

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF MONTAGUE  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
JUNE 13, 2020**

# 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.

**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.  
(Selectboard Request)

**ARTICLE 3. MOVED:** That the Town vote to fix the salaries of all elected officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, as set forth in Schedule I, Elected Officials.

**SCHEDULE I  
Elected Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY20 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY21 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY21 RECOMMEND</u>
<b>MODERATOR</b>	370	370	370
<b>SELECTBOARD</b>			
Chairman	2,355	2,355	2,355
Second/Third Members	2,140	2,140	2,140
<b>BOARD OF ASSESSOR</b>			
Chairman	1,765	1,765	1,765
Second/Third Members	1,605	1,605	1,605
<b>TREASURER/COLLECTOR</b>	64,985*	68,963**	68,963
*G-5			
**G-7			
<b>TOWN CLERK</b>	73,905	75,014*	75,014
*G-11			

**SCHEDULE I  
Elected Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY20 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY21 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY21 RECOMMEND</u>
<b>BOARD OF REGISTRARS</b>			
Town Clerk	840	840	840
<b>TREE WARDEN</b>	1,575	1,575	1,575
<b>BOARD OF HEALTH</b>			
Chairman	1,765	1,765	1,765
Second/Third Members	1,605	1,605	1,605

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
Selectboard recommend Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 4. MOVED:** That the Town vote to fix the salaries of all appointed officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, as set forth in Schedule II, Appointed Officials.

**SCHEDULE II  
Appointed Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY20 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY21 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY21 RECOMMEND</u>
<b><u>ANNUAL STIPENDS</u></b>			
<b>BOARD OF REGISTRARS (3)</b>	525	525	525
<b>EMERGENCY MGMT DIRECTOR</b>	5,765	5,765	5,765
<b>ANIMAL INSPECTOR</b>	1,575	1,575	1,575
<b>BARN INSPECTOR</b>	1,050	1,050	1,050
<b>IT COORDINATOR</b>	2,100	2,100	2,100
<b>MEDIC COORDINATOR</b>		4,000	4,000
<b>POLICE IT ADMINISTRATOR</b>	3,000	3,000	3,000
<b>FOREST WARDEN</b>	1,710	1,710	1,710
<b><u>RATES PER INSPECTION</u></b>			
<b>ASST. BUILDING INSPECTOR</b>	35.00	35.00	35.00

**SCHEDULE II  
Appointed Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY20 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY21 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY21 RECOMMEND</u>
<b><u>RATES PER INSPECTION</u></b>			
<b>GAS INSPECTOR</b>	35.00	35.00	35.00
<b>PLUMBING INSPECTOR</b>	35.00	35.00	35.00
<b>ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR</b>	35.00	35.00	35.00
<b><u>HOURLY RATES</u></b>	<b><u>Ranges/hr.</u></b>	<b><u>Ranges/hr.</u></b>	<b><u>Ranges/hr.</u></b>
<b>EXTRA CLERICAL</b>	12.00-13.75	12.75-14.50	12.75-14.50
<b>ELECTION WORKERS</b>	12.00-14.75	12.75-15.50	12.75-15.50
<b>SUMMER HIGHWAY</b>	12.00-14.75	12.75-14.75	12.75-14.75
<b>SNOW PLOW DRIVERS</b>	15.00-25.00	15.00-25.00	15.00-25.00
<b>PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS</b>	17.00-21.00	17.00-21.00	17.00-21.00
<b>PART TIME DISPATCHERS</b>	17.00-21.00	17.00-21.00	17.00-21.00
<b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION</b>	12.00-20.00	12.75-20.00	12.75-20.00
<b>AIRPORT INTERN</b>	12.00-14.25	12.75-15.00	12.75-15.00

**NON-UNION EMPLOYEES NOT SHOWN ABOVE**

	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Range FY2020</u>		<u>Range FY2021</u>	
		<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
<b><u>SALARIED</u></b>					
<b>TOWN ADMINISTRATOR</b>	J	92,811	114,221	94,203	115,934
<b>TOWN ACCOUNTANT</b>	G	60,346	73,905	61,251	75,014
<b>CHIEF OF POLICE</b>	I	84,373	103,837	85,639	105,395
<b>DPW SUPERINTENDENT</b>	H	76,703	94,397	77,854	95,813
<b>DIRECTOR OF HEALTH</b>	G	60,346	73,905	61,251	75,014
<b>LIBRARY DIRECTOR</b>	G	60,346	73,905	61,251	75,014
<b>WPCF SUPERINTENDENT</b>	H	76,703	94,397	77,854	95,813
<b><u>HOURLY</u></b>					
<b>EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT</b>	E	22.43	27.61	22.77	28.02
<b>POLICE LIEUTENANT</b>	G+8.5%	36.59	40.60	37.29	41.37
<b>POLICE CUSTODIAN</b>	A	15.03	18.50	15.26	18.78

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
Selectboard recommends Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 5. MOVED:** That the Town vote to amend the classification plan to add the position of Assistant Planner at Grade D as per a Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Montague and the National Association of Government Employees (NAGE).

(Planning Department Request)  
Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
Selectboard recommends Voted 2-0

**ARTICLE 6. MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,527,445 for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule III, Town Operating Budget, and for any other necessary changes, with \$47.30 to be raised from Transportation Infrastructure Fund Receipts Reserved for Appropriation and \$10,527,397.70 to be raised from Taxation.

SCHEDULE III  
Town Operating Budget

DEPT NO.	BUDGET FY20	REQUEST FY21	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY21
GENERAL GOVERNMENT			
113 TOWN MEETING	2,070	2,090	2,090
122 SELECT BOARD	184,489	192,014	192,014
131 FINANCE COMMITTEE	680	1,000	1,000
132 RESERVE FUND	60,000	60,000	60,000
135 TOWN ACCOUNTANT	81,680	81,934	81,934
141 ASSESSORS	189,278	195,422	195,422
145 TREASURER/COLLECTOR	224,914	239,560	239,560
151 TOWN COUNSEL	98,000	90,000	90,000
155 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	46,000	58,100	58,100
159 SHARED COSTS	65,659	72,759	72,759
161 TOWN CLERK	159,223	167,001	167,001
175 PLANNING	125,302	121,187	121,187
176 ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	1,200	1,200	1,200
182 MEDIC	1,000	5,000	5,000
190 PUBLIC BLDG UTILITIES	119,570	141,320	141,320
TOTAL GENERAL GOVT	1,359,065	1,428,587	1,428,587
PUBLIC SAFETY			
211 POLICE	1,652,537	1,698,119	1,698,119
211 POLICE CRUISER	51,600	53,000	53,000
212 DISPATCH	312,299	311,584	311,584
241 BUILDING INSPECTOR	140,080	141,444	141,444
244 SEALER OF WEIGHTS	2,750	2,750	2,750
291 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	5,765	5,765	5,765
292 ANIMAL CONTROL	20,057	20,414	20,414
294 FOREST WARDEN	1,710	1,710	1,710

DEPT NO.		BUDGET FY20	REQUEST FY21	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY21
299	TREE WARDEN	18,285	20,285	20,285
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	2,205,083	2,255,071	2,255,071
	PUBLIC WORKS			
420	DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS	1,407,163	1,441,408	1,441,408
420	FLAIL LEASE #2/5	24,090	24,090	24,090
423	SNOW & ICE	254,250	278,050	278,050
433	SOLID WASTE	519,983	598,886	598,886
480	CHARGING STATIONS		7,000	7,000
491	CEMETERIES	7,000	7,000	7,000
	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	2,212,486	2,356,434	2,356,434
	HUMAN SERVICES			
511	BOARD OF HEALTH	146,732	135,948	135,948
541	COUNCIL ON AGING	46,031	46,980	46,980
543	VETERANS' SERVICES	96,600	98,400	98,400
	TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	289,363	281,328	281,328
	CULTURE & RECREATION			
610	LIBRARIES	411,071	426,950	426,950
630	PARKS & RECREATION	139,448	143,539	143,539
691	HISTORICAL COMMISSION	500	500	500
693	WAR MEMORIALS	1,300	1,300	1,300
	TOTAL CULTURE/RECREATION	552,319	572,289	572,289
700	DEBT SERVICE	888,793	1,128,500	1,128,500
840	INTERGOVERNMENTAL	104,608	111,179	111,179
	MISCELLANEOUS			
910	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	2,227,951	2,298,057	2,298,057
946	GENERAL INSURANCE	93,275	96,000	96,000
	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	2,321,226	2,394,057	2,394,057
	TOTAL TOWN BUDGET	9,932,943	10,527,445	10,527,445

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
 Selectboard recommends Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 7. MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,449,068 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 \$220,559 to be raised from Taxation and \$2,228,509 to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

SCHEDULE IV  
 WPCF Budget

DEPT NO.		BUDGET FY20	REQUEST FY21	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY21
	WATER POLLUTION CONTROL			
440	Wages & Expenses	1,571,754	1,585,763	1,585,763
700	Debt Service	533,163	520,551	520,551
910	Employee Benefits	279,702	291,954	291,954
	SUBTOTAL WPCF	2,384,619	2,398,268	2,398,268
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	2,435,419	2,449,068	2,449,068

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
 Selectboard recommends Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 8. MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$79,750 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.  
 (Selectboard Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
 Selectboard recommends Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 9. MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$55,694 for the purpose of operating the Turners Falls Airport, with \$1,405 to be raised from Taxation and \$54,289 to be raised from Airport User Fees.

(Airport Commission Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
Selectboard recommends Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 10. MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,255,456 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.

(Franklin County Technical School Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
Selectboard recommends Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 11. MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,732,268 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.

(Gill-Montague Regional School District Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
Selectboard recommends Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 12. MOVED:** That the Town vote to 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 Taxation.

(Board of Assessors Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
Selectboard recommends Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 13. MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$41,953 for the following school building related projects and any and all incidental and related costs, with \$20,000 to be raised from Free Cash and \$21,953 to be raised from Taxation.

1. \$10,000 to repair the canopy over the Gill Montague Regional School District Administration Building's side entry
2. \$10,000 to repair the Hillcrest Elementary School roof

3. \$21,953 to obtain Building Condition Assessments to support capital planning for the Sheffield School, Hillcrest School, and Great Falls Middle School/Turners Falls High School Buildings  
(GMRSD Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
Selectboard recommends Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 14: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$191,000 for the purpose of the following WPCF projects and any and all incidental and related costs, with \$51,000 to be raised from WPCF Retained Earnings, \$100,000 to be raised from WPCF Capital Stabilization Fund, \$15,439.53 to be raised from the unexpended balance of Article #19 of the May 7, 2016 Annual Town Meeting, and \$24,560.47 to be raised from WPCF Capital Stabilization Fund.

1. \$51,000 to increase the appropriation made pursuant to Article 7 of the March 5, 2020 Special Town Meeting, which appropriated \$75,000 to remove and dispose of an existing oil tank and vault.
2. \$100,000 to replace coarse bubble diffusers at the Montague WPCF with fine bubble diffusers or similar energy saving technology
3. \$40,000 to replace a primary sludge pump at the Montague WPCF, including purchasing and equipping a new pump, removal and disposal of the existing pump, design and installation services

(WPCF Superintendent Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 6-0  
Selectboard recommends Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 15: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$127,260 for the following Town projects and any and all incidental and related costs, with \$80,000 to be raised from Taxation and \$47,260 to be raised from Free Cash.

1. \$80,000 to purchase, equip and make major repairs to DPW vehicles and equipment
2. \$10,000 to replace the Council on Aging chimney
3. \$37,260 to repair traditional walking paths in the villages of Millers Falls and Turners Falls, including but not limited to repair or replacement of the existing public stairway leading from the Millers Falls Village Center to Highland Park and the existing public walkway running from 7th Street to High Street, near its intersection with Avenue B

(Dept. of Public Works, Council on Aging and Planning Department Request)

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Finance Committee recommends, Voted 6-0  
Selectboard recommends, Voted 3-0

**ARTICLE 16. MOVED:** That the Town vote to transfer care, custody and control of the land and/or building commonly known as the former DPW Garage, located at 500 Avenue A, Turners Falls, and shown as Assessors' Parcel ID 05-0-127, from the Selectboard for general municipal purposes to Selectboard for general municipal purposes and for the purpose of conveyance and lease; and to authorize the Selectboard to sell or lease, transfer or convey all or any portion of such land and/or building 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.

**ARTICLE 17. MOVED:** That the Town vote to transfer care, custody and control of the land and/or building commonly known as the Town Hall Annex, located at 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls, and shown as Assessors' Parcel ID 04-0-0004, from the Selectboard for general municipal purposes to the Selectboard for general municipal purposes and for the purpose of conveyance and lease; and to authorize the Selectboard to sell or lease, transfer or convey all or any portion of such land and/or building 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.

**ARTICLE 18. MOVED:** We are writing to request that funds be appropriated to facilitate the repair of the public stairway leading from the Millers Falls Village Center to Highland Park. While many people continue to use the stairs they are in a sorry state and could cause someone harm if not addressed. Several of the concrete stairs are crumbling and the railings are rusted and broken. We feel that this is an important connector between the village center and the park and we hope that fixing the stairs would increase the use of the park by residents of the village center. Please repair the stairs so that we can use them safely.

(Petitioned Article)