

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

VIA ZOOM

Monday, March 30, 2026

AGENDA

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89037411053>

Meeting ID: 890 3741 1053 Password: 579770 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 23, 2026, 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 **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 (EOHLC).
5. 6:55 **Legislative Priorities Discussion with Senator Jo Comerford**
6. 7:25 **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
 - B. Special Articles Non-CIC
 - Five Year Taser Agreement
 - Acquire Second Street Parking Lot Parcel from Montague EDIC
 - Postage Machine 5-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

Montague Selectboard Meeting

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7. 7:45 **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
8. 8:00 **Fern Smith, Executive Assistant**
- Adopt Outdoor Dining Alcoholic Beverages Service Policy
9. 8:05 **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.
 - Topics not anticipated within 48 hour posting requirement

Next Meeting

Selectboard Meeting: Monday April 6, 2026, at 6:30pm HYRID

LEGAL AD**TOWNS OF MONTAGUE AND ORANGE****FY26 Community Development Block Grant –
Request for Proposals for Social Service Programs**

The Towns of Montague and Orange (individually) request proposals for public social service programs that will meet the needs of its residents for possible inclusion in its FY2026 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application. All proposed programs must address needs identified by the MA Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities and the individual town's Community Development Strategies and Planning Documents.

The Town will accept and open all proposals submitted through the grant administrator portal, Neighborly on Monday, March 23 2026, at 3:00 p.m. Proposals submitted by fax or email will not be considered. An electronic copy of the proposal is required from each agency and should be submitted through the Neighborly software portal.

For a copy of the RFP, please access the online Neighborly software portal:
<https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/fcrhra> or contact Sharon Pleasant, Community Development Program Manager at 413-223-5215 or spleasant@fcrhra.org.

Town of Montague Selectboard
Town of Orange Selectboard

Ad Postings:
The Recorder
Montague Town Hall
Orange Town Hall

**LEGAL NOTICE
FY 2026 CDBG APPLICATION
PUBLIC HEARING
Town of Montague**

The Town of Montague will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 30, 2026, 6:30 p.m. during the Selectboard Meeting, via Zoom (please refer to <https://www.montague-ma.gov/d/8934/Selectboard>), to solicit public response to the Town's submission of an FY 2026 Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to the MA Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities. The meeting will be held via Zoom regardless of the weather.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the contents of this application. The Town is considering applying for the following activities: social service programs, an Avenue A Streetscape Improvements project in downtown Turners Falls, and possibly an additional CDBG-eligible activity. Montague Town Officials and HRA representatives will be available to discuss the FY 2026 CDBG application activities. The Town is eligible to apply for no more than \$950,000. If awarded, the Town of Montague will contract with the Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) to administer the CDBG Program.

The Town encourages residents to attend the meeting where any person or organization wishing to be heard will be afforded the opportunity. The Town will make reasonable accommodations for handicapped, non-English speaking, or hearing-impaired participants with seven days advance written notice to the Selectboard's Office. Any resident unable to participate in the public hearing is welcome to submit written comments to the attention of the Town Administrator, Montague Town Hall, Turners Falls, MA.

The Town of Montague is an equal opportunity provider.

Selectboard
Town of Montague

March 14, 2026

AGENDA

FY 2026 MONTAGUE CDBG GRANT APPLICATION
Community Development Block Grant Program

PUBLIC HEARING
Monday, March 30, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
Via ZOOM

OPEN MEETING

LEGAL NOTICE:

The purpose of this meeting will be to solicit public input/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 (EOHLC).

This meeting will discuss the contents of the application; the Town is considering applying for the following activities: social service programs, an Avenue A Streetscape Improvements project, and possibly an additional CDBG eligible activity. If awarded a grant, the Town of Montague will contract with Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) to administer the CDBG Program.

DISCUSSION of FY 2026 CDBG APPLICATION

▪ **FUNDING SOURCE:**

- Federal funds: HUD
- Activities must meet National Objectives:
 - benefit Low to Moderate Income residents or address the Elimination of Slum and Blight
- CDBG program is administered by MA Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities

▪ **PROPOSED ACTIVITIES**

1. Social Service Programs (commit up to \$100,000 for no more than 5 programs)
Program submitted applications totaling: \$83,039

BRICK HOUSE COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER – Youth Education and Prevention (YEP) Program(\$20,000):

Program to support Montague youth ages 11-19 by providing a safe, non-commercial space for them to connect with supportive mentors, build peer-to-peer connections, and use computers, explore creative activities through art, music and dance, as well as participate in a variety of programs that strengthen and increase their “internal developmental assets.”

LIFEPATH, Inc. – Elder Self-Sufficiency and Stability Program (\$18,038.50):

Program to assist Montague elders to remain independent in their homes with service provisions to address needs related to their housing, health, comfort, access to health care, and financial stability. Four activities that are part of this program:

- **SHINE PROGRAM:** Program that provides free one-on-one health insurance information, counseling and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries of all ages.
- **MONEY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM:** Provides a trained volunteer to assist elders and persons with disability who have difficulty writing checks or managing their basic living expenses.

LIFEPATH, Inc. – Montague Home Delivered Meals Program (\$25,000)

The program will provide meals to elder homebound residents of Montague, Monday through Friday, and will also provide well-being checks.

THE HEARTWING CENTER – Families Learning Together Strong (\$20,000):

This program will provide early childhood literacy for children of Montague immigrant families. It also provides a family-based learning environment for English-learning students enrolled in the Gill Montague School District

2. Avenue A Streetscape Improvements 5.2 Project: (\$535,725):

The proposed Project includes the installation of handicap accessible ramps, where feasible, and the complete replacement of brick sidewalks and planters in Downtown Turners Falls.

- On the eastern, odd numbered side of Avenue A from Third Street to the Third Street Alley
The sidewalk is to be replaced with brick and concrete in the same manner as the new sidewalks recently replaced on the odd side of Avenue A from First Street to Third Street. Handicap accessible curb cuts will be installed at all street crossings. The curbing for the existing planters will be replaced with new granite curbing with the approximate dimensions of the existing planters. Metal benches will be installed alongside the planters. Concrete ramps with metal railings will be installed at non-compliant entrances to commercial and residential entrances to buildings where feasible.

HRA Oversight for, Social Services and Avenue A Streetscape Improvements: \$82,502

- Marketing, Application Processing, Inspections, MA Historic, Statutory Checklist, Work Lists, Bidding, Contracts, Waivers, Change Orders, Loan Closings, Final Inspections

HRA General Grant Administration: \$123,753

- Grant writing, Subgrantee Contracts, Grant Environmental Review, Liaison with Town and EOHLIC, Grant Funds Management and EOHLIC Grant Management System, Accounting and Payments, Administrative and Policy Oversight, Grant Implementation Plan, Monthly and Quarterly Reporting to Town and EOHLIC, Federal and State Regulations and HRA compliance, Subordination Requests, Grant Amendments, Extensions, Communications

TOTAL APPLICATION: \$825,019

APPLICATION SCHEDULE:

- FY26 CDBG Application due April 21, 2025
- FY26 CDBG Awards anticipated to be made in the Fall of 2026

RESIDENT'S: COMMENTS and CONCERNS

What is needed tonight:

- A board vote to authorize HRA to submit a CDBG Application on behalf of the town of Montague in the amount of \$825,019

- A board vote to authorize the selectboard chair to sign the Grant Application Cover Sheet
NOTE: This document is not available until the budget has been approved and entered into EOHLC's Grant Management System

- A board vote which will authorize execution of the new FY26 CDBG Contract between the Town of Montague and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC), if it is awarded.
NOTE: EOHLC will email the contract to the contact listed at the Town of Montague and the contract will be signed electronically.

▪ **CLOSE MEETING**

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD DRAFT MOTIONS TO VOTE

NON-CIC FINANCIAL ARTICLE

Transfers to Reserves - \$339,489 FC 5-0, 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

REMAINING NON-CIC SPECIAL ARTICLES

Five Year Taser Agreement SB X-X

Move to recommend that the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a five (5) year agreement, for the purchase and maintenance of tasers and related equipment for use by the Police Department.

Acquire Second Street Parking Lot Parcel from Montague EDIC SB X-X

Move to recommend that the town vote to acquire and accept, by donation, from the Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation, or the current owner, the real property located at Second Street, Turners Falls, Montague.

Postage Machine 5-year Lease Agreement SB X-X

Move to recommend that the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a five (5) year lease agreement for a postage machine in FY2027.

Accessory Dwelling Units Zoning Bylaw SB X-X

Move to recommend that the Town will vote to amend its Zoning Bylaws as recommended by the Planning Board.

Right-of-Way Authorization for North Leverett Road Bridge Replacement SB X-X

Move to recommend that the town vote to (a) authorize the Selectboard to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain, on such terms as the Selectboard deems appropriate, the land and/or permanent and temporary easements in, on, under, over, across and along certain parcels of land located on or near the North Leverett Road Bridge over Sawmill River.

Right-of-Way Authorization for Intersection Safety Improvements at Millers Falls Road and Industrial Boulevard SB X-X

Move to recommend the Town will vote to (a) authorize the Selectboard to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain, on such terms as the Selectboard deems appropriate, the land and/or permanent and temporary easements in, on, under, over, across and along certain parcels of land located on or near the intersection of Industrial Boulevard and Millers Falls Road.

Personnel Policy Bylaw SB X-X

Move to recommend that the Town vote to rescind its existing Consolidated Personnel Bylaw and amend the Town's General Bylaws by adding a new Article, as set forth below, entitled "Personnel", the purpose of which shall be to establish fair and equitable personnel policies and a system of personnel administration based on merit principles that ensures uniform, efficient application of those policies, as authorized by M.G.L. c. 41 § 108C.

Local Option to permit conversion of "Beer and Wine" licenses to "All-alcohol" SB X-X

Move to recommend that the Town vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.138, §12D, to allow the Selectboard as the local licensing authority of the Town, to approve a request from a licensee to convert an existing license to sell wines and malt beverages only for on-premises consumption to a license to sell all alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption.

Initiate Community Electricity Supply Aggregation Program SB X-X

Move to recommend that the town vote to initiate the process to aggregate electrical load pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 164, Section 134, and further to authorize the Selectboard, or its designee, to research, develop, and participate in a contract or contracts to aggregate the electricity load of the residents and business in the Town, independently or in joint action with other municipalities.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
May 2, 2026

Franklin, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Montague in the County of Franklin:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Montague qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet in the Turners Falls High School Theater, 222 Turnpike Road, Montague on Saturday, May 2, 2026, at 9:00 A.M. and to act on the following articles and any motions which may be presented.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to receive the reports of the Officers of the Town and any committees, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of all elected officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, as set forth in Schedule I, Elected Officials, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY26 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY27 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY27 RECOMMEND</u>
MODERATOR	500	500	500
SELECTBOARD			
Chairman	2,640	2,640	2,640
Second/Third Members	2,400	2,400	2,400
BOARD OF ASSESSOR			
Chairman	1,980	1,980	1,980
Second/Third Members	1,800	1,800	1,800
BOARD OF HEALTH			
Chairman	1,980	1,980	1,980
Second/Third Members	1,800	1,800	1,800

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of all appointed officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, as set forth in Schedule II, Appointed Officials, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY26 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY27 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY27 RECOMMEND</u>
<u>ANNUAL STIPENDS</u>			
BOARD OF REGISTRARS (3)	625	625	625
BOARD OF REGISTRARS TOWN CLERK	900	900	900
EMERGENCY MGMT DIRECTOR	6,444	6,444	6,444
ANIMAL INSPECTOR	1,764	1,764	1,764
BARN INSPECTOR	1,400	1,400	1,400
IT COORDINATOR	2,352	2,352	2,352
POLICE IT ADMINISTRATOR	6,000	6,000	6,000
FOREST WARDEN	1,882	1,882	1,882
TREE WARDEN	1,764	1,764	1,764
HEARING OFFICER	2,500	2,500	2,500
FARMERS MARKET MANAGER	3,750	3,750	3,750
FARMERS MARKET ASST MANAGER	750	750	750
SEXTON STIPEND	4,032	4,032	4,032
<u>RATES PER INSPECTION</u>			
ASST. BUILDING INSPECTOR	45.00	45.00	45.00
GAS INSPECTOR	45.00	45.00	45.00
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	45.00	45.00	45.00
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR	45.00	45.00	45.00
<u>HOURLY RATES</u>			
EXTRA CLERICAL	15.00-18.75	15.00-18.75	15.00-18.75
ELECTION WORKERS	15.00-19.75	15.00-19.75	15.00-19.75
SUMMER HIGHWAY	15.00-18.75	15.00-18.75	15.00-18.75
SNOWPLOW DRIVERS	15.00-27.00	15.00-27.00	15.00-27.00
PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS	29.00-37.00	29.00-37.00	29.00-37.00
PART TIME DISPATCHERS	22.00-27.00	22.00-27.00	22.00-27.00
PARKS & RECREATION	15.00-24.25	15.00-24.25	15.00-24.25
AIRPORT INTERN	15.00-18.75	15.00-18.75	15.00-18.75

**SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY26 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY27 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY27 RECOMMEND</u>
SHIFT DIFFERENTIALS			
<u>PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS</u>			
SECOND SHIFT	1.00	1.00	1.00
THIRD SHIFT	1.25	1.25	1.25
<u>PART TIME DISPATCHERS</u>			
SECOND SHIFT	1.00	1.00	1.00
THIRD SHIFT	1.25	1.25	1.25
<u>PART TIME CLERICAL/LIBRARIES</u>	1.00	1.00	1.00

**SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials**

NON-UNION EMPLOYEES NOT SHOWN ABOVE

	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Range FY2026</u>		<u>Range FY2027</u>	
		<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
<u>SALARIED</u>					
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	A	98,027	127,920	100,477	131,118
ASSISTANT TOWN ADMIN	C	76,616	99,938	78,531	102,880
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	C	71,508	93,275	73,298	95,607
TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER	C	71,508	93,275	73,298	95,607
TOWN CLERK	C	71,508	93,275	73,298	95,607
CHIEF OF POLICE	A	104,562	136,448	107,176	139,859
DPW SUPERINTENDENT	B	89,877	117,270	92,124	120,202
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH	C	71,508	93,275	73,298	95,607
LIBRARY DIRECTOR	C	71,508	93,275	73,298	95,607
CWF SUPERINTENDENT	B	89,877	117,270	92,124	120,202
<u>HOURLY</u>					
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	E	28.28	36.90	28.99	37.82
POLICE LIEUTENANT	C	39.29	51.25	40.27	52.53
POLICE CUSTODIAN	I	18.07	23.58	18.52	24.17

Informational Only: Fiscal Year 2027 budgeted wages –

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR.....	120,507	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT.....	35.65
ASSISTANT TOWN ADMIN	102,880	DPW SUPERINTENDENT	107,280
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH	80,498	CWF SUPERINTENDENT	113,733
TAX COLLECTOR/TREAS	90,597	TOWN ACCOUNTANT	90,597
TOWN CLERK.....	80,498	LIBRARY DIRECTOR.....	90,473
CHIEF OF POLICE*.....	165,448	POLICE LIEUTENANT.....	52.53
POLICE CUSTODIAN	24.17		

*includes additional 25% educational incentive pay

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$13,815,938, or any other amount, for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, said sum to be allocated in accordance with Schedule III, Budget, and for any other necessary charges, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Schedule III
Town Operating Budget

DEPT NO.		BUDGET FY26	REQUEST FY27	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY27
	GENERAL GOVERNMENT			
113	TOWN MEETING	3,180	3,180	3,180
122	SELECTBOARD	324,662	343,147	343,147
131	FINANCE COMMITTEE	600	575	575
132	RESERVE FUND	50,000	49,000	49,000
135	TOWN ACCOUNTANT	101,374	98,297	98,297
141	ASSESSORS	180,122	185,805	185,805
145	TREASURER/COLLECTOR	208,335	205,816	205,816
151	TOWN COUNSEL	82,475	67,475	67,475
155	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	103,352	110,279	110,279
159	SHARED COSTS	104,930	107,180	107,180
161	TOWN CLERK	219,144	248,690	248,690
175	PLANNING	142,394	152,701	152,701
176	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	700	686	686
190	PUBLIC BLDG UTILITIES	145,000	146,300	146,300
197	FARMERS MARKET	5,700	5,950	5,950
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVT	1,671,968	1,725,081	1,725,081
	PUBLIC SAFETY			
211	POLICE	2,069,965	2,315,855	2,308,855
211	POLICE CRUISER	-	-	-
212	DISPATCH	410,868	448,858	448,858
241	BUILDING INSPECTOR	149,926	162,498	162,498
244	SEALER OF WEIGHTS	7,182	7,182	7,182
291	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	6,944	6,944	6,944
292	ANIMAL CONTROL	24,185	24,817	24,817
294	FOREST WARDEN	1,882	1,882	1,882
299	TREE WARDEN	30,474	29,774	29,774
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	2,701,426	2,997,810	2,990,810
	PUBLIC WORKS			
420	DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS	1,810,284	1,875,942	1,875,942
420	EQUIPMENT LEASE PAYMENT	-	-	-
423	SNOW & ICE	324,750	324,750	324,750
433	SOLID WASTE	835,300	873,737	873,737

Schedule III
Town Operating Budget

DEPT NO.	BUDGET FY26	REQUEST FY27	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY27
PUBLIC WORKS			
480	3,000	6,500	6,500
491	32,150	32,150	32,150
	3,005,484	3,113,079	3,113,079
HUMAN SERVICES			
511	172,144	175,954	175,954
541	77,207	81,085	81,085
543	101,000	81,000	81,000
	350,351	338,039	338,039
CULTURE & RECREATION			
610	521,033	542,084	542,084
630	169,326	179,107	179,107
691	500	500	500
693	1,600	1,600	1,600
	692,459	723,291	723,291
DEBT SERVICE			
700	1,160,025	1,175,422	1,175,422
INTERGOVERNMENTAL			
840	119,041	126,678	126,678
MISCELLANEOUS			
910	3,177,301	3,502,336	3,502,336
946	119,600	121,202	121,202
	3,296,901	3,623,538	3,623,538
	12,997,655	13,822,938	13,815,938

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$3,306,973 or any other amount, for the purpose of operating the

Clean Water Facility and associated pumping stations, said sum to be allocated in accordance with Schedule IV, CWF Budget, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Schedule IV
Clean Water Facility Budget

DEPT NO.		BUDGET FY26	REQUEST FY27	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY27
	CLEAN WATER FACILITY			
440	Wages & Expenses	2,209,442	2,218,829	2,218,829
440	Capital Outlay	58,500	-	-
700	Debt Service	485,028	514,159	514,159
910	Employee Benefits	383,183	488,835	488,835
	SUBTOTAL CWF	3,136,153	3,221,823	3,221,823
449	DPW SUBSIDIARY			
	Wages & Expenses	85,150	85,150	85,150
	Capital Outlay	-	-	-
	SUBTOTAL DPW SUBSIDIARY	85,150	85,150	85,150
	TOTAL CWF	3,221,303	3,306,973	3,306,973

(Sewer Commission Request)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$452,272, or any other amount, for the purpose of operating the Turners Falls Airport, said sum to be allocated in accordance with Schedule V, Airport Budget, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

Schedule V
Airport Budget

DEPT NO.		BUDGET FY26	REQUEST FY27	SELECTBOARD FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY27
	AIRPORT			
482	Wages & Expenses	271,625	288,504	288,504
482	Capital Outlay/Local Share	-	-	-
700	Debt Service	99,935	101,015	101,015
910	Employee Benefits	54,172	62,753	62,753
	TOTAL AIRPORT	425,732	452,272	452,272

(Airport Commission Request)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$52,250 or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the operations and maintenance of the Colle Building, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$1,131,215, or any other amount, 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, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Franklin County Technical School Request)

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$13,120,375, or any other amount, 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, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Gill-Montague Regional School District Request)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$163,717.50, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the following Gill-Montague Regional School District materials and programs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

- A. \$80,000 for textbooks and instructional materials for Turners Falls High School
- B. \$70,000 for Sheffield Afterschool program
- C. \$13,717.50 for textbooks and instructional materials for Sheffield and Hillcrest Schools

(Gill-Montague Regional School District Request)

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$12,826, or any other amount, for the following Parks and Recreation Department projects, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

- A. \$5,500 for preventative maintenance at Unity Park Skatepark
- B. \$7,326 for improvements to the Montague Center Park

(Parks and Recreation Request)

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$211,300, or any other amount, for the following Police Department capital and non-capital equipment requests, including all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

- A. \$13,200 for a new evidence refrigerator, replacement radio batteries, and a radio battery reconditioner
- B. \$161,000 for the purchase of two (2) equipped police cruisers
- C. \$37,100 for the rehabilitation of HVAC controls at the Police Station

(Police Request)

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a five (5) year agreement, for the purchase and maintenance of tasers and related equipment for use by the Police Department, subject to the Selectboard's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Police Request)

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$168,500, or any other amount, for the following Airport projects and vehicle, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

- A. \$26,000 to upfit and equip a heavy-duty pickup truck
- B. \$142,500 for the construction of a multi-use path on Industrial Boulevard and upgrades to the passenger terminal

(Airport Request)

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$8,144, or any other amount, for the purpose increasing FY26 Turners Falls Municipal Airport operating budget, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Airport Request)

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$233,705, or any other amount, for the following Clean Water Facility capital purchases and projects, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

- A. \$85,000 for purchase of a heavy-duty pickup truck with plow
- B. \$125,000 for a wastewater facility planning study
- C. \$23,705 for the costs of redesigning the CWF main generator project

(Clean Water Facility Request)

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$966,000 for the purpose of replacing two secondary clarifier mechanisms, including but not limited to engineering, bidding, and construction, as well as all other costs incidental and related thereto, and to meet this appropriation to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to borrow said sum under General Laws Chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8, and/or Chapter 29C, or any other lawful enabling authority and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and further to authorize the Selectboard to execute any such documents and/or agreements necessary to effectuate the purposes of this vote; or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Clean Water Facility Request)

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$330,000, or any other amount, for the following Department of Public Works vehicles and equipment, including all equipment and any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

- A. \$35,000 for the purchase of a ride-on compaction roller
- B. \$80,000 for the purchase of a heavy-duty pickup truck with plow
- C. \$150,000 for the purchase of a hydraulic excavator (approximately 30,000 lb. operating weight)
- D. \$65,000 for the purchase of a compact utility tractor

(Department of Public Works Request)

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$75,000, or any other amount, for the following Department of Public Works projects, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

- A. \$30,000 for an automated transfer station security gate
- B. \$30,000 for paving municipal alleyways and other municipal rights of way
- C. \$15,000 for replacement and repair of municipal sidewalks

(Department of Public Works Request)

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$30,785, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing, equipping, and making major repairs to DPW vehicles and equipment, including all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Department of Public Works Request)

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$16,500, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding roof repairs for the Carnegie Public Library, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Library Request)

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$23,704,053 for the purposes of planning, designing, permitting, constructing, equipping, and furnishing a new main library to be located at 38 Avenue A in Turners Falls, and for all other costs incidental or related thereto; and, in order to fund said appropriation, authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Selectboard to borrow said funds pursuant to G.L. c.44, §7 or any other enabling authority and issue bonds and notes therefor; to authorize the Town to apply for any grants or loans available for the project, and accept and expend the grant of \$11,286,440 from the Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program, and, further, that the amount of the authorized borrowing under this vote shall be reduced by (i) any grants received for the project, and (ii) any other unrestricted grants or gifts received by the Town from any other source on account of this project, prior to the issuance of bonds or notes under this vote; provided however, that

the vote taken hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the voters of the Town at an election to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed under G.L. c.59, §21C (Proposition 2½) the amounts required to pay the principal of and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote.

(Library Request)

ARTICLE 23: To see if the town will vote to:

- A. Acquire and accept, by donation, from the Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation, or the current owner, the real property located at Second Street, Turners Falls, Montague, and shown as Assessor’s Map 04-0-0280, and being Parcel 1 on a plan entitled “Turners Falls Heritage Park in Montague, Massachusetts Surveyed for Commonwealth of Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Management,” dated July 14, 1989, recorded with the Franklin Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 75, Page 48, being a portion of the property described in an Order of Taking recorded with said Registry in Book 2366, Page 337, for library purposes, on such terms and conditions as the Selectboard shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town; and to authorize the Selectboard to take all actions and execute all documents necessary for said acquisition; and
- B. Convey to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting by and through its Department of Conservation and Recreation, an easement for parking, placement of a dumpster and related purposes, upon Parcel 1, as described above, and upon the “Alley” located northeasterly of Parcel 1, as shown on the aforementioned plan, on such terms and conditions as the Selectboard shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town; and to authorize the Selectboard to take all actions and execute all documents necessary to convey said easement; Or pass any other vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$100,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of accessibility and other facility improvements to the Shea Community Theater, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$25,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of floor tile replacement and HVAC repairs to the Colle Building, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the following sums, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the special purpose funds set forth below, or pass any vote or votes in relating thereto.

Fund	Amount (\$)
Franklin County Technical School Stabilization	\$50,000

Town Capital Stabilization Fund	\$100,000
Gill-Montague Regional School District Stabilization	\$89,489
OPEB Trust Fund	\$100,000
Total:	\$339,489

(Finance Committee Request)

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a five (5) year lease agreement for a postage machine in FY2027, subject to the Selectboard’s determination that the contract is in the best interest of the Town, or take any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to amend its Zoning Bylaws by amending Section 5.4 - Accessory Uses by inserting the text shown as underlined and deleting text shown as ~~struckthrough~~, by deleting Section 8.5 - Accessory Apartments and replacing it with an entirely new Section 8.5 – Accessory Dwelling Unit, and by amending Section 9.1.2(e) by deleting text shown as ~~struckthrough~~, all as shown below, or take any action relative thereto.

SECTION 5. DISTRICT REGULATION

5.4 Accessory Uses

Any use which is, in Franklin County, customarily accessory and incidental to a permitted Principal Use shall be permitted on the same lot with said Principal Use, or on a lot adjacent thereto in the same ownership, and with the exception of Protected Use Accessory Dwelling Units, all accessory uses are subject to the general limitation that it shall not be detrimental to the neighborhood or the property in the vicinity, and subject further to the following provision: wherever a Principal Use is allowed by Special Permit then Accessory Uses to the Principal Use shall be subject to a Special Permit, unless otherwise provided in the bylaws, and with the exception of Protected Use Accessory Dwelling Units. The following accessory uses have specific requirements in Section 8

SPECIAL REGULATIONS:

- *Trailers, Mobile Homes, and Campers, §8.1*
- *Home Occupations, §8.3*
- *Boarding of Animals, §8.4*
- *~~Accessory Apartments~~ Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU), §8.5*
- *Solar Energy Installations, §8.9*

SECTION 8.5 ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT

8.5.1 Purpose

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) allow the Town of Montague to expand and diversify its housing supply by making efficient use of resources without requiring the creation of new lots. ADUs are intended to meet the changing housing needs of the community by providing smaller units in existing residential neighborhoods.

8.5.2 Applicability

The Town of Montague permits two types of Accessory Dwelling Units: a Protected Use ADU in accordance with MGL c. 40A §3 and 760 CMR 71.00, and a Local ADU. Both types of ADUs shall be permitted in any single-family residential zoning district that allows a single-family dwelling as-

of-right or by Special Permit, including: AF, AF-2, AF-4, RS-1, RS-2, RB, NB, GB, HI, and SGODs Zoning Districts.

(a) A Protected Use ADU shall meet the State definition per MGL c. 40A §1A, as well as State regulations under 760 CMR 71.00. The use of land or structures for a Protected Use ADU shall be as-of-right, meeting all requirements associated with the issuance of a building permit and meeting certain requirements listed in this section of the Zoning Bylaw, provided, however, that only one ADU on a lot may qualify as a Protected Use ADU.

(b) A Local ADU shall meet the definition and specific requirements in this section of the Zoning Bylaw and shall only be allowed by Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals. When a lot has a Protected Use ADU and a second Protected Use or Local ADU is proposed, the second ADU shall be permitted by a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

(c) Either ADU type may be completely contained within the Principal Dwelling, attached to a Principal Dwelling, detached as a separate building or within a detached structure (e.g. above an existing detached garage). Any ADU may be within an existing building or new construction.

8.5.2 Definitions

For the purposes of this section of the Zoning Bylaw, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) **Local Accessory Dwelling Unit (Local ADU):** A Local ADU that is not a Protected Use ADU and shall be a self-contained residential dwelling unit, inclusive of sleeping, cooking, and sanitary facilities on the same lot as a Principal Dwelling that: (i) maintains a separate entrance, either directly from the outside or through an entry hall or corridor shared with the Principal Dwelling sufficient to meet the requirements of the state building code for safe egress; (ii) is not larger than a Gross Floor Area of 1,200 square feet; and (iii) is subject to such additional requirements found in this section of the Zoning Bylaw.

(b) **Protected Use Accessory Dwelling Unit (Protected Use ADU):** Pursuant to MGL c. 40A §1A, and its associated state regulations under 76 CMR 71.00, a Protected Use ADU is a self-contained residential dwelling unit, inclusive of sleeping, cooking, and sanitary facilities on the same lot as a Principal Dwelling, subject to otherwise applicable dimensional and parking requirements, that (i) maintains a separate entrance, either directly from the outside or through an entry hall or corridor shared with the Principal Dwelling sufficient to meet the requirements of the state building code for safe egress; (ii) is not larger than a gross floor area of 900 square feet, provided that only one ADU on a Lot may qualify as a Protected Use ADU; and (iii) is subject to such additional requirements found in this section of the Zoning Bylaw.

(c) **Gross Floor Area (GFA).** The sum of the areas of all stories of the building of compliant ceiling height pursuant to the Building Code, including basements, lofts, and intermediate floored tiers, measured from the interior faces of exterior walls or from the centerline of walls separating buildings or dwelling units but excluding crawl spaces, garage parking areas, attics, enclosed porches and similar spaces. Where there are multiple Principal Dwellings on the Lot, the GFA of the largest Principal Dwelling shall be used for determining the maximum size of a Protected Use ADU.

(d) **Principal Dwelling.** A structure, regardless of whether it, or the Lot it is situated on, conforms to Zoning, including use requirements and dimensional requirements, such as setbacks, bulk, and height, that contains at least one Dwelling Unit and is, or will be, located on the same Lot as a Protected Use ADU.

- (e) Transit Station. A Subway Station, Commuter Rail Station, Ferry Terminal, or Bus Station.
- (f) Bus Station. A location serving as a point of embarkation for any bus operated by a Transit Authority.

1.a.3 General Requirements for Protected Use Accessory Dwelling Units and Local Accessory Dwelling Units

- (a) All ADUs shall be located on the same lot as the Principal Dwelling.
- (b) There shall be no more than one Local ADU and one Protected Use ADU permitted on the same lot as the Principal Dwelling.
- (c) All ADUs are exempt from the additional lot area/dwelling requirements of Section 5.5.1 of the Zoning Bylaw.
- (d) All ADUs shall meet the dimensional requirements for accessory structures under Section 5.5.2 of the Zoning Bylaw.
- (e) No additional or separate driveway curb cut to serve any ADU shall be permitted unless approved by the Department of Public Works.
- (f) All exterior lighting shall be designed and installed so as to be shielded, downcast, and dark sky compliant to avoid light trespass onto adjacent properties.
- (g) On-site storage and management of waste and recycling shall be located on the interior of the dwelling, within an attached garage or other accessory outbuilding, or screened appropriately from public view.
- (h) To the extent feasible, a newly constructed detached ADU shall be located behind the front building line of the Principal Dwelling closest to the street.
- (i) No camper or mobile home, as defined in Section 8.1.2 of the Zoning Bylaw, may be used as a Protected Use or Local ADU, nor may either ADU be mounted on a trailer.

1.a.4 Specific Requirements for Protected Use Accessory Dwelling Units

- (a) There is no minimum lot size required for a Protected Use ADU.
- (b) The more permissive (i.e. least restrictive) dimensional regulations found in Section 5 of the Zoning Bylaw for a detached single-family dwelling, the Principal Dwelling or an accessory structure, shall apply to the Protected Use ADU.
- (c) A minimum of one (1) parking space shall be provided for a Protected Use ADU that is further than 1/2 mile from the nearest transit station. In accordance with 760 CMR, no parking space shall be required for a Protected Use ADU located within 1/2 mile of a transit station.

1.a.5 Specific Requirements for Local Accessory Dwelling Units

- (a) A minimum of one (1) parking space shall be provided for a Local ADU.
- (b) A Local ADU shall be designed so that the appearance and scale of the structure is compatible with the Principal Dwelling.
- (c) The Gross Floor Area for a Local ADU does not include the area of unfinished basement space used for storage or utilities.

SECTION 9. SITE PLAN REVIEW AND SPECIAL PERMITS

9.1. *Site Plan Review*

9.1.1 *Purpose*

The purpose of the Site Plan Review process is to provide detailed review of certain uses and structures which have a potential for significant impact on the character, infrastructure, and natural resources of the Town of Montague.

9.1.2 *Applicability*

The following activities and uses are subject to site plan review:

- (a) All uses that involve the construction or expansion or change of use of over 3,000 square feet of floor area.*
- (b) All uses that involve the development of over 130,680 square feet (3 acres) of land.*
- (c) Any new structure, group of new structures, changes of use, or additions which result in an increase of 500 or more vehicle trips per day, as proposed in an applicant's business plan acceptable to the reviewing authority or estimated by a professional engineer.*
- (d) All uses that involve the construction or expansion of a parking area that creates ten (10) or more new parking spaces, per §7.2.6*
- (e) Specific Uses identified elsewhere in this bylaw:*
 - *Accessory Apartments within existing single family homes, per §8.5*
 - *Self-storage facilities, per §8.9*
 - *Solar energy and battery energy storage facilities, per §8.9*
 - *Medical Marijuana Treatment Center or Marijuana retailer, cultivation, production, research or testing, per §8.10*
 - *Open Space Residential Development, per §8.11*
 - *Planned Unit Development, per §8.12*

(Planning Request)

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to (a) authorize the Selectboard to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain, on such terms as the Selectboard deems appropriate, the land and/or permanent and temporary easements in, on, under, over, across and along certain parcels of land located on or near the North Leverett Road Bridge over Sawmill River and approximately shown on plans entitled "Massachusetts Department of Transportation Highway Division Plan and Profile of North Leverett Road Over the Sawmill River (Bridge No. M-28-034) in the Town of Montague Franklin County," prepared by TransSystems, on file with the Town Clerk, as said plans may be amended from time to time and/or incorporated into an easement plan, and land within 200 feet of said parcels, for public way purposes, including without limitation, for the construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, improvement, repair, replacement and/or relocation of a bridge, rights of way, sidewalks, drainage,

utilities, driveways, retaining ways, guardrails, slopes, grading, rounding, construction, landscaping, and other structures and/or appurtenances, to enable the Town to undertake the Bridge Reconstruction Project and for any and all purposes and uses incidental or related thereto; (b) transfer the care, custody, and control of the portions of the Town-owned properties shown on the aforesaid plans from the board or officer having custody of the same for the purposes for which such properties are currently held to the Selectboard for the foregoing purposes and further to dedicate said portions of the Town-owned properties to said bridge and public way purposes, and, if applicable, authorize the Selectboard to submit petitions to the General Court to permit the foregoing under Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution or otherwise; (c) raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a sum of money to fund the foregoing project and any and all costs incidental or related thereto, including, without limitation, the cost of any land/easement acquisitions, appraisals, and surveys; (d) and, further, authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and take any and all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this article, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to (a) authorize the Selectboard to acquire, by purchase, gift and/or eminent domain, on such terms as the Selectboard deems appropriate, the land and/or permanent and temporary easements in, on, under, over, across and along certain parcels of land located on or near the intersection of Industrial Boulevard and Millers Falls Road, and approximately shown on plans entitled "Town of Montague ROW Plans FRTA-Industrial Bld/Millers Falls Rd Bus Stop Improvements," prepared by Fuss & O'Neill, on file with the Town Clerk, as said plans may be amended from time to time and/or incorporated into an easement plan, and land within 200 feet of said parcels, for public way purposes, including without limitation, for the construction, installation, inspection, maintenance, improvement, repair, replacement and/or relocation of a bus stop, rights of way, sidewalks, drainage, utilities, driveways, retaining ways, guardrails, slopes, grading, rounding, construction, landscaping, and other structures and/or appurtenances, to enable the Town to undertake the Industrial Boulevard/Millers Falls Road Bus Stop Project and for any and all purposes and uses incidental or related thereto; (b) raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a sum of money to fund the foregoing project and any and all costs incidental or related thereto, including, without limitation, the cost of any land/easement acquisitions, appraisals, and surveys; (c) and, further, authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and take any and all actions as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this article, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to rescind its existing Consolidated Personnel Bylaw and amend the Town's General Bylaws by adding a new Article, as set forth below, entitled "Personnel", the purpose of which shall be to establish fair and equitable personnel policies and a system of personnel administration based on merit principles that ensures uniform, efficient application of those policies, as authorized by M.G.L. c. 41 § 108C, or pass any other vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of G.L. c.138, §12D, which, if accepted, would allow the Selectboard as the local licensing authority of the Town, to approve a request from a licensee to convert an existing license to sell wines and malt beverages only for on-premises

consumption to a license to sell all alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption, subject to all other provisions of G.L. c.138, including notice, publication, and certified mailing of, and a public hearing on, such conversion, or take any other action relative thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to initiate the process to aggregate electrical load pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 164, Section 134, and further to authorize the Selectboard, or its designee, to research, develop, and participate in a contract or contracts to aggregate the electricity load of the residents and business in the Town, independently or in joint action with other municipalities, retaining the right of individual residents and businesses to opt out of the aggregation, or take any action in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies thereof in some conspicuous place in each of the Post Offices, Libraries, Website, and Town Hall of the Town, at least fourteen days before said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this document with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk fourteen days before said meeting.

Given under our hands this ____ day of April in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

Richard Kuklewicz

Marina Goldman

Matthew Lord, Chairman
Selectboard, Town of Montague

Franklin, ss Montague, MA April ____, 2026

Pursuant to the within warrant, I have warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Montague by posting attested copies of the same in a conspicuous place in each of the Post Offices, Libraries, and the Town Hall of the Town of Montague at least seven days before said meeting as within directed.

Constable of Montague



Selectboard
Town of Montague
 One Avenue A
 Turners Falls, MA 01376

Phone (413) 863-3200 ext. 108

Outdoor Dining Alcoholic Beverages Service Policy

The Town of Montague, through its Licensing Authority, has determined to allow the expansion of outdoor dining for properly licensed establishments to include the service of alcoholic beverages to persons of lawful age. This policy applies to commercial food establishments that hold a valid Common Victualler License and a §12 on-premises Alcohol License, as defined by Massachusetts General Laws (M.G.L.) c. 138, and approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) and the Town of Montague Local Licensing Authority (LLA).

Any establishment seeking to expand its licensed premises to include outdoor dining with alcohol service must apply for and obtain approval from the Local Licensing Authority. No outdoor service of alcoholic beverages shall occur without such prior approval. Nothing in these regulations shall preclude an establishment from imposing additional limits or restrictions on patrons.

SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS

- 1.1:** Local Licensing Authority (LLA) – Town of Montague Selectboard
- 1.2:** ABCC – The Commonwealth of Massachusetts’ Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission
- 1.3:** Outdoor Dining Area– Any outdoor food service area on the licensed premises
- 1.4:** Licensee – The holder of the license.

SECTION 2: OUTDOOR DINING EXPANSION TO INCLUDE ALCOHOL REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1:** The establishment must hold a §12 on-premises Alcohol License and a Common Victualler License in good standing.
- 2.2:** Seated alcohol service shall be provided within the outdoor service area(s) only.
- 2.3:** All outdoor service areas must be enclosed by a barrier, fence, or partition which shall be sufficient for the licensee to maintain control of access to the area and to provide a safe environment for patrons.
- 2.4:**
 - A:** Noncontiguous outdoor dining and alcoholic beverage service areas may be permitted, provided they are in the immediate vicinity of the licensed premises’ ingress and egress, within clear and direct line of sight, and determined by the LLA to be safe and appropriate. Licensees are reminded that applications may be denied if, in the discretion of the LLA or ABCC, a proposed noncontiguous area is deemed unsuitable, including but not limited to areas that are too distant from the premises or present safety concerns.
 - B:** A non-contiguous outdoor alcoholic beverage service area that is within the clear, direct line of sight of staff is not required to be continuously staffed. However, if such an area is not within a clear, direct line of sight, the licensee must ensure that an adequate number of employees are always physically present in the area while alcoholic beverages are being sold or consumed.
 - C:** If a licensee proposes utilizing public space for any noncontiguous outdoor dining or



Selectboard

Town of Montague

One Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Phone (413) 863-3200 ext. 108

alcoholic beverage service area, the licensee must obtain all required approvals and file any additional applications as required by the Town or other applicable authorities prior to use.

2.5: The Licensee must always maintain an adequate number of employees physically present in the outdoor area when alcohol is served.

2.6: All applications for outdoor dining must include the following documentation:

- Written documentation demonstrating the right of the Licensee to occupy or permission to use the outdoor dining area.
- Written description of the outdoor service area, and a floor plan noting seating, fixtures and barriers.
- Any parking spaces eliminated by the establishment of outdoor seating shall be noted.

2.7: Outdoor service will be available Monday through Saturday until 10:00 PM and Sunday until 9:00 PM. The Selectboard may, at their discretion, restrict the outdoor service further at any individual location if the circumstances warrant.

2.8: The LLA will consider the type of neighborhood and the potential impact of noise to the environment before approving outdoor alcoholic beverage service areas. The LLA will consider the type of neighborhood and the potential impact of noise to the environment before approving outdoor alcoholic beverage service areas.

SECTION 3: ENFORCEMENT

3.1: These regulations may be monitored, with and without notice, by agents of the LLA and the Town of Montague Police Department.

3.2: If the establishment is not operated in a manner that is consistent with these regulations, the LLA may, after written notice to the licensee and reasonable opportunity for a hearing, suspend or revoke the outdoor dining service.

SECTION 4: LICENSE APPLICATION PROCEDURES

4.1: The Applicant shall complete a Town of Montague **Permanent Modification of Local Alcohol License Application**.

4.2: A copy of the Application shall be forwarded to the Town of Montague, Police Department, Fire Department or Fire District, Building Inspector and Board of Health for comment. The Selectboard may choose not to act without having first received comment from these departments.

4.3: The LLA shall conduct a public hearing on the Application, notifying by certified mail the direct abutters at least 10 days prior to the public hearing.

4.4: The Applicant shall be responsible for the following fees and costs:

- A. Obtaining list of abutters from the Assessor's Office
- B. All cost of mailing of the certified abutters notices stating hearing date, time and reason for hearing.



Selectboard
Town of Montague
One Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Phone (413) 863-3200 ext. 108

- C. All costs of the legal advertisement of public hearing placed in the local newspaper
- D. Local Filing Fee
- E. Zoning Approval

SECTION 5: TERM

Upon complete review of the material presented and all facts relevant to the Application, the LLA may in its sole discretion, issue a License hereunder including any appropriate conditions applicable thereto.

The LLA may deny any application if the proposed outdoor service area is determined to be unsuitable due to safety concerns, distance from the premises, or other factors affecting public welfare.

Upon approval, the Selectboard (LLA) will file a Licensing Authority Certification with the ABCC who will modify the licensee's Description of Premises on their §12 on-premises Alcohol License.

This modification of the descriptions of premises will be valid through the term of the currently issued §12 On-Premises Alcohol License of December 31st of the year issued and renew with completion of necessary ABCC renewal paperwork. No new hearing is required unless modifications are made.

Approved by Selectboard on March 30, 2026

Matthew Lord, Chair

Richard Kuklewicz

Marina Goldman



ONE MONARCH PLACE Suite 1200, Springfield, Massachusetts 01144
 P 413.736.4538 F 413.731.8206 Lawoffice@Sullivanandhayes.com

March 23, 2026

VIA EMAIL: walterr@montague-ma.gov
 Walter Ramsey
 Town Administrator
 Town of Montague
 Montague Selectboard

Re: Consent to Represent the City of Greenfield

Dear Mr. Ramsey and Selectboard Members Lord, Goldman, and Kuklewicz:

This is to confirm my telephone conversation with the Town Administrator Walter Ramsey on March 23, 2026 in which I explained that Sullivan, Hayes & Quinn (SHQ or Firm) is seeking consent from the Town of Montague so that SHQ and its attorneys are able to represent our current client, the City of Greenfield, in reviewing and advising on an intermunicipal drone agreement (“the matter”). As you may be aware, SHQ represented the Town of Montague in labor and employment matters for a period of years until on or about 2018.

The applicable ethics and professional conduct rules governing attorneys in Massachusetts permit SHQ and its attorneys to represent a client in the same or a substantially related matter in which that client’s interests may be materially averse to a former client’s interests if the former client consents after consultation. While the matter does not involve the same or a substantially related matter as those we advised the Town of Montague on years ago because it does not involve labor and employment law or issues that would result in the disclosure of client confidences, out of an abundance of caution--in the event this could raise the appearance of a conflict--we are seeking your consent to represent the City of Greenfield in the review of the drone agreement.

As I have indicated to your Town Manager, in our representation of the City of Greenfield in the matter, we will not disclose or use information relating to our prior representation of the Town of Montague to your disadvantage. This review is wholly unrelated to any work we did for the Town.

In addition, while we believe this to be a straightforward document review, by providing consent, you are also agreeing that in the event litigation develops between the City of Greenfield and the Town of Montague regarding this matter that SHQ and its attorneys will be able to continue to represent the City of Greenfield even if adverse to the Town of Montague in any such litigation.

If you agree that SHQ and its attorneys may undertake the representation of the City of Greenfield in the matter, please indicate your consent by: 1) signing below, 2) returning the executed copy to me as soon as possible, and 3) keeping a copy for your records.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

SULLIVAN, HAYES & QUINN, LLC

/s/ Layla G. Taylor

By Layla G. Taylor, Esq.

LGT:lwb

CONSENT AND CONFLICT WAIVER

The Town of Montague hereby consents to Sullivan, Hayes and Quinn, LLC's and its attorney's representation of City of Greenfield in the aforesaid circumstances and waives any objection to any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict in connection thereto.

Town of Montague by its Board of Selectboard:

Matthew Lord, Chair

Richard Kuklewicz, Vice Chair

Marina Goldman, Clerk
