

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

1 Avenue A, Turners Falls and VIA ZOOM

Monday, May 4, 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; Executive Assistant Fern Smith; and Assistant Town Planner/RiverCulture Director Suzanne LoManto.

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

Approve Minutes of April 27, 2026, if available

Goldman makes the motion to approve the Minutes of April 27, 2026. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - 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

- Kuklewicz and LoManto discuss the Montague City Road Turtle Crossing signs.
- Goldman presents Lord with a "Team Montague" pin to express appreciation for his service as the Selectboard Chair.

Licenses/Event Applications

- **RiverCulture seeks permission for use of the Montague Town Common on Saturday, May 30, 2026 for Montague Music Festival and to close North Street between Center Street and Main Street for parallel activities.**
Kuklewicz makes the motion to authorize the Use of the Montague Town Common on Saturday, May 30, 2026 for the Montague Music Festival and to close North Street between Center Street and Main Street for parallel activities. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Lord - Aye
- **RiverCulture seeks blanket permission for several activities on Town property related to First Friday and other summer events between May and September 2026 including signs, sidewalk sales, entertainment, food services and placemaking activities.**
Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve various events through the summer season in the Downtown/Avenue A/Third Street area in Turners Falls, with Health Department approval of any food vendors submitted at the time of approval. Seconded by Goldman, unanimously approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Lord - Aye
- **Montague Public Libraries, Angela Rovatti-Leonard, requests use of Peskeompskut Park for Puppet Show on July 31, 2026 from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM.**
Goldman makes the motion to approve the use of Peskeompskut Park for a Puppet Show on July 31, 2026 from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Aye
- **Montague Center Fire Fighters Association requests use of Montague Center Town Common for Memorial Day Service, May 24, 2026, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.**
Goldman makes the motion to approve the use of the Montague Center Town Common for a Memorial Day Service, May 24, 2026, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Aye
- **First Congregational Church of Montague requests use of Montague Center Town Common for the Montague Mug Race, August 15, 2026, 7:00 AM to noon.**
Goldman makes the motion to approve the use of the Montague Center Town Common for the Montague Mug Race, August 15, 2026, 7:00 AM to noon. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Aye

Personnel Board

Appoint Hayden Stebbins to Montague Tree Advisory Committee, effective 5/5/26 to 6/30/27

Goldman makes the motion to approve the appointment of Hayden Stebbins to the Montague Tree Advisory Committee, effective 5/5/26 to 6/30/27. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Aye

Town Administrator's Business

- **May 2 Town Meeting Debrief. Discuss follow-up actions.**
 - Ramsey gives a debrief of the May 2 Town Meeting. Issues that he intends to follow-up on include:
 - Financial policy management (re-evaluating how we budget for Tech School students, looking at the DPW equipment account, and working with CIC to come up with a plan to meet the needs of the police vehicle fleet)
 - Personnel by-laws
 - Proposed ballot question regarding the library vote
 - Kuklewicz suggests the CIC also look at the vehicle situation with the DPW and the CWF.
 - Discussion ensues about using hybrid vehicles.
- **Authorize Town Administrator to sign license agreement with FirstLight for the installation of 3 historical interpretive signs on FirstLight property (bike path). Sign unveiling ceremony planned Saturday, May 16 at 10:30.**

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- *Goldman makes the motion to authorize the Town Administrator to sign license agreement with FirstLight for the installation of 3 historical interpretive signs on FirstLight property (bike path). Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Aye*
- *The unveiling of the signs will take place on Saturday, May 16 at 10:30. This will be in conjunction with the commemoration events that are scheduled later that day.*
- **Approve 2026 Summer Selectboard Meeting Schedule**
Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve the 2026 Summer Selectboard Meeting Schedule. Seconded by Goldman, approved. Kuklewicz - Aye, Goldman - Aye, Lord - Abstain

Other

Ramsey shares that he received a letter from the Gill-Montague School District informing the Selectboard that the Regional School District Committee passed a vote to authorize taking on debt for the Gill Elementary School Roof Project.

Next Meeting:

Selectboard: Monday, May 11, 2026 at 6:00 PM via ZOOM

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