the last couple of years, and the planning committee solidified a conceptual plan that we hope will birth a formal design. We are actively researching grant opportunities to support design and construction efforts for the park and are confident that we'll be able to make in-roads in this area for 2023.

Our ability to offer quality programs, services, and facilities would not be possible without the generosity of many wonderful partners in our fine community. Therefore, we would like to thank Greenfield Savings Bank, The Montague Elks, The Turners Falls Athletic Club, RiverCulture, The Franklin County House of Corrections, and the Gill-Montague Regional School District for their support. Additionally, we would like to recognize The Great Falls Apple Corps for organizing and facilitating the operation of the Unity Park Community Garden.

We would be remiss if we did not also take a moment to acknowledge the Department of Public Works for maintaining our parks and facilities, and our volunteers for the time, effort and passion they invested in our programs in 2022. Their community spirit contributes significantly to the success of our department, and we simply could not function without them. Finally, we would like to thank our patrons for their interest and enthusiasm in Montague Parks & Recreation programs and services. We look forward to 2023 and hope you will continue to take your journey with us.

Parks & Recreation Department Staff
Jonathan J. Dobosz, Director, CPRP, CPO
Jennifer L. Peterson, Clerk/Bookkeeper

Parks & Recreation Commission
Dennis Grader, Chair
Barbara Kuklewicz, Vice Chair
Albert Cummings, Secretary

Planning and Conservation Department

(Includes Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Agricultural Commission, MEDIC, Battlefield Gran Advisory Board, RiverCulture Steering Committee)

Department Staff: Walter Ramsey, AICP- Town Planner and Conservation Agent
Suzanne LoManto, Assistant Planner/ Director of RiverCulture

The Montague Planning and Conservation Department is responsible for 1) Land use planning 2) Natural resource protection and 3) Advancing economic and community development activities identified in Town Plans. The primary function of the Planning Department is to manage regulatory processes for development proposals submitted to the Planning Board and Conservation Commission. As part of that process the Planning Department evaluates development proposals for their contribution toward community planning goals as documented in Montague Comprehensive Plan and other local strategic plans. The Department is also actively engaged in programs and projects that help the community achieve its planning goals.

The highlights of 2022 included project development and management of the following projects:

- Completed the Canal District Master Plan
- Adopted of the first 40R Smart Growth Zoning District in Franklin County affecting the Griswold property and First Street in Turners Falls
- Commenced the 5 Villages: 1 Future Comprehensive Plan to update the 1999 Comprehensive Plan
- Completed a downtown parking management study
- Supported Selectboard to repurpose and facilitate disposition of 500 Avenue A into a small business hub “The Nova Garage”.
- Supported project management of the Canal District Gateway Enhancement project.
- Introduced improvements to Peskeompskut Park and bandshell to enhance cultural programming.

In October 2022, after 12 years of service to the Planning Department, Town Planner Walter Ramsey moved to a newly created Assistant Town Administrator position in the Selectboard’s Office. The hiring process for the vacant Town Planner position begun in earnest in November 2023 with a board-based committee with representation from multiple boards, residents, and the business community.

Police Department

The Montague Police Department is fully staffed and promoted an additional Sergeant and hired a new patrol officer bringing the department staff up to 18 fulltime police officers, including the Chief of Police. Patrol Officer Jacob Dlugosz was promoted to Sergeant in November and in December, Christopher Smerz (10-year veteran officer) lateraled to the Montague Police Department from Boston PD.

The police department had (15,286) calls for service, issued (880) traffic citations, issued (149) pistol permits, registered (39) sex offenders. See the other attachment regarding arrests.

For the last two years we have been teamed up with Clinical Support Options (CSO) regarding Behavior Health Issues with Deerfield and Greenfield police departments. We had (71) calls for service and out of those CSO staff were able to respond to (46) of those situations. CSO called us to help assist them with (16) behavioral issues.

Starting in July of 2021 we partnered with the Northwestern District Attorney's Opioid Task Force and participate in their CONNECT program and the Critical Incident Management System (CIMS). When we have an overdose or overdose death, we enter the incident into CIMS, and their team members link up with a plain clothed police officer within (72) hours and conduct follow up interviews to make sure people are getting what they need. Last year we had (15) overdoses with (11) follow up's. 2022 is down significantly as we had (24) reported overdoses in 2021.

Total Arrests by Race/Sex		
Asian	0	0.00%
Male	0	0.0%
Female	0	0.0%
Non-Binary	0	0.0%
Black	20	7.07%
Male	15	5.3%
Female	5	1.8%
Non-Binary	0	0.0%
Nat Amer	0	0.00%
Male	0	0.0%
Female	0	0.0%
Non-Binary	0	0.0%
Pac Isl	0	0.00%
Male	0	0.0%
Female	0	0.0%
Non-Binary	0	0.0%
White	263	92.93%
Male	195	68.9%
Female	69	24.4%
Non-Binary	0	0.0%
Total	283	100.00%

Arrests of Persons of Hispanic Origin	
Total 2022 Arrests (all ethnicities)	283
2022 Arrests Of Persons Of Hispanic Origin	24
% of Total Arrests	8%
<i><u>Race of Hispanic Persons Arrested</u></i>	
White	20 83%
Black	4 17%

Police Department Dispatch

2020	2021	2022	
15,329	15,108	15,286	Calls for Service
2000	2,366	3073	911 Emergency Calls
258	296	281	Persons arrested by the Police
181	214	187	Persons were male, 38 were juveniles
77	82	94	Person were female, 4 were juveniles
295	368	306	Victims of crime
50	66	51	Restraining orders served (209a &258E)
5	8	13	Alarm by-law tickets
47	74	25	Registered Sex Offenders

TOTAL REPORTABLE MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS OVER \$1,000 IN VALUE

2020	2021	2022
103	112	115

TOTAL REPORTABLE MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS UNDER \$1,000 IN VALUE

2020	2021	2022
19	26	16

TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES ACCIDENTS

2020	2021	2022
122	138	131

INJURED PERSONS

2020	2021	2022	
12	9	18	Operators
1	2	3	Passengers
1	0	0	Pedestrians
3	1	2	Bicyclist
0	1	1	Motorcyclists
0	0	0	Fatalities
17	13	24	Total Injuries

MOTOR VEHICLE CITATIONS

2020	2021	2022
474 (Fines \$1,380.00)	642 (Fines \$2,730.00)	880 (Fines \$2,925.00)

FIREARMS REGISTRATION: PERMITS TO CARRY

2020	2021	2022
219	153	152

PARKING TICKETS ISSUED

2020	2021	2022
397 (\$7,900.00)	297 (\$6,010.00)	182 (\$3,530.00)

HOUSE CHECKS WHILE PEOPLE WERE AWAY

2020	2021	2022
19	19	19

SUMMONS SERVED

2020	2021	2022
19	65	71

Retirement Board

Assets and Liabilities	2022 End Balance	2021 End Balance	2020 End Balance
1040 - 1049 Cash	78,360.37	235,633.25	259,210.29
1100 - Short Term Investments	0.00	0.00	0.00
1180 - Fixed Income Sec (book value)	0.00	0.00	0.00
1170 - Equities	0.00	0.00	0.00
1101 - Pooled Short Term Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
1172 - Pooled Domestic Equity Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
1173 - Pooled International Equity Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
1174 - Pooled Global Equity Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
1181 - Pooled Domestic Fixed Income Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
1182 - Pooled International Fixed Income Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
1183 - Pooled Global Fixed Income Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
1193 - Pooled Alternative Investments	0.00	0.00	0.00
1194 - Pooled Real Estate Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
1195 - Pooled Domestic Balanced Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
1196 - Pooled International Balanced Funds	0.00	0.00	0.00
1198 - PRIT Cash	70,983.28	170,019.11	170,022.13
1199 - PRIT Fund	53,827,203.44	61,651,912.71	51,941,402.10
1891 - Principal Adjustment Account	0.00	0.00	0.00
1550 - Interest Due & Accrued Fixed Inc Sec	0.00	0.00	0.00
1398 - Accounts Receivable	17,384.62	16,109.42	15,697.02
2020 - Accounts Payable	-19,119.64	-932.28	-2,972.47
Total	53,974,812.07	62,072,742.21	52,383,359.07
Funds:			
3293 - Annuity Savings Fund	7,273,560.92	7,054,417.73	7,315,802.66
3294 - Annuity Reserve Fund	3,529,393.38	3,629,285.63	2,943,844.34
3295 - Military Service Fund	6,544.88	6,538.34	2,215.79
3296 - Pension Fund	208,764.46	345,201.11	200,588.72
3298 - Expense Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
3297 - Pension Reserve Fund	42,956,548.43	51,037,299.40	41,920,907.56
Total Assets at Market Value	53,974,812.07	62,072,742.21	52,383,359.07

Receipts		2022	2021	2020
1. Annuity Savings Fund:				
(a) 4891 - Members Deductions		818,820.21	773,654.14	764,713.02
(b) 4892 - Transfers from Other Systems		98,956.62	274,244.57	93,186.98
(c) 4893 - Make Up and Redeposit Payments		0.00	10,375.29	39,030.04
(d) 4900 - Member Payments from Rollovers		31,875.59	0.00	0.00
(e) Investment Income CR to Members A/C		9,228.40	8,409.18	8,349.85
	Subtotal	958,880.82	1,066,683.18	905,279.89
2. Annuity Reserve Fund:				
Investment Income Cr to Annuity Res. Fund		105,617.38	87,731.50	85,979.03
	Subtotal	105,617.38	87,731.50	85,979.03
3. Pension Fund:				
(a) 4898 - 3(8)c Reimburse from Other Systems		172,465.85	155,734.08	152,092.70
(b) 4899 - Rec'd from State for COLA & Survivor Ben.		6,679.08	4,379.81	11,278.00
(c) 4894 - Pension Fund Appropriation		2,284,240.00	2,171,331.00	2,064,003.00
(d) 4840 - Workers Compensation Settlement		0.00	3,000.00	0.00
(e) 4751 - Recovery of Pension from Reinstatement		0.00		0.00
(f) 4841 - Recovery of 91A Overearnings		2,643.92	5,106.86	0.00
	Subtotal	2,466,028.85	2,339,551.75	2,227,373.70
4. Military Service Fund:				
(a) 4890 - Contributions Received from Municipality		0.00	4,320.33	0.00
(b) Investment Income Credited		6.54	2.22	2.21
	Subtotal	6.54	4,322.55	2.21
5. Expense Fund:				
(a) 4896 - Expense Fund Appropriation		0.00	0.00	0.00
(b) Investment Income Cr to Expense Fund		426,285.21	405,340.34	342,204.33
	Subtotal	426,285.21	405,340.34	342,204.33
6. Pension Reserve Fund:				
(a) 4897 - Federal Grant Reimbursement		0.00	0.00	0.00
(b) 4895 - Pension Reserve Appropriation		0.00	0.00	0.00
(c) 4822 - Interest not Refunded		1,158.37	0.00	192.07
(d) 4825 - Misc. Income		0.00	0.00	25.00
(e) Excess Investment Income		-7,276,450.34	10,001,355.33	5,395,490.15
	Subtotal	-7,275,291.97	10,001,355.33	5,395,707.22
TOTAL RECEIPTS		-3,318,473.17	13,904,984.65	8,956,546.38

Disbursements		2022	2021	2020
1. Annuity Savings Fund:				
(a) 5757 - Refunds To Members		51,637.90	28,926.55	34,479.28
(b) 5756 - Transfers to Other Systems		204,847.56	97,028.61	7,491.48
	Subtotal	256,485.46	125,955.16	41,970.76
2. Annuity Reserve Fund:				
(a) 5750 - Annuities Paid		688,761.80	604,389.65	556,373.76
(b) 5759 - Option B Refunds		0.00	0.00	0.00
	Subtotal	688,761.80	604,389.65	556,373.76
3. Pension Fund:				
(a) 5751 - Pensions Paid Total		3,156,069.82	2,853,148.22	2,649,199.13
Regular Pension Payments		2,545,558.15	2,301,513.93	2,152,176.89
Survivorship Payments		168,416.40	151,783.45	144,112.44
Ordinary Disability Payments		4,325.58	4,167.96	4,014.96
Accidental Disability Payments		437,769.69	395,682.88	348,894.84
Accidental Death Payments		0.00	0.00	0.00
Section 101 Benefits		0.00	0.00	0.00
(b) 5755 - 3(8)(c) Reimbursements To Other Systems		251,854.68	226,768.14	219,485.23
(c) 5752 - COLA'S Paid			0.00	0.00
(d) 5753 - Chapter 389 Ben Increase Paid			0.00	0.00
	Subtotal	3,407,924.50	3,079,916.36	2,868,684.36
4. Military Service Fund:				
(a) 4890 - Return to Municipality for Members who withdrew their fund		0.00	0.00	0.00
	Subtotal	0.00	0.00	0.00
5. Expense Fund:				
(a) 5118 - Board Member Stipend		23,100.00	23,100.00	23,100.00
(b) 5119 - Salaries & Benefits		61,487.73	59,283.28	52,257.02
(c) 5304 - Management Fees		282,787.75	280,919.62	226,754.50
(d) 5305 - Custodial Fees		0.00	0.00	0.00
(e) 5307 - Investment Consultant Fees		0.00	0.00	0.00
(f) 5308 - Legal Fees		2,221.87	2,915.62	2,418.74
(g) 5309 - Medical Expenses		0.00	25.00	0.00
(h) 5310 - Fiduciary Insurance		2,582.00	2,555.00	2,395.00
(i) 5311 - Service Contracts		23,100.00	22,300.00	21,500.00
(j) 5312 - Rent Expense		0.00	0.00	0.00
(k) 5315 - Professional Services		0.00	0.00	0.00
(l) 5316 - Actuarial Service		0.00	0.00	0.00
(m) 5317 - Accounting Services		6,500.00	5,500.00	5,000.00
(n) 5320 - Education and Training		450.00	900.00	0.00
(o) 5589 - Administrative Expenses		6,088.73	6,451.82	7,276.41
(p) 5599 - Furniture and Equipment		17,857.13	1390.00	1,454.36
(q) 5719 - Travel		110.00	0.00	48.30
	Subtotal	426,285.21	405,340.34	342,204.33
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		4,779,456.97	4,215,601.51	3,809,233.21

Investment Income	2021 End Balance	2021 End Balance	2020 End Balance
Investment Income Received From:			
(a) Cash	644.54	1,411.36	2,303.78
(b) Short Term Investments	0.00	0.00	0.00
(c) Fixed Income Securities	0.00	0.00	0.00
(d) Equities	0.00	0.00	0.00
(e) Pooled Funds	1,444,137.96	1,320,141.90	1,061,701.19
(f) Commission Recapture	0.00	0.00	0.00
4821 – TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME	1,444,782.50	1,321,553.26	1,064,004.97
Plus:			
4884 - Realized Gains	519,840.62	4,383,501.65	2,264,436.73
4886 - Unrealized Gains	5,337,920.34	6,132,783.20	8,579,471.02
1550 - Interest Due & Accrued Fixed Inc Sec Cur Yr	0.00	0.00	0.00
Less:			
4823 - Paid Accrued Interest – Fixed Income Securities	0.00	0.00	0.00
4885 - Realized Losses	165,150.21	0.00	304,462.58
4887 - Unrealized Losses	13,872,706.06	1,334,999.54	5,771,424.57
1550 - Interest Due & Accrued Prior Year	0.00		0.00
NET INVESTMENT INCOME	-6,735,312.81	10,502,838.57	5,832,025.57
Income Required:			
Annuity Savings Fund	9,228.40	8,409.18	8,349.85
Annuity Reserve Fund	105,617.38	87,731.50	85,979.03
Expense Fund	426,285.21	405,340.34	342,204.33
Military Service Fund	6.54	2.22	2.21
TOTAL INCOME REQUIRED	541,137.53	501,483.24	436,535.42
Net Investment Income	-6,735,312.81	10,502,838.57	5,832,025.57
Less: Income Required	541,137.53	501,483.24	436,535.42
EXCESS INCOME TO THE PENSION RESERVE FUND	-7,276,450.34	10,001,355.33	5,395,490.15

Six-Town Regionalization Planning Board (STRPB)
Towns of Bernardston, Gill, Leyden, Montague, Northfield, and Warwick
2022 Annual Town Report

After almost four years of research on the educational and financial feasibility of forming a new Pre-K through 12 regional school district by merging the Gill-Montague Regional School District (GMRSD) and Pioneer Valley Regional School District (PVRSD), the Six-Town Regional Planning Board (STRPB) is hopeful that it will be ready to make a recommendation to the Towns soon.

It is important to note that both GMRSD and PVRSD have been experiencing declining enrollment over the past two decades. This trend is a result of many factors, including a declining and aging regional population, school choice, and competition from private and charter schools. Declining enrollment creates both financial and educational challenges for school districts because foundation budgets established by the state (Chapter 70: state revenue for districts) are driven by student enrollment. The Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools (MARS) produced two educational reports for the STRPB which can be found on the board's [website](#).

In June of 2022, two in-person teacher and staff forums were held to better understand their thinking on how this might benefit students. Ideas regarding expanded academic learning opportunities, additional programs and services, enhanced athletic and extra-curricular possibilities were shared. These meetings were facilitated by Mary Broderick and the results can be found in her report dated July 2022. This can be found on the STRPB's website: <https://sites.google.com/view/strpb/reportssurveys>, see report "The Six Town Regionalization Planning Board Report on Teacher/Staff Thinking," July 2022.

In November, a remote meeting was held for the Gill and Montague Selectboards, Finance Committees, Town Officials, and other interested parties to view a presentation of our findings. This was followed by a similar in-person meeting at the Bernardston Senior Center for the four towns in the Pioneer Valley Regional School District. In January and February 2023, presentations were given to the Gill-Montague Regional School Committee and the Pioneer Valley Regional School Committee respectively. These were opportunities to present information and hear comments and suggestions.

As the STRPB moves closer to making recommendations, this annual report is intended to provide the residents with an update of activities planned in the 2023 year and to establish some expectations. Given the fact that we were commissioned by the Towns in accordance with MGL Chapter 71, sec 14 to consider regionalization options in addition to the current districts, it is essential that the Selectboards and other stakeholders (i.e., students, staff, parents, community) provide feedback to the STRPB. Meetings and forums will be held specifically for this purpose.

Previous grants were awarded by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. However, neither the House or Senate provided funding for regionalization studies in the current State budget. Fortunately, the STRPB was able to secure an Efficiency and Regionalization Grant with the support of our local legislators from the Department of Revenue. We are hopeful that this grant and your feedback at forums will allow us to complete our work and report our findings.

The STRPB created two primary subcommittees (education and finance) to focus on these areas along with a facilitator and consultants. These areas are complex and require in-depth study. We have learned that the educational benefits are positive and would result in more

courses, programs, and services for students. The financial implications require more research. Through our research, it was found that some cost savings were possible in the central office, but it was also presumed those cost savings would be reinvested in student programs and services.

Our research also found that a new district that combined GMRSD and PVRSD would financially be in hold-harmless. We will be updating this data, looking at projected salaries and benefits and other costs that will result in a projected budget. This will help us develop potential assessments for our respective towns. Once we have this information, the STRPB will meet with Selectboards to share our findings and solicit feedback prior to making any recommendation(s). We encourage you to attend and participate in these discussions.

The STRPB has also identified some of the challenges in creating a new school district and will solicit feedback on how best to address and/or mitigate them. Although there are other secondary outcomes that the STRPB is considering, our primary focus remains on the educational and financial outcomes.

The Warwick Selectboard recently discussed its continued interest in the work of the STRPB. They concluded that even though Warwick has withdrawn from the Pioneer Valley Regional School District, they remain interested in pursuing regionalization alternatives. The Warwick Community School will reopen this Fall and students in grades 7 through 12 will continue their education at Pioneer through a tuition agreement. However, if a new regional school district is created this agreement will become null and void and Warwick is open to considering joining the new district if it finds the conditions for doing so advantageous.

All residents of Bernardston, Gill, Leyden, Montague, Northfield, and Warwick are encouraged to participate in as many forums as possible to ensure the STRPB hears all perspectives in its research.

On behalf of the STRPB, thank you for taking the time to read this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Genovese, STRPB Chairperson
Greg Snedeker, Vice Chairperson/Secretary/Treasurer

Treasurer/Tax Collector

REPORT OF TREASURER'S CASH AS OF JUNE 30, 2022

BANK ACCOUNTS INTEREST BEARING

UniBank	1,932,525.98	
Easthampton Savings Bank - ARPA Funds	1,123,443.87	
Greenfield Savings Bank - Airport	<u>(108,767.74)</u>	
		2,947,202.11

BANK ACCOUNTS NON-INTEREST BEARING

Greenfield Savings Bank - Park & Rec.	33,792.81	
Greenfield Co-Operative Bank - Sewer	747,870.95	
Greenfield Co-Operative Bank	<u>5,014,435.54</u>	
		5,796,099.30

INVESTMENTS

MMDT	333,332.40	
Greenfield Savings - Sewer	10,030.41	
SRBT	1,139,221.86	
Unibank - DPW Facility Account	-	
UniBank	<u>-</u>	
		1,482,584.67

CONSERVATION FUND

Balance July 1, 2021	12,973.77	
Investment Income	237.16	
Disbursements from Fund	6,700.00	
Balance June 30, 2022		6,510.93

STABILIZATION FUND

Balance July 1, 2021	1,129,953.30	
Investment Income	3,714.65	
Added to Fund		
Disbursements from Fund		
Balance June 30, 2022		1,133,667.95

**GILL MONTAGUE EDUCATIONAL STAB
FUND**

Balance July 1, 2021	117,730.17	
Investment Income	1,982.79	
Added to Fund	39,890.00	
Disbursements from Fund	(56,511.00)	
Balance June 30, 2022		103,091.96

FRANKLIN TECH EDUCATIONAL STAB FUND

Balance July 1, 2021	167,538.92	
Investment Income	2,747.65	
Added to Fund		
Disbursements from Fund	<u>27,262.00</u>	
Balance June 30, 2022		143,024.57

MONTAGUE SEWER CAPITAL STAB FUND

Balance July 1, 2021	2,591.79	
Investment Income	4,621.21	
Added to Funds	380,000.00	
Disbursements from Fund		
Balance June 30, 2022		387,213.00

TOWN OF MONTAGUE CAPITAL STAB FUND

Balance July 1, 2020	1,435,720.71	
Investment Income	27,907.33	
Added to Funds	518,896.33	
Disbursements from Fund	<u>577,666.40</u>	
Balance June 30, 2021		1,404,857.97

MSCP PI TRUST

Balance July 1, 2021	27.24	
Investment Income		
Added to Funds		
Disbursed from Fund		
Balance June 30, 2022		27.24

CANNABIS IMPACT FEE STABILIZATION FUND

Balance July 1, 2021	235,398.77	
Investment Income	4,859.10	
Added to Funds	390,842.79	
Disbursements from Fund	(170,050.00)	
Balance July 1, 2022		461,050.66

Eileen M. Seymour
Treasurer

2015 MOTOR VEHICLE

Commitment Balance			4,977.73
Receipts	145.00		
Net Receipts		145.00	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>4,832.73</u>	<u>4,977.73</u>

2016 MOTOR VEHICLE

Commitment Balance			5,248.35
Receipts	242.09		
Net Receipts		242.09	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>5,006.26</u>	<u>5,248.35</u>

2017 MOTOR VEHICLE

Commitment Balance			5,202.53
Receipts	462.10		
Net Receipts		462.10	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>4,740.43</u>	<u>5,202.53</u>

2018 MOTOR VEHICLE

Commitment Balance			8,306.29
Receipts	1,124.39		
Net Receipts		1,124.39	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>7,181.90</u>	<u>8,306.29</u>

2019 MOTOR VEHICLE

Commitment Balance			10,385.01
Receipts	3,034.47		
Net Receipts		3,034.47	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>7,350.54</u>	<u>10,385.01</u>

2020 MOTOR VEHICLE

Commitment Balance			26,565.57
Add'l Commitment			<u>84.24</u>
Total Commitment			26,649.81
Receipts	14,833.49		
Refunds	<u>-377.47</u>		
Net Receipts		14,456.02	
Abatements		659.55	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>11,534.24</u>	<u>26,649.81</u>

2021 MOTOR VEHICLE

Commitment Balance			629,091.01
Add'l Commitment			<u>83,344.74</u>
Total Commitment			240,891.87
Receipts	204,957.81		
Refunds	<u>-4,242.08</u>		
Net Receipts		200,715.73	
Abatements		11,936.69	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>28,239.45</u>	
			<u>240,891.87</u>
<u>2022 MOTOR VEHICLE</u>			
Commitment Balance			663,821.27
Add'l Commitments			<u>130,785.66</u>
Total Commitments			794,606.93
Receipts	712,044.73		
Refunds	<u>-6,526.03</u>		
Net Receipts		705,518.70	
Abatements		14,901.51	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>74,186.72</u>	
			<u>794,606.93</u>
<u>2015 BOAT EXCISE</u>			
Commitment Balance			408.00
Receipts	0.00		
Net Receipts		0.00	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>408.00</u>	
			<u>408.00</u>
<u>2016 BOAT EXCISE</u>			
Commitment Balance			413.00
Receipts	0.00		
Net Receipts		0.00	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>413.00</u>	
			<u>413.00</u>
<u>2017 BOAT EXCISE</u>			
Commitment Balance			40.00
Receipts	0.00		
Net Receipts		0.00	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>40.00</u>	
			<u>40.00</u>
<u>2018 BOAT EXCISE</u>			
Commitment Balance	0.00		164.00
Receipts		0.00	
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>164.00</u>	

2019 BOAT EXCISE

Commitment Balance 70.00

INTEREST & CHARGES ON ABOVE \$65,692.67

Receipts 0.00
Net Receipts 0.00
Outstanding June 30, 2022 70.00
70.00

2020 BOAT EXCISE

Commitment Balance 1,540.00

Receipts 1,362.00
Net Receipts 1,362.00
0
25.00
Outstanding June 30, 2022 153.00
1,540.00

Eileen M.
Seymour
Tax Collector

REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR AS OF JUNE 30, 2022

2018 REAL ESTATE

Commitment Balance			0.00
Receipts	0.00		
Net Receipts		0.00	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>0.00</u>	
			<u>0.00</u>

2019 REAL ESTATE

Commitment Balance			40,765.91
Receipts	28,585.81		
Net Receipts		28,585.81	
Tax Title		12,180.10	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>0.00</u>	
			<u>40,765.91</u>

2020 REAL ESTATE

Commitment Balance			123,189.99
Receipts	62,489.16		
Net Receipts		62,489.16	
Tax Title		17,416.80	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>43,284.03</u>	
			<u>123,189.99</u>

2021 REAL ESTATE

Commitment Balance			293,209.74
Receipts	154,942.79		
Refunds	<u>-572.22</u>		
Net Receipts		154,370.57	
Abatements		449.96	
Tax Title		16,473.60	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>121,915.61</u>	
			<u>293,209.74</u>

2022 REAL ESTATE

Commitment Balance			8,309,772.68
Add'l Commitment			8,904,264.52
Proforma			<u>8,560.75</u>
Total Commitment			17,222,597.95
Receipts	16,816,518.92		
Refunds	-54,944.19		
Turnover Adjustment 7/31/22	<u>-3.77</u>		
Net Receipts		16,761,570.96	
Abatements		8,130.96	
Exemptions		59,095.92	
Transfer Out		326.56	
Tax Title		62,814.64	

Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		330,658.91	<u>17,218,347.03</u>
<u>2015 PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>			
Commitment Balance			61.82
Receipts	0.00		
Net Receipts		0.00	
Abatements		0.00	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>61.82</u>	<u>61.82</u>
<u>2016 PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>			
Commitment Balance			2,586.87
Receipts	591.75		
Net Receipts		591.75	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>1,995.12</u>	<u>2,586.87</u>
<u>2017 PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>			
Commitment Balance			2,256.98
Receipts	563.52		
Net Receipts		563.52	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>1,693.46</u>	<u>2,256.98</u>
<u>2018 PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>			
Commitment Balance			2,750.79
Receipts	589.16		
Net Receipts		589.16	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>2,161.63</u>	<u>2,750.79</u>
<u>2019 PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>			
Commitment Balance			142,755.40
Receipts	595.30		
Net Receipts		595.30	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>142,160.10</u>	<u>142,755.40</u>
<u>2020 PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>			
Commitment Balance			304,786.50
Receipts	298,986.03		
Net Receipts		298,986.03	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>5,800.47</u>	<u>304,786.50</u>
<u>2021 PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>			
Commitment Balance			337,849.12
Receipts	330607.94		
Net Receipts		330,607.94	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>7,241.18</u>	

			<u>337,849.12</u>
<u>2022 PERSONAL PROPERTY</u>			
Commitment Balance			1,505,082.16
Add'l Commitment			1,488,419.59
Omitted Assessment			<u>209.70</u>
Total Commitment			2,993,711.45
Receipts	2963253.08		
Refunds	<u>-15094.46</u>		
Net Receipts		2,948,158.62	
Abatements		18,968.60	
Outstanding as of June 30, 2022		<u>26,584.23</u>	
			<u>2,993,711.45</u>
INTEREST AND CHARGES ON ABOVE			\$211,814.29

Eileen M.
Seymour
Tax Collector

SEWER USER FEES AS OF JUNE 30, 2022

<u>2022 SEPTAGE FEES COLLECTED</u>		173,817.56
<u>2022 INDUSTRIAL USE FEES</u>		
Committed prior to June 30, 2022		340,628.64
Committed after June 30, 2022		<u>106,481.18</u>
		447,109.82
Collected prior to June 30, 2022		321,475.38
Collected after June 30, 2022		<u>115,585.00</u>
Outstanding Balance		10,049.44
<u>2018 SEWER USE FEES</u>		
Commitment Balance		1,374.48
Receipts	182.16	
Net Receipts		182.1
		6
Tax Title		712.0
		8
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>480.2</u>
		<u>4</u>
<u>2019 SEWER USE FEES</u>		
Commitment Balance		6,518.99
Receipts	4,100.07	
Net Receipts		4,100.0
		7
Tax Title		1,369.0
		4
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>6,518.9</u>
		<u>9</u>
<u>2020 SEWER USE FEES</u>		
Commitment Balance		8,339.63
Receipts Correction		<u>3,029.48</u>
Total Commitment		11,369.11
Receipts	<u>1,177.37</u>	
Net Receipts		1,177.37
Move from 2020 Sewer to 2021 Sewer Liens		7.43
Turnover Adjustment 7/31/22		2.08
Tax Title		3,124.90
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>7,057.33</u>
<u>2021 SEWER USE FEES</u>		
Commitment Balance		150339.98

Receipts	123948.47	
Refunds	-86.26	
Lien From 2020 Sewer	-7.43	
Transfers Out	-1438.25	
Transfer of Overpayments	<u>-4258.12</u>	
Net Receipts		118158.41
Abatement		572.69
Tax Title		22491.16
Transfers In		42.25
Outstanding June 30, 2022		<u>9075.47</u>

2022 SEWER USE FEES

Commitment Balance		916919.97
Add'l Commitment		<u>914094.63</u>
Total Commitment		1831014.60
Receipts	1689537.96	
Refunds	<u>-3400.93</u>	
Net Receipts		1686137.03
Abatements		11373.95
Transfers In		5696.37
Outstanding June 30, 2022		127807.25

INTEREST AND CHARGES ON ABOVE **\$17,630.17**

Eileen M.
Seymour
Tax Collector

Veterans Services

Mission Statement: To advocate for veterans, their spouses, dependents, widows or widowers for Veterans' Benefits on the Local, State and Federal levels

Office has maintained continued outreach operations across the district. We have dramatically increased the amount of VA claims we have been completing due to increased VA Presumptive diseases for numerous eras of service:

- District now brings in \$1,850,500.00 in Federal and State money **per month** from all sources (VA, State Reimbursements, State Annuities and sales).
- Tim Niejadlik retired in October of 2022, with Chris Demars taking over as Director.
- VSA Laura Thorne has maintained her SHINE certification and is helping veterans and their dependents, taking some of the load off the Senior Centers. Brian Brooks, Veteran Service Officer, was named the Massachusetts Marine Corps League Commandant, representing Marine Veterans across Massachusetts for the second year in a row.
- Office participated in numerous protests against potential VA closures, this seems to have helped along with our local elected officials in keeping VA Leeds open for now.
- We project a slight increase for Fiscal Year 24 budget while continuing to expand services in 2023

Christopher Demars, Director
Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals is the Town's final arbitrator of land use issues. It hears and decides requests for Special Permits and Site Plan Review. They decide upon conditional uses for activities such as, signage, multi-family construction, earth removal and some commercial uses of land. It is empowered to vary the terms and requirements of our Zoning Bylaws under certain prescribed conditions such as hardship and unique circumstances where the strict application of the By-laws is unfair or unanticipated. The Board is also the last local appeal body for land use decisions of the Inspector of Buildings and of Sub-division decisions of the Planning Board.

The Board of Appeals is a volunteer board appointed by the selectmen consisting of 5 full member positions and 3 associate member positions. For 2022 the Board had 5 members and 2 associate members.

The Board had 10 hearings and collected \$500.00 in application fees for 2022.

William Ketchen
Zoning Enforcement Officer