

# MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

1 Avenue A, Turners Falls and VIA ZOOM

Tuesday, March 30, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM. Present were Selectboard members Matt Lord, Rich Kuklewicz, and Marina Goldman; Town Administrator Walter Ramsey; Assistant Town Administrator Chris Nolan-Zeller; Executive Assistant Fern Smith; and FCRHA Director of Community Development Brian McHugh.

Selectboard Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken

## Approve Minutes of March 12, 2026, if available

Goldman makes the motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2026 Selectboard Meeting. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

**Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Selectboard will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment**

None

## PUBLIC HEARING - FY26 Community Development Block Grant

The purpose of this Public Hearing Meeting will be to solicit public input and response to the Town's application for FY2026 Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the MA Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities

- Lord reads aloud the Legal Notice for the Public Hearing.
- McHugh reviews the FY 2026 CDBG Grant Application.
- In response to a question by Kuklewicz, McHugh states that Wildflower Alliance contacted us to let us know they missed the deadline.
- In response to a question by Kuklewicz, McHugh clarifies which area will be getting handicap-accessible ramps via the CDBG Block Grant.
- In response to a request by Goldman, McHugh states that planters are going to be added that match the existing granite planters.
- *Kuklewicz makes the motion to authorize HRA to submit a CDBG Application on behalf of the Town of Montague in the amount of \$825,019; to authorize the Selectboard Chair to sign the Grant Application Cover Sheet; and to authorize the execution of the new FY26 CDBG Contract between the Town of Montague and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, if it is awarded. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Lord - Aye*

## Legislative Priorities Discussion with Senator Jo Comerford

After having received a list of Montague's Legislative Priorities, Comerford gives her input and discusses UGGA Transportation Reimbursement Chapter 90 PILOT Reform, the PILOT Program for State-owned land, the Chapter 70 formula, the UGGA formula, the Education formula, and housing funding for the Farren project.

## Review and vote recommendations for remaining Articles for May 2, 2026 Annual Town Meeting

### A. Special Article Non-CIC Financial

- **Transfers to Reserves - \$339,489**

*Goldman makes the motion to recommend transferring to the Franklin County Technical School Stabilization Fund \$50,000; the Town Capitalization Stabilization Fund \$100,000; the Gill-Montague Regional School District Stabilization Fund \$89,489; and the OPEB Trust Fund \$100,000 for a total set of Transfers of \$339,489. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Nay*

### B. Special Articles Non-CIC

- **Five-Year Taser Agreement**
- **Acquire Second Street Parking Lot Parcel from Montague EDIC**
- **Postage Machine Five-Year Lease Agreement**
- **Accessory Dwelling Units Zoning Bylaw**
- **Right-of-Way Authorization for North Leverett Road Bridge Replacement**
- **Right-of-Way Authorization for Intersection Safety Improvements at Millers Falls Road and Industrial Boulevard**
- **Personnel Policy Bylaw**
- **Local Option to permit conversion of "Beer and Wine" licenses to "All-Alcohol"**
- **Initiate Community Electricity Supply Aggregation Program**

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to recommend to Town Meeting the following Special Articles at the Annual Town Meeting: Five-Year Taser Agreement, Acquire Second Street Parking Lot Parcel from Montague EDIC, Postage Machine Five-*

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*Year Lease Agreement, Accessory Dwelling Units Zoning Bylaw, Right-of-Way Authorization for North Leverett Road Bridge Replacement, Right-of-Way Authorization for Intersection Safety Improvements at Millers Falls Road and Industrial Boulevard, Personnel Policy Bylaw, Local Option to permit conversion of "Beer and Wine" licenses to "All-Alcohol", and Initiate Community Electricity Supply Aggregation Program. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Lord - Aye*

**First Reading of Annual Town Meeting, May 2, 2026 Warrant**

**First reading of May 2, 2026 Annual Town Meeting Warrant, attached hereto, votes may be taken**

Ramsey reviews and summarizes the Annual Town Meeting, May 2, 2026 Warrant.

**Fern Smith, Executive Assistant**

**Adopt Outdoor Dining Alcoholic Beverages Services Policy**

*Kuklewicz makes the motion to adopt the Outdoor Dining Alcoholic Beverages Services Policy. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Aye, Goldman - Aye*

**Town Administrator's Business**

- **Authorize Consent and Conflict Waiver to allow Sullivan, Hayes & Quinn, LLC (former counsel to Montague) to represent City of Greenfield for review of intermunicipal drone agreement**  
Ramsey will follow-up with KP Law to make sure this is all above board.
- **Topics not anticipated within 48-hour posting requirement**  
None.

**Next Meeting:**

Selectboard Meeting, Monday, April 6, 2026 at 6:30 PM - HYBRID

*Goldman makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Nay*