MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING
1 Avenue A and VIA ZOOM
Monday, November 16, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM. Present were Selectboard members Rich Kuklewicz, Marina Goldman, Nate Card; Town Administrator Walter Ramsey, Assistant Town Administrator Chris Nolan-Zeller; Police Chief Jason Haskins; and Treasurer/Collector Eileen Seymour.

Approve Minutes: Selectboard Meeting: November 9, 2026
Goldman makes the motion to approve the Minutes for November 9, 2026. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card- 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

Personnel Board
Appoint Jackie Stein to vacant seat on Parks and Recreation Commission, effective November 16, 2027 through May 4, 2027
Goldman makes the motion to appoint Jackie Stein to vacant seat on Parks and Recreation Commission, effective November 16, 2027 through May 4, 2027. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card- Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Police Business with Chief Haskins (tabled from 11/19/2026)
- **Hiring plan for upcoming vacancy in Police Department**
  Goldman makes the motion to approve the hiring plan for the upcoming vacancy in the Police Department. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card- Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
- **Request to authorize a lateral transfer hiring bonus of $10,000 for this hire**
  Goldman makes the motion to authorize a lateral transfer hiring bonus of $10,000 for this hire. Seconded by Card, approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Nay, Kuklewicz - Aye

Solid Waste Business
- **Accept and authorize revised Casella Trash Hauling 2-year extension proposal for term 7/1/2027 - 6/30/2029**
  Goldman makes the motion to accept and authorize the revised Casella Trash Hauling 2-year extension proposal for term 7/1/2027 - 6/30/2029. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card- Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
- **Consider proposed changes to "Pay as you Throw" Curbside Collection Program**
  - **Sunset barrel stickers for 2027**
  - **No fee change for bag stickers**
  - **Each individual bag (up to 33 gallons) must be tagged with a big sticker**
  - **Proposed effective date January 1, 2027**

  Goldman makes the motion to set the fee at $3 per 33 gallons, up to a 30-pound bag. Seconded by Card, approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Nay, Kuklewicz - Aye

Assistant Town Administrator's Business
- **Authorize Amendment to Grant Agreement with Massachusetts Department of Transportation (Mass DOT) for Montague Center Complete Streets Project, extending term through June 30, 2027**
  Goldman makes the motion to authorize the Amendment to Grant Agreement with Massachusetts Department of Transportation (Mass DOT) for Montague Center Complete Streets Project, extending term through June 30, 2027. Seconded by Card, approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Nay, Kuklewicz - Aye

Town Administrator's Business
- **Department FY28 Budget Guidance issued**
  - The FY28 Budget Guidance has been issued to department heads.
  - We are expecting to have department budgets due December 18th.
  - Each department was asked to provide a level-services budget, a narrative descriptions of what the impact of the 2% cut would be, and what cost savings and/or service delivery efficiencies might be gained over a greater-than-one-year period.
- **Topics not anticipated within the 48-hour posting requirements/Assessment**
  Ramsey states that he was notified by the Franklin County Housing Redevelopment Authority that they are doing some assessment work on the *Milton Bride Walk (49:40)*.

Other

In recognition of his birthday, Card requests that residents say hi to other residents that they have never said hi to before.

Executive Session to conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, specifically the Clean Water Facility Superintendent, concerning potential terms and conditions of continued employment, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(2)
Goldman makes the motion to go into Executive Session conduct contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, specifically the Clean Water Facility Superintendent, concerning potential terms and conditions of continued employment, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(2). Seconded by Card, approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Nay, Kuklewicz - Aye

Next Meeting

Selectboard Meeting: Monday, November 23, 2026 at 6:30 PM - HYBRID