

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING & HEARING

Wednesday, August 26, 2026 – 5:00 PM

Town Hall – Second Floor Meeting Room and ZOOM

Meeting Minutes

Present: Michael Nelson, Melanie Ames-Zamojski, Rachel Stoler

Staff: Ashley Gough, Health Director and Geneva Bickford, Board of Health Clerk

Other: Frances Rivera, Mary King & Heather Wood

Michael Nelson opened the meeting at 5:04 PM

Minutes:

- The Board of Health (“BOH”) Members reviewed and approved the July 29, 2026 minutes.

*Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the July 29, 2026 Minutes. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye and Nelson – Aye

Director’s Report:

- Board to Review the Director’s July 2026 Report
 - The board unanimously voted to accept the July 2026 Director’s Report as written.
 - 46 Millers Falls Rd – a new complaint was received 8/26/26, Turners Falls Fire Department (“TFFD”) received a call from an uber driver who was concerned and was requesting a wellness check, TFFD says the conditions in the property are bad and they are working to try and connect the occupant with assistance from LifePath.

*Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the Director’s Report. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye and Nelson – Aye

Nurse Report:

- Board to Review the Nurse’s July 2026 Report
 - The board unanimously voted to accept the July 2026 Nurse’s Report as written.

*Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the Nurse’s Report. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye and Nelson – Aye

Animal/Barn Inspector Report:

- Board to Review the Animal/Barn Inspector’s July 2026 Report
 - The board unanimously voted to accept the July 2026 Animal/Barn Inspector’s Report as written.

*Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the Animal/Barn Inspector’s Report. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye and Nelson – Aye

Presentation: Domestic Violence Prevention Month:

- Presentation from Heather Woods from The Heartwing Center on domestic violence as a public health issue and to request support from the Board of Health regarding a proclamation that will be presented to the Select Board of signature.
 - Michael Nelson discloses that he works for the Department of Public Health (“DPH”) and does not see any conflict with his participation in this presentation and possible vote.
 - Frances Rivera, Mary King and Heather Wood were all present from The Heartwing Center. They discussed with the board Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October and asked for the support of the Board of Health in regards to a proclamation they will be asking the Selectboard to support and sign. The Board unanimously agreed to support the proclamation and Gough will write a letter of support for the Board of Health to sign. Gough will also be in attendance at the Selectboard meeting and will be able to voice the BOH’s support as well.

*Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to support the Proclamation and encourages the Selectboard to support it as well by signing the Proclamation. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye and Nelson – Aye

Unanticipated Discussions:

- Campers: There have been some campers showing up around town and there is one located on the lot across from the old Farren which is town owned property. Town Administrator, Walter Ramsey (“Ramsey”), has been informed that the camper is owned by a resident in town and there is no one occupying it. Ramsey will have the police department remove it. Another camper has popped up on First St which appears to be occupied. Gough is working with town administration to help address this matter.
- Burek Dr Update: Gough has spoken with Atty Mis (“Mis”) is in the process of having her clients sign the Approval Not Require (“ANR”) required for the Planning Board.

Meeting adjourned: 5:42 PM

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to adjourn the Board of Health Meeting. Seconded by Melanie Ames-Zamojski. **Motion passes.***

Ames-Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye and Nelson – Aye

Approved by: *Rachel Stoler* Date: *9/30/26*

Documents:

July 24, 2026 Minutes;
Director’s July 2026 Report;
Nurse’s July 2026 Report;
Animal/Barn Inspector’s July 2026 Report;
Town of Montague Domestic Violence Awareness Month Prolamation