

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

1 Avenue A, Turners Falls and VIA ZOOM

Monday, September 8, 2025

AGENDA

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87263897026>

Meeting ID: 872 6389 7026 Password: 065940 Dial into meeting: +1 646 558 8656

This meeting/hearing of the Selectboard will be held in person at the location provided on this notice.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting. Please note that while an option for remote attendance and/or participation is being provided as a courtesy to the public, the meeting/hearing will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the virtual broadcast, unless otherwise required by law. Members of the public with particular interest in any specific item on this agenda should make plans for in-person vs. virtual attendance accordingly.

Topics may start earlier than specified, unless there is a hearing scheduled

Meeting Being Taped

Votes May Be Taken

1. 6:30PM Selectboard Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken
2. 6:30 Approve Minutes: Selectboard Meeting August 18, 2025
3. 6:32 **Public Comment Period:** Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Selectboard will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment
4. 6:35 **Licensing and requests for use of public property**
 - Request contract to be signed between the Town of Montague and FirstLight Power; Use of the Unity Park Riverfront for Northeast Unity car event parking on Sunday, September 21, 2025, co-sponsored by RiverCulture.
 - Request Use of Public Property, Public Demonstration for Domestic Violence Awareness Vigil beginning at the Peskeompskut Park, down Avenue A and over Gill-Montague Bridge on October 23, 2025, from 5:00pm – 7:00pm. Requested by Brick House Community Resource Center.
5. 6:45 **Eileen Seymour, Tax Collector/Treasurer**
 - Approve bond anticipation note (BAN) financing schedule and associated documents for previously authorized capital projects
6. 7:00 **Maureen Pollock, Planning Director**
 - Planning Board's Petition for Amendments to the Zoning Bylaw and Changes to the Official Zoning Map (Rezoning Amendments relative to Farren Sites)
 - Authorize Contract of Services with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. for preparing Town's ten-year Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP). Contract value is \$34,000.00 to be funded from Planning Assistance Grant from the MA Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs
 - Announcement: Town is selected by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to receive support in developing an updated hazard mitigation plan.

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7. 7:20

Personnel Board

- Request for town credit card for Adam Tocci, Town Assessor, for \$2,500.00
- Request for town credit card for Fern Smith, Selectboard Executive Assistant, for \$2,500.00
- Accept Letter of Resignation from Ariel Elan from the Montague Energy Committee effective September 8, 2025
- Appoint Ariel Elan to a member of Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation Committee, effective September 9, 2025, for a 3-year term ending June 30, 2028

8. 7:25

Special Town Meeting

- Set Date and warrant schedule for Fall Special Town Meeting: Meeting Date October 22, 2025, 6PM. Close warrant 10/6. Article Requests Due 9/23.
- Pre-Town Meeting Wed Oct 15, 6PM
- Discuss schedule for Six Town Regionalization vote

9. 7:20

Assistant Town Administrator's Business

- Presentation of Draft FY26-31 Capital Improvement Plan
- Authorize Contract of Services with Weston & Sampson for limited subsurface investigation at 38 Avenue A. Contract value is \$49,995.00 to be funded by MA Public Library Construction Grant from MA Board of Library Commissioners, and Town Meeting appropriations
- Authorize Change Order with Mountain View Landscapes and Lawncare, Inc for Avenue A Streetscape Improvement project. Change order value is \$600.00 to be funded with project contingency
- Authorize Change Order with All Star Abatement for Strathmore Mill Footbridge Asbestos Remediation. Change order value is \$7,358.86 to be funded with project contingency
- Authorize Contract of Services with Bowman Consulting Group, Ltd for Montague Center Complete Streets engineering services. Contract value is \$61,000 to be funded by Town Meeting appropriation
- First Street Water Main / Closure status and repair strategy
- Planned closure of Fifth Street Bridge 9/21 to 9/27
- Other project updates

10. 7:35

Town Administrator's Business

- Overview of potential lodging tax/ FRCOG Short Term Rental Study
- Opportunity for town to allow for conversion of On-premises Wine and Malt Only licenses to All Alcoholic Beverages License,
- Topics not anticipated within 48 hour posting requirements

Next Meetings: Selectboard: Monday, September 15, 2025, at 6:00PM via ZOOM