

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF MONTAGUE  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
March 2, 2023

## MOTIONS

**ARTICLE 1: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of preparing a section of the Highland Cemetery for green burials, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 2: MOVED:** That the Town vote to establish a special purpose Canal District Utility Improvements Stabilization Fund in accordance with MGL Chapter 40 Section 5B and further to accept the provisions of the fourth paragraph of MGL Chapter 40 Section 5B and pursuant to such acceptance to allocate 100 percent of the First Light easement payments to said Canal District Utility Improvements Stabilization Fund, effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 3: MOVED:** That the Town vote to change the name of the WPCF Capital Stabilization Fund to the CWF Capital Stabilization Fund.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 4: MOVED:** That the Town vote to accept General Laws Chapter 32B, Section 20, and establish an Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund (OPEB Fund), effective March 3, 2023.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 5: MOVED:** That the Town vote to authorize the Trustee of the OPEB Fund established under G.L. c. 32B, § 20 to employ reputable and knowledgeable investment consultants to assist in determining appropriate investments and pay for those services from the OPEB Fund.

**AMENDED ARTICLE 5: MOVED:** That the Town vote to **appoint the Town Treasurer as the Trustee of the OPEB Fund established under G.L. c. 32B, § 20 and further to** authorize the Trustee of the OPEB Fund to employ reputable and knowledgeable investment consultants to assist in determining appropriate investments and pay for those services from the OPEB Fund.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE AS AMENDED**

**ARTICLE 6: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the purpose of supplementing the FY23 Reserve Fund Budget, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 7: MOVED:** That the Town vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 8 at the May 7, 2022 Annual Town Meeting, Schedule II Appointed Officials, to add the position of Great Falls Farmers Market Manager with an annual stipend of \$4,000.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 8: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,500 for the purpose of funding a budget for the Great Falls Farmers Market for FY23, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 9: MOVED:** That the Town vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 8 at the May 7, 2022 Annual Town Meeting, Schedule II Appointed Officials, to add the position of establish a Hearing Officer, with an annual stipend of \$2,500, and appropriate \$625 for the prorated annual amount for the remainder of FY23, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

**PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE**

**ARTICLE 10: MOVED:** That the Town vote to (a) authorize the Selectboard to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, the fee to and/or permanent and/or temporary easements for public way purposes, including without limitation, for the construction, alteration, installation, maintenance, improvement, repair, replacement and/or relocation of a bridge, rights of way, sidewalks, drainage, utilities, driveways, guardrails, slopes, grading, rounding, landscaping, and other appurtenances and/or facilities, to enable the Town to undertake the South Street Over Sawmill River Bridge Project and for any and all purposes incidental or related thereto, in, on and under certain parcels of land, and land adjacent to and within 200 feet of said parcels, and shown more particularly on plans entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of South Street Over Sawmill River Bridge No. M-28-026 in the Town of Montague, Franklin County," dated November 22, 2022, prepared by WSP USA Inc., said plans on file with the Town Clerk, as said plans may be amended and/or incorporated into an easement plan; and, further (b) authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and take any and all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate the foregoing purposes.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 11: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for the purpose of sealing the concrete surface of the Unity Skatepark and anything incidental or related thereto, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 12: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,000 for the purpose of conducting a formal evaluation of what is known as “the Blacksmith Shop”, located at 12 Station Street, Map 43, Lot 119 in Montague Center, to determine the feasibility for retention and restoration or demolition of the building located thereon, whether partial or total, and anything incidental or related thereto, said sum to be raise from Free Cash.

**PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE**

**ARTICLE 13: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$35,250, for the purpose of supporting consulting and design costs associated with applying for and/or participating in the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners' Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from the remaining balance of Article #27 of the May 6, 2017 Annual Town Meeting, which appropriated funds for a Libraries Building Study.

**PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE**

**ARTICLE 14: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,500,000 for the purpose of replacing the Clean Water Facility Screw Pumps, including any and all incidental or related costs, and to meet this appropriation to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow said sum under General Laws Chapter 44, or any other enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and to authorize the Selectboard to execute any such documents and/or agreements necessary to effectuate the purposes of this vote.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 15: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$68,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a transit van, including the purchase and installation of a charging station, and all incidental or related costs, said sum to be raised from CWF Retained Earnings.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 16: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$80,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a pickup truck with plow and sander, including any and all incidental or related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 17: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a one-ton dump truck with plow and sander, including any and all incidental or related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 18: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$52,500 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a municipal inspection vehicle, including purchase and installation of a charging station and any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 19: MOVED:** That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$230,000 for the purpose of replacing the roof of the Colle building, located at 85 Avenue A, including any and all incidental or related costs, said sum to be raised from Colle Receipts Reserved for Appropriation.

**PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**ARTICLE 20: MOVED:** That the Town vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.41, §1B to change the position of elected Town Clerk to an appointed position; provided, however, that before such a change will take effect, it must be approved by the voters at the 2023 Annual Town Election.

**PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE**

**ARTICLE 21: MOVED:** That the Town vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.41, §1B to change the position of elected Treasurer/Tax Collector to an appointed position; provided, however, that before such a change will take effect, it must be approved by the voters at the 2023 Annual Town Election.

**PASSED/DECLARED MAJORITY VOTE**