

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING & HEARING

Wednesday, July 29, 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: Joe Burek, Catherine Mis, Arabella Norwood, George Goodridge, Shane Burek, Sue Leh, Dave Leh, Carol Leh, Kathie Bridges, Joe Burek, Kathy Burek

Michael Nelson opened the meeting at 5:04 PM

Minutes:

- The Board of Health (“BOH”) Members reviewed and approved the June 24, 2026 minutes.

*Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the June 24, 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 June 2026 Report
 - The board unanimously voted to accept the April 2026 Director’s Report as written.

*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 June 2026 Report
 - The board unanimously voted to accept the June 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 June 2026 Report
 - The board unanimously voted to accept the June 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

Discussion: 4 Burek Dr:

- Discussion with involved parties to settle Approval Not Require (“ANR”) and move forward on enforcement order.
 - Attorney Goodridge (“Goodridge”) was present with his client Carol Leh (“Leh”) as well as Sue Leh and Dave Leh and Attorney Catherine Mis (“Mis”) and Attorney Arabella Norwood (“Norwood”) were present with their client Kathleen Burek

("Burek") as well as Joe Burek, John Burek, Shane Burek and Kathie Bridges. Mis objected to the discussion advising Nelson that her client did not have proper notice of the meeting. Nelson ended the discussion and the matter was not discussed.

Discussion: Updated Well Regulations

- Board to review final draft of updated well regulations and vote to enact.
 - The board reviewed the draft regulations presented by Gough and voted to enact the new well regulations as of September 1, 2026. Bickford will put notice in the Greenfield Recorder and the Montague Reporter advising residents that the regulations have been updated and copies of the updated regulations can be found on the Board of Health website or they may call the office and request a copy of the updated regulations be mailed to them or they may stop in the office to review them.

Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the new revised version of the health regulations for private wells as presented. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.**

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

Discussion: Temporary Housing and Encampments

- Discussion about incidents/complaints involving unhoused individuals and temporary housing enforcement.
 - Gough discussed with the board concerns with more campers appearing around town. A complaint was received regarding a camper in Pesky Park. Gough went out and talked with people occupying the camper and has contact information so she can continue to reach out to them. Gough has reached out to an outreach worker at COC and she reached out to CHD as well and they are able to come out and speak to the individual(s) being affected and offer any support available. The board and Gough had a brief discussion about temporary housing permits.

Unanticipated Discussions:

- 89 Mormon Hollow Rd
 - Gough discussed with the board being summonsed to court last minute for an evidentiary hearing. The court and attorney were asking questions regarding the camper that is located on the property and Gough advised the court the boards only concern was with the septic issues and that is the only issue the board addressed. Gough also advised the court the board never made a decision on whether people would be allowed on that portion of the property.
- 121 Turners Falls Rd
 - Gough discovered that there has been a deed transfer to the Veteran's Affairs and Gough has reached out the Attorney General's Office to see what information she can get. There continues to be concerns with the pool and other items on the property.
- 44 Canal Rd
 - The sinkhole has returned and there is yellow caution tape around it and it is blocked off. It is believed the Selectboard and the town administration know that the sink hole has returned.

Meeting adjourned: 6:09 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: Samuel Yoder

Date: 8/26/26

Documents:

June 24, 2026 Minutes;
Director's June 2026 Report;
Nurse's June 2026 Report;
Animal/Barn Inspector's June 2026 Report;
4 Burek Dr Timeline (7/29/26)