

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
May 4, 2019**

MOTIONS

ARTICLE 1. MOVED: That the Town 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 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 fix the salaries of all elected officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, as set forth in Schedule I, Elected Officials.

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY19 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY20 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY20 RECOMMEND</u>
MODERATOR	350	370	370
SELECTBOARD			
Chairman	2,040	2,355	2,355
Second/Third Members	2,040	2,140	2,140
BOARD OF ASSESSOR			
Chairman	1,500	1,765	1,765
Second/Third Members	1,500	1,605	1,605
TREASURER/COLLECTOR	61,243*	64,342**	64,342

*G-3

**G-5 no COLA

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY19 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY20 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY20 RECOMMEND</u>
TOWN CLERK *G-10 no COLA	71,388	71,388*	71,388
BOARD OF REGISTRARS Town Clerk	800	840	840
TREE WARDEN	1,500	1,575	1,575
BOARD OF HEALTH Chairman	1,500	1,765	1,765
Second/Third Members	1,500	1,605	1,605
PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE			

ARTICLE 4. MOVED: That the Town fix the salaries of all appointed officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, as set forth in Schedule II, Appointed Officials.

**SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY19 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY20 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY20 RECOMMEND</u>
<u>ANNUAL STIPENDS</u>			
BOARD OF REGISTRARS (3)	500	525	525
EMERGENCY MGMT DIRECTOR	5,490	5,765	5,765
ANIMAL INSPECTOR	1,500	1,575	1,575
BARN INSPECTOR	1,000	1,050	1,050
IT ADMINISTRATOR	2,000	2,100	2,100
FOREST WARDEN	1,631	1,710	1,710
<u>RATES PER INSPECTION</u>			
ASST. BUILDING INSPECTOR	27.50	35.00	35.00
GAS INSPECTOR	27.50	35.00	35.00

SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY19 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY20 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY20 RECOMMEND</u>
<u>RATES PER INSPECTION</u>			
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	27.50	35.00	35.00
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR	27.50	35.00	35.00
<u>HOURLY RATES</u>	<u>Ranges/hr.</u>	<u>Ranges/hr.</u>	<u>Ranges/hr.</u>
EXTRA CLERICAL	11.00-12.00	12.00-13.75	12.00-13.75
ELECTION WORKERS	11.00-13.00	12.00-14.75	12.00-14.75
SUMMER HIGHWAY	11.00-13.00	12.00-14.75	12.00-14.75
SNOW PLOW DRIVERS	15.00-25.00	15.00-25.00	15.00-25.00
PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS	17.00-19.00	17.00-21.00	17.00-21.00
PART TIME DISPATCHERS	17.00-19.00	17.00-21.00	17.00-21.00
PARKS & RECREATION	11.00-20.00	12.00-20.00	12.00-20.00
AIRPORT INTERN	11.00-12.50	12.00-14.25	12.00-14.25

NON-UNION EMPLOYEES NOT SHOWN ABOVE

	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Range FY2019</u>		<u>Range FY2020</u>	
		<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
<u>SALARIED</u>					
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	J	89,651	110,332	89,651	110,332
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	G	58,291	71,388	58,291	71,388
CHIEF OF POLICE	I	81,501	100,301	81,501	100,301
DPW SUPERINTENDENT	H	74,094	91,183	74,094	91,183
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH	G	58,291	71,388	58,291	71,388
LIBRARY DIRECTOR	G	58,291	71,388	58,291	71,388
WPCF SUPERINTENDENT	H	74,094	91,183	74,094	91,183
<u>HOURLY</u>					
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	E	21.66	26.67	21.66	26.67
POLICE LIEUTENANT	G+8.5%	36.51	39.52	36.51	39.52
POLICE CUSTODIAN	A	14.52	17.54	14.52	17.54

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 5. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,828,399 for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule III, Budget, and for any other necessary charges, with \$50,000 to be raised from Free Cash and \$9,778,399 to be raised from Taxation.

Schedule III, Budget

		SELECTBOARD	
		FIN COMM	
DEPT		REQUEST	RECOMMEND
NO.		FY20	FY20
<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>			
113	TOWN MEETING	2,070	2,070
122	SELECTMEN	179,296	179,296
131	FINANCE COMMITTEE	680	680
132	RESERVE FUND	60,000	60,000
135	TOWN ACCOUNTANT	79,163	79,163
141	ASSESSORS	187,824	187,824
145	TREASURER/COLLECTOR	220,990	220,990
151	TOWN COUNSEL	98,000	98,000
155	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	46,000	46,000
159	SHARED COSTS	65,659	65,659
161	TOWN CLERK	155,236	155,236
175	PLANNING	124,184	124,184
176	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	1,200	1,200
182	MEDIC	1,000	1,000
190	PUBLIC BLDG UTILITIES	119,570	119,570
TOTAL GENERAL GOVT		1,340,872	1,340,872
<u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u>			
211	POLICE	1,624,912	1,624,912
211	POLICE CRUISER	51,600	51,600
212	DISPATCH	305,255	305,255
241	BUILDING INSPECTOR	138,047	138,047
244	SEALER OF WEIGHTS	2,750	2,750
291	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	5,765	5,765
292	ANIMAL CONTROL	20,057	20,057
294	FOREST WARDEN	1,710	1,710
299	TREE WARDEN	18,285	18,285
511	BOARD OF HEALTH	146,732	146,732
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY		2,315,113	2,315,113
<u>PUBLIC WORKS</u>			
420	DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS	1,369,805	1,369,805

DEPT NO.	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM		
	BUDGET	REQUEST	RECOMMEND
	FY19	FY20	FY20
420 FLAIL LEASE #2/5	24,090	24,090	24,090
423 SNOW & ICE	230,000	252,000	252,000
433 SOLID WASTE	479,056	519,812	519,812
491 CEMETERIES	7,000	7,000	7,000
TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	2,088,609	2,172,707	2,172,707
<u>HUMAN SERVICES</u>			
541 COUNCIL ON AGING	43,889	45,685	45,685
543 VETERANS' SERVICES	106,000	96,600	96,600
TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	149,889	142,285	142,285
<u>CULTURE & RECREATION</u>			
610 LIBRARIES	401,962	404,274	404,274
630 PARKS & RECREATION	130,980	136,721	136,721
691 HISTORICAL COMMISSION	500	500	500
693 WAR MEMORIALS	1,200	1,300	1,300
TOTAL CULTURE/RECREATION	534,642	542,795	542,795
<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>			
700 DEBT SERVICE	629,774	888,793	888,793
<u>INTERGOVERNMENTAL</u>			
840 INTERGOVERNMENTAL	101,036	104,608	104,608
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>			
910 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	2,211,404	2,227,951	2,227,951
946 GENERAL INSURANCE	91,000	93,275	93,275
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	2,302,404	2,321,226	2,321,226
TOTAL TOWN BUDGET	9,406,018	9,828,399	9,828,399
PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE			

ARTICLE 6. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$2,295,227 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 \$215,000 to be raised from Taxation and \$2,080,227 to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

Schedule IV, WPCF Budget

DEPT NO.		BUDGET FY19	REQUEST FY20	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM
				RECOMMEND FY20
	WATER POLLUTION CONTROL			
440	Wages & Expenses	1,689,656	1,431,262	1,431,262
700	Debt Service	390,221	533,163	533,163
910	Employee Benefits	261,702	279,702	279,702
	SUBTOTAL WPCF	2,341,579	2,244,127	2,244,127
449	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	2,392,379	2,294,927	2,294,927
PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE				

ARTICLE 7. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$95,400 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 8. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$53,078 for the purpose of operating the Turners Falls Airport with \$6,094 to be raised from Taxation and \$46,980 to be raised from Airport Revenues.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 9. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,085,007 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 10. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$10,229,737 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 with \$50,000 to be raised from Free Cash and \$10,179,737 to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 11. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$76,670 for the purpose of replacing sidewalks and curbing at the Turners Falls High School, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 12. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$21,755 to complete the installation of columns at the Sheffield Elementary School, including replacing wood trim and railings, masonry work at the landing, and any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 13. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$35,344 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a truck for the GMRSD Facilities Management Department, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 14. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$16,250 for the purpose of hiring a contractor to provide valuation services relating to the natural gas and electric transmission/distribution utility properties located in town, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 15. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of hiring a contractor to provide specialty property valuation services for hydroelectric generating facilities, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 16. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of purchasing, equipping and making major repairs to WPCF vehicles and equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 17. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$25,500 for the purpose of obtaining a feasibility study for a composting facility for the Montague WPCF, said study to include the development of plans and specifications, cost estimates, location options and anything related thereto, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 18. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of obtaining a study to assess inflow and infiltration to the public sewer system in the village of Millers Falls and to provide options and cost estimates for the removal of same, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 19. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$55,000 for the purpose of providing upgrades to the Industrial Park pump station, including replacing the control panel and level sensors in the wet well, and any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 20. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of purchasing, equipping, and making major repairs to DPW vehicles and equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 21. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$11,000 for the purpose of funding information technology equipment, parts, accessories, software and installations, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 22. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the purpose of purchasing police equipment such as firearms and accessories, computers and accessories, police cruiser equipment, department furniture, bullet-proof vests, Tasers, radios or any similar items as well as extraordinary repairs to same, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 23. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of purchasing seven optical scanners to replace wooden ballot boxes, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of purchasing and or renting up to seven optical scanners to replace wooden ballot boxes, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/ MAJORITY VOTE AS AMENDED

ARTICLE 24. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of modifying the interior swinging doors and repairing and weatherizing the front doors of the Carnegie Library, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 25. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$22,050 for the purpose of making building improvements to remediate moisture problems at the Montague Center Library, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 26. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of making building improvements to remediate moisture problems at the Millers Falls Library, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 27. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$7,500 for the purpose refurbishing or replacing signs at the Airport Industrial Park, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 28. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$8,975 for the purpose of restoring the lower skirt of the Montague Town Hall front awning, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 29. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$38,507 for the purpose of increasing the GMRSD Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 30. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$78,000 for the purpose of increasing the FCTS Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$51,500 for the purpose of increasing the FCTS Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE AS AMENDED

ARTICLE 31. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$57,654 for the purpose of increasing the Town General Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 32. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$124,369 for the purpose of increasing the Town Capital Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$121,015 for the purpose of increasing the Town Capital Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE AS AMENDED

ARTICLE 33. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of increasing the Town OPEB Trust Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 34. MOVED: That the Town authorize the Selectboard to enter into a ten (10) year contract with the option for a five (5) year extension, commencing on July 1, 2020 with the qualified vendor selected by MassDEP through a competitive bid process for recycling processing services for the Town, subject to the Selectboard's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town and subject to Town Meeting approval in the Spring of 2020 for funding for these services.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 35. MOVED: That the Town extend MCCI's present three year contract to provide PEG access services to the Town for an additional seven years, as is required by their current contract after completion of its third year.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 36. MOVED: That the Town authorize the Selectboard to sell Montague's interest in the GMTA building, located at 382 Deerfield Street, Greenfield, MA.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 37. MOVED: That the Town of Montague vote to have the local option tax (approved by 2018 annual town meeting) renewed at every town meeting election by popular vote.

Any changes to such a tax in the future would also have to be approved at town election. By popular vote. The changes would be in effect for 1 year .then go back to original

If the local option tax is approved revenue generated by it would be published in the town report

DEFEATED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 38. MOVED: That the Town vote to adopt the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION

Calling for the US to Join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

WHEREAS, nuclear weapons cannot be used without catastrophic humanitarian consequences that violate every principle of international law and human morality; and

WHEREAS, the continued existence of these weapons poses an intolerable risk to human survival, since they can be detonated by accident as well as by design; and

WHEREAS, the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China, signed and ratified a legally binding commitment more than 50 years ago to negotiate “in good faith” and “at an early date” the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, the International Court of Justice ruled, in their 1996 Advisory Opinion on the Legality of Nuclear Weapons, that the legally binding commitment to negotiate means “bringing those negotiations to a successful conclusion;” and

WHEREAS, in the year 2000 the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China gave an “unequivocal undertaking” to 187 other nations that they would fulfill their commitment to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, in July 2017, 122 nations adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, making it illegal under international law to develop, test, produce, possess, stockpile, transfer, use, or threaten to use nuclear weapons ; and

WHEREAS, once this Treaty enters in force, it will be illegal in all countries who are party to this Treaty to assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited by the Treaty; and

WHEREAS, more and more countries will continue to sign and ratify this Treaty, including sooner or later many key allies of the United States; and

WHEREAS, this means that the United States will find it increasingly difficult to develop, manufacture, deploy or justify its continued dependence on nuclear weapons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the Town Meeting of Montague call on the town governance to take all necessary steps to align Montague with the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon our federal leaders to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and to invite the other nuclear armed nations to do likewise, leading to an agreed multilateral pathway for the elimination of all nuclear weapons worldwide.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to align with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by setting up, as a first step, a Citizens Commission to look into the implications of doing so, as per bills HD.3477 and SD.1688, currently before the State Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon our federal leaders and our nation to take immediate steps in the meantime to reduce the threat posed by the continued existence of these weapons and to prevent the possibility of nuclear war taking place by accident, miscalculation or design, by:

- renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- ending the president's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack;
- taking US nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
- cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and
- leading a global effort to reduce tensions, particularly with Russia, through dialogue, diplomacy and other confidence-building measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the town clerk shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to State Representative Natalie Blais, State Senator Jo Comerford, U.S. Congressperson Jim McGovern, U.S. Senator Edward Markey, U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, and President Donald J. Trump.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town vote to adopt the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION

Calling for the US to Join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

WHEREAS, nuclear weapons cannot be used without catastrophic humanitarian consequences that violate every principle of international law and human morality; and

WHEREAS, the continued existence of these weapons poses an intolerable risk to human survival, since they can be detonated by accident as well as by design; and

WHEREAS, the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China, signed and ratified a legally binding commitment more than 50 years ago to negotiate “in good faith” and “at an early date” the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, the International Court of Justice ruled, in their 1996 Advisory Opinion on the Legality of Nuclear Weapons, that the legally binding commitment to negotiate means “bringing those negotiations to a successful conclusion;” and

WHEREAS, in the year 2000 the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China gave an “unequivocal undertaking” to 187 other nations that they would fulfill their commitment to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, in July 2017, 122 nations adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, making it illegal under international law to develop, test, produce, possess, stockpile, transfer, use, or threaten to use nuclear weapons ; and

WHEREAS, once this Treaty enters in force, it will be illegal in all countries who are party to this Treaty to assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited by the Treaty; and

WHEREAS, more and more countries will continue to sign and ratify this Treaty, including sooner or later many key allies of the United States; and

WHEREAS, this means that the United States will find it increasingly difficult to develop, manufacture, deploy or justify its continued dependence on nuclear weapons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the Town Meeting of Montague call on the town governance to take all necessary steps to align Montague with the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon our federal leaders and our nation to take immediate steps in the meantime to reduce the threat posed by the continued existence of these weapons and to prevent the possibility of nuclear war taking place by accident, miscalculation or design, by:

- renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- ending the president's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack;
- taking US nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
- cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and
- leading a global effort to reduce tensions through dialogue, diplomacy and other confidence-building measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the town clerk shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to State Representative Natalie Blais, State Senator Jo Comerford, U.S. Congressperson Jim McGovern, U.S. Senator Edward Markey, U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, and President Donald J. Trump.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE AS AMENDED

ARTICLE 39. MOVED: That the town vote to adopt the following resolution:

Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag and Seal of Massachusetts

Whereas the history of the State of Massachusetts is replete with instances of conflict between the European Colonists and the Native Nations of the region, who first extended the hand of friendship to the Colonists on their shores in 1620, and helped them to survive starvation during the settlers' first winters on their land;

Whereas members of the Native Nation for whom the State of Massachusetts is named were ambushed and killed by Myles Standish, first commander of the Plymouth Colony, in April of 1623, barely two years after the Pilgrims arrived on their shores;

Whereas the naked Colonial broadsword brandished above the head of the Native man on the Massachusetts State Flag and Seal is modeled over Myles Standish's own broadsword, borrowed from the Pilgrim Hall in Plymouth by the illustrator Edmund Garrett in 1884;

Whereas the belt binding the Native's cloak on the Flag and Seal is modeled after a belt worn by Metacomet, known to the English as King Philip, who was among the Wampanoag leaders who resorted to a mutually destructive war in 1675-76 in defense of Native lands against Euro-Colonial encroachment;

Whereas the proportions of the body of the Native man in the Flag and Seal were taken from a Native skeleton unearthed in Winthrop, the bow modeled after a bow taken from a Native man shot and killed by a colonist in Sudbury in 1665, and his features taken from a photograph of an Ojibwe chief from Great Falls, Montana, considered by the illustrator to be a "fine specimen of an Indian," though not from Massachusetts;

Whereas the history of relations between Massachusetts since Colonial times and the Native Nations who continue to live within its borders includes the forced internment of thousands of so-called “praying Indians” on Deer Island, in Boston Harbor, where they died by the hundreds of exposure in 1675, their subsequent enslavement in Boston, Bermuda, and the Caribbean Islands, the offering of 40 pounds sterling as bounty for the scalps of Native men, women and children in Massachusetts beginning in 1686, increased to 100 pounds sterling for the scalps of Native adult males by 1722, half that amount for Native women and children;

Whereas Native Nations within the boundaries of Massachusetts were kept in a state of serfdom, and their members legally considered incompetent wards of the state until the nonviolent action of the so-called Mashpee Rebellion of 1833 led to the granting of Native self rule by the Massachusetts legislature in 1834, as if the sovereign right of Native self-government was the Massachusetts legislature's to confer;

Whereas Native Americans were legally prohibited from even stepping foot into Boston from 1675 until 2004, when that law was finally repealed;

Whereas the quartercentenary anniversary of the landing of the Euro-Colonists at Plymouth Plantation, which gave rise to the long chain of genocidal wars and deliberate policies of cultural destruction against Native Nations of this continent, is approaching in the year 2020, affording every citizen of the Commonwealth a chance to reflect upon this history and come to a new awareness of a better relationship between the descendants of the Euro-Colonial immigrants and the Native Nations of the Commonwealth;

Whereas Native Americans have long suffered the many abuses of racism, the appropriation of their symbols for public schools and sports teams, the diminution and pollution of their ancestral lands and the encroachment of their cultural lifeways;

Whereas the Town of Montague, first settled by European colonists in 1715, shares a rich Native history, going back 12,000 years, and was once known as Wissatinnewag (Shining Hill), a place of shared resources for many Native Nations such as the Abnaki, the Sokoki, the Mohegan, the Pocumtuc, the Nipmuc, and the Narragansett, among others;

Whereas the Town of Montague held a reconciliation ceremony to “bury the hatchet” with the Narragansetts on May 19, 2004, during which the Montague selectboard and Lloyd Running Wolf Wilcox, Medicine Man of the Narragansetts, committed to “a future that will continue the exchange of action to promote understanding about and between the cultures, increase mutual vigilance for historic preservation, and deepen our appreciation for the rich heritage of the indigenous peoples of our region, and all who have found respite, sanctuary and welcome here;

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Montague hereby adopts this resolution in support of , a “Resolve Providing for the creation of a Special Commission relative to the Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth,” and request that Representative Natalie Blais and Senator Jo Comerford continue their strong advocacy and support for the aforementioned

Resolve (HD.2968 and SD.1495) in the General Court, and that the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, after holding a public hearing on the Resolve report it out favorably, and if the legislation shall pass that the governor shall sign it and work with members of the General Court to ensure its enactment.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 40. MOVED: That the town vote to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION DECLARING the TOWN of MONTAGUE to be a POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators are a necessary component of a healthy ecosystem and food system, providing pollination of plants in order to grow vegetables, herbs and fruits; and WHEREAS, locally grown crops such as apples, blueberries, strawberries, squash and tomatoes depend on pollinators and thus are at risk; and WHEREAS, extensive research has documented that neonicotinoid and other systemic insecticides cause illness and death to bees and pollinators; and WHEREAS, alternative land management practices are available that dramatically increase pollinator forage while decreasing maintenance costs; and WHEREAS, the monetary and social costs of maintaining pollinator-friendly landscapes can be less expensive than costs associated with maintaining chemically-treated mono-crop landscapes. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Meeting of the Town of Montague, Massachusetts, that the Town of Montague is hereby declared a Pollinator-Friendly Community, and that the Town encourages adoption of policies and practices that protect and support pollinator health by minimizing the sale and use of insecticides. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague urges all Montague property owners, residents, businesses, institutions and neighborhoods to become more pollinator friendly by adopting practices including: committing to avoiding use of insecticides, including systemic insecticides on their property; avoiding the planting of flowering plants which are treated with systemic insecticides; planting more pollinator-supporting forage on their property, and adopting organic or chemical free lawn and landscaping practices.

The Town Clerk is requested to send copies of this Resolution to Governor Charlie Baker, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux, State Senator Jo Comerford, and State Representative Natalie Blais, or to take any other action relative thereto.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE