

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

VIA ZOOM

Monday, March 23, 2026

AGENDA

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85644650678>

Meeting ID: 856 4465 0678 Password: 821871 Dial into meeting: +1 646 558 8656

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 Meetings: March 2, 2026, and 3/16/26 if available
3. 6:30 **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. 6:32 **License / Use of Public Property Requests:**
 - Cocina Lupita – Josh Breitner, Request to extend entertainment event hours to 7pm to 12:30am on Friday and Saturday nights. Currently authorized from 7pm to 9:30pm on Friday and Saturday nights. Also requesting to include Karaoke in the entertainment license request.
 - Request for Use of Public Property by John Morin on June 20, 2026, from 8:30am to 1:00pm for Bikes Fight Cancer Charity Ride. Updated COI will be provided prior to event.
 - Request for Use of Public Property by Christina Williams for Newt Guilbault Baseball League Opening Day Parade April 26, 2026, 9am-12:00pm, beginning at TFHS down Turnpike Road right onto Montague St., right on Crocker Avenue.
 - Maggie Martin of The Brick House Community Resource Center, LLC, requests Use of Public Property for 5K Fun Run and Walk on May 16, 2026, from Bike Path through the Patch from 7:00am to 1:00pm. Also requesting to place signs in Peskeompskut Park, Unity Park, Montague Center Common and a few corners on Avenue A.
 - Request from Fern Smith for First Reading of Town of Montague Outdoor Dining Policy as required by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (ABCC) prior to the Local Licensing Authority (LLA) authorizing expansion of liquor licenses to include “outdoor table service”.
5. 6:45 **Personnel Board**
 - Police Department
 - Appoint Casey Hoffman, Jr. to Patrol Officer effective April 5, 2026, Grade P, Step 4 at \$28.51/hour
 - Department of Public Works
 - Appoint Paul Platek to Building Maintenance Worker effective April 6, 2026, Grade G, Step 2 at \$24.28/hour

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6. 6:50

Vote recommendations for FY27 Budget

A. Schedules for Elected and Appointed Officials

1. Schedule I- Elected Officials
2. Schedule II- Appointed Officials

B. FY27 Operating Budget

1. Town Operating Budget \$13,815,938
2. Clean Water Facility Operating Budget - \$3,306,973
3. Airport Operating Budget - \$452,272
4. Colle Operating Budget - \$52,250
5. Gill-Montague School District Assessment - \$13,120,375
6. Franklin County Tech School assessment - \$1,131,215

C. Special Article Recommendations (Non-CIC)

1. GMRSD Afterschool and Instruction Materials -\$163,717.50
2. Establish Arts and Culture Fund- \$7,500
3. Reseal Unity Skate Park-\$5,500
4. Montague Center Park Improvements \$7,326
5. Carnegie Library Repairs \$16,500
6. Police Equipment \$13,200
7. CWF Generator Redesign Funding \$23,705.08
8. Airport FY26 Operating Budget \$8,144
9. Transfers to Reserves - \$339,489

7. 7:05

Assistant Town Administrator's Business

- Authorize Memorandum of Understanding with Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) for post-mounted speed feedback sign near 446 Millers Falls Road
- Other Project Updates

8. 7:10

Town Administrator's Business

- Pre-Town Meeting Session/ and new Town Meeting Member Orientation
- Topics not anticipated within 48 hour posting requirements

Next Meeting(s):

Selectboard: Monday, March 30, 2026, at 6:30pm via ZOOM

MONTAGUE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND SELECTBOARD

All draft motions without Finance Committee (FC) votes are to be reviewed and voted by the Finance Committee at their meeting on Wednesday, March 25, 2026

DRAFT MOTIONS

SCHEDULES

Schedule I Elected Officials FC 5-0, SB X-X

Move to recommend Schedule I Elected Officials salaries as presented.

Schedule II Appointed Officials FC 5-0, SB X-X

Move to recommend Schedule II Appointed Officials salaries as presented.

ANNUAL BUDGET

Town Operating Budget Request of \$13,815,938 FC X-X, SB X-X

Move to recommend a Town operating budget of \$13,815,762, with \$13,815,762 to be raised from Taxation.

Clean Water Facility Operating Budget Request of \$3,306,973 FC X-X, SB X-X

Move to recommend a CWF operating budget of \$3,306,973, with \$268,497 to be raised from Taxation and \$3,038,476 to be raised from Sewer Revenues.

Airport Operating Budget Request of \$452,272 FC X-X, SB X-X

Move to recommend an Airport operating budget of \$452,272, with \$18,805 to be raised from Town Sale of Real Estate, \$103,167 to be raised from Taxation, and \$330,300 to be raised from Airport Revenues.

Colle Operating Budget Request of \$52,250 FC X-X, SB X-X

Move to recommend a Colle operating budget of \$52,250, said sum to be raised from Colle Receipts Reserved for Appropriation.

GMRSD Assessment of \$13,120,375 FC X-X, SB X-X

Move to recommend a GMRSD assessment of \$13,120,375, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

FCTS Assessment of \$1,131,215 FC X-X, SB X-X

Move to recommend a FCTS assessment of \$1,131,215, with \$231,907 to be raised from the Franklin County Technical School Stabilization and \$899,308 to be raised from Taxation.

NON-CIC SPECIAL ARTICLES

GMRSD Afterschool and Instructional Materials - \$163,717.50 FC X-X, SB X-X

Move to recommend appropriating \$163,717.50 for Sheffield afterschool program and instructional materials in the Turners Falls High School, Great Falls Middle School, Hillcrest, and Sheffield Elementary, with \$12,424 to be raised from the unexpended balance of Article #21E of the May 22,

2021 Annual Town Meeting, \$24,393.50 to be raised from the unexpended balance of Article #9 of the October 16, 2021 Special Town Meeting, \$86,900 to be raised from the unexpended balance of Article #23 of the May 7, 2022 Annual Town Meeting, and \$40,000 to be raised from the unexpended balance of Article #24 of the May 7, 2022 Annual Town Meeting.

Establish Arts and Culture Fund - \$7,500 FC X-X, SB X-X

Move to recommend \$7,500, or any other amount, for the purpose of supporting public art and cultural activity in Montague.

Reseal Unity Skate Park for \$5,500 FC 5-0, SB X-X

Move to recommend \$5,500 to reseal the skate park at Unity Park, said sum to be raised from the unexpended balance of Article #24 of the May 6, 2023 Annual Town Meeting.

Montague Center Park Improvements \$7,326 FC 5-0, SB X-X

Move to recommend \$7,326 for the usage of Montague Center Park improvements, said sum to be raised from the unexpended balance of Article #8 of the October 20, 2023 Special Town Meeting.

Carnegie Library Repairs \$16,500 FC 5-0, SB X-X

Move to recommend \$16,500 for Carnegie Library repairs, with \$12,950 to be raised from the unexpended balance of Article #25 of the May 4, 2019 Annual Town Meeting and \$3,550 to be raised from free cash.

Police Equipment \$13,200 FC 5-0, SB X-X

Move to recommend \$13,200 for police equipment, said sum to be raised from free cash.

Generator Redesign Funding \$23,705.08 FC 5-0, SB X-X

Move to recommend \$23,705.08 for the funding of a generator redesign deficit, with \$3,030.48 to be raised from the unexpended balance of Article #14 of the May 7, 2025 Annual Town Meeting and \$20,674.60 to be raised from Sewer Retained Earnings.

Airport FY26 Operating Budget \$8,144 FC 5-0, SB X-X

Move to recommend \$8,144 to increase Airport FY26 operating budget, with said sum to be raised from Airport Retained Earnings.

Transfers to Reserves - \$339,489 FC X-X, SB X-X

Move to recommend appropriating \$50,000 to the Franklin County Technical Stabilization, \$100,000 to Town Capital Stabilization, \$89,489 to the GMRSD Stabilization, and \$100,000 to the OPEB Trust Fund, with \$89,489 to be from taxation and \$250,000 to be from Free Cash.

Fund	Amount (\$)	Funding Source
Franklin County Technical Stabilization	\$	Free Cash, \$50,000
Town Capital Stabilization Fund	\$	Free Cash, \$100,000
GMRSD Stabilization Fund	\$	Taxation, \$39,489 Free Cash, \$50,000
OPEB Trust Fund	\$	Taxation, \$50,000 Free Cash, \$50,000
Total:	\$	\$339,489