

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Town of Montague
Massachusetts



FOR THE YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31, 2019

THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

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SELECTBOARD

The Montague Selectboard is pleased to submit its annual report for the year ending December 31, 2019. It was an exciting year for our community, highlighted by substantive progress on important long-term initiatives, as well as new opportunities and challenges. In contemplating the progress of the past year, Selectboard members Rich Kuklewicz, Chris Boutwell, and Michael Nelson wish to acknowledge the support of the board's Executive Assistant, Wendy Bogusz, as well as that of Montague's professional staff, and the diligent work of the Town's elected and appointed officials.

The scope of the Selectboard's work is broad, and while some of the Town's major accomplishments and challenges are highlighted in this section of the Town Annual Report, readers are encouraged to delve deeper into the individual departmental narratives that follow, which reveal the remarkable breadth of activity throughout our five villages. These reports offer a glimpse into the range of programs, projects, and successes of the past year, but also highlight the considerable work that must be attended to each and every year to help ensure our community's prosperity.

In 2019, Montague continued its recent emphasis on making essential investments in our buildings and infrastructure. Most notably, work began in August on the new Department of Public Works Facility, which is projected to be completed by summer 2020 and to come in as much as 10% under its \$11.14M budget. This project co-locates the DPW with police and fire operations, providing a better integrated public safety infrastructure that will serve our community for decades to come. It also allows for future redevelopment of the former DPW building at 500 Avenue A and the re-purposing of the Town Hall Annex.

The Town made long overdue improvements to town buildings, highlighted by the installation of new roofing and insulation on the main roof of the Shea Theater and the Town Hall Annex, and the restoration of the exterior façade, masonry, and windows of the historic Colle Building. Construction of the Rutter's Park playground in Lake Pleasant—funded in full by a CDBG grant—was completed in November and a ribbon cutting is planned for 2020. Finally, State Representative Natalie Blais helped secure funds to supplement a town appropriation to install a new roof on the Unity Park Fieldhouse in 2020.

The Selectboard made redevelopment of the Turners Falls Canal District a critical objective for 2019, directing staff to focus extra attention on that long-term goal. Substantial progress was achieved as the Town played a central role in facilitating the sale of the former Southworth Mill to a credible developer, who reimbursed the Town and its districts in excess of \$480,000 in overdue taxes and fees as part of the sale's closing. His commitment to redeveloping that mill was a major factor in the state's decision in December to award Montague a \$2.1M MassWorks grant to replace the 5th Street pedestrian bridge, and make other improvements to what will become the Canal District Gateway.

Progress on other important projects continued, with the Town making initial improvements to Main Street in Montague Center to calm traffic speeds, and securing a \$311,000 Complete Streets grant to further improve the roadway, sidewalks and traffic signage on Main Street, as well as on Avenue A and First Street. CDBG funding was also secured for the complete restoration of Spinner Park, which the Board requested be pursued the previous year. On the private sector front, a developer has approached the Town with plans to erect a four-story mixed use structure on the corner of Avenue A and Second Street.

Thank you for your interest in this report and the community we all hold dear. We look forward to working with you to ensure that Montague remains a great place to live, work, and visit.

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| SELECTBOARD: | Rich Kuklewicz, Chairman, Michael Nelson, Christopher Boutwell |
| TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: | Steven Ellis |

**ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR
As of May 20, 2019**

| | TERM EXPIRES |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| SELECTMEN (3) | |
| Michael M. Nelson | 2020 |
| Richard J. Kuklewicz | 2021 |
| Christopher M. Boutwell, Sr. | 2022 |
| MODERATOR (3) | |
| Christopher Collins | 2021 |
| TOWN CLERK (3) | |
| Debra A. Bourbeau | 2022 |
| TREASURER & TAX COLLECTOR (3) | |
| Eileen M. Seymour | 2022 |
| ASSESSORS (3) | |
| Teresa A. Miner | 2022 |
| Anne Cenzano | 2021 |
| Paul J. Emery (Chair) | 2020 |
| BOARD OF HEALTH (3) | |
| Albert L. Cummings, Jr. | 2022 |
| Christopher M. Boutwell (Chair) | 2021 |
| Michael M. Nelson (Scty) | 2020 |
| G/M REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3) | |
| Jane Oakes | 2022 |
| Mike Langknecht | 2022 |
| Heather Katsoulis | 2022 |
| April Reipold | 2020 |
| William Tomb | 2020 |
| Cassie Damkoehler | 2020 |
| Jennifer Lively | 2021 |
| Valeria "Timmie" Smith | 2021 |
| Haley Anderson | 2021 |
| LIBRARY TRUSTEES (3) | |
| Karen Latka | 2022 |
| Nancy Crowell | 2022 |
| Margot G. Malachowski | 2022 |
| Dave Harmon | 2020 |
| Vicki Valley | 2020 |
| Joe Kopera (resigned 1-7-2019) | 2020 |
| Patricia Perham | 2021 |
| Gretchen Wetherby | 2021 |
| James Martineau | 2021 |
| MONTAGUE HOUSING AUTHORITY (5) | |
| Stanley Zera | 2024 |
| Karen M. Casey-Chretien | 2023 |
| Judith L. Hastings | 2021 |
| Paula Girard | 2020 |
| PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE (3) | |
| Albert Cummings | 2022 |
| Barbara A. Kuklewicz | 2021 |
| Dennis L. Grader (Chair) | 2020 |

SOLDIERS MEMORIAL TRUSTEES (3)

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| John Murphy (Vet) (Vice Chair) | 2022 |
| Al Cummings(Vet) (Chair) | 2021 |
| Donald Girard(Non-Vet) | 2021 |
| Larry Parker (Vet)(Sec) | 2020 |
| Christopher M. Boutwell (Non-Vet) | 2020 |

TREE WARDEN (3)

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Mark A. Stevens | 2022 |
|-----------------|------|

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR
As of July, 2019**

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------|
| ACCOUNTANT | Carolyn S. Olsen | 2020 |
| ADA COORDINATOR | Steven F. Ellis | 2020 |
| ADMINISTRATOR | Steven F. Ellis | 2022 |
| AIRPORT MANAGER | Bryan Camden | 2020 |
| ANIMAL & BARN INSPECTOR | Kathleen Burek | 2020 |
| ANIMAL & BARN INSP.-ALT | Gina M. McNeely Retired May 2019 | |
| | Daniel Wasuik | 2020 |
| ASST. ASSESSOR/APPRaiser | Karen Tonelli | 2020 |
| ASST. TOWN CLERK | Kathern F. Pierce | 2020 |
| AUCTION PERMIT AGENT | Wendy M. Bogusz | 2020 |
| AUCTION PERMIT AGENT (ALT) | Debra A. Bourbeau | 2020 |
| BUILDING INSPECTOR AND CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER | Christopher Rice | 2020 |
| BUILDING INSPECTOR (ALT) | David Jensen | 2020 |
| BURIAL AGENT | Gina M. McNeely – Retired May 2019 | |
| | Daniel Wasuik | 2020 |
| COMMUNITY DEVEL. PLANNER | Walter F. Ramsey | 2020 |
| CONSULTING PHYSICAN – BOH | Patricia Iverson | 2020 |
| COUNCIL ON AGING DIRECTOR | Roberta L. Potter | 2020 |
| DPW SUPERINTENDENT | Thomas M. Bergeron | 2020 |
| EMERGENCY MANAGER | John Zellmann | 2020 |
| FOREST WARDEN | Richard D. Sawin, Jr. | 2020 |
| FOREST WARDEN - DEPUTY | John Zellmann | 2020 |
| GAS AND PLUMBING INSPECTOR | Herbert F. Hohengasser | 2020 |
| GAS & PLUMBING INSP. - ALT | Timothy J. Hartnett | 2020 |
| GAS & PLUMBING INSP. - ALT | John Letourneau | 2020 |
| HEALTH AGENT | Gina M. McNeely- Retired May 2019 | |
| | Daniel Wasiuk | 2020 |
| LIBRARY DIRECTOR | Linda Hickman | 2020 |
| PARK & RECREATION DIRECTOR | Jonathan J. Dobosz | 2020 |
| SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT | Michael Sullivan | 2020 |
| TAX TITLE CUSTODIAN | Eileen E. Seymour | 2020 |
| TOWN COUNSEL | Kopelman & Paige, P.C. | 2020 |
| TOWN VETERINARIAN | Lauralyn Brown | 2020 |
| VETERAN’S DIRECTOR | Chris Demars | 2020 |

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------|
| VETERAN'S BURIAL AGENT | Chris Demars | 2020 |
| VETERAN'S GRAVES OFFICER | John Murphy | 2020 |
| WASTE WATER CONTROL SUPT. | Robert McDonald – Resigned | |
| | Interim Supt. Robert Trombley | 2020 |
| WIRING INSPECTOR | Wayne Shaw | 2020 |
| WIRING INSPECTOR – ALT | Thomas W. Wyman | 2020 |
| WIRING INSPECTOR – ALT | Todd Weed | 2020 |

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION (3)

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Donna Francis | 2020 |
| Karl (Chip) Garbiel | 2020 |
| Bob Mizula | 2022 |
| Paul Voiland | 2020 |

AIRPORT COMMISSION (3)

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| David Brule | 2022 |
| Peter L. Golrick | 2021 |
| Gary Collins | 2020 |
| Seth Rutherford | 2022 |
| R. Keith LaRiviere | 2020 |

BATTLEFIELD GRANT ADVISOR

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| David Brule | 2020 |
| Joe Graveline | 2020 |
| Doug Harris | 2020 |
| Rich Holshuh | 2020 |
| Roger Longtoe Sheehan | 2020 |
| Peter Miller | 2020 |
| John Nove | 2020 |
| Elizabeth Santana Kiser | 2020 |
| Marilynn Stowe Tomb | 2020 |
| Bettina Washington | 2020 |

BROADBAND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Robert Steinberg | 2020 |
| Kenn Hannah | 2020 |

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Jason Burbank | 2020 |
| Richard Kuklewicz | 2020 |
| Richard Widmer | 2020 |

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Frederic Bowman – Planning Board | 2020 |
| Robert Obear | 2020 |
| Steven F. Ellis | 2020 |
| Gregory O. Garrison | 2020 |
| Joshua Lively | 2020 |

CEMETERY COMMISSION

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Judith Lorei | 2020 |
| Annabel Levine | 2020 |
| Jeri Moran | 2020 |

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (3)

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Mark E. Fairbrother (Chair) | 2020 |
| Donna R. Francis | 2020 |
| Sean Werle | 2022 |
| Deborah J. Henson | 2020 |
| Addie R. Holland | 2020 |
| Justin T. Fermann | 2021 |
| Alex Peterkin | 2021 |
| Laurie Reid (Alt) | 2020 |

CONSTABLES

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Wendy M. Bogusz | 2020 |
| Christopher P. Williams | 2020 |

COUNCIL ON AGING

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Debra A. Bourbeau | 2020 |
| Teresa A. Miner | 2020 |
| Larry Parker | 2020 |
| Barbara Kuklewicz | 2020 |

CULTURAL COUNCIL (3)

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Pam Allen | 2020 |
| KateMartineau | 2020 |
| Daniel Brandon | 2020 |
| Rachel Teumim | 2022 |
| Anne Harding | 2022 |
| John Furbish | 2020 |
| Betty Tegel | 2022 |

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION (3)

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| Richard Ruth (Industrial) | Industrial Seat | 2022 |
| John Furbish | Low Income Appt – 12-3-2012 | 2021 |
| Linda N. Ackerman (Treas) | Finance Seat | 2020 |
| Moon Morgan | At. Large | 2022 |
| Ella Ingraham | Municipal Gov't. Rep. | 2020 |

ENERGY COMMITTEE

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Jason Burbank | 2020 |
| Ariel Elan | 2020 |
| Pamela F. Hanold | 2020 |
| Chris Mason | 2020 |
| Sarah (Sally) Pick | 2020 |
| Timothy N. Van Egmond | 2020 |

F. C. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (2)

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Christopher M. Boutwell | 2020 |
| Michael Nelson (Alt) | 2020 |

| FINANCE COMMITTEE | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Greg Garrison | 2021 |
| Frederick Bowman | 2021 |
| John T. Hanold | 2022 |
| Mike Naughton | 2020 |
| Christopher Menegoni | 2021 |
| Jennifer Audley (chair) | 2022 |

| FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS | |
|-------------------------------------------------|------|
| Steven F. Ellis | 2020 |
| Richard Kuklewicz | 2020 |

| FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS - PLANNING REP. | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Elizabeth Irving (Planning Rep) | 2020 |

| FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3) | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Richard J. Kuklewicz | 2022 |
| Dennis Grader | 2020 |

| FRTA ADVISORY BOARD (2) | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Jeff Singleton - Alt | 2020 |
| Richard Kuklewicz- Chair BOS | 2020 |

| GILL-MONTAGUETRANSIT AUTHORITY (2) | |
|-------------------------------------------|------|
| Steven F. Ellis | 2020 |
| Carolyn Olsen | 2020 |

| HISTORICAL COMMISSION (3) | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Janel Nockleby | 2022 |
| Ed Gregory (Chair) | 2022 |
| Suzanne LoManto | 2021 |
| Jeffrey Singleton | 2022 |
| Chris Clawson | 2022 |

| PERSONNEL BOARD (3) | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Christopher Boutwell | 2022 |
| Michael M. Nelson | 2020 |
| Richard J. Kuklewicz | 2021 |

| PLANNING BOARD (5) | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Frederick Bowman | 2021 |
| Robert G. Obear | 2020 |
| George H. Cook | 2022 |
| Ron Sicard, Jr. | 2022 |
| Elizabeth Irving | 2021 |

PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING COMMITTEE

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Jason Burbank | 2021 |
| Mark Fairbrother | 2021 |
| Ken Morin | 2021 |
| Mark Williams | 2021 |
| Jay DiPucchio | 2021 |
| Bob Macewicz | 2021 |
| Ariel Elan | 2021 |
| Pamela Hanold | 2021 |
| David Jensen | 2021 |
| Richard Widmer | 2021 |

**REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING
COMMITTEE (REPC)**

| | |
|---------------|------|
| John Zellmann | 2020 |
|---------------|------|

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS (3)

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Juanita Caldwell | 2020 |
| Anne Stuart | 2022 |
| Debra A. Bourbeau | 2022 |
| Jay DiPucchio | 2021 |

RETIREMENT BOARD

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Carolyn S. Olsen (Ex-Officio) | 2020 |
| David R. Dion (Elected) | 2022 |
| Cheryl Clark (Elected) | 2020 |
| Marianne Fiske | 2021 |
| Steven Ellis | 2021 |

RIVERCULTURE STEERING COMMITTEE

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Eileen Dowd | 2020 |
| Lucinda Kidder | 2020 |
| Erin MacLean | 2021 |
| Oliver Miller | 2021 |
| Rachel Teumim | 2020 |
| Richard Widmer | 2020 |

TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| David Detmold | 2020 |
| Charles Walter Korby | 2020 |
| Sean Mahoney | 2020 |
| Rafael Andy Vega | 2020 |
| Mike Marcotrigiano | 2020 |
| Roberta Potter | 2020 |
| Tom Sullivan | |

TURNERS FALLS ATHLETIC CLUB TRUST

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Nancy Barry Yankowski | 2020 |
| Christopher Couture | 2020 |

WELLS TRUST

| | |
|------------|------|
| Ron Sicard | 2020 |
|------------|------|

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (5)

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| John R. Burek (chair) | 2022 |
| Richard Ruth (vice chair) | 2021 |
| Robert Sojka | 2020 |
| Alan Ripingill (clerk) | 2024 |
| William J. Doyle IV | 2023 |
| Joshua Lively – Alt Member | 2024 |

ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE MUST BE SWORN TO THE FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES BY THE TOWN CLERK AS SOON AFTER THEIR ELECTION AS POSSIBLE. (TOWN MEETING MEMBERS EXCLUDED)

ALL APPOINTED OFFICIALS OF THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE SHOULD BE SWORN TO THE FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES BY THE TOWN CLERK AS SOON AFTER THEIR APPOINTMENTS AS POSSIBLE.

ALL RESIGNATIONS OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED PERSONNEL SHOULD BE DIRECTED IN WRITING (WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE) TO THE TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE, NOT THE SELECTBOARD.

ALL COMMITTEE AND BOARD CHAIRPERSONS MUST SEND A LETTER OF REORGANIZATION COMPLETE WITH NAMES, POSITIONS, EXPIRATION DATES, ADDRESSES AND PHONE #’S TO THE TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE UPON SO DOING.

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

Franklin, ss.

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

GREETING:

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 Tuesday, February 19, 2019, at 6:30 P.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 raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$47,975, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the appropriation for Article #3 of the February 15, 2018 Special Town Meeting, which appropriated \$49,000 for the purpose of repairing or replacing all or part of the Shea Theater building roof and related appointments, including any and all incidental costs related thereto, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$165,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of repairing or replacing the Town Hall and Town Hall Annex roofs and related appointments, including any and all incidental costs related thereto, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to amend its Zoning Bylaws and Zoning Map, as most recently amended, by repealing said Zoning Bylaws and Zoning Map in their entirety and adopting new Zoning Bylaws and Zoning Map, the full text of a red-lined version of said Zoning Bylaws and revised Zoning Map is on file in the office of the Town Clerk at Town Hall during normal business

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
FEBRUARY 19, 2019**

MOTIONS

ARTICLE 1. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$47,975 for the purpose of increasing the appropriation for Article #3 of the February 15, 2018 Special Town Meeting, which appropriated \$49,000 for the purpose of repairing or replacing all or part of the Shea Theater building roof and related appointments, including any and all incidental costs related thereto, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 2. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$165,000 for the purpose of repairing or replacing the Town Hall and Town Hall Annex roofs and related appointments, including any and all incidental costs related thereto, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 3. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend its Zoning Bylaws and Zoning Map, as most recently amended, by repealing said Zoning Bylaws and Zoning Map in their entirety and adopting new Zoning Bylaws and Zoning Map, the full text of a red-lined version of said Zoning Bylaws and revised Zoning Map is on file in the office of the Town Clerk at Town Hall during normal business hours and as posted on the Town's website at www.montague-ma.gov.

PASSED/TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
May 4, 2019**

Franklin, ss.

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

GREETING:

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, Turners Falls, Massachusetts, on Saturday, May 4, 2019, at 8:30 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 and act upon the reports of the Officers of the Town and to receive the report of any committees and act thereon.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard, or other Town departments with the approval of the Selectboard, to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Government, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or any other source, and to expend the same for purposes received without further appropriation, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 3: 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, 2019, as set forth in Schedule I, Elected Officials, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 4: 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, 2019, as set forth in Schedule II, Appointed Officials, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$9,828,399, or any other amount, for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule III, Budget, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, and for any other necessary changes, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$2,295,227, or any other amount, for the purpose of operating the Water Pollution Control Facility and associated pumping stations, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule IV, WPCF Budget, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$95,400, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the operations, maintenance, and debt service 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 \$53,078, or any other amount, for the purpose of operating the Turners Falls Airport, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Airport Commission 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 \$1,085,007, 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 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$10,229,737, 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 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$76,670, or any other amount, for the purpose of replacing sidewalks and curbing at the Turners Falls High School, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Gill-Montague Regional School District 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 \$21,755, or any other amount, to complete the installation of columns at the Sheffield Elementary School, including replacing wood trim and railings, masonry work at the landing, and any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation to. (Gill-Montague Regional School District Request)

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$35,344, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a truck for the GMRSD Facilities Management Department, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Gill-Montague Regional School District 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 \$16,250, or any other amount, for the purpose of hiring a contractor to provide valuation services relating to the natural gas and electric transmission/distribution utility properties located in town, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Board of Assessors 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 \$50,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of hiring a contractor to provide specialty property valuation services for hydroelectric generating facilities, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Board of Assessors 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 \$20,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing, equipping and making major repairs to WPCF vehicles and equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (WPCF Request)

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$25,500, or any other amount, for the purpose of obtaining a feasibility study for a composting facility for the Montague WPCF, said study to include the development of plans and specifications, cost estimates, location options and anything related thereto, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (WPCF 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 \$50,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of obtaining a study to assess inflow and infiltration to the public sewer system in the village of Millers Falls and to provide options and cost estimates for the removal of same, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (WPCF 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 \$55,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of providing upgrades to the Industrial Park pump station, including replacing the control panel and level sensors in the wet well, and any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (WPCF 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 \$100,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing, equipping, and making

major repairs to DPW vehicles and equipment, including any and 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 \$11,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding information technology equipment, parts, accessories, software and installations, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (IT Administrator Request)

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$15,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing police equipment such as firearms and accessories, computers and accessories, police cruiser equipment, department furniture, bullet-proof vests, Tasers, radios or any similar items as well as extraordinary repairs to same, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Police Chief Request)

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$50,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing 7 optical scanners to replace wooden ballot boxes, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Town Clerk 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 \$10,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of modifying the interior swinging doors and repairing and weatherizing the front doors of the Carnegie Library, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Library Trustees 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 \$22,050, or any other amount, for the purpose of making building improvements to remediate moisture problems at the Montague Center Library, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Library Trustees Request)

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$20,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of making building improvements to remediate moisture problems at the Millers Falls Library, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Library Trustees Request)

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$7,500, or any other amount, for the purpose refurbishing or replacing signs at the Airport Industrial Park, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (EDIC Request)

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$8,975, or any other amount, for the purpose of restoring the lower skirt of the Montague Town Hall front awning, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$38,507, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the GMRSD Stabilization Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Finance Committee Request)

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$78,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the FCTS Stabilization Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Finance Committee Request)

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$57,654, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the Town General Stabilization Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Finance Committee Request)

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$124,369, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the Town Capital Stabilization Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Finance Committee Request)

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$50,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the Town OPEB Trust Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Finance Committee Request)

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to enter into a ten (10) year contract with the option for a five (5) year extension, commencing on July 1, 2020 with the qualified vendor selected by MassDEP through a competitive bid process for recycling processing services for the Town, subject to the Selectboard's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town and subject to Town Meeting approval in the Spring of 2020 for funding for these services, or pass any other vote or votes in relation thereto. (Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to extend MCCI's present three year contract to provide PEG access services to the Town for an additional seven years, as is required by their current contract after completion of its third year, or pass any other vote or votes in relation thereto. (Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 36: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to sell Montague's interest in the GMTA building, located at 382 Deerfield Street, Greenfield, MA, or pass any other vote or votes in relation thereto. (Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 37:

To see if the Town of Montague will support our request to have the local option tax (approved by 2018 annual town meeting) renewed at every town meeting election by popular vote.

Any changes to such a tax in the future would also have to be approved at town election. By popular vote. The changes would be in effect for 1 year then go back to original

If the local option tax is approved revenue generated by it would be published in the town report

Petitioned Article

ARTICLE 38: To see if the town will vote to adopt the following resolution, or pass any other vote or votes in relation thereto.

A RESOLUTION

Calling for the US to Join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

WHEREAS, nuclear weapons cannot be used without catastrophic humanitarian consequences that violate every principle of international law and human morality; and

WHEREAS, the continued existence of these weapons poses an intolerable risk to human survival, since they can be detonated by accident as well as by design; and

WHEREAS, the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China, signed and ratified a legally binding commitment more than 50 years ago to negotiate "in good faith" and "at an early date" the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, the International Court of Justice ruled, in their 1996 Advisory Opinion on the Legality of Nuclear Weapons, that the legally binding commitment to negotiate means "bringing those negotiations to a successful conclusion;" and

WHEREAS, in the year 2000 the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China gave an "unequivocal undertaking" to 187 other nations that they would fulfill their commitment to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, in July 2017, 122 nations adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, making it illegal under international law to develop, test, produce, possess, stockpile, transfer, use, or threaten to use nuclear weapons ; and

WHEREAS, once this Treaty enters in force, it will be illegal in all countries who are party to this Treaty to assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited by the Treaty; and

WHEREAS, more and more countries will continue to sign and ratify this Treaty, including sooner or later many key allies of the United States; and

WHEREAS, this means that the United States will find it increasingly difficult to develop, manufacture, deploy or justify its continued dependence on nuclear weapons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the Town Meeting of Montague call on the town governance to take all necessary steps to align Montague with the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon our federal leaders to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and to invite the other nuclear armed nations to do likewise, leading to an agreed multilateral pathway for the elimination of all nuclear weapons worldwide.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to align with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by setting up, as a first step, a Citizens Commission to look into the implications of doing so, as per bills HD.3477 and SD.1688, currently before the State Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon our federal leaders and our nation to take immediate steps in the meantime to reduce the threat posed by the continued existence of these weapons and to prevent the possibility of nuclear war taking place by accident, miscalculation or design, by:

- renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- ending the president's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack;
- taking US nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
- cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and
- leading a global effort to reduce tensions, particularly with Russia, through dialogue, diplomacy and other confidence-building measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the town clerk shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to State Representative Natalie Blais, State Senator Jo Comerford, U.S. Congressperson Jim McGovern, U.S. Senator Edward Markey, U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, and President Donald J. Trump.

(Petitioned Article)

ARTICLE 39: To see if the town will vote to adopt the following resolution, or pass any other vote or votes in relation thereto.

Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag and Seal of Massachusetts

Whereas the history of the State of Massachusetts is replete with instances of conflict between the European Colonists and the Native Nations of the region, who first extended the hand of friendship to the Colonists on their shores in 1620, and helped them to survive starvation during the settlers' first winters on their land;

Whereas members of the Native Nation for whom the State of Massachusetts is named were ambushed and killed by Myles Standish, first commander of the Plymouth Colony, in April of 1623, barely two years after the Pilgrims arrived on their shores;

Whereas the naked Colonial broadsword brandished above the head of the Native man on the Massachusetts State Flag and Seal is modeled over Myles Standish's own broadsword, borrowed from the Pilgrim Hall in Plymouth by the illustrator Edmund Garrett in 1884;

Whereas the belt binding the Native's cloak on the Flag and Seal is modeled after a belt worn by Metacomet, known to the English as King Philip, who was among the Wampanoag leaders who resorted to a mutually destructive war in 1675-76 in defense of Native lands against Euro-Colonial encroachment;

Whereas the proportions of the body of the Native man in the Flag and Seal were taken from a Native skeleton unearthed in Winthrop, the bow modeled after a bow taken from a Native man shot and killed by a colonist in Sudbury in 1665, and his features taken from a photograph of an Ojibwe chief from Great Falls, Montana, considered by the illustrator to be a “fine specimen of an Indian,” though not from Massachusetts;

Whereas the history of relations between Massachusetts since Colonial times and the Native Nations who continue to live within its borders includes the forced internment of thousands of so-called “praying Indians” on Deer Island, in Boston Harbor, where they died by the hundreds of exposure in 1675, their subsequent enslavement in Boston, Bermuda, and the Caribbean Islands, the offering of 40 pounds sterling as bounty for the scalps of Native men, women and children in Massachusetts beginning in 1686, increased to 100 pounds sterling for the scalps of Native adult males by 1722, half that amount for Native women and children;

Whereas Native Nations within the boundaries of Massachusetts were kept in a state of serfdom, and their members legally considered incompetent wards of the state until the nonviolent action of the so-called Mashpee Rebellion of 1833 led to the granting of Native self rule by the Massachusetts legislature in 1834, as if the sovereign right of Native self-government was the Massachusetts legislature's to confer;

Whereas Native Americans were legally prohibited from even stepping foot into Boston from 1675 until 2004, when that law was finally repealed;

Whereas the quartercentenary anniversary of the landing of the Euro-Colonists at Plymouth Plantation, which gave rise to the long chain of genocidal wars and deliberate policies of cultural destruction against Native Nations of this continent, is approaching in the year 2020, affording every citizen of the Commonwealth a chance to reflect upon this history and come to a new awareness of a better relationship between the descendants of the Euro-Colonial immigrants and the Native Nations of the Commonwealth;

Whereas Native Americans have long suffered the many abuses of racism, the appropriation of their symbols for public schools and sports teams, the diminution and pollution of their ancestral lands and the encroachment of their cultural lifeways;

Whereas the Town of Montague, first settled by European colonists in 1715, shares a rich Native history, going back 12,000 years, and was once known as Wissatinnewag (Shining Hill), a place of shared resources for many Native Nations such as the Abnaki, the Sokoki, the Mohegan, the Pocumtuc, the Nipmuc, and the Narragansett, among others;

Whereas the Town of Montague held a reconciliation ceremony to “bury the hatchet” with the Narragansetts on May 19, 2004, during which the Montague selectboard and Lloyd Running Wolf Wilcox, Medicine Man of the Narragansetts, committed to “a future that will continue the exchange of action to promote understanding about and between the cultures, increase mutual vigilance for historic preservation, and deepen our appreciation for the rich heritage of the indigenous peoples of our region, and all who have found respite, sanctuary and welcome here;

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Montague hereby adopts this resolution in support of , a “Resolve Providing for the creation of a Special Commission relative to the Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth,” and request that Representative Natalie Blais and Senator Jo Comerford continue their strong advocacy and support for the aforementioned Resolve (HD.2968 and SD.1495) in the General Court, and that the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, after holding a public hearing on the Resolve report it out favorably, and if the legislation shall pass that the governor shall sign it and work with members of the General Court to ensure its enactment.

(Petitioned Article)

ARTICLE 40: To see if the town will vote to adopt the following resolution, or pass any other vote or votes in relation thereto.

RESOLUTION DECLARING the TOWN of MONTAGUE to be a POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators are a necessary component of a healthy ecosystem and food system, providing pollination of plants in order to grow vegetables, herbs and fruits; and WHEREAS, locally grown crops such as apples, blueberries, strawberries, squash and tomatoes depend on pollinators and thus are at risk; and WHEREAS, extensive research has documented that neonicotinoid and other systemic insecticides cause illness and death to bees and pollinators; and WHEREAS, alternative land management practices are available that dramatically increase pollinator forage while decreasing maintenance costs; and WHEREAS, the monetary and social costs of maintaining pollinator-friendly landscapes can be less expensive than costs associated with maintaining chemically-treated mono-crop landscapes. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Meeting of the Town of Montague, Massachusetts, that the Town of Montague is hereby declared a Pollinator-Friendly Community, and that the Town encourages adoption of policies and practices that protect and support pollinator health by minimizing the sale and use of insecticides. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague urges all Montague property owners, residents, businesses, institutions and neighborhoods to become more pollinator friendly by adopting practices including: committing to avoiding use of insecticides, including systemic insecticides on their property; avoiding the planting of flowering plants which are treated with systemic insecticides; planting more pollinator-supporting forage on their property, and adopting organic or chemical free lawn and landscaping practices.

The Town Clerk is requested to send copies of this Resolution to Governor Charlie Baker, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux, State Senator Jo Comerford, and State Representative Natalie Blais, or to take any other action relative thereto. **(Petitioned Article)**

Given under our hands this 8th day of April in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Nineteen.

Michael Nelson
Christopher M. Boutwell, Sr.
Richard Kuklewicz, Chairman
Selectmen, Town of Montague

Franklin, ss Montague, MA April ____, 2018

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

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
May 4, 2019**

MOTIONS

ARTICLE 1. MOVED: That the Town receive and act upon the reports of the Officers of the Town and to receive the report of any committees and act thereon. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 2. MOVED: That the Town authorize the Selectboard, or other Town departments with the approval of the Selectboard, to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Government, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or any other source, and to expend the same for purposes received without further appropriation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 3. MOVED: That the Town fix the salaries of all elected officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, as set forth in Schedule I, Elected Officials.

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

| <u>TITLE</u> | <u>FY19 BUDGET</u> | <u>FY20 REQUEST</u> | <u>FY20 RECOMMEND</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| MODERATOR | 350 | 370 | 370 |
| SELECTBOARD | | | |
| Chairman | 2,040 | 2,355 | 2,355 |
| Second/Third Members | 2,040 | 2,140 | 2,140 |
| BOARD OF ASSESSOR | | | |
| Chairman | 1,500 | 1,765 | 1,765 |
| Second/Third Members | 1,500 | 1,605 | 1,605 |
| TREASURER/COLLECTOR | 61,243* | 64,342** | 64,342 |

*G-3

**G-5 no COLA

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

| <u>TITLE</u> | <u>FY19 BUDGET</u> | <u>FY20 REQUEST</u> | <u>FY20 RECOMMEND</u> |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| TOWN CLERK | 71,388 | 71,388* | 71,388 |
| *G-10 no COLA | | | |
| BOARD OF REGISTRARS | | | |
| Town Clerk | 800 | 840 | 840 |
| TREE WARDEN | 1,500 | 1,575 | 1,575 |
| BOARD OF HEALTH | | | |
| Chairman | 1,500 | 1,765 | 1,765 |
| Second/Third Members | 1,500 | 1,605 | 1,605 |

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 4. MOVED: That the Town fix the salaries of all appointed officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, as set forth in Schedule II, Appointed Officials.

**SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials**

| <u>TITLE</u> | <u>FY19 BUDGET</u> | <u>FY20 REQUEST</u> | <u>FY20 RECOMMEND</u> |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>ANNUAL STIPENDS</u> | | | |
| BOARD OF REGISTRARS (3) | 500 | 525 | 525 |
| EMERGENCY MGMT DIRECTOR | 5,490 | 5,765 | 5,765 |
| ANIMAL INSPECTOR | 1,500 | 1,575 | 1,575 |
| BARN INSPECTOR | 1,000 | 1,050 | 1,050 |
| IT ADMINISTRATOR | 2,000 | 2,100 | 2,100 |
| FOREST WARDEN | 1,631 | 1,710 | 1,710 |
| <u>RATES PER INSPECTION</u> | | | |
| ASST. BUILDING INSPECTOR | 27.50 | 35.00 | 35.00 |
| GAS INSPECTOR | 27.50 | 35.00 | 35.00 |

**SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials**

| <u>TITLE</u> | <u>FY19 BUDGET</u> | <u>FY20 REQUEST</u> | <u>FY20 RECOMMEND</u> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>RATES PER INSPECTION</u> | | | |
| PLUMBING INSPECTOR | 27.50 | 35.00 | 35.00 |
| ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR | 27.50 | 35.00 | 35.00 |
| <u>HOURLY RATES</u> | <u>Ranges/hr.</u> | <u>Ranges/hr.</u> | <u>Ranges/hr.</u> |
| EXTRA CLERICAL | 11.00-12.00 | 12.00-13.75 | 12.00-13.75 |
| ELECTION WORKERS | 11.00-13.00 | 12.00-14.75 | 12.00-14.75 |
| SUMMER HIGHWAY | 11.00-13.00 | 12.00-14.75 | 12.00-14.75 |
| SNOW PLOW DRIVERS | 15.00-25.00 | 15.00-25.00 | 15.00-25.00 |
| PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS | 17.00-19.00 | 17.00-21.00 | 17.00-21.00 |
| PART TIME DISPATCHERS | 17.00-19.00 | 17.00-21.00 | 17.00-21.00 |
| PARKS & RECREATION | 11.00-20.00 | 12.00-20.00 | 12.00-20.00 |
| AIRPORT INTERN | 11.00-12.50 | 12.00-14.25 | 12.00-14.25 |

NON-UNION EMPLOYEES NOT SHOWN ABOVE

| | | No COLA | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| | | <u>Range FY2019</u> | | <u>Range FY2020</u> | |
| <u>SALARIED</u> | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Start</u> | <u>End</u> | <u>Start</u> | <u>End</u> |
| TOWN ADMINISTRATOR | J | 89,651 | 110,332 | 89,651 | 110,332 |
| TOWN ACCOUNTANT | G | 58,291 | 71,388 | 58,291 | 71,388 |
| CHIEF OF POLICE | I | 81,501 | 100,301 | 81,501 | 100,301 |
| DPW SUPERINTENDENT | H | 74,094 | 91,183 | 74,094 | 91,183 |
| DIRECTOR OF HEALTH | G | 58,291 | 71,388 | 58,291 | 71,388 |
| LIBRARY DIRECTOR | G | 58,291 | 71,388 | 58,291 | 71,388 |
| WPCF SUPERINTENDENT | H | 74,094 | 91,183 | 74,094 | 91,183 |
| <u>HOURLY</u> | | | | | |
| EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT | E | 21.66 | 26.67 | 21.66 | 26.67 |
| POLICE LIEUTENANT | G+8.5% | 36.51 | 39.52 | 36.51 | 39.52 |
| POLICE CUSTODIAN | A | 14.52 | 17.54 | 14.52 | 17.54 |

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 5. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$9,828,399 for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule III, Budget, and for any other necessary charges, with \$50,000 to be raised from Free Cash and \$9,778,399 to be raised from Taxation.

Schedule III, Budget

| | | SELECTBOARD FIN COMM | | |
|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| DEPT NO. | | <u>BUDGET FY19</u> | <u>REQUEST FY20</u> | <u>RECOMMEND FY20</u> |
| | <u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u> | | | |
| 113 | TOWN MEETING | 1,800 | 2,070 | 2,070 |
| 122 | SELECTMEN | 175,625 | 179,296 | 179,296 |
| 131 | FINANCE COMMITTEE | 680 | 680 | 680 |
| 132 | RESERVE FUND | 60,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 |
| 135 | TOWN ACCOUNTANT | 77,765 | 79,163 | 79,163 |
| 141 | ASSESSORS | 172,981 | 187,824 | 187,824 |
| 145 | TREASURER/COLLECTOR | 221,739 | 220,990 | 220,990 |

| DEPT NO. | | SELECTBOARD FIN COMM | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | BUDGET | REQUEST | RECOMMEND |
| | | FY19 | FY20 | FY20 |
| 151 | TOWN COUNSEL | 98,000 | 98,000 | 98,000 |
| 155 | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | 47,100 | 46,000 | 46,000 |
| 159 | SHARED COSTS | 81,559 | 65,659 | 65,659 |
| 161 | TOWN CLERK | 162,710 | 155,236 | 155,236 |
| 175 | PLANNING | 114,059 | 124,184 | 124,184 |
| 176 | ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS | 2,400 | 1,200 | 1,200 |
| 182 | MEDIC | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| 190 | PUBLIC BLDG UTILITIES | 116,555 | 119,570 | 119,570 |
| | TOTAL GENERAL GOVT | 1,333,973 | 1,340,872 | 1,340,872 |
| | <u>PUBLIC SAFETY</u> | | | |
| 211 | POLICE | 1,615,928 | 1,624,912 | 1,624,912 |
| 211 | POLICE CRUISER | 34,000 | 51,600 | 51,600 |
| 212 | DISPATCH | 295,792 | 305,255 | 305,255 |
| 241 | BUILDING INSPECTOR | 132,108 | 138,047 | 138,047 |
| 244 | SEALER OF WEIGHTS | 2,750 | 2,750 | 2,750 |
| 291 | EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT | 5,490 | 5,765 | 5,765 |
| 292 | ANIMAL CONTROL | 19,257 | 20,057 | 20,057 |
| 294 | FOREST WARDEN | 1,631 | 1,710 | 1,710 |
| 299 | TREE WARDEN | 17,210 | 18,285 | 18,285 |
| 511 | BOARD OF HEALTH | 141,525 | 146,732 | 146,732 |
| | TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY | 2,265,691 | 2,315,113 | 2,315,113 |
| | <u>PUBLIC WORKS</u> | | | |
| 420 | DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS | 1,348,463 | 1,369,805 | 1,369,805 |
| 420 | FLAIL LEASE #2/5 | 24,090 | 24,090 | 24,090 |
| 423 | SNOW & ICE | 230,000 | 252,000 | 252,000 |
| 433 | SOLID WASTE | 479,056 | 519,812 | 519,812 |
| 491 | CEMETERIES | 7,000 | 7,000 | 7,000 |
| | TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS | 2,088,609 | 2,172,707 | 2,172,707 |
| | <u>HUMAN SERVICES</u> | | | |
| 541 | COUNCIL ON AGING | 43,889 | 45,685 | 45,685 |
| 543 | VETERANS' SERVICES | 106,000 | 96,600 | 96,600 |
| | TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES | 149,889 | 142,285 | 142,285 |

| | | | SELECTBOARD |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------------|
| | | | FIN COMM |
| DEPT | BUDGET | REQUEST | RECOMMEND |
| NO. | FY19 | FY20 | FY20 |
| <u>CULTURE & RECREATION</u> | | | |
| 610 | LIBRARIES | 401,962 | 404,274 |
| 630 | PARKS & RECREATION | 130,980 | 136,721 |
| 691 | HISTORICAL COMMISSION | 500 | 500 |
| 693 | WAR MEMORIALS | 1,200 | 1,300 |
| TOTAL CULTURE/RECREATION | | 534,642 | 542,795 |
| <u>DEBT SERVICE</u> | | | |
| 700 | DEBT SERVICE | 629,774 | 888,793 |
| <u>INTERGOVERNMENTAL</u> | | | |
| 840 | INTERGOVERNMENTAL | 101,036 | 104,608 |
| <u>MISCELLANEOUS</u> | | | |
| 910 | EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | 2,211,404 | 2,227,951 |
| 946 | GENERAL INSURANCE | 91,000 | 93,275 |
| TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS | | 2,302,404 | 2,321,226 |
| TOTAL TOWN BUDGET | | 9,406,018 | 9,828,399 |
| PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE | | | |

ARTICLE 6. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$2,295,227 for the purpose of operating the Water Pollution Control Facility and associated pumping stations, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule IV, WPCF Budget, with \$215,000 to be raised from Taxation and \$2,080,227 to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

Schedule IV, WPCF Budget

| | | | SELECTBOARD | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | | | FIN COMM | |
| DEPT NO. | | BUDGET FY19 | REQUEST FY20 | RECOMMEND FY20 |
| | WATER POLLUTION CONTROL | | | |
| 440 | Wages & Expenses | 1,689,656 | 1,431,262 | 1,431,262 |
| 700 | Debt Service | 390,221 | 533,163 | 533,163 |
| 910 | Employee Benefits | 261,702 | 279,702 | 279,702 |
| | SUBTOTAL WPCF | 2,341,579 | 2,244,127 | 2,244,127 |
| 449 | DPW SUBSIDIARY | | | |
| | Wages & Expenses | 42,800 | 42,800 | 42,800 |
| | Capital Outlay | 8,000 | 8,000 | 8,000 |
| | SUBTOTAL DPW SUBSIDIARY | 50,800 | 50,800 | 50,800 |
| | TOTAL WPCF | 2,392,379 | 2,294,927 | 2,294,927 |
| PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE | | | | |

ARTICLE 7. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$95,400 for the purpose of funding the operations, maintenance, and debt service of the Colle Building, said sum to be raised from Colle Receipts Reserved for Appropriation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 8. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$53,078 for the purpose of operating the Turners Falls Airport with \$6,094 to be raised from Taxation and \$46,980 to be raised from Airport Revenues.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 9. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,085,007 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, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 10. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$10,229,737 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 with \$50,000 to be raised from Free Cash and \$10,179,737 to be raised from Taxation.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 11. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$76,670 for the purpose of replacing sidewalks and curbing at the Turners Falls High School, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 12. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$21,755 to complete the installation of columns at the Sheffield Elementary School, including replacing wood trim and railings, masonry work at the landing, and any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 13. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$35,344 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a truck for the GMRSD Facilities Management Department, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 14. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$16,250 for the purpose of hiring a contractor to provide valuation services relating to the natural gas and electric transmission/distribution utility properties located in town, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 15. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of hiring a contractor to provide specialty property valuation services for hydroelectric generating facilities, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 16. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of purchasing, equipping and making major repairs to WPCF vehicles and equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 17. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$25,500 for the purpose of obtaining a feasibility study for a composting facility for the Montague WPCF, said study to include the development of plans and specifications, cost estimates, location options and anything related thereto, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 18. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of obtaining a study to assess inflow and infiltration to the public sewer system in the village of Millers Falls and to provide options and cost estimates for the removal of same, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 19. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$55,000 for the purpose of providing upgrades to the Industrial Park pump station, including replacing the control panel and level sensors in the wet well, and any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 20. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of purchasing, equipping, and making major repairs to DPW vehicles and equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE**

ARTICLE 21. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$11,000 for the purpose of funding information technology equipment, parts, accessories, software and installations, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE**

ARTICLE 22. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the purpose of purchasing police equipment such as firearms and accessories, computers and accessories, police cruiser equipment, department furniture, bullet-proof vests, Tasers, radios or any similar items as well as extraordinary repairs to same, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE**

ARTICLE 23. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of purchasing seven optical scanners to replace wooden ballot boxes, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of purchasing and or renting up to seven optical scanners to replace wooden ballot boxes, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash. **PASSED/ MAJORITY VOTE AS AMENDED**

ARTICLE 24. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of modifying the interior swinging doors and repairing and weatherizing the front doors of the Carnegie Library, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 25. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$22,050 for the purpose of making building improvements to remediate moisture problems at the Montague Center Library, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 26. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of making building improvements to remediate moisture problems at the Millers Falls Library, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 27. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$7,500 for the purpose refurbishing or replacing signs at the Airport Industrial Park, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 28. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$8,975 for the purpose of restoring the lower skirt of the Montague Town Hall front awning, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 29. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$38,507 for the purpose of increasing the GMRS Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 30. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$78,000 for the purpose of increasing the FCTS Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$51,500 for the purpose of increasing the FCTS Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Free Cash. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE AS AMENDED**

ARTICLE 31. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$57,654 for the purpose of increasing the Town General Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 32. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$124,369 for the purpose of increasing the Town Capital Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$121,015 for the purpose of increasing the Town Capital Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE AS AMENDED**

ARTICLE 33. MOVED: That the Town appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of increasing the Town OPEB Trust Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 34. MOVED: That the Town authorize the Selectboard to enter into a ten (10) year contract with the option for a five (5) year extension, commencing on July 1, 2020 with the qualified vendor selected by MassDEP through a competitive bid process for recycling processing services for the Town, subject to the Selectboard's determination that the contract is in the best interests of the Town and subject to Town Meeting approval in the Spring of 2020 for funding for these services. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 35. MOVED: That the Town extend MCCI's present three year contract to provide PEG access services to the Town for an additional seven years, as is required by their current contract after completion of its third year. **PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE**

ARTICLE 36. MOVED: That the Town authorize the Selectboard to sell Montague's interest in the GMTA building, located at 382 Deerfield Street, Greenfield, MA. **PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE**

ARTICLE 37. MOVED: That the Town of Montague vote to have the local option tax (approved by 2018 annual town meeting) renewed at every town meeting election by popular vote.
Any changes to such a tax in the future would also have to be approved at town election. By popular vote. The changes would be in effect for 1 year .then go back to original
If the local option tax is approved revenue generated by it would be published in the town report
DEFEATED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 38. MOVED: That the Town vote to adopt the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION

Calling for the US to Join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

WHEREAS, nuclear weapons cannot be used without catastrophic humanitarian consequences that violate every principle of international law and human morality; and

WHEREAS, the continued existence of these weapons poses an intolerable risk to human survival, since they can be detonated by accident as well as by design; and

WHEREAS, the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China, signed and ratified a legally binding commitment more than 50 years ago to negotiate "in good faith" and "at an early date" the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, the International Court of Justice ruled, in their 1996 Advisory Opinion on the Legality of Nuclear Weapons, that the legally binding commitment to negotiate means "bringing those negotiations to a successful conclusion;" and

WHEREAS, in the year 2000 the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China gave an "unequivocal undertaking" to 187 other nations that they would fulfill their commitment to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, in July 2017, 122 nations adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, making it illegal under international law to develop, test, produce, possess, stockpile, transfer, use, or threaten to use nuclear weapons ; and

WHEREAS, once this Treaty enters in force, it will be illegal in all countries who are party to this Treaty to assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited by the Treaty; and

WHEREAS, more and more countries will continue to sign and ratify this Treaty, including sooner or later many key allies of the United States; and

WHEREAS, this means that the United States will find it increasingly difficult to develop, manufacture, deploy or justify its continued dependence on nuclear weapons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the Town Meeting of Montague call on the town governance to take all necessary steps to align Montague with the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon our federal leaders to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and to invite the other nuclear armed nations to do likewise, leading to an agreed multilateral pathway for the elimination of all nuclear weapons worldwide.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to align with the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by setting up, as a first step, a Citizens Commission to look into the implications of doing so, as per bills HD.3477 and SD.1688, currently before the State Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon our federal leaders and our nation to take immediate steps in the meantime to reduce the threat posed by the continued existence of these weapons and to prevent the possibility of nuclear war taking place by accident, miscalculation or design, by:

- renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- ending the president's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack;
- taking US nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
- cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and
- leading a global effort to reduce tensions, particularly with Russia, through dialogue, diplomacy and other confidence-building measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the town clerk shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to State Representative Natalie Blais, State Senator Jo Comerford, U.S. Congressperson Jim McGovern, U.S. Senator Edward Markey, U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, and President Donald J. Trump.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town vote to adopt the following resolution:

A RESOLUTION

Calling for the US to Join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

WHEREAS, nuclear weapons cannot be used without catastrophic humanitarian consequences that violate every principle of international law and human morality; and

WHEREAS, the continued existence of these weapons poses an intolerable risk to human survival, since they can be detonated by accident as well as by design; and

WHEREAS, the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China, signed and ratified a legally binding commitment more than 50 years ago to negotiate "in good faith" and "at an early date" the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, the International Court of Justice ruled, in their 1996 Advisory Opinion on the Legality of Nuclear Weapons, that the legally binding commitment to negotiate means "bringing those negotiations to a successful conclusion;" and

WHEREAS, in the year 2000 the United States, together with Britain, France, Russia and China gave an "unequivocal undertaking" to 187 other nations that they would fulfill their commitment to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals; and

WHEREAS, in July 2017, 122 nations adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, making it illegal under international law to develop, test, produce, possess, stockpile, transfer, use, or threaten to use nuclear weapons ; and

WHEREAS, once this Treaty enters in force, it will be illegal in all countries who are party to this Treaty to assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited by the Treaty; and

WHEREAS, more and more countries will continue to sign and ratify this Treaty, including sooner or later many key allies of the United States; and

WHEREAS, this means that the United States will find it increasingly difficult to develop, manufacture, deploy or justify its continued dependence on nuclear weapons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the Town Meeting of Montague call on the town governance to take all necessary steps to align Montague with the U.N. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon our federal leaders to sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and to invite the other nuclear armed nations to do likewise, leading to an agreed multilateral pathway for the elimination of all nuclear weapons worldwide.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague calls upon our federal leaders and our nation to take immediate steps in the meantime to reduce the threat posed by the continued existence of these weapons and to prevent the possibility of nuclear war taking place by accident, miscalculation or design, by:

- renouncing the option of using nuclear weapons first;
- ending the president's sole, unchecked authority to launch a nuclear attack;
- taking US nuclear weapons off hair-trigger alert;
- cancelling the plan to replace its entire arsenal with enhanced weapons; and
- leading a global effort to reduce tensions through dialogue, diplomacy and other confidence-building measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the town clerk shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to State Representative Natalie Blais, State Senator Jo Comerford, U.S. Congressperson Jim McGovern, U.S. Senator Edward Markey, U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren, and President Donald J. Trump.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE AS AMENDED

ARTICLE 39. MOVED: That the town vote to adopt the following resolution:
Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag and Seal of Massachusetts

Whereas the history of the State of Massachusetts is replete with instances of conflict between the European Colonists and the Native Nations of the region, who first extended the hand of friendship to the Colonists on their shores in 1620, and helped them to survive starvation during the settlers' first winters on their land;

Whereas members of the Native Nation for whom the State of Massachusetts is named were ambushed and killed by Myles Standish, first commander of the Plymouth Colony, in April of 1623, barely two years after the Pilgrims arrived on their shores;

Whereas the naked Colonial broadsword brandished above the head of the Native man on the Massachusetts State Flag and Seal is modeled over Myles Standish's own broadsword, borrowed from the Pilgrim Hall in Plymouth by the illustrator Edmund Garrett in 1884;

Whereas the belt binding the Native's cloak on the Flag and Seal is modeled after a belt worn by Metacomet, known to the English as King Philip, who was among the Wampanoag leaders who resorted to a mutually destructive war in 1675-76 in defense of Native lands against Euro-Colonial encroachment;

Whereas the proportions of the body of the Native man in the Flag and Seal were taken from a Native skeleton unearthed in Winthrop, the bow modeled after a bow taken from a Native man shot and killed by a colonist in Sudbury in 1665, and his features taken from a photograph of an Ojibwe chief from Great Falls, Montana, considered by the illustrator to be a “fine specimen of an Indian,” though not from Massachusetts;

Whereas the history of relations between Massachusetts since Colonial times and the Native Nations who continue to live within its borders includes the forced internment of thousands of so-called “praying Indians” on Deer Island, in Boston Harbor, where they died by the hundreds of exposure in 1675, their subsequent enslavement in Boston, Bermuda, and the Caribbean Islands, the offering of 40 pounds sterling as bounty for the scalps of Native men, women and children in Massachusetts beginning in 1686, increased to 100 pounds sterling for the scalps of Native adult males by 1722, half that amount for Native women and children;

Whereas Native Nations within the boundaries of Massachusetts were kept in a state of serfdom, and their members legally considered incompetent wards of the state until the nonviolent action of the so-called Mashpee Rebellion of 1833 led to the granting of Native self rule by the Massachusetts legislature in 1834, as if the sovereign right of Native self-government was the Massachusetts legislature's to confer;

Whereas Native Americans were legally prohibited from even stepping foot into Boston from 1675 until 2004, when that law was finally repealed;

Whereas the quartercentenary anniversary of the landing of the Euro-Colonists at Plymouth Plantation, which gave rise to the long chain of genocidal wars and deliberate policies of cultural destruction against Native Nations of this continent, is approaching in the year 2020, affording every citizen of the Commonwealth a chance to reflect upon this history and come to a new awareness of a better relationship between the descendants of the Euro-Colonial immigrants and the Native Nations of the Commonwealth;

Whereas Native Americans have long suffered the many abuses of racism, the appropriation of their symbols for public schools and sports teams, the diminution and pollution of their ancestral lands and the encroachment of their cultural lifeways;

Whereas the Town of Montague, first settled by European colonists in 1715, shares a rich Native history, going back 12,000 years, and was once known as Wissatinnewag (Shining Hill), a place of shared resources for many Native Nations such as the Abnaki, the Sokoki, the Mohegan, the Pocumtuc, the Nipmuc, and the Narragansett, among others;

Whereas the Town of Montague held a reconciliation ceremony to “bury the hatchet” with the Narragansetts on May 19, 2004, during which the Montague selectboard and Lloyd Running Wolf Wilcox, Medicine Man of the Narragansetts, committed to “a future that will continue the exchange of action to promote understanding about and between the cultures, increase mutual vigilance for historic preservation, and deepen our appreciation for the rich heritage of the indigenous peoples of our region, and all who have found respite, sanctuary and welcome here;

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town of Montague hereby adopts this resolution in support of , a “Resolve Providing for the creation of a Special Commission relative to the Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth,” and request that Representative Natalie Blais and Senator Jo Comerford continue their strong advocacy and support for the aforementioned Resolve (HD.2968 and SD.1495) in the General Court, and that the Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight, after holding a public hearing on the Resolve report it out favorably, and if the legislation shall pass that the governor shall sign it and work with members of the General Court to ensure its enactment.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 40. MOVED: That the town vote to adopt the following resolution:
RESOLUTION DECLARING the TOWN of MONTAGUE to be a POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators are a necessary component of a healthy ecosystem and food system, providing pollination of plants in order to grow vegetables, herbs and fruits; and WHEREAS, locally grown crops such as apples, blueberries, strawberries, squash and tomatoes depend on pollinators and thus are at risk; and WHEREAS, extensive research has documented that neonicotinoid and other systemic insecticides cause illness and death to bees and pollinators; and WHEREAS, alternative land management practices are available that dramatically increase pollinator forage while decreasing maintenance costs; and WHEREAS, the monetary and social costs of maintaining pollinator-friendly landscapes can be less expensive than costs associated with maintaining chemically-treated mono-crop landscapes. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Meeting of the Town of Montague, Massachusetts, that the Town of Montague is hereby declared a Pollinator-Friendly Community, and that the Town encourages adoption of policies and practices that protect and support pollinator health by minimizing the sale and use of insecticides. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Montague urges all Montague property owners, residents, businesses, institutions and neighborhoods to become more pollinator friendly by adopting practices including: committing to avoiding use of insecticides, including systemic insecticides on their property; avoiding the planting of flowering plants which are treated with systemic insecticides; planting more pollinator-supporting forage on their property, and adopting organic or chemical free lawn and landscaping practices.

The Town Clerk is requested to send copies of this Resolution to Governor Charlie Baker, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux, State Senator Jo Comerford, and State Representative Natalie Blais, or to take any other action relative thereto. **PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE**

**ELECTION WARRANT
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MAY 20, 2019**

Franklin, ss.

To either of the constables of the Town of Montague in the County of Franklin,
GREETING:

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 elections and Town affairs to meet in their respective polling places appointed and designated as follows:

Precinct No. 1, the Montague Center Precinct, the Montague Center Fire Station, 28 Old Sunderland Road, Montague Center; Precinct No. 2, the Millers Falls Precinct, the Highland School Apartments Community Room, 446 Millers Falls Road, Millers Falls; Precinct No. 3, the upper hill section of Turners Falls, the Gill-Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls; Precinct No. 4, the second level of Turners Falls, the Gill-Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls; Precinct No. 5, downtown section of Turners Falls, Montague Town Hall, Second Floor Meeting Room, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls; Precinct No. 6, the South End and Montague City Precinct, the Montague Police Station Community Room, 180 Turnpike Road, Turners Falls on **Monday, the Twentieth Day of May, in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen, from Seven A.M. to Seven P.M.** to bring their votes on one ballot to the Election Officers for:

- One Selectman, for three years
- One Town Clerk for three years
- One Treasurer/Collector for three years
- One Assessor, for three years
- One Board of Health Member, for three years
- One Parks & Recreation Commissioner, for three years
- One Tree Warden, for three years
- One Housing Authority Member, for five years
- Three Public Library Trustees, for three years
- One Public Library Trustee, for one year

One Soldiers' Memorial Trustee (Veteran), for three years
Seven Town Meeting Members, Precinct 1, for three years
One Town Meeting Member, Precinct 1, for one year
Seven Town Meeting Members, Precinct 2, for three years
Two Town Meeting Members, Precinct 2, for two years
One Town Meeting Member, Precinct 2, for one year
Seven Town Meeting Members, Precinct 3, for three years
One Town Meeting Member, Precinct 3, for two years
Seven Town Meeting Members, Precinct 4, for three years
Seven Town Meeting Members, Precinct 5, for three years
Seven Town Meeting Members, Precinct 6, for three years

Hereof, fail not and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk seven days before said election.

Given under our hands this _____ Day of _____ in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen.

_____ Christopher M. Boutwell, Sr.

_____ Michael E. Nelson

_____ Richard J. Kuklewicz

Franklin, ss Montague, MA, May , 2019

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

| ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| MONTAGUE, MA | Monday, May 20, 2019 |

According to the forgoing warrant, the legal votes of the six precincts of the Town of Montague met in their respective polling places and cast votes for the following named offices of which the following is the total vote as returned by the Precinct Officers.

| TOTAL NUMBER OF BALLOTS CAST | | | |
|------------------------------|------------|---------------------|--------|
| Precinct No. 1 | 119 | Turnout by precinct | 9.92% |
| Precinct No. 2 | 71 | | 6.81% |
| Precinct No. 3 | 83 | | 8.87% |
| Precinct No. 4 | 109 | | 10.48% |
| Precinct No. 5 | 61 | | 6.74% |
| Precinct No. 6 | 61 | | 6.35% |
| Total | <u>504</u> | 8.28% | TOWN |

| SELECTMAN, For three years | | | | | | | Vote for one |
|----------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|--------------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| CHRISTOPHER M. BOUTWELL Sr | 91 | 50 | 74 | 83 | 46 | 53 | 397 |
| OTHERS | 1 | 5 | | 2 | 1 | | 9 |
| BLANKS | 27 | 16 | 9 | 24 | 14 | 8 | 98 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| TOWN CLERK, For three years | | | | | | | Vote for one |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|--------------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| DEBRA A. BOURBEAU | 111 | 64 | 79 | 103 | 57 | 57 | 471 |
| BLANKS | 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 33 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR, For three years | | | | | | | Vote for one |
|------------------------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|--------------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| EILEEN M. SEYMOUR | 105 | 56 | 76 | 96 | 51 | 52 | 436 |
| OTHERS | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| BLANKS | 14 | 15 | 7 | 13 | 9 | 9 | 67 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| ASSESSOR, For three years | | | | | | | Vote for one |
|---------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|--------------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| TERESA A. MINER | 100 | 60 | 77 | 95 | 55 | 54 | 441 |
| BLANKS | 19 | 11 | 6 | 14 | 6 | 7 | 63 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| BOARD OF HEALTH, For three years | | | | | | Vote for one | |
|----------------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|----|--------------|-------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| ALBERT L. CUMMINGS, Jr | 106 | 55 | 77 | 92 | 51 | 56 | 437 |
| OTHERS | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| BLANKS | 13 | 16 | 6 | 17 | 9 | 5 | 66 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION, For three years | | | | | | Vote for one | |
|------------------------------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|----|--------------|-------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| ALBERT L. CUMMINGS, Jr | 105 | 55 | 77 | 93 | 49 | 56 | 435 |
| OTHERS | 1 | | | | 1 | | 2 |
| BLANKS | 13 | 16 | 6 | 16 | 11 | 5 | 67 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| TREE WARDEN, For three years | | | | | | Vote for one | |
|------------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|----|--------------|-------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| MARK A. STEVENS | 49 | 33 | 47 | 68 | 28 | 32 | 257 |
| DIANA R. SOUZA | 59 | 29 | 31 | 37 | 30 | 21 | 207 |
| BLANKS | 11 | 9 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 40 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| MONTAGUE HOUSING AUTHORITY, For five years | | | | | | Vote for one | |
|--------------------------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|----|--------------|-------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| STANLEY F. ZERA, JR. | 100 | 56 | 70 | 94 | 51 | 50 | 421 |
| BLANKS | 19 | 15 | 13 | 15 | 10 | 11 | 83 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEE, For three Years | | | | | | Vote for three | |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|-------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| KAREN LATKA | 91 | 53 | 68 | 86 | 48 | 52 | 398 |
| NANCY L. CROWELL | 88 | 53 | 64 | 80 | 41 | 46 | 372 |
| MARGOT G. MALACHOWSKI | 90 | 45 | 62 | 78 | 43 | 47 | 365 |
| OTHERS | 3 | | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 13 |
| BLANKS | 85 | 62 | 53 | 82 | 48 | 34 | 364 |
| TOTALS | 357 | 213 | 249 | 327 | 183 | 183 | 1512 |

| PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEE, For one Year | | | | | | Vote for one | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|----|--------------|-------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| SUSAN YARMAC | 5 | | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 15 |
| OTHERS | 3 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 19 |
| BLANKS | 111 | 70 | 82 | 100 | 55 | 52 | 470 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| TRUSTEE, SOLDIERS MEMORIAL (Veteran), For three years | | | | | | Vote for one | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|----|-----|----|--------------|-------|
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| JOHN T. MURPHY | 97 | 57 | 74 | 91 | 53 | 52 | 424 |
| BLANKS | 22 | 14 | 9 | 18 | 8 | 9 | 80 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| TOWN MEETING MEMBERS, For three years | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Vote for not more than seven | |
| PRECINCT 1 | |
| KATHLEEN LYNCH | 87 |
| ARIEL S. ELAN | 95 |
| MARK E. FAIRBROTHER | 93 |
| SAMUEL H. LOVEJOY | 92 |
| PATRICIA PERHAN | 94 |
| ELIZABETH IRVING | 36 |
| CHARLES EDWARDS | 24 |
| OTHERS | 7 |
| BLANKS | 305 |
| TOTAL | 833 |

| TOWN MEETING MEMBERS, For one year | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Vote for not more than one | |
| PRECINCT 1 | |
| JOHN REYNOLDS | 2 |
| OTHERS | 7 |
| BLANKS | 110 |
| TOTAL | 119 |

| TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For three years | | Vote for not more than seven | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|--|
| PRECINCT 2 | | | |
| HAROLD H. JENSEN III | 56 | | |
| MARILYN KOSTANSKI | 58 | | |
| ROBERT BAZEMORE | 50 | | |
| RICHARD J. WIDMER | 50 | | |
| PETER L. GOLRICK | 38 | | |
| NANCY CROWELL | 2 | | |
| BLANKS | 243 | | |
| TOTALS | 497 | | |

| TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For two years | | Vote for not more than two |
|------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| PRECINCT 2 | | |
| BLANKS | 142 | |
| TOTALS | 142 | |

| TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For one years | | Vote for not more than one |
|------------------------------------|----|----------------------------|
| PRECINCT 2 | | |
| OTHERS | 2 | |
| BLANKS | 69 | |
| TOTALS | 71 | |

| TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For three years | | Vote for not more than seven |
|--------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|
| PRECINCT 3 | | |
| ROBERT R. FRITZ | 71 | |
| MEGHAN E. HASTINGS | 70 | |
| ROLAND S. PACKARD | 66 | |
| KELEIGH A. PEREIRA | 66 | |
| ALANA J. MARTINEAU | 74 | |
| KRISTI A. BODIN | 70 | |
| RICHARD W. DUCHARME | 68 | |
| BLANKS | 96 | |
| TOTAL | 581 | |

| TOWN MEETING MEMBERS, For two years | | Vote for not more than one |
|-------------------------------------|----|----------------------------|
| PRECINCT 3 | | |
| OTHERS | 3 | |
| BLANKS | 80 | |
| TOTALS | 83 | |

| TOWN MEETING MEMBER For three years | | Vote for not more than seven |
|-------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|
| PRECINCT 4 | | |
| DONALD A. REID | 83 | |
| CHRISTOPHER M. BOUTWELL | 87 | |
| ERNESST L. BROWN | 90 | |
| DENNIS L. GRADER | 90 | |
| JENNIFER R. AUDLEY | 86 | |
| ELIZABETH SWIHART | 9 | |
| JEFF SINGLETON | 5 | |
| OTHERS | 3 | |
| BLANKS | 310 | |
| TOTAL | 763 | |

| TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For three years Vote for not more than seven | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--|
| PRECINCT 5 | | |
| JON S. NELSON | 47 | |
| SUZETTE L. SNOW-COBB | 44 | |
| JOHN T. HANOLD | 46 | |
| APRIL J. RIEPOLD | 52 | |
| PAMELA F. HANOLD | 47 | |
| ELLIOT EZCURRA | 12 | |
| JEAN HEBDEN | 2 | |
| OTHERS | 8 | |
| BLANKS | 169 | |
| TOTAL | 427 | |

| TOWN MEETING MEMBERS For three year Vote for not more than seven | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--|
| PRECINCT 6 | | |
| HASTINGS, KEVIN J. | 50 | |
| MELANIE K. ZAMOJSKI | 48 | |
| JOHN T. MURPHY | 53 | |
| PETER HUDYMA | 48 | |
| BRIAN COSTA | 46 | |
| KAREN LATKA | 46 | |
| LILITH G. WOLINSKY | 44 | |
| OTHERS | 1 | |
| BLANKS | 91 | |
| TOTAL | 427 | |

* = elected official

This is a return of the total votes cast in the various precincts and returned to the Board of Registrars by the precinct clerks for the Town of Montague.

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Debra A. Bourbeau | |
| Stanley Dobosz | |
| Elizabeth Irving | |
| Anne Stuart | |

Weather: Partly Cloudy, On and Off Rain, Temp. Low 80's & Humid

Attest:

Debra A. Bourbeau, Montague Town Clerk

| GILL-MONTAGUE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|----|----|----------------------------|----|----|-------|
| REPRESENTING THE TOWN OF GILL | | | | | | | |
| SCHOOL COMMITTEE For three years | | | | Vote for not more than one | | | |
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| JANE OAKES | 87 | 54 | 63 | 84 | 48 | 47 | 383 |
| OTHERS | 1 | | | 1 | | | 2 |
| BLANKS | 31 | 17 | 20 | 24 | 13 | 14 | 119 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| REPRESENTING THE TOWN OF GILL | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----|----|----------------------------|----|----|-------|
| SCHOOL COMMITTEE For one year | | | | Vote for not more than one | | | |
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| WILLIAM TOMB | 78 | 50 | 58 | 71 | 41 | 44 | 342 |
| OTHERS | 3 | | | | 1 | | 4 |
| BLANKS | 38 | 21 | 25 | 38 | 19 | 17 | 158 |
| TOTALS | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

| REPRESENTING THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| SCHOOL COMMITTEE For three years | | | | Vote for not more than two | | | |
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| HEATHER KATSOUKIS | 85 | 52 | 64 | 85 | 53 | 46 | 385 |
| MICHAEL LANGKNECHT | 99 | 47 | 57 | 81 | 49 | 43 | 376 |
| OTHERS | 3 | | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 13 |
| BLANKS | 51 | 43 | 44 | 49 | 16 | 31 | 234 |
| TOTALS | 238 | 142 | 166 | 218 | 122 | 122 | 1008 |

| REPRESENTING THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------|-----|----|----|----------------------------|----|----|-------|
| SCHOOL COMMITTEE For one year | | | | Vote for not more than one | | | |
| PRECINCT | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | TOTAL |
| THOMASINA HALL | 84 | 55 | 67 | 85 | 44 | 51 | 386 |
| OTHERS | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 3 |
| BLANKS | 35 | 16 | 15 | 23 | 16 | 10 | 115 |
| n | 119 | 71 | 83 | 109 | 61 | 61 | 504 |

* = elected official

Attest:

Debra A. Bourbeau, Montague Town Clerk

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OCTOBER 2, 2019**

Franklin, ss.

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

GREETING:

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 Wednesday, October 2, 2019, at 6:30 P.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 raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$24,262, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the New England Police Benevolent Association for Fiscal Year 2020, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2019, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$XX,XXX, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 274 for Fiscal Year 2020, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2019, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$28,900, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the National Association of Government Employees for Fiscal Year 2020, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2019, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 3 of the May 4, 2019 Annual Town Meeting by increasing the annual salary of the Treasurer/Tax Collector to \$64,985 and increasing the annual salary of the Town Clerk to \$73,905, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

| <u>TITLE</u> | FY20 CURRENT | FY20 REQUESTED |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| TREASURER/COLLECTOR | 64,342* | 64,985 |

*Grade G Step 5

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|-----------|
| TOWN CLERK | 71,388** | 73,905*** |
|-------------------|----------|-----------|

**Grade G Step 10

***Grade G Step 11

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 4 of the May 4, 2019 Annual Town Meeting by changing the wage ranges for the following Non-Union employees as shown, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials

| | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Current FY2020</u> | | <u>Requested FY2020</u> | |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| <u>SALARIED</u> | | Start | End | Start | End |
| TOWN ADMINISTRATOR | J | 89,651 | 110,332 | 92,811 | 114,221 |
| TOWN ACCOUNTANT | G | 58,291 | 71,388 | 60,346 | 73,905 |
| CHIEF OF POLICE | I | 81,501 | 100,301 | 84,373 | 103,837 |
| DPW SUPERINTENDENT | H | 74,094 | 91,183 | 76,703 | 94,397 |
| DIRECTOR OF HEALTH | G | 58,291 | 71,388 | 60,346 | 73,905 |
| LIBRARY DIRECTOR | G | 58,291 | 71,388 | 60,346 | 73,905 |
| WPCF SUPERINTENDENT | H | 74,094 | 91,183 | 76,703 | 94,397 |
| <u>HOURLY</u> | | | | | |
| EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT | E | 21.66 | 26.67 | 22.43 | 27.61 |
| POLICE LIEUTENANT | G+8.5% | 36.51 | 39.52 | 36.59 | 40.60 |
| POLICE CUSTODIAN | A | 14.52 | 17.54 | 15.03 | 18.50 |

Informational Only: Fiscal Year 2020 budgeted wages

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------|---------------------|--------|
| TOWN ADMINISTRATOR | 114,221 | DPW SUPERINTENDENT | 94,397 |
| TOWN ACCOUNTANT | 73,905 | DIRECTOR OF HEALTH | 64,985 |
| CHIEF OF POLICE* | 109,033 | LIBRARY DIRECTOR | 69,301 |
| POLICE LIEUTENANT | 39.61 | WPCF SUPERINTENDENT | 94,397 |
| EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT | 27.61 | POLICE CUSTODIAN | 16.59 |

*includes add'l 20% educational incentive pay for Police Chief

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$21,559, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding a Wage Adjustment for the pay schedule for elected officials shown on Schedule I for Fiscal Year 2020 as set forth under Article 4 of this warrant and non-union employees shown on Schedule II for Fiscal Year 2020 as set forth under Article 5 of this Warrant, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2019, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard 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 \$12,500, or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing and installing cable related equipment for MCTV and anything incidental or related thereto, 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 \$1,821, or any other amount, for the purpose of paying prior year bills of the Tree Warden, DPW, Building Inspector and Police operating budgets, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard 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 \$158,002, or any other amount, for the purpose of paying prior year bills of the WPCF operating budget, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard 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 \$100,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of remediating inflow and infiltration in Millers Falls, including any and all incidental costs related thereto, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard 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 \$100,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of repairing or replacing all or part of the Unity Park Fieldhouse roof and related appointments, including any and all incidental costs related thereto, and to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept any grants, gifts or reimbursements in connection therewith, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard 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 \$268,670, or any other amount, for the purpose purchasing and equipping a new or used street sweeper, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(DPW Request)

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$15,000, or any other amount, for the purpose repairing the steel framing of the Town Hall front door awning, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to negotiate and enter into a Tax Agreement pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 38H(b), or any other enabling authority, between the Town of Montague and SolarGrid, LLC, its successor, assignee or affiliate, on such terms and conditions and for such term as negotiated by the Board of Assessors, for payment in lieu of taxes related to personal and/or real property associated with a solar renewable energy generation facility to be installed, owned and operated by such entity on land owned by Montague Real Estate Trust located on Millers Falls Road and identified as Assessor's Parcel 23-0-67; and further to authorize the Board of Assessors to take such action as may be necessary to carry out the vote taken hereunder; or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Board of Assessors Request)

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to negotiate and enter into a Tax Agreement pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 38H(b), or any other enabling authority, between the Town of Montague and Kearsarge Turners Falls RE LLC, its successor, assignee or affiliate, on such terms and conditions and for such term as negotiated by the Board of Assessors, for payment in lieu of taxes related to personal and/or real property associated with a solar renewable energy generation facility to be installed, owned and operated by such entity located on Turnpike Road, Turners Falls, MA and identified as Assessor's Parcel ID 14-0-214; and further to authorize the Board of Assessors to take such action as may be necessary to carry out the vote taken hereunder; or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Board of Assessors Request)

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to enter into a Tax Agreement pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 38H(b), or any other enabling authority, between the Town of Montague and FirstLight MA Hydro LLC f/k/a FirstLight Hydro Generating Company, its successor, assignee or affiliate, on such terms and conditions and for such term as negotiated by the Select Board and the Board of Assessors, for payment in lieu of taxes related to personal and/or real property identified as Assessor's Parcel ID 08-0-1 (15 Cabot Street), Parcel ID 05-0-151 (26 Power Street) and Parcel Account 538 (Personal Property) all as set forth in said Tax Agreement; and further to authorize the Board of Assessors to take such action as may be necessary to carry out the vote taken hereunder; or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to acquire by purchase or gift a fee interest or permanent easement in, on and under all or a portion of land shown on a plan entitled "Proposed Access and Utility Easement Plan of Land in Montague, Massachusetts," dated May 13, 2019, prepared by Harold L. Eaton Associates, Inc., said plan on file with the Town Clerk, said parcel now or formerly of the Turners Falls Fire District, specifically for the purpose of access and installing, operating and maintaining utilities to two properties of the Town located at 128 Turners Falls Road, Turners Falls (new Montague Department of Works facility) and at 178 Turnpike Road, Turners Falls (Montague Police Station), or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)
Given under our hands this 16th day of September in the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Nineteen.

Selectboard, Town of Montague

Michael Nelson
Christopher M. Boutwell, Sr.
Richard Kuklewicz, Chairman

Franklin, ss Montague, MA September , 2019

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 fourteen days before said meeting as within directed.

Constable of Montague

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OCTOBER 2, 2019**

MOTIONS

ARTICLE 1. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$24,262 for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the New England Police Benevolent Association for Fiscal Year 2020, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2019, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 2. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$XXXXXX for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 274 for Fiscal Year 2020, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2019, with \$XXXXXX to be raised from Free Cash and \$XXXXXX to be raised from Sewer Retained Earnings.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$39,927 for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 274 for Fiscal Year 2020, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2019, with \$33,511 to be raised from Free Cash and \$6,146 to be raised from Sewer Retained Earnings.

PASSED/MAJORITY VOTE AS AMENDED

ARTICLE 3. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$28,900 for the purpose of funding the implementation of a collective bargaining agreement with the National Association of Government Employees for Fiscal Year 2020, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2019, with \$28,338 to be raised from Free Cash and \$562 to be raised from Sewer Retained Earnings.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 4. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 3 of the May 4, 2019 Annual Town Meeting by increasing the annual salary of the Treasurer/Tax Collector to \$64,985 and increasing the annual salary of the Town Clerk to \$73,905.

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

| <u>TITLE</u> | FY20 CURRENT | FY20 REQUESTED |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| TREASURER/COLLECTOR | 64,342* | 64,985 |
| *Grade G Step 5 | | |
| TOWN CLERK | 71,388** | 73,905*** |
| **Grade G Step 10 | | |
| ***Grade G Step 11 | | |

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 5. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the vote taken pursuant to Article 4 of the May 4, 2019 Annual Town Meeting by changing the wage ranges for the following Non-Union employees as shown.

SCHEDULE II

Appointed Officials

| | <u>Grade</u> | <u>Current FY2020</u> | | <u>Requested FY2020</u> | |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------|---------|
| <u>SALARIED</u> | | Start | End | Start | End |
| TOWN ADMINISTRATOR | J | 89,651 | 110,332 | 92,811 | 114,221 |
| TOWN ACCOUNTANT | G | 58,291 | 71,388 | 60,346 | 73,905 |
| CHIEF OF POLICE | I | 81,501 | 100,301 | 84,373 | 103,837 |
| DPW SUPERINTENDENT | H | 74,094 | 91,183 | 76,703 | 94,397 |
| DIRECTOR OF HEALTH | G | 58,291 | 71,388 | 60,346 | 73,905 |
| LIBRARY DIRECTOR | G | 58,291 | 71,388 | 60,346 | 73,905 |
| WPCF SUPERINTENDENT | H | 74,094 | 91,183 | 76,703 | 94,397 |
| <u>HOURLY</u> | | | | | |
| EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT | E | 21.66 | 26.67 | 22.43 | 27.61 |
| POLICE LIEUTENANT | G+8.5% | 36.51 | 39.52 | 36.59 | 40.60 |
| POLICE CUSTODIAN | A | 14.52 | 17.54 | 15.03 | 18.50 |

Informational Only: Fiscal Year 2020 budgeted wages

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------|---------------------|--------|
| TOWN ADMINISTRATOR | 114,221 | DPW SUPERINTENDENT | 94,397 |
| TOWN ACCOUNTANT | 73,905 | DIRECTOR OF HEALTH | 64,985 |
| CHIEF OF POLICE* | 109,033 | LIBRARY DIRECTOR | 69,301 |
| POLICE LIEUTENANT | 39.61 | WPCF SUPERINTENDENT | 94,397 |
| EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT | 27.61 | POLICE CUSTODIAN | 16.59 |

*includes add'l 20% educational incentive pay

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 6. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$21,559 for the purpose of funding a Wage Adjustment for the pay schedule for elected officials shown on Schedule I for Fiscal Year 2020 as set forth under Article 4 of this warrant and non-union employees shown on Schedule II for Fiscal Year 2020 as set forth under Article 5 of this Warrant, with increases to be paid retroactively to July 1, 2019, with \$18,133 to be raised from Free Cash, \$212 to be raised from Airport Retained Earnings and \$3,214 to be raised from Sewer Retained Earnings.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 7. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$12,500 for the purpose of purchasing and installing cable related equipment for MCTV and anything incidental or related thereto, said sum to be raised from PEG Access Funds Receipts Reserved for Appropriation.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 8. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,821, or any other amount, for the purpose of paying prior year bills of the Tree Warden, DPW, Building Inspector and Police operating budgets, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

AMENDED ARTICLE: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,821, for the purpose of paying prior year bills: \$429 for the Tree Warden, \$34 for the DPW, \$220 for the Building Inspector and \$1,138 for Police Department operating budgets, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE AS AMENDED

ARTICLE 9. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$158,002 for the purpose of paying prior year bills of the WPCF operating budget, said sum to be raised from Sewer Retained Earnings.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 10. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of remediating inflow and infiltration in Millers Falls, including any and all incidental costs related thereto, said sum to be raised from Sewer Retained Earnings.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 11. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of repairing or replacing all or part of the Unity Park Fieldhouse roof and related appointments, including any and all incidental costs related thereto, said sum to be raised from Free Cash, and to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept any grants, gifts or reimbursements in connection therewith.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 12. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$268,670 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a new or used street sweeper, including any and all incidental and related costs, with \$243,670 to be raised from Free Cash and \$25,000 from the amount appropriated pursuant to Article 20 of the May 4, 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 13. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the purpose repairing the steel framing of the Town Hall front door awning, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 14. MOVED: That the Town vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to negotiate and enter into a Tax Agreement pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 38H(b), or any other enabling authority, between the Town of Montague and SolarGrid, LLC, its successor, assignee or affiliate, on such terms and conditions and for such term as negotiated by the Board of Assessors, for payment in lieu of taxes related to personal and/or real property associated with a solar renewable energy generation facility to be installed, owned and operated by such entity on land owned by Montague Real Estate Trust located on Millers Falls Road and identified as Assessor's Parcel 23-0-67; and further to authorize the Board of Assessors to take such action as may be necessary to carry out the vote taken hereunder.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 15. MOVED: That the Town vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to negotiate and enter into a Tax Agreement pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 38H(b), or any other enabling authority, between the Town of Montague and Kearsarge Turners Falls RE LLC, its successor, assignee or affiliate, on such terms and conditions and for such term as negotiated by the Board of Assessors, for payment in lieu of taxes related to personal and/or real property associated with a solar renewable energy generation facility to be installed, owned and operated by such entity located on Turnpike Road, Turners Falls, MA and identified as Assessor's Parcel ID 14-0-214; and further to authorize the Board of Assessors to take such action as may be necessary to carry out the vote taken hereunder.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 16. MOVED: That the Town vote to authorize the Board of Assessors to enter into a Tax Agreement pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 38H(b), or any other enabling authority, between the Town of Montague and FirstLight MA Hydro LLC f/k/a FirstLight Hydro Generating Company, its successor, assignee or affiliate, on such terms and conditions and for such term as negotiated by the Selectboard and the Board of Assessors, for payment in lieu of taxes related to personal and/or real property identified as Assessor's Parcel ID 08-0-1 (15 Cabot Street), Parcel ID 05-0-151 (26 Power Street) and Parcel Account 538 (Personal Property) all as set forth in said Tax Agreement; and further to authorize the Board of Assessors to take such action as may be necessary to carry out the vote taken hereunder.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 17. MOVED: That the Town vote to acquire by purchase or gift a fee interest or permanent easement in, on and under all or a portion of land shown on a plan entitled "Proposed Access and Utility Easement Plan of Land in Montague, Massachusetts," dated May 13, 2019, prepared by Harold L. Eaton Associates, Inc., said plan on file with the Town Clerk, said parcel now or formerly of the Turners Falls Fire District, specifically for the purpose of access and installing, operating and maintaining utilities to two properties of the Town located at 128 Turners Falls Road, Turners Falls (new Montague Department of Works facility) and at 178 Turnpike Road, Turners Falls (Montague Police Station).

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

Town of Montague
Combining Balance Sheet
Year Ended June 30, 2019

| Assets | General Fund | Special Revenue | Capital Projects | Enterprise Fund | Trust & Agency | Total Memo-Only |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Cash | 4,950,475 | 487,453 | 1,959,645 | 511,899 | 2,208,708 | 10,118,180 |
| Receivables: | | | | | | |
| Property Taxes | 737,804 | | | | | 737,804 |
| Excise Taxes | 152,346 | | | | | 152,346 |
| Tax Liens | 325,789 | | | 267,921 | | 593,710 |
| Tax Foreclosures | 303,914 | | | 1,261 | | 305,175 |
| Departmental | 1,320 | | | 345,763 | | 347,083 |
| Allowance For Abatements | (2,257,993) | | | | | (2,257,993) |
| Due Froms | 17,390 | 278,069 | 139,533 | 76,517 | | 511,509 |
| Total Assets | 4,231,045 | 765,522 | 2,099,178 | 1,203,361 | 2,208,708 | 10,507,814 |
| Liabilities | | | | | | |
| Warrants Payable | 121,937 | 38,096 | 53,153 | 59,696 | | 272,882 |
| Accrued Payroll | 48,229 | 7,958 | | 8,965 | | 65,152 |
| Withholdings Payable | 62,702 | | | | | 62,702 |
| Due Tos | 158,697 | | | | | 158,697 |
| Other Liabilities | 97,974 | 9,584 | | 50 | | 107,608 |
| Deferred Revenue: | (848,430) | | | 606,160 | | (242,270) |
| Notes Payable | | | - | | | - |
| Total Liabilities | (358,891) | 55,638 | 53,153 | 674,871 | - | 424,771 |
| Fund Balance | | | | | | |
| Reserved For Cont. Approp. | 768,734 | 709,884 | 2,046,025 | 37,440 | | 3,562,083 |
| Reserved For Expenditures | 470,044 | | | | | 470,044 |
| Reserved for Principal Undesignated Fund Balance | 3,351,158 | | | 491,050 | 184,455 | 5,866,461 |
| Total Fund Balance | 4,589,936 | 709,884 | 2,046,025 | 528,490 | 2,208,708 | 10,083,043 |
| Total Liabilities and Fund Balance | 4,231,045 | 765,522 | 2,099,178 | 1,203,361 | 2,208,708 | 10,507,814 |

Town of Montague
Combining Income Statement
Year Ended June 30, 2019

| Revenues | General Fund | Special Revenue | Capital Projects | Enterprise Fund | Trust & Agency | Total Memo Only |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| General Government | 20,907,155 | 729,733 | | | 35,099 | 21,671,987 |
| Public Safety | 215,984 | 276,152 | | | 4,829 | 496,965 |
| Education | | | | | 2,862 | 2,862 |
| Public Works | 267,640 | 723,819 | | 2,330,544 | 2,384 | 3,324,387 |
| Human Services | 98,171 | 27,428 | | | 341 | 125,940 |
| Culture/Recreation | 5,442 | 96,782 | | | 1,376 | 103,600 |
| Intergovernmental | | | 419,841 | 68,453 | | 488,294 |
| Miscellaneous | | 85,111 | 73,927 | 442 | | 159,480 |
| Proceeds from Notes/Bonds | | | 6,273,047 | | | 6,273,047 |
| Transfers In | 53,465 | | - | 212,443 | 325,981 | 591,889 |
| Total Revenues/OFS | 21,547,857 | 1,939,025 | 6,766,815 | 2,611,882 | 372,872 | 33,238,451 |
| Expenditures | | | | | | |
| General Government | 1,193,814 | 792,255 | 20,400 | | | 2,006,469 |
| Public Safety | 2,053,560 | 270,469 | | | - | 2,324,029 |
| Education | 10,785,498 | | | | 1,650 | 10,787,148 |
| Public Works | 1,978,743 | 717,593 | 1,040,770 | 1,440,724 | | 5,177,830 |
| Human Services | 247,468 | 31,196 | | | | 278,664 |
| Culture/Recreation | 533,302 | 95,244 | | | | 628,546 |
| Debt | 625,348 | | | 363,128 | | 988,476 |
| Intergovernmental | 198,697 | | | 56,460 | | 255,157 |
| Miscellaneous | 2,470,358 | 17,906 | | 318,428 | | 2,806,692 |
| Transfers Out | 538,424 | | | - | 53,465 | 591,889 |
| Total Expenditures/OFU | 20,625,212 | 1,924,663 | 1,061,170 | 2,178,740 | 55,115 | 25,844,900 |
| Net Revenues - Expenditures | 922,645 | 14,362 | 5,705,645 | 433,142 | 317,757 | 7,393,551 |
| Beginning Fund Balance | 3,667,291 | 695,522 | (3,659,620) | 95,347 | 1,890,952 | 2,689,492 |
| Ending Fund Balance | 4,589,936 | 709,884 | 2,046,025 | 528,489 | 2,208,709 | 10,083,043 |

Town of Montague
Special Revenue Fund Activity
Year Ended June 30, 2018

| Name | Balance 7/1/2018 | Receipts | Expended | Balance 7/15/2019 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|
| Police Extra Duty | (19,525) | 220,637 | 221,111 | (19,999) |
| Ins Reimb < \$20K | 6,572 | 18,338 | 18,338 | 6,572 |
| Chapter 90 | - | 664,271 | 662,461 | 1,810 |
| MoD ADA Planning Grant | - | 29,951 | 29,951 | - |
| MoD ADA Project Grant | - | 45,000 | 45,000 | - |
| State Personnel Grant | | | 10,000 | (10,000) |
| IT Grant (Treasurer) | | 34,945 | 34,945 | - |
| Early Voting Grant | 899 | 1,208 | 2,107 | - |
| Comm Compact Mills | 31,100 | | | 31,100 |
| Wetlands Protection | 17,113 | 1,187 | 137 | 18,163 |
| Agriculture Commission | | 1,583 | 1,577 | 6 |
| River Culture Grant | 13,081 | 7,740 | 13,570 | 7,251 |
| ConComm SRRHMF Gifts | 6,000 | | | 6,000 |
| MVP Planning Grant | 5,317 | 27,250 | 12,257 | 20,310 |
| Green Communities Grant | 30,978 | 21,497 | 32,229 | 20,246 |
| Turners Falls Cultural District | - | 5,000 | 3,315 | 1,685 |
| CDBG FCRHA | - | 418,554 | 418,554 | - |
| Complete Streets | (3,818) | 12,467 | 8,649 | - |
| Montague City Rd Flooding | | | 33,146 | (33,146) |
| Comm Dev Discretionary | 67,003 | 11,117 | 23,421 | 54,699 |
| 911 Grant | 531 | 6,488 | 5,300 | 1,719 |
| K-9 Vehicle Donations | 12,076 | | | 12,076 |
| Police Equipment/Technology | | 18,880 | 18,880 | - |
| Drug Forfeiture | 1,584 | 4,133 | 1,600 | 4,117 |
| K-9 Donations | 591 | 10,440 | 4,719 | 6,312 |
| Memorial Tree | 359 | 840 | 365 | 834 |
| Miller Falls Tree Planting | | | 3,759 | (3,759) |
| Eversource Flail Lease | - | 48,744 | 48,744 | - |
| Recycling Dividends Program | 12,853 | 7,200 | 2,785 | 17,268 |
| State COA Grant | 17 | 23,035 | 23,052 | - |
| COA Memorial Gifts | 7,588 | 4,391 | 308 | 11,671 |
| Program Income | 7,862 | 2 | 7,837 | 27 |
| State Aid to Library | 45,925 | 13,816 | 3,850 | 55,891 |
| Library Traprock Grant | 667 | 350 | 445 | 572 |
| Library Donations | 24,274 | 4,801 | 3,003 | 26,072 |
| Skatepark Donation | 3,069 | 4,114 | 4,363 | 2,820 |
| Arts Council | 877 | 7,204 | 5,833 | 2,248 |
| War Memorial Grant | 10,507 | | 660 | 9,847 |
| PEG Access Funds | - | 12,500 | 12,500 | - |
| Battlefield Grant | (72,611) | 72,611 | 5,406 | (5,406) |
| Total Fund 225 | 223,842 | 857,048 | 822,267 | 258,623 |

Town of Montague
Special Revenue Fund Activity
Year Ended June 30, 2019

| Name | Balance 7/1/2018 | Receipts | Expended | Balance 7/15/2019 |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|
| Sale of Cemetery Lots | 3,800 | - | | 3,800 |
| Sale of Real Estate | 138,206 | | | 138,206 |
| Total Fund 226 | 142,006 | - | - | 142,006 |
| Recreation Revolving | (2,900) | | | (2,900) |
| Total Fund 227 | (2,900) | - | - | (2,900) |
| Colle Operations | 345,526 | | | 345,526 |

TOWN OF MONTAGUE
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS ACTIVITY SCHEDULE
6/30/2019

| <u>Account</u> | <u>Balance</u> <u>7/1/2018</u> | <u>Bonds</u> | <u>Other</u> | <u>Transfer</u> <u>In/Out</u> | <u>Expended</u> | <u>Balance</u> <u>6/30/19</u> |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Skateboard Park | (97,000) | 97,000 | | | - | - |
| MF Industrial Park | 15,360 | | | | | 15,360 |
| Soil Stabilization | (78,000) | 78,000 | | | | - |
| Stabilize Strathmore | (4,600) | | | | 20,400 | (25,000) |
| DPW Facility | | 2,503,000 | | | 559,730 | 1,943,270 |
| Airport | 4,622 | | 368,828 | | 248,173 | 125,277 |
| WPCF | (3,500,002) | 3,668,974 | 51,013 | | 232,868 | (12,883) |
| Totals | <u>(3,659,620)</u> | <u>6,346,974</u> | <u>419,841</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,061,171</u> | <u>2,046,024</u> |

TOWN OF MONTAGUE
DEBT STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

| | Outstanding 07/01/18 | Issued FY2019 | Retired FY2019 | Outstanding 06/30/19 | Interest FY2019 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| LONG TERM DEBT | | | | | |
| Water Pollution Control Facility | 5,243,992 | 3,614,047 | 247,251 | 8,610,788 | 187,602 |
| Town | 3,878,250 | 2,659,000 | 380,758 | 6,156,492 | 152,209 |
| TOTAL LONG TERM DEBT | 9,122,242 | 6,273,047 | 628,009 | 14,767,280 | 339,811 |
| SHORT TERM DEBT | | | | | |
| Tax Anticipation Notes | - | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | - | 7,750 |
| Bond Anticipation Notes | 3,784,454 | | 3,784,454 | - | 30,880 |
| Grant Anticipation Notes | - | | | | |
| Other Short Term Debt | | | | | |
| TOTAL SHORT TERM DEBT | 3,784,454 | 2,000,000 | 5,784,454 | - | 38,630 |

BONDS AUTHORIZED AND UNISSUED

Long-term debt authorizations that have not been issued or rescinded as of June 30, 2019 are as follows:

| <u>Purpose</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| WPCF Solar Facility | 521,000 |
| DPW Facility | 8,643,762 |
| Strathmore Abatement | 385,000 |
| | <u>\$ 9,549,762</u> |

TOWN OF MONTAGUE
REVENUE DETAIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

GENERAL FUND

General Revenue

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Taxes (net of refunds) | |
| Personal Property | \$ 2,571,883 |
| Real Estate | 15,152,775 |
| Tax Liens Redeemed | 33,981 |
| Tax Foreclosures | - |
| Motor Vehicle Excise | 821,525 |
| Boat Excise | 1,816 |
| Penalties & Interest on Taxes | 154,148 |
| RMV Non-Renewal Surcharge | 12,760 |
| Payments in Lieu of Taxes | 10,000 |
| Trailer Park Taxes | 5,040 |
| Meals Tax | 53,850 |
| Total Taxes | <u>18,817,778</u> |

State Revenues

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| State Owned Land | 177,124 |
| Abatements to Veterans/Elderly | 54,555 |
| Unrestricted Local Aid | 1,481,823 |
| Court Fines | 3,450 |
| Comm MA Motor Vehicle Infractions | 4,221 |
| Other State Revenue | 35,751 |
| Veteran's Benefits (State Reimb) | 63,252 |
| Total State Revenue | <u>1,820,176</u> |

Other

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| FCTS/GMRSD SRO Reimb | 114,055 |
| Earnings on Investments | 28,236 |
| Miscellaneous Revenue | 3,859 |
| Kearsarge Rental | 155,922 |
| Discount from Sale of Debt | (58,042) |
| Transfers from Other Funds | 53,465 |
| WPCF Overhead to Town | 48,296 |
| Total Other | <u>345,791</u> |

Departmental Revenue

| | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Board of Selectmen | 28,400 |
| Board of Assessors | 3,749 |
| Treasurer/Collector | 15,621 |
| Town Clerk | 26,201 |
| Planning & Conservation | 1,232 |
| Zoning Board of Appeals | 675 |
| Police | 36,177 |
| Dispatch | 8,760 |
| Building | 121,000 |

TOWN OF MONTAGUE
REVENUE DETAIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

GENERAL FUND

General Revenue, continued

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sealer of Weights & Measures | 3,270 |
| Dog Licenses | 11,026 |
| Hwy - Trash | 256,843 |
| Hwy - Other | 10,797 |
| Board of Health | 28,762 |
| Council on Aging - Gill Reimbursement | 6,158 |
| Libraries | 5,442 |
| Total Departmental Revenue | <u>564,113</u> |
| Total General Fund Revenue | <u><u>\$ 21,547,858</u></u> |

AIRPORT ENTERPRISE FUND

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Airport PILOTS | \$ 9,770 |
| Rentals/Leases | 27,727 |
| Investment Income | 29 |
| Federal & State Grants (to CPF) | - |
| Miscellaneous | - |
| Transfer from General Fund (Tax Share) | 12,443 |
| Total Airport Enterprise Fund Revenue | <u><u>\$ 49,969</u></u> |

WPCF ENTERPRISE FUND

| | |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Tax Liens Redeemed | \$ 150 |
| Sewer Liens Redeemed | 60,437 |
| Interest & Demands | 7,357 |
| Industrial Sewer Fees | 415,437 |
| Residential Sewer Fees | 1,598,066 |
| Septage Fees | 211,265 |
| META Grant | 14,500 |
| MA CEC Grant | 53,460 |
| Sewer Permits | 335 |
| Investment Income | 3 |
| Miscellaneous Receipts | 903 |
| MWPAT Subsidy Revenue | - |
| Transfer from General Fund (Tax Share) | 200,000 |
| Total WPCF Enterprise Fund Revenue | <u><u>\$ 2,561,913</u></u> |

AIRPORT COMMISSION

The Turners Falls Municipal Airport, overseen by the Airport Commission, completed multiple projects in 2019 totaling just under a quarter million dollars. The Airport Master Plan Update, a multi-year project was completed in February and approved by both the Federal Aviation Administration and Massachusetts Department of Transportation Aeronautics Division. Other projects completed in 2019 include the purchase of snow removal and grounds maintenance equipment, and continued vegetation management. Airport growth both in revenue and overall operations has seen significant success over the last 2 years, and with a sound economy will continue to increase in 2020.

With the completion of the Airport Master Plan the commission can now begin to develop a plan for the growth and financial future of the airport. The plan details several large scale projects that are critical to the continued growth and overall development of the facility. Projects include the potential acquisition of the “Pioneer Aviation” property, located off of Industrial Blvd. Currently this is a privately held property that houses the fueling, maintenance, and pilot training sites for the entire airport. It is critical to obtain control of these to insure the viable financial and overall success of the airport in years to come as outlined in the Master Plan. Other projects listed in the Master Plan include a runway expansion project that would bring the total runway length to 4,200ft, a total increase of 1,000ft from current length. This would allow for larger aircraft to meet strict insurance requirements for landing and takeoff distances that current facilities do not meet. Although these projects do not have a timeline, it is expected that some if not all will be completed in the next 5 to 10 years, pending no unforeseen or unplanned problems.

In late spring the Airport Commission took delivery of a brand new Western Star dump truck outfitted for snow removal. Along with the larger truck, a state grant allowed for the purchase of a pickup truck with a snowplow. The winter of 2019-2020 will be the first season that the airport will perform all snow clearing in house. Overall the cost to purchase the equipment was obtained from a state and federal grant, with only a small local share of 5% of total project cost. Since this is the first season of conducting the work in house hard numbers are not available yet, however the expected annual savings is about \$4,500. Another benefit besides the cost savings, the airport will now have more control over timing of the snow removal process around daily operations.

Over the summer the airport initiated a green energy program to help reduce overall carbon emissions and operator fatigue. All hand held gas powered grounds maintenance equipment was replaced with high efficiency battery powered units. The large area “zero turn” mower was also replaced with a battery unit complete with a solar panel recharging canopy. Anything that could not be replaced with battery due to horsepower requirements was converted to propane. In most cases the conversion from gas to propane resulted in an energy efficiency increase of 17%-22%. Also replaced as part of this program were outdoor lighting fixtures, runway approach lighting, and some obstruction beacon lighting resulting in a 9.4% decrease in electricity use. Overall these replacements and upgrades are estimated to reduce the carbon footprint of the facility by 5.43 metric tons annually. Several larger green program projects are planned for 2020 that will continue to reduce the carbon output of the airport.

In the late fall of 2019 the first new general aviation hanger in almost 24 years was constructed and completed on the airport. This new hanger will help the airport by generating additional revenue and create storage locations for up to 3 new aircraft. Continued development of the facility is crucial to both the sound financial future as well as the attraction of additional based aircraft. The commission was able to secure the new hanger into a 10 year land lease agreement, typical of the other existing units on the airport.

The intern / co-op student position continues to benefit the airport. The program in its second year now has resulted in a drastic reduction to the workload of the airport manager. With more available time the manager was able to secure \$242,554.30 in state and federal grants to improve the facility. The student positions consists of bi-weekly work, averaging 10 hours per workweek. The airport manager is the only permanent position, and is budgeted to work 19 hours per week, weekly. Duties for the airport manager and the student position include but are not limited to snow removal, mowing, grounds upkeep, lighting system repairs and LED upgrades, grant writing, payment and bill processing, and public relations.

Currently the Turners Falls Municipal Airport is home to 38 aircraft, an increase from 35 based aircraft in 2018. The airport is the home to Fly Pioneer Valley, a long term business offering all aspects of flight training. Pioneer Aviation, the sole fuel and maintenance provider on the airfield has called Turners Falls Airport home since 1970. The airport also has established a strong work ethic with the Franklin County Technical School which abuts airport property. The school has on many occasions provided the airport with quality and cost effective work to maintain and improve the grounds and systems.

Airport Commission:

Peter Golrick
David Brule
Seth Rutherford
R. Keith LaRiviere
Gary Collins

Airport Manager:

Bryan Camden

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Listed below are figures taken from the FY2019 Tax Recapitulation Sheet.

Fiscal Year 2019 Tax Recapitulation

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Total Appropriations | \$ 23,723,001.00 |
| Offsets to Cherry Sheet | 14,094.00 |
| State Assessments | 97,873.00 |
| Overlay for abatements/exemptions | 424,470.23 |

Total to be Raised **\$ 24,259,438.23**

Estimated Receipts & Other Revenue Sources

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cherry Sheet | \$ 1,787,176.00 |
| Local Receipts | 1,423,474.00 |
| Enterprise funds | 2,277,475.00 |
| Free Cash | 505,111.00 |
| Other Available funds | <u>333,090.00</u> |
| | <u>\$ 6,326,326.00</u> |

Taxable Valuation

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Real Property | \$789,984,848.00 |
| Personal Property | <u>100,262,570.00</u> |
| Total Taxable Valuation | <u>\$890,247,418.00</u> |

FY2019 Tax Rate: Residential: \$17.13

Commercial, Industrial & Pers. Prop \$26.19

New Growth: \$ 520,073.00

Total Exempt Value: \$ 141,945,455.00

Total Tax Levy: \$ 17,933,112.23

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul J. Emery, Chairman
Terry A. Miner
Ann M. Cenzano
Montague Board of Assessors

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Building Department experienced a steady flow of permit applications and information requests over the past year.

The online permitting system is proving to be an important asset in achieving our goal of 100% customer satisfaction.

We continue to strive for quality and timely customer service.

The majority of the permits that were issued were for upgrades to existing buildings and repairs.

INCOME FROM PERMIT FEES-2019

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Building Permits | 410 | \$51,257.91 |
| Gas Permits | 62 | \$2,620.00 |
| Plumbing Permits | 91 | \$ 8020.00 |
| Electrical Permits | <u>213</u> | <u>\$13,804.00</u> |
| Total Construction Permits | 776 | \$75,701.91 |
| Annual Inspections | 24 | \$1,440.00 |
| Home Occupation Permits | <u>23</u> | <u>\$410.00</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>823</u> | <u>\$77,551.91</u> |

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

Recommendations on 2019 Budget Submissions

I. Background

The Capital Improvements Committee received requests and began meeting with Montague department heads beginning in November 2019 to evaluate capital needs as outlined in their Special Article Requests. The Special Article Request forms that were adopted and implemented in 2017 continue to serve as the framework for outlining and presenting the capital needs of each department.

This year's report of recommendations summarizes the committee's findings following several months of meetings, research and deliberation and relies upon the same approach to evaluation developed last year. The grading system, explained below, remains relatively the same, with one notable exception being the removal of the grade "highly" recommended in order to prevent confusion the label seemed to generate in the previous year's discussion with the Finance Committee.

This year the CIC initially received twenty-one (21) special article requests. All but three of these were capital in nature. Over the course of several months the department heads were brought in for presentation and discussion of their requests. Through these discussions, and as pertinent information became available, some of the original were reformulated, combined, disaggregated, withdrawn or otherwise modified. This report presents the final slate of requests and the CIC's recommendations following its investigation into said requests.

II. Approach to Evaluation of Requested Articles

Defined Criteria/Rationale Used in Assessing Special Article Requests

Public Safety: Does the capital improvement rectify a safety concern or otherwise prevent a potential public safety issue?

example: Installing the new front porch/egress stairs at the senior center. The old porch egress had stairs with risers that were inches higher than what is allowed by building code, resulting in the potential of a dangerous fall.

Cost Avoidance: Will the capital improvement save the town financially?

example: Replacing the controls at Denton Street sewer pump station. New controls included in the upgrade enhance its reliability and allow the station to be monitored remotely resulting in reduced alarms and need to send crew out to check on the system.

Service Interruption: Does the capital improvement prevent an interruption in services?

example: Replacing the building management system and components at TFHS. Without upgrading and replacing the hardware and software the school would be vulnerable to losing its ability to operate the equipment necessary to control classroom temperatures. Failure of the system would result in school closure.

Other- Any other reason identified and relevant by the CIC.

Grading System

Recommend: Given appropriate budget space, the committee believes that the capital improvement should be funded. The CIC evaluation does not formally consider the question of financial capacity, which is left to the Finance Committee and Selectboard.

Recommend with Reservations: The committee would generally recommend the capital improvement, but may find that elements of the project scope are unclear or incomplete, that it lacks a convincing professional cost estimate, or doesn't address or account for some long term needs and concerns of the town.

Does not Recommend: The committee does not recommend moving forward with the capital improvement as presented. This may be due to the nature or timing of the project, the apparent need for the project, the availability of scope or cost information, or other reasons.

III. Recommendations on Requested Articles

1. Summary Table of FY21 Submissions and Recommendations

The table below offers a summary view of special article requests and CIC recommendations for FY21 capital project spending. Overall, spending associated with recommended articles equals \$576,333, a reduction of 24% relative to the original cost of these requested articles. These recommendations are further explained in section III. 2. The table also lists those requests that were withdrawn from consideration, which are briefly discussed in section III.

| Submitted by... | Project Description | Project Cost | Dept Rank | CIC Recommendation | Recommended Appropriation |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| COA | COA Roof Replacement and Chimney Rebuild | \$90,496 | 1 | Recommend | \$ 50,500 |
| DPW | DPW Discretionary | \$100,000 | 1 | Recommend | \$ 80,000 |
| Planning/DPW | Millers Falls Stair and 7th Street Walkway Repairs | \$41,200 | 1 | Recommend | \$ 36,720 |
| WPCF - STM | Oil Tank and Vault Removal/Replacement | \$51,000 | 1 | Recommend | \$ 51,000 |
| WPCF | Pump and Blower Upgrades | \$235,000 | 1 | Recommend | \$ 100,000 |
| WPCF | Primary Sludge Pump #2 | \$35,000 | 2 | Recommend | \$ 40,000 |
| GMRSD | Hillcrest Façade and Roof Project | \$60,000 | 1 | Recommend | \$ 60,000 |
| GMRSD | Admin Building Masonry Wrap and Entry Canopy Repair | \$50,000 | 2 | Rec w Reservation | \$ 60,000 |
| GMRSD | Sheffield - dividing wall in library | \$20,000 | 3 | Recommend | \$ 20,000 |
| GMRSD | TFHS tennis court re-surfacing (92.7% Montague share) | \$55,620 | 4 | Recommend | \$ 55,620 |
| GMRSD | Building assessment studies | \$21,953 | | Recommend | \$ 21,953 |
| Total | | \$760,269 | | | \$ 575,793 |
| Withdrawn ... | | | | | |
| Libraries | Carnegie Basement Rehab | \$110,000 | 1 | | withdrawn |
| Libraries | Montague Center Library Window Replacement | \$160,000 | 2 | | withdrawn |
| Selectboard | Town Hall Carpeting (awaiting estimate) | \$25,000 | 1 | | withdrawn |
| WPCF | Montague Center Pump Station Rehab | \$150,000 | 2 | | withdrawn |
| WPCF | Septage System Upgrade | \$150,000 | 4 | | withdrawn |
| WPCF | Disinfection System Upgrade | \$250,000 | 4+ | | withdrawn |
| WPCF | Main sewer line replacement (Line from TF, CSO related) | \$500,000 | 4+ | | withdrawn |
| WPCF | Primary Effluent Pump Replacement (screw pumps) | \$600,000 | 4+ | | withdrawn |
| GMRSD | Tractor | \$48,000 | 1 | | withdrawn |
| GMRSD | Hillcrest - bathroom plumbing upgrades | \$100,000 | 7 | | withdrawn |
| Total Withdrawn | | \$2,093,000 | | | |

2. Articles Recommended for Consideration by Annual Town Meeting

WPCF

Oil Tank and Vault Removal/Replacement - \$51,000

The WPCF recently decommissioned the underground oil tank and concrete vault which served the heating system for the administrative building due to apparent leakage believed to be contained within the vault. New above ground oil tanks are in place and the Town is working actively with DEP to accomplish removal of the tank and vault, as well as any necessary remediation. Note: This article would supplement the previously approved \$75,000 for this same purpose at Special Town Meeting on March 5th, 2020. The additional sum is requested due to a more comprehensive quote received subsequent to the original appropriation.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend***

Other: Environmental : Although the oil spill is believed to be contained to the concrete vault, it is very important to remove the tank and vault now and search for and remediate any potential problems. The proximity to the river calls for immediate rectification of the situation.

Cost Avoidance: If the vault and tank were to be left untouched the Town would have to assume responsibility for whatever penalties and fines the DEP may impose.

Council on Aging

Replacement of Council on Aging Roof - \$50,500 (\$35,000 based on estimate, \$15,500 contingency, including \$7,000 for upper chimney repair)

Replace the entire roof on the Council on Aging building. The existing roof is near the end of its life expectancy, with missing shingles evident. Both asphalt and standing seam metal were considered and the asphalt option is ultimately thought to be wisest choice at this time. A quote of \$35,000 was received to replace the roofing. Later it was determined that the chimney which serves the boiler is in need of replacement from the roofline up. A second estimate for chimney replacement was received at a cost of \$7,000. A total contingency of \$15,500, including the chimney work, is recommended to supplement the base cost.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend***

Cost Avoidance: Replacing the roofing before it fails will allow the Town to avoid costly repairs to the roof structure, as well as repairs to the interior finishes, which will arise as a result of inevitable water damage.

DPW

DPW Discretionary Fund - \$80,000

Provide accessible funding for the DPW superintendent to fund purchases of and/or major repairs to DPW vehicles and equipment. Addresses unforeseen expenditures where timeline is of importance. Based on information from the DPW superintendent at the time of the recommendation, this appropriation is expected to return the total DPW discretionary fund balance to approximately \$100,000 at the end of the current fiscal year, consistent with the historical target level.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend***

Service Interruption: Should a vehicle or large piece of equipment fail (without this appropriation) it is quite possible that said equipment could remain out of service, while the Town identifies a method to appropriate funding to repair or replace.

Planning Department/DPW

Millers Falls Stairway and 7th St Walkway Repairs- \$36,720 (\$27,200 plus 35% contingency)

This article would provide funding to repair the traditional walking paths in the villages of Turners Falls and Millers Falls. Specifically the focus is on the walkway between 7th street and High street in Turners Falls (sometimes referred to as the “boardwalk”), and the stairs in Millers Falls leading from West Main Street to Grand Ave. The walkway from 7th to High will need repair to a failed drainage swale, replacement of a broken sidewalk block, and removal of a failed handrail. The stairs in Millers Falls will receive new handrails as well as a repairs to both the stairs themselves and repairs to the walkway leading from them.

A third request for repairs to the walkway from K street to Ave A was withdrawn due to concerns over the failing retaining wall above the walkway and located at Our Lady of Czestochowa, while the Town investigates into the matter further.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend***

Public Safety: These walkways are used by residents and are in need of repairs to enable safe passage. The Millers Falls stairs serve as access for Highland Park. The 7th Street to High Street walkway serves the local neighborhood as well as Hillcrest and Sheffield students walking to school from downtown.

WPCF

Pump and Blower Upgrades- \$100,000 (\$235,000 project leveraging \$135,000 in DEP Gap II grant funding)

Replace coarse bubble diffusers with fine bubble diffusers to significantly reduce electrical costs. This upgrade would reduce electrical costs at the WPCF by up to 30%-40%, which amounts to approximately \$20,000-\$40,000 per year in reduction. By leveraging the Gap II grant funding the Town could see a full return on investment within 5 years.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend***

Cost Avoidance: The Town must use the \$135,000 in DEP Gap II grant funding by the end of the year. The grant can only be used for certain energy conserving projects and at this time there is no other project known which could be practically implemented. The subsidized cost coupled with the strong ROI make this project a must do.

WPCF

Replacement of Primary Sludge Pump #2- \$40,000 (\$35,000 plus \$5,000 contingency. \$15,439.53 to come from prior appropriation of the same purpose, article 19 of 5/7/16 ATM)

Replace existing sludge pump with a new unit. The existing pump is 39 years old and has been maintained in working order far past the expected lifetime of 20 years. Existing pump requires high level of maintenance from staff and new pump technology does not require the same amount of maintenance.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend***

Service Interruption: Lacking a backup pump in working order, if the pumps were to fail, it would cause a disruption to the plant process and threaten the plant’s ability to maintain operations and regulatory compliance.

Cost Avoidance: Replacing the primary sludge pump #2 now will reduce the time spent by staff servicing and maintaining the pump.

GMRSD

Hillcrest Facade repair and Roof Project- \$60,000 (\$49,500 facade repair, \$6,000 roof repairs, \$4,500 contingency)

Repair the brick facade at Hillcrest Elementary School and roof repair. The brick facade is crumbling in several areas near windows and outside corners. Bricks are cracking and mortar is deteriorating which allow water to penetrate the facade where it then freezes and causes further damage. Also there are numerous problem areas with the aging rubber roof which require significant investigation followed by repairs.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend***

Public Safety: The bricks that comprise the facade are becoming loose and will soon pose a threat to public safety if left unrepaired.

Cost Avoidance: The Town can expect compounding damages to the building if repairs to the facade are not initiated soon. The goal is to stave off a roof project which would be in the million dollar range.

GMRSD

Admin Building Masonry Wrap and Entry Canopy - \$50,000 (\$40,500 Masonry Wrap, \$6,500 Canopy, \$3,000 Contingency)

Repair and clad the concrete skirt that wraps the admin building and replace rotted upper trim of the side entrance canopy of the admin building. The protective steel-reinforced concrete skirt which wraps around the admin building approximately six feet above grade is failing. Numerous sections of the skirt have large cracks and in some instances the concrete is pulling away from the building, allowing water to flow into the space, where it can freeze and cause further damage. The same issue is happening with the masonry window sills on the admin building. The loose masonry would be stabilized and then both the skirt and the sills would be wrapped in decorative aluminum and sealed to prevent further damage. This is thought to be a more economical solution to the problem rather than replacing all damaged masonry. This method also provides preventative measures which will help ensure that no more of the aging concrete can split and crack due to freezing water. The canopy which serves the side entrance of the building needs upper trim repair, some areas are rotten and are letting water penetrate the roof structure.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend with Reservations**.* Reservations reflect uncertainty regarding long term adhesion of the lower edges of the flashing to the building. The CIC believes this project can be a cost effective approach to a necessary project but requests that the GMRSD allows the CIC to review and have input to the bid specifications before procurement.

Cost Avoidance: The Town can expect further deterioration and compounding damage to the building if repairs to the masonry and roof are not initiated soon.

GMRSD

Sheffield Dividing Wall- \$20,000 (NON-Capital Request)

Divide the large library in Sheffield into two rooms to provide more instructional space. The large library is being underutilized and a dividing wall is proposed to create much needed space. Electrical and Fire Alarm/Egress modifications will be needed to complete the project and those costs are included in the request. The new private instructional space would be a 46 foot by 23 foot room. The remaining room would remain library space.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend***

Other: With the library space being underutilized and Sheffield being as full as it is, this would seem to be an affordable way to expand the instructional space within the building envelope.

GMRSD

TFHS/GFMS Tennis Court Resurfacing- \$60,000

Resurface all tennis courts at the TFHS so they are smooth, solid playing surfaces. Approximately 400 feet of cracks will be repaired followed by the application of three coats of filler/primer and a final surface coat. New posts to be installed on the doubles court. The MIAA has advised that the defects in the court will become an issue in future seasons and may jeopardize the tennis teams ability to host home matches.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend***

Service Interruption: Without the repair and resurfacing of the tennis courts the MIAA will exclude TFHS from hosting tennis matches, jeopardizing the continuation of the team

Cost Avoidance: Left untreated, the tennis courts may face more serious repair interventions like re-milling or replacement

GMRSD

Building Assessment- \$21,953 (\$7,500 each for Sheffield, Hillcrest. TFHS \$6,953 - 92.7%)

Enhance the district's capital planning with a formal facility assessment of the buildings it owns and leases to help create an action plan for repairs and improvements. The intent is to provide both GMRSD and the Town with a 15 year action plan that will address any required repairs identified or undertake any improvements that will extend the useful life of the buildings.

*Capital Improvements Committee grade: **Recommend***

Cost avoidance: Achieving a better understanding of the current state of the school buildings and their various components and systems will enable the Town and the School District to make repairs and improvements in a timely fashion and hopefully prevent small issues from becoming larger ones. **Withdrawn Articles**

Library

Carnegie Basement Rehab- \$110,000

No certainty of scope of project until architectural study recently contracted for is completed, the request was considered premature.

Library

Montague Center Window Replacement- \$160,000

Uncertainty as to whether this is the required solution. Return on investment for this project is dubious. Alternative ideas that may be more cost effective means to ensure long-term integrity of the building are to be considered.

Selectboard

Town Hall Carpeting- \$25,000

This was withdrawn following discovery of asbestos tile in selected areas under the carpet. The presence of asbestos substantially complicates the project scope and pricing.

WPCF

Montague Center Pump Station Rehab- \$150,000

This is a multi-dimensional project not fully scoped, may require an engineering assessment.

WPCF

Septage System Upgrade- \$150,000

Project would benefit the treatment process, but does not yet have an expected ROI.

WPCF

Disinfection System Upgrade- \$250,000

DEP requires action to be taken to bring the system into compliance. Need engineering specs and cost estimate. Assessment of such is expected in spring 2020.

WPCF

Main Sewer Line Replacement-(Turners Falls line, CSO related) \$500,000

Need an updated quote as this may understate cost. Project is essential to reducing CSO events, may require borrowing and likely better done as a comprehensive set of CSO improvements.

WPCF

Primary Effluent Pump Replacement- \$600,000

Need updated quote. Project requires debt and may best be done as a larger, integrated upgrade.

GMRSD

Tractor- \$48,000

GMRSD is supporting this investment directly through its operating budget.

GMRSD

Hillcrest Bathroom Plumbing Upgrades- \$100,000

Need quote for comprehensive project complete with specifications.

Additional Comments Relative to Withdrawn WPCF Articles

The capital improvements committee met with members of the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) on several occasions. During those meetings a number of plant improvement requests were presented by the administrators of the WPCF. The requested improvements will allow the plant to meet its regulatory requirements, reduce maintenance costs and keep the plant operating efficiently. These improvements total over 1.7 million dollars. During this cycle the capital improvements committee only recommended three separate projects totaling \$275,000. This leaves 1.5 million in unaddressed capital needs.

The WPCF remains one of the town's greatest challenges. Its services are used by the majority of the town's residents and all of the businesses. Many of the requested improvements have been pushed back year over year and are reaching the point where no option will be left but to complete them. Although the CIC role is to review, deliberate and select for recommendation capital improvement request — we always do so under the parameters of available funds. With the WPCF we are aware that the funds are not there.

The plant is currently carrying debt that is 30% of its operating expense. For every \$50,000 in increased operating expense, sewer user rates will have to be increased 2% - 3%. Although sewer user fees are escalating in many neighboring towns, Montague's is still currently one of the highest. Further increasing the fees will only have a negative effect on future growth. These fiscal realities make addressing these issues even more difficult.

Members of the committee felt it was important to highlight our concerns regarding the WPCF in our annual report to the finance committee. We believe that the failure to start seeking solutions outside of standard sewer rate fees and debt for the WPCF could result in fines, costly actions and rapidly increasing sewer user fees.

Respectfully,

Josh Lively, Chairman

Fred Bowman

Steven Ellis

Greg Garrison

Robert Obear

CEMETERY COMMISSION

The Montague Cemetery Commission is a three person commission with oversight of the town's seven municipal cemeteries. The commission's primary responsibility is to ensure that these historic cemeteries are maintained. The town cemeteries are:

- Dry Hill Cemetery
- Town Cemetery
- Burnham Cemetery
- Fairway Avenue Cemetery
- East Mineral Road Cemetery
- Chestnut Hill Cemetery
- Old South Cemetery

For several years, the commission had just one member. Now that the commission is fully appointed, initiatives are being planned for 2020 including a Spring volunteer clean-up at Dry Hill Cemetery, research to secure state grant funding for gravestone repair and restoration, and identification of an appropriate site for a new town cemetery for green burial. The town is currently unable to accommodate burial in any of the town historic cemeteries. Discussion of establishing a new town cemetery dates back to 1998.

Montague Cemetery Commission members:

Judith Lorei
Annabel Levine
Jeri Moran

COUNCIL ON AGING

The Gill Montague Council on Aging serves residents of Montague and Gill who are 55 years of age and older. The two towns fund the Council on Aging and Senior Center proportionately and the Council on Aging receives and administers annual formula grant funds from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs for both towns. Ongoing services provided through the Gill Montague Senior Center include fitness programs, arts and cultural programs, information sessions, referrals to local and state aging resources, food security programs, and opportunities and space for socializing. The Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and is staffed by one 17 hour per week Council on Aging Director and four volunteer receptionists. There is a Friends of the Gill Montague Senior Center volunteer group that advises on programming, raises funds for the Senior Center, and pays for programs and purchases which would not otherwise be funded by municipal budgets or grants. The Senior Center is a meal site for Lifepath's congregate meal program three days per week and has monthly brunches, pot-lucks, and pizza parties.

In FY20, the Council on Aging held 324 exercise classes, 148 yoga classes, 42 Tai Chi classes, 36 writing group sessions, a professionally instructed eight week meditation class, and two Healthy Living series on improving balance and eating healthily. Afternoon social programming includes knitting groups, card playing, bingo, and movies. Free tax preparation services were provided through AARP for 38 clients. The Council on Aging subsidized 384 reduced cost foot clinic appointments. Food security initiatives comprised distribution of over 900 bags of groceries through the Food Bank of Western MA Brown Bag program, 125 Farmers' Market coupon booklets in cooperation with Lifepath, and 350 bags of fresh produce From Red Fire Farm through CISA. Semi-monthly consultations with a local Veteran Service Officer, semi-annual private consultations with SHINE, and quarterly SNAP assistance consults were also provided. The Council on Aging partners with the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts to host a monthly mobile Food Pantry in the Senior Center parking lot. This year the Council on Aging joined with the Montague Tree Advisory Committee to operate a wood bank at the Montague transfer station and we expect to allocate over 20 half-cord units of firewood to Montague residents in need. The average daily attendance at the Senior Center was 45 guest/participants and approximately 24 referrals and problem resolutions were accomplished weekly around issues of elder abuse, food insecurity, benefits eligibility, transportation, Medicare, fuel assistance, Social Security, legal aid, and others.

CULTURAL COUNCIL

The aim of the Montague Cultural Council is to increase the cultural vitality of our town by supporting activities that enrich the lives of residents of its five villages: Turners Falls, Millers Falls, Montague Center, Montague City, and Lake Pleasant. We are part of a network of 329 local cultural councils serving all 351 Massachusetts cities and towns. Montague's cultural councilors are volunteers, appointed by the Select board for a 3-year term.

Through its Local Cultural Council (LCC) Program, the Mass Cultural Council allocates funding to each LCC, and the LCCs distribute those funds in the form of grants for cultural programs. The amount of funding each municipality receives is based on its population; Montague is classified in the lowest funding tier.

In 2019, The Montague Cultural Council had \$6,578 to distribute and awarded 29 grants. This included \$1000 from RiverCulture (RiverCulture gave the cultural council \$2000 in total for the year and we elected to use \$1000 for council sponsored events and add \$1000 to our grant funds. Thank you RiverCulture!). We received 43 applications, and the total amount of funding requested added up to more than \$23,000-- so we turned down some proposals and were only able to offer partial funding to most awardees. Grants ranged in size from \$75-\$300 and were awarded to:

Books Behind Bars documentary and discussion evenings, Nila Patterson's "Collage for Fun" workshop, Angela Rovatti-Leonard's art series for pre-teens and teens, a showcase of youth music and visual arts at the Brick House and the Shea Theater, Richard Widmer's documentary on the Turners Falls Girls Softball team, a performance for children by musician Roger Tincknell, a Makerspace workshop at the library, two radio performances by Karen Werner, Racial Justice Rising's workshop series, Cindi Oldham's exhibition "Trees as Sentient Beings," "The Amazing Beaver" at the Great Falls Discovery Center, a yoga class for children taught by Jacqueline Cappuccio, a performance of Macbeth by Young Shakespeare Players, a series of concerts at Antenna Cloud Farm, Steven Henderson's performance of "Mabel and Jerry- Obstacles to the Altar" at the Gill/Montague Senior Center, Musica Franklin's community nights, The Lovelight Live Show, The Full Snow Moon Gathering and Wampum presentation, Gretchen Krull's "Voices Carry" theatrical performance, Edite Cunha's curated exhibition "Right Up My Alley," Mike Jackson's research of Bagnall's Turners Falls, an exhibition by Exploded View, BIM BAM's performance for children, The Great Falls Apple Corp's Pickling in the Park series, Barbes in the Woods festival, the Good Music makes Good Neighbors festival, and a Piti Theater performance.

Over the course of the year, cultural councilors advised awardees, helped spread the word about their events, and attended programs.

The application window for FY20 grants through the Local Cultural Council program was open from September 1 – October 15, 2019. We received 32 applications for grant funding in FY20 and had \$6290 to distribute. In December, we voted to award grants to 19 applicants. (For more information about the grant process and our FY20 awards, please visit www.mass-culture.org/montague.)

Our council continued to be part of the Mass Cultural Council's pilot program that awarded FY19 LCC grant funds directly to presenters. (The current process is a reimbursement-based system.) We found that this system worked smoothly. Grantees were happy to have the funds up front to cover expenses.

In 2019, we posted and held public meetings approximately once a month at the Gill-Montague Senior Center because of its central location, ample parking, and handicap accessibility. We continue to collaborate with Suzanne LaMonto of RiverCulture to publicize events, support artists and to make the most of our limited budgets and to take advantage of the plentiful talents in Montague. We partnered with Suzanne to host crafts at the three movies in the park offered summer 2019. We also sponsored two concerts during the Great Falls Farmers Market in an effort to boost attendance at the market.

In an effort to educate the cultural community about accessibility, we hosted a workshop by Mass Cultural Council's Charles Baldwin. The participants, who came from Montague as well as neighboring communities, learned about the laws regarding accessibility and ways to work toward compliance. We require that our grant recipients make their events accessible so it was helpful to understand all that can mean. With Charles' help we have some more tools in our toolbox to help culture makers make their work accessible to all.

We hope to see you out and about at some of Montague's many cultural events this year. We have room to add a few more people to our committee in 2020, so if you are interested in joining us, please check the calendar at www.montague.net and try coming to one of our meetings!

Kate Martineau, Chair
Rachel Teumim, Vice Chair
Anne Harding, Treasurer
Dan Brandon
John Furbish
Kathy Lynch
Betty Tegel

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

At this time I would like to congratulate Reggie Stevens equipment Operator and Richard Clough Foreman on their retirement; both of them had at least 30 years of service to the Town of Montague, both were very good at their jobs and leave with large amounts of information. Congratulations to the both of you.

As last winter wound down we found ourselves in pretty good shape with the budget as well as the equipment. As spring rolled in we had Green Pond Rd, leveled and then paved, some of the other project we jumped into the year was with the flooding catch basins on Crocker Ave the new foremen Will Stratford and other figured out how to connect three of the most flooding catch basins and started to put pipe in the ground so the flooding stopped. There is still more pipe to lay down to complete the job, with the rest of the job on Crocker Ave, the total pipe put in the ground to clear this issue up has run about 300 feet in total . When the job is finished early this spring we will then have Crocker paved to complete the job.

As summer went on we continue to have complaints of speeders driving through Montague Center at better than safe speeds, with help from FRCOG and Walter Ramsey and the DPW we came up with a traffic calming plan, part of the plan was to incorporate two traffic calming islands, with DPW and products we have saved from projects pass we were able to put in Granit curbs and crosswalks in front of the post office new crosswalk signs, we also had the line painting company paint the lanes to accommodate the new bump outs and then allowed to put in bike lanes, we still have some more work to do in that area in order to complete. We also milled and paved Main St in Montague Center from the common to Gunn Rd.

This year's projects will include finishing Montague Center and Crocker Ave, as well as all the regular Maintenance we have.

Thank you for all your support here at the DPW, as the new building continues to take shape we are getting very excited to move in it he late spring or early summer.

And Thank You the all of the dedicated employees and their families that make the DPW what it is.

Tom Bergeron Superintendent

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

To the Residents of Montague;

On July 30, 2019 Franklin County experienced a severe thunderstorm cell that moved through the area with high winds, rain, and lightning. Multiple buildings were struck by lightning. While at a house fire in Erving which was struck by lightning, the storm continued to intensify. At approximately 5:00 p.m. Montague Center was in the path of a Micro Burst with straight line winds. Multiple trees and wires were down blocking many roads, crop damage, damage to buildings including a barn that collapsed. A coordinated effort between your Fire, Police, and Highway Departments, Eversource and Emergency Management were able to make roads accessible the next day.

Hazard Mitigation

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) define Hazard Mitigation as any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards such as flooding, storms, high winds, hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes and other such disasters. Mitigation efforts undertaken by communities will help to minimize damage to buildings and infrastructure, such as water supplies, sewers and utility transmission lines. As well as natural, cultural and historical resources.

Planning efforts, like the one undertaken by the Town of Montague and the Franklin Regional Council of Governments, makes mitigation a proactive process. Pre-disaster planning emphasizes actions that can be taken before a natural disaster occurs. Future property damage and loss of life can be reduced or prevented by a mitigation program that addresses the unique geography, demography, economy, and land use of a community within the context of each of the specific potential natural hazards that may threaten a community.

Preparing a Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan before a disaster occurs can save the community money and will facilitate post-disaster funding. Costly repairs or replacement of buildings and infrastructure, as well as the high cost of providing emergency services and rescue/recovery operations, can be avoided or significantly lessened if a community implements the mitigation measures detailed in the Plan.

2019 the Town of Montague Multi-Hazard Hazard Plan was due to be reviewed and updated. The process included the following tasks to name a few;

Review of the Montague 2014 Multi-Hazards Mitigation Plan, assessment of relevancy of existing materials, status of action items and addition of new materials based upon MEMA recommendations and Committee input.

Identifying the natural hazards that may impact the community, and past occurrences of hazards at the local or regional level.

Conducting a Vulnerability/Risk Assessment to identify the infrastructure (i.e., critical facilities, public buildings, roads, homes, businesses, etc.) at the highest risk for being damaged by the identified natural hazards, particularly flooding and brush fires.

Identifying and assessing the policies, programs, and regulations a community is currently implementing to protect against future disaster damages. Examples of such strategies include:

- Preventing or limiting development in natural hazard areas like floodplains, wetlands, drinking water recharge areas, and conservation land;
- Implementing hazard mitigation recommendations in planning documents including the Comprehensive and Community Development Plans, Open Space and Recreation Plans, Emergency/Evacuation Plans that address the impacts of natural hazards; and
- Requiring or encouraging the use of specific structural requirements for new buildings such as buried utilities, flood-proofed structures, and lightning grounding systems that will enhance personal safety and minimize property damage to town residents.

Identifying deficiencies in the current strategies and establishing goals for updating, revising or adopting new strategies.

Identifying specific projects that will mitigate the risk to public safety and damages to both private and public property and infrastructure from natural hazards.

Adopting and implementing the final Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Planning

As I write this we are in the beginning stages of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

This is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation...

Prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, you can practice everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, such as:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

Respectfully Submitted
John Zellmann
Emergency Management Director

ENERGY COMMITTEE

Stayed in regular contact with the prudential districts involved in upgrading streetlights to LED technology, added required qualifications to the scope of work for the RFQ.

Reviewed plans for Shea Theater's new roof to prepare for special town meeting, considered insulation and other energy efficiency measures.

Provided input on power company rates options for new Department of Public Works facility, use of heat pump versus boiler for reduced demand charge.

Monitored issues and progress with the study of heating system options for Sheffield/Hillcrest school buildings, asked questions for clarification. Provided Heating Engineer with data he needed..

Met with Brian Camden about possible solar panel array at the airport, Committee's possible letter of support to the Turners Falls Airport Commission.

Sent information to Police Chief Chris Williams about hybrid police cruiser and connected him with DOER about subsidies for the vehicle.

Researched Eversource program to install Electric Vehicle chargers in town, possible charging companies, costs, and number of EVs by village. Consulted with Town Planner Walter Ramsey and downtown business group about charger locations.

Spoke with Select Board about Net Zero Stretch code, upcoming vote on new International Energy Conservation Code for 2021.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is an appropriations committee of at least five and up to seven residents, who are appointed by the Moderator of Town Meeting. In general, our role is to advise Town staff, the Selectboard, and Town Meeting members about matters pertaining to the use of the Town's financial resources. To fulfill that responsibility in 2019, we met regularly throughout the year. Here is an overview of our work in 2019:

From January through mid-April, the Finance Committee met weekly, often in joint session with the Selectboard, to review and discuss Town department budget requests and special articles for non-capital requests for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20). We asked department heads, boards, and representatives from the Gill-Montague Regional School District and Franklin County Regional Technical School to provide additional information and answer questions about their requests. We also heard from the Capital Improvement Committee and made recommendations on Capital requests for Annual Town Meeting.

Early in the calendar year, we considered and voted recommendations for financial articles on the warrant for the Special Town Meeting that was held on February 19, 2019.

Using our collective understanding of the Town's short- and long-term needs and the Town's Financial Management Policies, we arrived at a balanced budget for FY20 that aimed to provide effective municipal programs and services to Montague's residents while assuring a financially sustainable future. We prepared a report on the budget and sent it to Town Meeting Members in advance of the Annual Town Meeting on May 4, 2019. The FY20 report and reports from prior years are available in the "Annual Budget Information" section of our area within the Town of Montague's website (www.montague-ma.gov).

At the close of FY19, longtime Finance Committee member Michael Naughton stepped down from the committee, creating a one-year vacancy, and at our first meeting in FY20, the committee reorganized itself. After serving as chair of the committee for many years, John Hanold stepped down, and the committee selected Jen Audley as chair.

In September, the committee reviewed the terms and performance of the Compact for Public Education (also known as the "Affordable Assessment") that was forged between the Towns of Montague and Gill and the Gill-Montague Regional School District in 2010. Michael Naughton prepared a summary report, which is available in the "Funding Education" section of our area of the Town of Montague website.

We also considered and offered recommendations for articles on the warrant for the October 2, 2019 Special Town Meeting. Later that month, Richard Widmer stepped down from the committee, creating another one-year vacancy, and Moderator Chris Collins appointed Shauna Wallace and Francia Wisniewski to fill the open seats. Jen Audley, Shauna Wallace, and Francia Wisniewski represented Montague at the MA Association of Town Finance Committees' Annual Meeting at Bridgewater State College on October 26th.

In November and December, we began laying the groundwork for the FY21 budget by deliberating about the FY21 tax rate with the Selectboard, and we started evaluating options for allocating \$800,000 the Assessors released as surplus from the Overlay Reserve.

By the time you read this, our report on the FY21 budget should be available; please look for it on the Town's website and don't hesitate to be in touch if you have questions.

We would like to express our gratitude to Michael Naughton and Richard Widmer for their service to the Town, and to Steve Ellis and Carolyn Olsen for their continued administrative support and counsel.

Jen Audley (Chair), John Hanold (Vice Chair), Fred Bowman, Greg Garrison, Chris Menegoni, Shauna Wallace, and Francia Wisniewski

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

To the Residents of the Solid Waste District:

The Solid Waste District was formed in 1989 to help Franklin County towns manage all aspects of their solid waste – recyclables, organics, hazardous waste, wastewater treatment sludge, and trash. We continue to provide assistance to twenty-one member towns through administrative support, professional consultation, trainings, and outreach to residents and businesses.

A review of recycling tonnage for 2019 shows a decrease in recycling tonnage compared to 2018. District residents recycled just over 2,700 tons of paper and containers. The recyclables were processed at the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility and sold for reuse at domestic and international mills. Towns continued to be paid \$6 per ton of recyclables through calendar year 2019.

In 2019, the District sponsored spring and fall “Clean Sweep” collections for bulky items, electronics, tires, appliances, and anything too big to fit into a trash bag. Over 66 tons of material were recycled or disposed of from the two collections. A total of 664 households participated in these collection events. That is 6% more participation than in 2018.

We held our annual household hazardous waste collection in September 2019. This event allows residents to properly dispose of toxic cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, and other toxic products. A total of 380 households participated in this event. 44% of participants were using the collection for the first time.

We applied for and received grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection worth \$123,000 for District towns. Some grant funding is a result of a town’s successful waste management infrastructure. Other grants include equipment to make town transfer stations more efficient.

If you have questions about District programs, call us at 413-772-2438 (MA Relay for the hearing impaired: 711 or 1-800-439-2370 TTY/TDD), visit our website at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org or visit us at 117 Main St., 2nd Floor in Greenfield.

Jan Ameen - *Executive Director*
Chris Boutwell, Montague - *Vice-Chair*

Jonathan Lagreze, Colrain – *Chair*
MA Swedlund, Deerfield – *Treasurer*

FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2019 Annual Report to Towns

We submit this annual report for 2019 on behalf of the Franklin County Technical School District and its administration, faculty, staff and students.

Enrollment for member towns as of October 1, 2019 was 485 students with town breakouts as follows:

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|----|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|----|
| Bernardston | 28 | Erving | 26 | Montague | 105 | Sunderland | 10 |
| Buckland | 6 | Gill | 12 | New Salem | 7 | Warwick | 6 |
| Colrain | 25 | Greenfield | 100 | Northfield | 27 | Wendell | 11 |
| Conway | 5 | Heath | 5 | Orange | 66 | Whately | 12 |
| Deerfield | 17 | Leyden | 3 | Shelburne | 14 | | |

Franklin County Technical School awarded 121 diplomas to our seniors in June of 2019. Massachusetts students are required to pass the MCAS in order to receive a high school diploma and once again our students were very successful in meeting this high academic standard. The state has adjusted their measures for evaluating district/school accountability and FCTS maintained the equivalent of a Level 2 accountability status. Additionally, the district is meeting targets set by the Department of Education for passing rates of students of high risk with disabilities.

FCTS has the advantage of utilizing vocational students and licensed instructors from carpentry, electrical, plumbing and landscaping to provide maintenance and repairs to our school grounds and facility saving member towns tens of thousands of dollars annually. These shop programs also saved member towns an estimated \$100,000 with the bond authorization projects.

Franklin County Technical School students are learning the value of paid work opportunities through a newly revamped Cooperative Education Program (Coop). There are approximately 50% of our seniors involved in paid Coop jobs related to their vocational field of study.

During the last year, Franklin County Technical School's Advanced Placement (AP) test scores, were recognized by National Advanced Placement Center as one of the Commonwealth's top 18 school districts. The AP District Honor Roll recognizes school districts who have demonstrated significant increases with their AP scores for all areas. Franklin County Tech offers AP courses in Computer Science, Statistics, and English Language and Composition. Franklin County Technical School's technical programs have been busy with community-based projects that are used as learning opportunities. Each year the shop programs, with instructors and students, embrace the authentic work that is done in the communities. Due to the instructional nature of the work, duration of a project may increase, but costs associated with a project to our cities and towns are significantly decreased.

Franklin County Tech's Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, and Landscaping programs established a foundation in collaboration with the Greenfield Savings Bank to build a new home for the community on an annual basis. FCTS is finishing its second new home in Erving and will be starting a new one next year in Greenfield. In Heath, Electrical Students have been upgrading the electrical structure for municipality buildings. In Turners Falls, our Electrical students installed all of the lighting for the new JaDuke's Performing Arts Center, while Welding students have welded steel supports and frames for JaDuke's external AC and HVAC units. Here at FCTS, Electrical students wired our new Veterinary Science Program as well as installing LED lighting, while Auto Technology saves the district a substantial amount of money by maintaining the school's vehicle fleet. Many of our school vehicles are used for our various construction jobs within Franklin County and also provide for athletic transportation, which significantly reduces our overall transportation costs.

Collision repair continues working to provide body work for town vehicles and State Trooper cars. Culinary Arts regularly serves the local Community Senior Center, Chamber of Commerce, Ice carving for Greenfield Winter Fest, and the community Car Show. Cosmetology serves the local Senior Centers, while also providing free hair-cuts, nails, and hand massage service. Health Technology students regularly perform blood pressure, heart rate and health checks for the community. Our Veterinary students work with the Mass Division of Fishery and Wild Life, Franklin County Sheriff's Animal Shelter, work with farm animals, and provide grooming for animals and pets.

FCTS is open during the evening by working in collaboration with REB and GCC to provide adult training for Advanced Precision Machining and Welding & Metal Fabrication. Franklin County Technical School Staff provide evening community events, like Halloween at Tech and Polar Express, which serve hundreds of kids and families.

Franklin County Tech is forward thinking as it continues to review labor demand and market analysis to add new programs and skills to support students to obtain competencies and training to make them competitive in the workplace, college, and career.

Our partnerships with our communities are important for our programs, and we thank those which allow our students the opportunity to practice their trades out in the field.

Respectfully,

Mr. Richard J. Kuklewicz
School Committee Chairman

Mr. Richard J. Martin
Superintendent-Director

Franklin County Technical School District Committee 2019

Bernardston-Bradley Stafford; Buckland-Laura J. Earl; Colrain-Nicole Slowinski;
Conway-Brian Kuzmeskus; Deerfield-David Thiel; Erving-Robert F. Bitzer; Gill-Sandy Brown;
Greenfield-Paul R. Doran, Christopher L. Joseph, Mark M. Maloney, Donna M. Woodcock;
Heath-Arthur A. Schwenger; Leyden-Gerald N. Levine; Montague- Dennis L. Grader,
Richard J. Kuklewicz, Chairperson; New Salem-Bryan Camden; Northfield-Vacant,
Orange-Clifford Fournier; Shelburne – Angus Dun, Vice-Chairperson; Sunderland-James Bernotas
Warwick-A. George Day, Jr.; Wendell-Jeffrey D. Budine; Whately-Donald C. Sluter

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The **Franklin Regional Council of Governments** was created in 1997 with the dissolution of county government. The founders of the FRCOG envisioned a municipal voluntary membership organization that uses a membership fee model to provide regional and municipal services to the small governments of Franklin County and to the region as a whole. **But what does the FRCOG actually do?**

The FRCOG provides two broad categories of service to Franklin County: **municipal service delivery**, and **planning, prevention and preparedness**. The programs and services we provide are developed in response to needs expressed by municipal officials or boards and/or to take advantage of a funding source that benefits Franklin County. Most programs, projects and services are optional; municipalities choose the services they need and want.

All **municipal service delivery** programs but two have voluntary municipal participation, where the town “buys into” work that is difficult to fill with part time expertise. Each program develops a service fee that sensibly and equitably covers the cost of the program. Internally, the COG manages municipal service programs like a municipal enterprise fund, in that revenues and expenses for the program are tracked separately from our general fund.

The FRCOG’s Municipal Service Programs

| <i>Program</i> | <i>Description of Service</i> | <i>Participating Towns</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Collective Purchasing and Procurement | Bidding, bulk purchase and contracting of products and services including highway products and services; fuel; dog tags; elevator and other maintenance. Procurement assistance to ensure compliance with Chap 30b. | All Franklin County municipalities and, as of 2019, most Hampshire County municipalities. |
| Cooperative Public Health Service | Public health services including community sanitation, food safety, Title 5 work, private well water safety, communicable disease control, and public health nursing. | Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Erving, Gill, Hawley, Heath, Leyden, Monroe, Rowe, Shelburne. |
| Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program | Building, plumbing, gas, and electrical inspection services and zoning enforcement. | Ashfield, Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Conway, Erving, Gill, Greenfield, Hawley, Heath, Leverett, Leyden, Rowe, Shelburne, Shutesbury, Whately. |
| Town Accounting | Comprehensive municipal accounting services and shared software. | Ashfield, Bernardston, Buckland, Conway, Gill, Leverett, New Salem, Shelburne, Sunderland, Wendell, Whately, and Williamsburg in Hampshire Co. |
| Franklin County Emergency Communication System | At the request of all Franklin County communities, the FRCOG owns and maintains the emergency communication equipment for Franklin County. | All emergency response units in and/or serve Franklin County municipalities. |
| Regional Emergency Planning Committee | Fulfills the federal mandate that all communities have a hazardous material response plan; all hazards planning and training for emergency responders. | All Franklin County municipalities. |

The FRCOG's **planning, prevention and preparedness** work is varied, and evolves as the needs of the region and its municipalities change and funding sources become available. All of the work in this category is grant funded.

The FRCOG is the state-designated Regional Planning Agency for Franklin County. **Planning**, as a discipline, is the work of ensuring that the region's, and each town's, land use and infrastructure will meet future housing, environmental protection, economic development, and quality of life needs.

Sample Projects by Planning Discipline

| <i>Planning Discipline</i> | <i>Example of Local Project</i> | <i>Example of Regional Project</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Economic Development | Brownfields assessment and cleanup | Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Franklin Cty |
| Land Use | Zoning, Open Space & Recreation Plans | Analysis of regional housing needs |
| Natural Resources | Hazardous response plans, climate vulnerability planning | Watershed-based climate resiliency plan |
| Transportation | Complete Streets analysis; culvert and drainage analysis | Expansion of north-south passenger rail |
| GIS (computerized data analysis and mapping) | Municipal zoning maps | Franklin County Bikeway maps |

Most of the FRCOG's emergency preparedness work is on the regional scale, which includes all of Franklin County, and, in a few cases, the four counties of western Massachusetts. The FRCOG is the fiduciary for Homeland Security funding allocated to western Massachusetts on behalf of the **Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council (WRHSAC)**. In this capacity, the FRCOG prioritizes and manages the expenditure of funds for emergency response equipment and other capital and for small and large-scale training events. The FRCOG also serves as the sponsoring organization of the **Western Massachusetts Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition (HMCC)**. The HMCC coordinates public health and medical emergency preparedness in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire Counties. And the FRCOG coordinates the **Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition (MAPHCO)**, a public health emergency preparedness coalition serving 24 Franklin County towns and two Hampshire County towns.

The final service in this category area is the **Partnership for Youth (PFY)**. The mission of the Partnership for Youth is to prevent substance use and other risky behaviors, and increase healthy eating and active living to improve young people's ability to reach their full potential and thrive. PFY collaborates with school and community partners to establish and support effective youth development and health-promotion programs, provide training and technical assistance with emphasis on evidence-based practices, and involve and empower youth. PFY works closely with the Opioid Task Force to reduce addiction and death by overdose.

Beyond the services described above, the FRCOG represents Franklin County at state and federal levels through advocacy and by serving on boards and commissions, organizes training and workshops for municipal officials, and tries to respond to municipal needs when called upon. To learn more about FRCOG 2019 regional projects and services in your town, look for the *FRCOG 2019 Annual Report* at frcog.org.

GILL-MONTAGUE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019

| <u>SCHOOL COMMITTEE</u> | <u>TERM EXPIRATION (May)</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Jane Oakes, Chair | 2022 |
| Heather Katsoulis, Vice Chair | 2022 |
| William Tomb | 2020 |
| Mike Langknecht | 2022 |
| Cassie Damkoehler | 2020 |
| Timmie Smith | 2021 |
| Jennifer Lively | 2021 |
| Haley Anderson | 2021 |
| Thomasina Hall | 2020 |

Superintendent's Report

The Gill-Montague Regional School District vision is to be ***"A community that empowers every student for continuous learning, active citizenship, and personal fulfillment"***. Under the direction of the school committee, the district's faculty and staff collectively strive towards this shared vision. These aspirations are guided by the district's three-year strategic plan which began implementation in 2017-2020. The plan's details may be found at our website: www.gmrtd.org and its main objectives are summarized below:

Strategic Plan Overarching Objectives:

1. **Rigor:** Increase the frequency and effectiveness of written and oral tasks that develop the skills of analysis, synthesis, evaluation, creativity, problem solving and reflection.
2. **Relevance:** Meet students where they are by doing the following: Frame questions of natural interest; Build upon prior knowledge; Draw upon cultural experience; Provide choices; and Integrate student choices
3. **Relationships:** Develop school wide approaches and classroom practices to teach self-awareness, self-management, and relationship skills as well as active citizenship and multicultural understanding
4. **Rigor and Relevance:** Increase the frequency of assessments and projects requiring the application of concepts and skills in worthy and authentic contexts.

We believe the combination of initiatives being undertaken as part of this strategy will result in increased student achievement, improved student enrollment trends, and more sustainable school finances.

Student Enrollment:

Total student enrollment has gone from 1,000 in 2014 to 936 in 2019. The distribution of student enrollment across the district in the fall of 2019 was as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|
| Gill Elementary (Grades K-6) | 139 |
| Hillcrest Elementary (Grades Pre K-1) | 155 |
| Sheffield Elementary (Grades 2-5) | 217 |
| Great Falls Middle School (Grades 6-8) | 226 |
| Turners Falls High School (Grades 9-12) | <u>199</u> |
| Total: | <u>936</u> |

Finances:

In May, 2019, the citizens of Gill and Montague showed their support for the district with their approval of a FY20 Budget that reflected a 3.9% increase in local assessments from the prior year. The general fund budget for FY20 was \$19,932,858, a 3.9% increase from the FY19 budget of \$19,185,344.

Gill-Montague Regional School District – General Fund
Statement of Revenues and Other Sources, and Expenditures and Other Uses – Budget and Actual
For the Year Ended June 30, 2019 (Unaudited)

| FY19 | Original Budget | Final Budget | Actual Amounts | Variance with Final Budget Positive/(Negative) |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Revenues and Other Sources: | | | | |
| Assessments to member towns | 11,441,330 | 11,441,330 | 11,441,330 | 0 |
| Tuition | 805,000 | 805,000 | 925,903 | 120,903 |
| Intergovernmental | 6,635,014 | 6,635,014 | 6,635,288 | 274 |
| Investment Income | 4,000 | 4,000 | 8,267 | 4,267 |
| Miscellaneous | 0 | 0 | 202,957 | 202,957 |
| Other Sources | 300,000 | 300,000 | 193,717 | (106,283) |
| | | 0 | | |
| Total Revenues and Other Sources | \$19,185,344 | \$19,185,344 | \$19,407,462 | \$222,118 |
| | | | 222,118 | |
| Expenditures and Other Uses: | | | | 0 |
| Administration | 669,519 | 616,926 | 630,577 | (13,651) |
| Instruction | 8,452,985 | 8,483,001 | 8,464,496 | 18,505 |
| Other School Services | 1,334,517 | 1,339,762 | 1,302,828 | 36,934 |
| Operation and maintenance | 1,522,121 | 1,657,837 | 1,723,734 | (65,897) |
| Fixed charges benefits | 4,307,945 | 4,189,561 | 3,959,783 | 229,778 |
| Debt Service | 209,090 | 209,090 | 209,090 | 0 |
| Special education tuitions | 189,167 | 189,167 | 269,917 | (80,750) |
| School choice/charter | 2,500,000 | 2,500,000 | 2,367,643 | 132,357 |
| | | | | |
| Total Expenditures and Other Uses | \$19,185,344 | \$19,185,344 | \$18,928,068 | \$257,276 |
| | | | | |
| Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditure and other uses | | | | \$479,394 |

Gill Elementary School 2018/2019

Overview

Strong academic traditions have continued at Gill Elementary, though not necessarily evident in MCAS results. Gill Elementary is classified as the state as “not requiring assistance or intervention” based on MCAS results. Percentages of students meeting or exceeding expectations are shown below. Notable differences between school performance and state performance exist in some areas.

Spring 2019 MCAS Performance: Students Meeting or Exceeding Expectations

| | Gill Students | State | Difference |
|-------------|---------------|-------|------------|
| 3rd ELA | 55% | 56% | -1% |
| 3rd Math | 45% | 49% | -4% |
| 4th ELA | 17% | 52% | -35% |
| 4th Math | 28% | 50% | -22% |
| 5th ELA | 48% | 52% | -4% |
| 5th Math | 28% | 48% | -20% |
| 5th Science | 48% | 49% | -1% |
| 6th ELA | N/A | 53% | N/A |
| 6th Math | 30% | 52% | -20% |

Students and Staff

Gill Elementary School's enrollment remained stable during the 2018/29 school year with a starting enrollment of 127 students.

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Kindergarten | 16 Students |
| First Grade | 14 Students |
| Second Grade | 19 Students |
| Third Grade | 20 Students |
| Fourth Grade | 19 Students |
| Fifth Grade | 25 Students |
| Sixth Grade | 14 Students |

Just over 50% of the Gill Elementary student population is made up of school choice students. 48.4% of students were from the town of Gill and 29.9% were intra-district choice from Montague. 20.5% were from towns outside the Gill-Montague Regional School District. The breakdown is as follows:

| Town | Number of Students | % of All Students |
|------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Gill | 63 | 49.6% |
| Montague | 38 | 29.9% |
| Greenfield | 17 | 13.4% |

| | | |
|------------|---|------|
| Northfield | 4 | 3.1% |
| Athol | 1 | .8% |
| Erving | 2 | 1.6% |
| Leyden | 1 | .8% |
| Orange | 1 | .8% |

Academic Program

Responsive Classroom continued to form the core of the social curriculum for grades 1-6. Instructional programs continued to be supported with *Houghton-Mifflin Reading*, *Math Expressions* and *Tools of the Mind* in kindergarten. When possible, students also used iReady and Lexia to supplement their reading skills. Teachers participated in their second year of professional development around the implementation of project-based learning units, and each class implemented at least two of these units. In addition to our in-school academic programs, we ran the *Mad Science* program after school which was available for students in all grades. The ACT program, run by Amy Gordon, ran again last spring as well, culminating with a performance at Town Hall.

School Council

The school council drafted a new school improvement plan with a heavy focus on project-based learning, family engagement and professional collaboration. We spent time analyzing the previous improvement plan and action steps we've taken to meet our goals, and look towards next steps. Our members were Conor Driscoll, Lori Rinaldi, Kristin Carey, Abby Graseck, Melanie Gaier, and Sandra Brown.

Family School Engagement

We continued to have an incredibly strong parent base at Gill Elementary. The PTO ran monthly events that were attended. These included a "Soup and Games" night and a crafts night, a bon-fire, family dance, and outdoor movie screening. They also had several successful fundraisers and were able to donate to classes for field trips, provide \$5 for every student to spend on books at the book fair, and purchase every teacher's classroom wish list at the book fair. We continued to hold monthly School Sings and All-School Meetings as well as to invite parents in on Fridays that didn't have one of those events. This was well received and all classrooms had parents volunteer throughout the year.

Improvements

Gill School continued to work with the town of Gill to resolve ongoing water concerns, replace a boiler destroyed by the flooding water system, plan to replace the roof, plan to revamp the floors, and upgrade the electrical system in the building.

Hillcrest Elementary School, 2017-2018

We are pleased to present you with the School Annual Report, which provides key information about the 2018-2019 progress at Hillcrest Elementary School.

Student Data

Statistics describing the student population served by Hillcrest Elementary School during the 2018-2019 school year may be found below:

- Hillcrest Elementary School served grades PK, K, and 1 with 3 preschool classes, 3 kindergarten classes, 4 first grade classes, and a Therapeutic Special Education classroom.
- There were 155 students enrolled during the school year.
- 58.7% of the students were economically disadvantaged.
- English Language Learners made up 4.5% of our student population.
- 20.6% of our students had educational disabilities.

Overview of School Improvement Goals 2018-2019

Goal 1: Further develop a system for educator shared leadership, collaboration, and job embedded professional development.

Implemented initiatives included:

- Development and implementation of protocols for collaborative lesson planning and review of student work samples
- Implementation of cycle of inquiry in PLCs at each grade level

Goal 2: Develop curricula that reflect current state standards and emphasize student understanding through the application of learning in meaningful contexts.

Implemented initiatives included:

- Updating of curriculum maps in ELA and Science at all grade levels.

Goal 3: Develop a set of clear school-wide instructional best practices with deeper training and explicit commitments to a select few of these each year.

Implemented initiatives included:

- Provided Professional Development sessions on the following Fundamental Instructional Practices
 - FIP #6 Designs group work where students listen carefully to others' thinking and provide responses showing critical engagement with the task.
 - FIP #7 Has students share their knowledge, ideas, or claims through discussion, presentation, debate, or writing.
 - FIP #8 Provides feedback and structures for students to assess/reflect upon their own performance and make adjustments.

Goal 4: Further develop a data driven, tiered system of support focusing on reading support and behavioral support.

Implemented initiatives included:

- Consistent implementation of benchmark data meetings three times per year as well as progress monitoring meetings three times per year.
- Development of instructional focus for each kindergarten and first grade student in ELA groups.

Goal 5: Implement a series of lessons at each grade level focused on age appropriate themes of diversity and social justice.

- Development of a Diverse Books Collection connected to the Teaching Tolerance Social Justice Standards.
- Provided training for staff in the Teaching Tolerance Social Justice Standards.
- Development and implementation of first grade social studies lessons featuring texts from the Diverse Books Collection.

Sheffield Elementary School, 2018-2019

We are pleased to present you with the School Annual Report, which provides key information about the 2018-2019 educational progress for Sheffield Elementary School.

Student Data

Statistics describing the student population served by Sheffield Elementary School during the 2018-2019 school year may be found below:

- The Sheffield School served a 2-5 grade span, with 3 classrooms each for grades 2, 3, 4, and 5.
- Average class size was 18 students.
- Average daily attendance rate was 94.82%.
- There were 243 students enrolled during the school year.

- 100% of children received free or reduced price lunch and the English language learner population was 10 %.
- The overall special education population was 33%. Two substantially separate programs for children with significant disabilities exist in the school; a therapeutic program for children with emotional disabilities and a life-skills program for children with developmental disabilities. Sheffield Elementary practices inclusion as well as pull-out for children with special needs.

On the 2018-2019 MCAS, Sheffield received the status school without required assistance or intervention.

Overview of School Improvement Goals 2018-2019: The 2018-2019 school year the Sheffield School Council identified five main focal points for the Sheffield Elementary School Improvement Plan.

Goal 1: Further develop a system for educator shared leadership, collaboration, and job embedded professional development.

Goal 2: Develop curricula that reflect fidelity to current state standards and emphasize student understanding through the application of learning in meaningful contexts.

Goal 3: Develop a shared understanding of a set of school-wide instructional best practices. (Commit to implementation of a sub-set of these in current year. Provide training, support, and accountability for these.)

Goal 4: Further develop and implement a data driven, tiered systems of support for students who struggle in reading, writing, math, or behaviorally.

Goal 5: Further develop a school culture of active citizenship and inclusive of all staff and students.

Great Falls Middle School, 2018-2019

Great Falls Middle School enrolls approximately 250 students in grades six through eight. A team structure, common planning time, flexible scheduling, and a philosophy that addresses the needs of early adolescents are what set us apart from junior highs and many other middle schools. We take great pride in the quality of the education that we offer our students, and in the cooperative and productive atmosphere where students and teachers work and learn together as a community.

Great Falls Middle School shares its building with Turners Falls High School. While their classroom spaces are separated, the two schools share the library, gymnasium, pool, theater, music room, and cafeteria. The middle school is comprised of three interdisciplinary academic teams, one for sixth grade, one for seventh grade, and one for eighth grade. A fourth team is composed of the teachers of related arts classes that include Art, Physical Education, Health, Math Applications, Reading, Theatre (for grade 7) and World Languages (for grade 8).

All students also participate in Developmental Designs, a model for middle school education designed to create networks of supportive relationships between students and staff and to promote a positive school culture. Students meet three days a week in a small “home base” group and two days a week in all-school morning meeting to build community. The school offers marching band, concert band, chorus, yearbook, as well as student council and the Gender Sexuality Alliance. In addition, many students participate in the inter-scholastic athletics program which includes soccer, football, field hockey, cheer, volleyball, golf, basketball, swimming, baseball, softball, tennis, and track.

This past year was marked by many events that highlight the school’s efforts to build community within and beyond the building:

- New Family Orientations: prior to school opening, families new to our school met the principal and assistant principal, teachers, and other students while getting familiar with the school building.

- The last day of the first week of school always includes the “Great Falls Challenge” field day, where mixed-grade student teams race to answer questions about school facts, figures, and expectations.
- We are fortunate to have the support of the GFMS PTO who fundraise and organize community events. This year the PTO and other organizations from the local community hosted tables at our September back-to-school Open House, and sponsored a spaghetti dinner and talent show.
- With the rest of the Gill-Montague Regional School District, we participated in a food drive which donated hundreds of items to the Montague Catholic Social Ministries pantry.
- The GFMS/TFHS musical production of *Little Mermaid* in March provided middle school students with the opportunity to help produce or perform in a great show.

Turners Falls High School, 2018-2019

Turners Falls High School (TFHS) is a four-year, comprehensive high school. There were approximately 220 students enrolled in 2018-19. TFHS distinguishes itself as a small school with an amazing array of offerings for its size. In addition to course offerings in English, mathematics, science, and social studies, the school offers diverse elective courses including three world languages (Latin, Spanish, and French), business and technology education, (including graphic arts, digital filmmaking, television studio production and a Maker Lab with 3D printing and full wood shop), health education, physical education, art, and music. Many Advanced Placement courses that offer students the opportunity to earn college credit are also part of the curriculum. In addition, the school has partnered with Greenfield Community College’s Educational Transitions Program to provide students with dual enrollment opportunities at no or low cost to their families. Recognizing the importance of providing students with insight into the world of work, internships and school-to-work opportunities are provided for students who want hands-on opportunities for credit.

Students participate in leadership opportunities including Student Council, National Honor Society, and Rise Up, a program which allows students to work on a variety of community service efforts and charitable undertakings. Each Tuesday, the entire community gathers for morning meeting. Each Thursday, students participate in an Advisory that includes team building, upstander/anti-bullying curriculum, and academic check-ins. The Advisory group and their Advisor stay together for four years.

Athletic highlights of 2018-2019 included:

Football

- League Champions
- Lost to Hoosac in WMass Semifinals
- Lost to Greenfield on a Record Cold Turkey Day
- 8 players named all-league
- MVP and Lineman of the year from TF
- Had a Co-op with Pioneer and it went very well

Field Hockey

- Came in second in the league
- Lost to Frontier in WMass Semifinals
- Cassidhe Wozniak became the all-time leading scorer in TF history
- Had 3 players make all league

Volleyball

- Won the league Title
- Lost to Frontier in WMass semifinals
- Had 4 player’s names to all league

Golf

- Missed the playoffs by 1 game
- Had a roster of mostly MS aged players

Boys Basketball

- Lost to Lee in WMass Play in Game
- Tyler Lavin named to all-western mass team and was MVP of Western Mass All Star Game
- Gary Mullins honored at all-star game for his career in coaching

Girls Basketball

- Ed Marvel took over as head coach
- Team played hard but only had 1 win
- Most of the team returns next year

Swimming

- New Coach in Colin Machat
- Jade Tyler and Liv Whittier made all western mass
- Liv made the state meet!

Girls Tennis

- Team struggled to win games but has many players new to tennis

Boys Tennis

- League Champs
- #1 seed in the WMass tourney
- Upset by Lee in the WMass semifinals
- 5 players named all-league

Track

- Large numbers for the team again with many being MS aged
- Dabney Rollins qualified for the West/Central Championship meet

Baseball

- Lost to Lee in WMass play in game
- Had 3 players make the all-league team

Softball

- League Champs
- 5 players made all league
- Western Mass Champs defeating McCann Tech 4-0
- Defeated Hopedale in the state semifinals 9-1
- Lost to Austin Prep 3-0 in the state finals
- Gary Mullins recorded his 700th career softball

Students and staff also participated in a variety of other co-curricular and extracurricular activities in and beyond school:

- TFHS continued to participate in the grant-funded Summer Jobs and Beyond program as part of a partnership with the Franklin Hampshire Regional Employment Board, one of only eleven funded nationally, to support students in career readiness and access to the workforce.
- High school students led the way in community service as visiting helpers in local elementary schools, after-school program staff, sports coaches and refs, blood drive organizers, and more.

- Annual traditions such as the Advisory college door-decorating contest, the Thanksgiving Bonfire, the Ugly Holiday Sweater Contest, the All-District Performing Arts Concert, and Unity Day kept school spirit high.
- For the fourth year, the Senior Walk-through, took our Seniors on a tour of their elementary schools, where they were welcomed and cheered by students and staff as they walked the halls in their caps and gowns.

Turners Falls High School appreciates the community's support of our many activities, athletic events, fundraisers, concerts, musical productions, and field trips and the help of the many volunteers who assist our school.

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Contributors to the Annual Report</u> |
| Michael Sullivan, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools |
| Joanne Blier, Director of Business and Operations |
| Conor Driscoll, Principal, Gill Elementary School |
| Melissa Pitrat, Principal, Sheffield Elementary School |
| Sarah Burstein, Principal, Hillcrest Elementary School |
| Joanne Menard, Principal, Great Falls Middle School/Turners Falls High School |

**BOARD OF HEALTH
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

The 2019 Annual Report of the Montague Board of Health is herewith submitted to the Honorable Select Board and the Citizens of Montague for the calendar year ending December 31, 2019.

Al Cummings remains the Chair of the Montague Board of Health. Al's willingness to be available to serve the community of Montague has led to him coming in to the office to be available and help with the work flow. Al is also on the Soldier's Memorial Trustee's Committee and on the Parks and Recreation Board. When not busy with the committees, Al enjoys spending time with his grandchildren whenever possible.

Michael Nelson's 15 years of dedication and professional experience continue to be an asset to the Board. Michael works full time as a public health emergency preparedness planner for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Michael donates considerable time and expertise to Montague's emergency preparedness program. Michael is also a dedicated Select Board member and is the coordinator of the popular Great Falls Harvest Festival held annually in October.

Christopher Boutwell, Sr. remains the senior member of the Board of Health. Chris has served as an elected member of the Board since May 1997. His dedication to Montague speaks for itself given his long, tireless, service to the town. Chris continues to share his accumulated public health experience with the Board of Health and as a member on the Selectboard. Chris is also a 20 year member of the Franklin County Solid Waste District holding positions on the Executive Board, Vice Chair of the District along being the Montague representative. Chris enjoys spending time with his family and grandchildren when available!

This year we welcomed Daniel Wasiuk to the Montague Board of Health in June as the Director of Public Health. Daniel comes to Montague with a wealth of knowledge from his previous jobs in the towns of Greenfield and Northampton, Massachusetts as well as working and traveling the country for National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) as a Food Safety Auditor/Consultant, Food Assessments and Studies. Daniel graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a degree in Science. Daniel enjoys the Pioneer Valley and the outdoors in general. In his free time you can find him on his skis or on his bike taking in the scenery.

Anne E. H. Stuart joined us as a full time Clerk to the Board of Health in November after serving both the Departments of Planning & Conservation and the Montague Board of Health for the past nine years. These additional hours are welcome due to the increase work load coming in to the Montague Board of Health and the need for Anne's attention to detail in the handling of various permits, complaints and situations that are a daily occurrence here in this office. Anne has the unique ability to meet our permit holders and residents concerns with the care and attention they deserved; which is an asset to the department. Anne holds a BFA in Interior Design and Architecture from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. In Anne's free time is devoted to various profit and non-profit boards in Hampshire and Franklin Counties and currently is President of the Franklin County Advisory Council for 4-H and a member of the Rotary Club of Amherst.

Kathleen Burek continues to serve as the Animal Inspector. Kathy's knowledge about animals and her commitment to the job of Animal Inspector is greatly appreciated. The role of preventing a case of human or animal rabies in town cannot be overstated-that is what Kathy does, it is not an easy job. Kathy excels at her mandated duties including the grueling task of conducting a barn to barn animal census annually. In her off time Kathy raises Nubian goats and chickens and makes award winning cheese!

The following is a partial list of the responsibilities of the Board of Health:

- Ensuring minimum standards for human habitation are met (safe, clean housing).
- Remediation of all sources of filth and disease risk
- Protecting groundwater by overseeing the location of septic systems and private drinking wells
- Ensuring safe food through inspectional services and investigation of complaints
- Investigate nuisances that may effect human health and safety
- Inspect and enforce the law regarding semi-public and public swimming pools
- Investigate all reported animal bites and scratches, and maintain a rigorous rabies prevention program
- Permit and/or inspect body artists, food establishments, schools, septic system installers, funeral directors, beaver, septage haulers, trash haulers, recreational camps for children and mobile/manufactured home, and many other duties as necessary to protect public health.

2019 REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Beaver trapping permit | 1 |
| Burial Permits | 45 |
| Court Appearances/filings | 2 |
| Complaints | 64 Complaints |
| Emergency Preparedness Meetings Attended | 6 |
| Temporary Food Permits and Inspections | ***** |
| Mutton and Meade | 20 |
| Homelands Festival | 03 |
| Old Home Days | 02 |
| RPM Festival | 06 |
| Barbes in the Woods | 05 |
| Airport Event | 02 |
| Home Show/Winter Market | 04 |
| Great Falls Festival | 44 |
| Other Temporary Food Events | 06 |
| Mobile Food Vendor | 01 |
| Total Temporary Food Permits | 93 |
| Annual Food Establishment Permits Issued (Brick and mortar) | 48 |
| Funeral Director License | 02 |
| Hoarding Complaints | 05 |
| Perc Tests | 09 |
| Pumping/Hauling License | 09 |
| Records Searches for Public | 08 |
| Residential Kitchen Permits | 1 |
| Septic Installers Permits | 10 |
| Septic plan review and installation Inspections | 40 |
| Septic Tank Pumping reports | 63 |
| Title Five Reports Reviewed | 30 |
| Tobacco Permits | 09 |
| Trailer Park License | 02 |
| Trash Hauler Permits | 05 |
| Well Permits | 3 |

Animal Quarantines 2019

Humans bitten by
animals 16

Animals with bites of
unknown origin 12

Humans bitten by
Bats 3

Barn Animal Census
2019

56 Barns 735 barn animals
counted

Burial Agent 2019

| 2019 | January - December | | Totals |
|--------------|--------------------|------|--------|
| | Female | Male | |
| January | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| February | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| March | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| April | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| May | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| June | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| July | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| August | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| September | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| October | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| November | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| December | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| Total Deaths | 17 | 27 | 44 |

Board of Health Members

Albert Cummings, Chair
Christopher Boutwell, Secretary
Michael Nelson

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Purpose: In accordance with Massachusetts State Law Chapter 40 Section 8D, the Montague Historical Commission intend to protect and preserve the historical heritage and resources of the town of Montague and its five villages; Lake Pleasant, Millers Falls, Montague Center, Montague City and Turners Falls. To accomplish this mission, the Commission intends to provide, but not be restricted to the following:

- Maintain the integrity of the town's historic districts and its assets therein.
- Support community awareness and interest in Montague's historical heritage, and when applicable, maintain a presence on the Internet in conjunction with the Town's website in order to promote preservation of those assets.
- Preserve a presence as a historical resource in cooperation with other town Boards and Committees as needed.
- Advise the town of Montague in all matters pertaining to the proposed destruction, exterior renovation and or relocation of historical assets in accordance with the Montague.

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Ed Gregory | Chair |
| Suzanne LoManto | Vice-Chair |
| April Reipold | Secretary |
| Jeffrey Singleton | |
| Christopher Clawson | |

MONTAGUE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Calendar year 2019 was a very busy and exciting year for the Montague Public Libraries. Library circulation from the three library buildings increased 6% from the year before. The total circulation, including electronic books, audios, and magazines, was 103,074 items. Building repairs at the Carnegie and Millers Falls Library have improved public safety and working conditions. The Millers Falls Library is undergoing a renaissance. All of the libraries continued to be well utilized as community centers, for their collections, and services including technology access.

The Library Trustees Building Subcommittee continues to be productive. Their survey of the physical conditions of all three library buildings has been used to help obtain funding to repair the Carnegie Library front doors, and the dangerous, formerly swinging, interior glass doors. Money was appropriated for moisture remediation at the Montague Center Library. The Millers Falls Library had masonry repairs, moisture remediation in the basement, and improvements in the structural support system. The exterior was painted by inmates from the Franklin County Jail. A new book return box at the Carnegie ensures that library materials stay dry. The old book return is in use under cover at the rear of the Millers Falls Library. The very drafty book return slot in the side of the Millers Falls Library has been blocked up and covered, improving HVAC efficiency.

The Carnegie Library in downtown Turners Falls is almost always busy. Its circulation increased 6% from 72,310 in 2018 to 76,486 in 2019. The free public computers continue to be very popular. Many library users receive technology assistance from the staff. A 2019 customer service survey filled out by 156 Carnegie Library users highlighted some of the less traditional library uses. 29% of respondents use the copy machine, 26% free computer access, 18% WiFi access, 15% time with children/grandchildren, 10% socializing, and 8% to keep warm in winter/cool in summer. The numerous children's programs remain popular and are listed below.

The Millers Falls Library is flourishing. Overall circulation increased 51% from 6,310 items borrowed in 2017 to 9,512 in 2019 during its 10 open hours per week. Increasingly, children and youth safely congregate there. The circulation of children's books increased 30%, from 1384 in 2018 to 1803 in 2019. Young adult book circulation increased 355% from 93 in 2018 to 330 in 2019. At public meetings held as part of a study to help improve Millers Falls, most of the residents spoke strongly in support of their library and identified it as a great strength of the village. Multiple factors are involved in the library's increased use. There appear to be more children currently living in downtown Millers Falls. The Millers Falls Community Improvement Association has held numerous events for all ages at the library. The branch library assistant, Melinda Georgeson, who lives in Millers Falls, is very friendly and welcoming. For those in need, she initiated and is maintaining a small food pantry of canned goods which has a high turnover.

Support for the Montague Center Library continues to be very strong. Close to 150 people attended its 150th birthday party in November. 15,357 items were borrowed in 2019 during the 10 hours a week the library was open, a 1% increase from 15,211 in 2018. Local resident Elaine Cuthbert made several generous donations for the enhancement of the Montague Center Library. These funds have been used to order new signs for the front of the library, a comfortable couch, a book display cabinet and rug for the children's room, and a solid wood magazine rack. The rest of the funds will be used for new bookcases.

The Friends of the Montague Public Libraries continue to help the libraries. They run monthly book sales of donated and discarded books as well as other fundraisers. The funds are used to support public programs including the very popular annual marionette show, an annual site license for showing movies at the Carnegie Library, and Halloween candy for events at all three libraries. Their outreach efforts include a booth at the Great Falls Harvest Festival (a.k.a. Pumpkin Fest.) They continue to maintain the Carnegie Library gardens, and accomplish other small building improvements. They are always looking for more members.

The Montague Public Libraries appreciate active ongoing collaboration with various local organizations, including the Millers Falls Community Improvement Association, Gill-Montague Council on Aging, The Great Falls Discovery Center, Montague Catholic Social Ministries, Community Action's Parent Child Development Center G Street and Central Street Head Start, Gill-Montague Community School Partnership, Gill-Montague Schools, Franklin County Technical School, Montague Historical Society, Turners Falls Genealogy Club, and the Traprock Center for Peace & Justice.

Since the town funding meets state threshold requirements, Montague Public Libraries' users benefit from network memberships such as CWMARS, and the Massachusetts Library System. Many Montague library users avail themselves of benefits provided through these memberships including borrowing books and audio books from other libraries, downloading electronic text and audio books, and accessing state databases. 17,362 books, DVDs, audio books, music CDs and magazines were delivered to the three libraries in 2019 from other libraries.

The libraries could not operate without their hard-working staff, volunteers, and dedicated library users. The recent customer service survey was filled out by a total of 247 respondents. 39% of them listed the staff as what they find most valuable at the libraries, far above any other category. Thank you all.

Circulation (Based on State ARIS Statistics):

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------|
| Adult and Young Adult Printed Material | 31,574 |
| Adult Audio | 3,453 |
| Adult Video/DVD | 33,104 |
| Children's Books | 19,653 |
| Children's Audio | 813 |
| Children's Video/DVD | 7216 |
| Downloadable Audio | 3050 |
| Downloadable Video | 3 |
| e-books and magazines | 3168 |
| Usage of electronic collections | 826 |
| Materials in Electronic Format | 22 |
| Materials in Microform | 2 |
| Misc. (includes museum and park passes) | 190 |
| Total Circulation | 103,074 |
| Number of Items on Hand | 53,768 |

Interlibrary Loan:

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|
| Items Received From Other Libraries | 17,362 |
| Items Sent To Other Libraries | 15,001 |
| Non-Resident Circulation At Our Libraries | 159 |

Montague Public Libraries - Youth Programs Statistics 2019

Highlights:

Community collaboration continued: The CFCE(Coordinated Family and Community Engagement) funded the Summer Reading Kick-Off program by Mad Science. In the Spring, Youth Services Librarian Angela Rovatti-Leonard was invited to view a presentation by the ESL class at Hillcrest Elementary. Their projects focused on information they gathered on animal habitats during a field trip to do research at the Carnegie Library. Angela and Children's Programs Assistant, Karen Wartel, set up to issue new library cards on site at the TFHS Resource Fair in early December.

Plans for another year of collaboration with Traprock and two other local libraries shifted. Traprock approved that the remaining funding (\$350) be used to purchase more books under the heading of peace and social justice for the collections at all three Montague Libraries. These books will be used in future programs with some of them planned in collaboration with Greenfield Savings Bank, the CFCE, and possibly the Greenfield Public Library. Other programs will be planned solely by Angela.

The Youth Advisory Committee (YACers), a group of young people, ages 10-15, meet monthly to discuss and plan programs and activities of interest to pre-teens and teens. The YACers requested an art program during a meeting in

2018. Angela obtained Montague Cultural Council funding for a three-week series of art instruction including drawing and still-live painting for pre-teens and teens at the Montague Center Library.

Summer Reading sign-up increased by 11% and overall attendance of summer programs increased by 14%.

TOTAL NUMBER OF PROGRAMS: 187

TOTAL ATTENDANCE ALL PROGRAMS: 6275

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Programs Funded Primarily by MPL: | Sessions – 133 | Attendance – 4115 |
| Programs Funded by MPL AND Outside Sources: | Sessions – 25 | Attendance – 325 |
| Programs Primarily Funded by Outside Sources: | Sessions – 7 | Attendance – 839 |
| Outreach Programs: | Sessions – 22 | Attendance – 996 |

Programs Primarily Funded by MPL:

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Story Time: | Sessions – 51 | Attendance – 1032 |
| Music & Movement: | | |
| Turners Falls: | Sessions – 17 | Attendance – 709 |
| Millers Falls: | Sessions – 15 | Attendance – 590 |
| Montague Center: | Sessions – 17 | Attendance – 746 |
| Youth Advisory Committee: | Sessions – 7 | Attendance – 40 |

Saturday Programs:

Pirate Party: 60, Valentine Party: 64; Life-Size Candyland: 50, Spring Cardmaking: 7, Woodland Creatures: 69
Halloween Party: 70, Gingerbread Party: 121

Self-directed Programs:

Art-to-Go Box: February Vacation -30, April Vacation – 47,

Summer Reading Program (self-directed reading program):

SRP Find Andy the Moose: 35, SRP Trivia Questions: 146, Toto the Tornado Kitten: 23, No Strings Puppets: 95
Science tellers: 29, Dino Adventures: 75, LEGOS: Sessions – 6 Attendance – 53,
Movies: Sessions – 6 Attendance – 24

TOTAL Programs Primarily Funded by MPL: TOTAL Sessions – 133 TOTAL Attendance - 4115

Programs Funded by MPL AND Outside Sources:

Homeschool Science: Sessions – 26 Attendance - 325

TOTAL Programs Funded by MPL AND Outside Sources: TOTAL Sessions - 26 TOTAL Attendance - 325

Programs Funded Primarily by Outside Sources:

Montague Cultural Council Funded Programs:

Art Series for Teens: Sessions – 3 Attendance – 42, CFCE Funded Programs: Mad Science: 62

Traprock Funded Programs: Craft & Care: 10

The Friends Funded Programs: Halloween @ MC: 725

TOTAL Programs Funded Primarily by Outside Sources: TOTAL Sessions – 6 TOTAL Attendance – 839

Outreach Programs (Attendance):

G St. School: Sessions – 11 Attendance – 365, Central St. School: Sessions - 6 Attendance – 180

SRP Class Groups & Visits: Gill Elementary: 139, Hillcrest Elementary: Sessions - 2 Attendance - 129

Sheffield Elementary: Sessions - 2 Attendance – 183

TOTAL Outreach programs: TOTAL Sessions – 22 TOTAL Attendance – 996

Trustees:

Nancy Crowell
Tricia Perham

David Harmon
Vicki Valley

Karen Latka
Gretchen Wetherby

James Martineau
Susan Yarmac

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY CABLE INC.

Montague Community Cable Inc., Home of Montague Community Television

34 Second Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376, Phone (413) 863-9200, www.montaguetv.org,
infomontaguetv@gmail.com

Montague Community Cable Incorporated (MCCI) is the Access Management Organization (AMO) awarded the contract by the town to run Montague Community Television (MCTV).

MCTV's mission as the public access provider for Montague, Gill and Erving, is to make the tools of modern electronic mass communication easy and convenient to use. We encourage all citizens, organizations and institutions in Montague and the broadcast viewing area to produce and be involved in quality programming by and for this community. We also offer the community a range of production services to record local meetings and events- from full equipment, staffing and production to simple technical assistance-including all necessary training. MCTV is committed to providing a professional and welcoming environment where Montague citizens may obtain hands-on training in video production. While MCTV's first focus is the town of Montague, it actively engages in networking with other local PEG Access stations in the Franklin/Hampshire region to increase producer reach and viewer choices.

Content:

During 2019 MCTV continued to employ local producers. This resulted in 269 local productions being uploaded to our Vimeo account. Currently we have over 1800 videos posted on that account. A variety of producers have contributed their time and skills in the creation of their own shows or participation in covering of Station Manager identified events of interest. Most active producers this year were Hannah Brookman, Joel Paxton and Michael Smith.

In 2019, MCTV continued to cover local events, but also collaborated with organizations and individuals to enhance or host cultural events, including the following:

- A series of 26 episodes showcasing town businesses that were produced and integrated into the *Rumble at the Shea* Event.
- 10 performances of Barbes in the Woods music festival in Montague Center.
- 3 episodes of Richie Richardson's annual *Fashion Passion* runway show.
- Multiple lectures and events (11) from Greenfield Savings Bank.
- Three episodes of *Science in the Valley* with Jim Kleiber, retired science teacher.
- Three episodes of *Home Cooking*
- Fairy House Days was a public event hosted and produced by Hannah Brookman.
- Coverage events such as Great Falls Harvest Fest, Cider Days, Mutton and Mead, Radical Interconnectdness, Nolembeka, Twin City Discussion, Millers Falls Art Happening, Black Hawk Homelands Festival.
- Various athletics from TFHS.

Our content for the last two years is broken down on the following table in total hours of original content separated into basic categories (i.e., first-run government; first-run public; local; out of town). To demonstrate how these yearly aggregates translate into weekly programming, we have included the "typical" breakdown of a week's programming by origination. The number of videos uploaded to Vimeo represents the total number of individual events recorded in the local government and public categories, combined, as opposed to the combined length of those videos. The difference between the aggregate local results of this new breakdown format and the aggregate local results of the reports from the retired server equals, roughly, the volume of repeated playings of local video recordings.

Description of facility and equipment use:

2019 stats: Equipment Reservations: 337

2019 First Run Government: 199 Hours (48 Hours are GMRSD Meetings)

Facilities Reservations: 102

First Run Public: 107 Hours

Weekly Programming Breakdown:

Local: 133 Hours

Out of Town: 35 Hours

During 2019: 269 Videos Uploaded to Vimeo,
 2018 First Run Government: 206 Hours (45 Hours are GMRSD Meetings)

Public: 146 Videos,

Government: 123 (21 GMRSD)
 First Run Public: 72 Hours

Weekly Programming Breakdown:

Local: 127 Hours

Out of Town: 41 Hours

During 2018 235 Videos Uploaded to Vimeo,

Public: 106 Videos,

Government: 129 (26 GMRSD)

Outreach:

MCCI has employed a wide range of outreach strategies and activities over our years of service. Through it all, we made a lot of new friends but didn't see much of a return in the form of video content or increased participation. Currently, we continue to send out our weekly news blasts and share our station news with The Montague Reporter, but we focus most of our outreach energy on networking and sending our crews out to record meetings and events. In 2019, MCTV put out a call to artists for film festival submissions, but we received only one submission. We began some collaboration with GMRSD to plan a series of information videos which will commence in 2020. MCTV's collaboration with the following entities resulted in local content for our community.

Town of Montague Selectboard, Finance Committee, Town Clerks Office, Zoning Board of Appeals, Planning Board, DPW, Parks and Recreation, Planning Committee, Police Department, Fire Department, RiverCulture, Montague Tree Advisory Committee, Montague Tree Warden, Millers Falls Village Center Strategic, Rivers Edge Cycling, Twin Cities Project, Frontier Cable Access, Greenfield Media, Greenfield Savings Bank, Shea Theater, Carnegie Library, Nolumbeka Project, Food Bank of Western MA, Public Policy Task Force in Franklin County Root Yoga, WestMass Brass Band, Greenfield Community College, Great Falls Discovery Center, Gill Montague Regional School District, Eggtooth Productions, Montague Congo Church, Montague Community Band, Franklin County Continuing The Revolution, Montague Catholic Social Ministries, Montague Business Association, Cider Days, Franklin Regional Transit Authority, Franklin County Chamber Of Commerce, Laudable Productions, Department of Conservation and Recreation, Fab Fashion Passion, United Arc, Harmon Personnel Services, Northfield Mountain Recreation, Senior Center, Mutton & Mead, Knighton Guild, Opioid Task Force, Montague Common Hall

TRAINING:

The standard AMO approach to training local producers- 6 to 8 weeks on a set schedule covering everything from lighting to editing- doesn't serve our community. Indeed, because MCTV can provide the full range of technical support for local meetings and events, some producers will require no training, at all. For the rest of our producers, we can provide individual, hands on training in the tools and techniques they will need for their particular productions, when and where they need it (subject to practical limitation...). All producers are trained on any equipment they want to sign out for use in their productions. It should be noted that the producers we train are often then hired by MCTV to work on other station productions, which provides experience and further training while creating even more content!

FISCAL MANAGEMENT:

One of our first and best deliberations, upon regaining the Montague public access contract, was to secure the services of a business manager, The Brick House' Michael Bosworth. He installed high quality, financially conservative business practices for us that have been fundamental to our robust sustainability. During the years of our collaboration, we adopted sound accounting practices; established clear and secure purchasing procedures; engaged an auditing and tax accountant with specialization in non-profits; and mandated a minimum liquidity standard whereby we maintain a balance of operating funds never lower than the equivalent of two months operating expenses. We also have a long standing and regular relationship with a local bookkeeper of high repute. The organization-wide adherence to these practices and investment in these intrinsic relationships has enabled us, over the years, to accrue a six month operating cushion in addition to a substantial reserve. In accepting the PEG Access assignment from Montague, MCCI embraced a fiduciary responsibility to the Town and citizens of Montague. Central to meeting that responsibility is financial transparency in managing MCTV's resources. Pursuant to our contract with the Town, MCCI submits quarterly financial reports and a complete annual report. These documents,

our budget, our profit and loss statements, our balance sheet and all our board minutes are available to the public on our website at Montagutv.org. We also share our tax return and independent financial audit with the Town each year. The following yearly financial reports show that MCCI is healthy, sustainable and continues to apply our founding practices. Our operational assumptions were good across the board and we saved a little money. One takeaway is the indication that we are nearing 90% of our budgeted production capacity (total tech/prog services), but there is room in the budget to expand that capacity (\$9,200 in net ordinary income, for starters, subject to further discussion...). A pretty standard year:

CAPITAL ASSET AND EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT:

In addition to providing unobstructed access to our financial trail, MCCI's fiduciary responsibility to the Town and to our community includes responsible and productive capital asset and equipment management. When developing any capital plan or committing any capital resources, we seek Town input. We don't proceed with any capital plan unless it has been reviewed and approved by the CAC. Below is the report for our capital equipment account from 2016, the year of the first capital payment received under the new contract (and the first in almost ten years) to the present. The income payments are capital specific funds from Comcast. During 2019 two Canon XA15 Cameras were purchased. Currently we have 7 cameras in rotation. We also allocated capital money to purchase two televisions sets for the town hall display upgrade.

MCTV 2019 GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMING

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Selectboard Meeting 1/7/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 1/10/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 1/14/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 1/22/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 1/28/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 2/12/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 2/4/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 2/25/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 2/11/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 3/12/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 2/25/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 3/26/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 3-4-19 | Finance Committee Meeting 4/9/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 3/11/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 4/23/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 3/25/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 5/14/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 4/1/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 5/28/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 4/8/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 6/11/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 4/22/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 6/25/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 4/29/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 7/16/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 5/6/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 8/13/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 5/13/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 8/27/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 6/3/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 9/10/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 6/17/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 10/15/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 6/24/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 10/22/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 7/1/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 11/12/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 7/8/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 11/26/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 7/22/19 | Finance Committee Meeting 12/10/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 8/5/19 | GMRSD Meeting 1/8/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 8/19/19 | GMRSD Meeting 1/22/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 8/26/19 | GMRSD Meeting 2/12/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 9/9/19 | GMRSD Meeting 2/26/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 9/16/19 | GMRSD Meeting 3/12/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 9/23/19 | GMRSD Meeting 3/26/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 9/30/19 | GMRSD Meeting 4/9/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 10/7/19 | GMRSD Meeting 4/23/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 10/21/19 | GMRSD Meeting 5/14/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 10/28/19 | GMRSD Meeting 5/28/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 11/4/19 | GMRSD Meeting 6/11/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 11/18/19 | GMRSD Meeting 6/25/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 11/25/19 | GMRSD Meeting 7/16/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 12/2/19 | GMRSD Meeting 8/13/19 |
| Selectboard Meeting 12/9/19 | GMRSD Meeting 8/27/19 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Selectboard Meeting 12/16/19 Planning Board Meeting 1/15/19 Zoning Bylaw Meeting 1/19/19 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting 7/17/19 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting 8/14/19 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting 9/25/19 Civic Leaders Forum 1/16/19 Cable Advisory Committee 2/11/19 Cable Advisory Committee 8/5/19 Cable Advisory Committee 9/23/19 Wendell Selectboard Meeting 3/6/19 Special Town Meeting 2/19/19 Special Town Meeting 10/2/19 | GMRSD Meeting 9/10/19 GMRSD Meeting 10/15/19 GMRSD Meeting 10/22/19 GMRSD Meeting 11/12/19 GMRSD Meeting 11/26/19 GMRSD Meeting 12/10/19 Annual Town Meeting 5/4/19 Cultural Council Meeting 6/11/19 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

MCTV 2019 LOCAL PROGRAMMING

| | |
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| 4 th Annual Heart To Heart Abandoned Dream- Desi Lowit Abandoned Dream-Storks Arbor Day As You Write It Avenue of Flowers Barbes In The Woods Promo Barbes In The Woods- Stephane Tremble Trio Barbes In The Woods-Alsarah And The Nubatones Barbes In The Woods-Anbessa Orchestra Barbes In The Woods-Combo Chimbata Barbes In The Woods-The Big Lazy Barbes In The Woods-Underground System Bucking Ham Rabbits Episode 2 Bucking Ham Rabbits Grand Opening Chis Wiseman and Omeed Goodarzi David Liebe At Looky Here Erving Library Dedication Ceremony First Chapter-Jim Eagan and Anand Nayak GCC-Baroque And Classical Music GFDC- Ragged Blue GFDC-Beavers Good Music Makes Good Neighbors Great Falls Harvest Fest GSB-A Journey Home GSB-Atlantic Tsunami GSB-Canine Artie GSB-Dont Be A Victim GSB-Farley String Band GSB-Gun Safety GSB-Keeping The Lights On GSB-Narcan GSB-Teens And The Law-Underage Drivers Homecooking Commercial Homecooking Episode 1 Homecooking With Tammy Aiken It Takes Two To Know Let Your Love Shine | 19 th Centery Pears-A Ruling Passion 2019 MIAA Softball Division III Championship 4 th Annual Migration Festival Black Hawk-Homelands Festival Boat Ride Down The Connecticut Rive Chalice of Crones Christmas In July Coffee House-Paula Bradley And Rafe Wolman Fab Fashion Fab Fashion Event Fab Fashion How To Be A Model Episode 1 Fab Fashion How To Be A Model Episode 2 Fab Fashion Passion Fab Model Workshop Fairy House Day On Avenue A Event Fairy House Day On Avenue A PSA GFDC-Alvah Crocker Great Falls Word Festival Hannah Brookman and Beverley Ketch John Hughes Performance MCTV-120 Second Film Fest Promo Millers Falls Community Session Millers Falls Village Center Work Session Mohawk vs McCann Tech Football Montague Community Band-Holiday Concert Musica Franklin-John Hughes Mutton and Mead One Earth Stories, Songs And Music River Valley Ice Cream Ride Rumble At the She Episode 23 Rumble At The She Episode 24 Rumble At The She Episode 25 Rumble At The Shea Episode 1 Rumble At The Shea Episode 10 Rumble At The Shea Episode 11 Rumble At The Shea Episode 12 Rumble At The Shea Episode 13 Rumble At The Shea Episode 14 |
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| | |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Mass Brand Special XIV | Rumble At The Shea Episode 15 |
| Memorial Day | Rumble At The Shea Episode 16 |
| Millers Falls Art Happening | Rumble At The Shea Episode 17 |
| Mr. Drag And How The Grinch Stole Karl | Rumble At The Shea Episode 18 |
| Nolumbeka Project-A Day of Remembrance | Rumble At The Shea Episode 19 |
| Nolumbeka Project-David Brule | Rumble At The Shea Episode 2 |
| Northern Roots | Rumble At The Shea Episode 20 |
| Pinball Contest | Rumble At The Shea Episode 21 |
| Plant Of The Bible At Looky Here | Rumble At The Shea Episode 22 |
| Radical Interconnectdness Show at the Shea | Rumble At The Shea Episode 3 |
| Radical Interconnectdness-Installations | Rumble At The Shea Episode 4 |
| Radical Interconnectdness-Katherine Adler 1 | Rumble At The Shea Episode 5 |
| Radical Interconnectdness-Kathering Adler 2 | Rumble At The Shea Episode 6 |
| Radical Interconnectdness-Queer Intimacies | Rumble At The Shea Episode 7 |
| Root Studio | Rumble At The Shea Episode 8 |
| Root Studio-Giving Tuesday | Rumble At The Shea Episode 9 |
| Science In The Valley Episode 1 | Rumble At The Shea Theater Event |
| Science In The Valley Episode 2 | The Most Wuthering Heights Day Ever |
| Science In The Valley Episode 3 | Turners Falls vs Easthampton Volleyball |
| She Said | Turners Falls vs Hopedale Softball |
| Talking Cloth | Turners Falls vs McCann Tech Softball |
| Vern's Valley Variety Episode 1 | Turners Falls vs Sabis Volleyball |
| Vern's Valley Variety Episode 2 | Turners Falls vs Southwick Volleyball |
| Vern's Valley Variety Episode 3 | Turners Falls vs West Springfield Volleyball |
| Veternan's Day Ceremony | Twin City Discussion |
| Voices From Inside | Welcome Yule |
| What is Bio Energy | |

MONTAGUE HOUSING AUTHORITY

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen, and the Citizens of the Town of Montague. I hereby submit the Annual Report of the Montague Housing Authority for the year ending December 31, 2019

Regular monthly meetings of the Montague Housing Authority Board were held the second Friday of the month, to transact routine business of the authority. The monthly meeting usually starts at 9:00 AM, unless is change for some reason.

In 2019 Montague Housing Authority has total of 1690 applications in the system call CHAMP from all over Massachusetts. The State of Massachusetts decide to create new system called CHAMP stand for "Common Housing Application for Massachusetts Public Housing". Unfortunately for this reason The Montague Housing Authority does not have the ability to know how many elderlies, handicapped or family were applying for housing in specific year. Although we be able to report that we housed total of eight (8) applications, these including 4 applicants for elderly/younger disable, 3 applicants in family 2 bedroom and 1 family in 3 bedrooms. All these applicants are local for Town of Montague.

Montague Housing Authority has four developments all State-Aided Public Housing. Montague Housing Authority's Elderly/Handicapped chapter 667-1,2,3 housing has a total of 80 apartments at three different sites. Family Housing, chapter 200-1 has 30 apartments one site.

In 2019 Montague Housing Authority received a funding/award from ABCD (Boston Community Development, Inc for the installation of 40-unit Air Source Heat Pump at the Elderly housing Sunrise Terrace chapter 667-1. Estimated award cost is \$170,163.00. This project completed on October 04, 2019.

On behalf of the Montague Housing Authority and our Board of Commissioners, I want to express my sincere thanks, and appreciation to all who have supported our housing needs.

Montague Housing Authority Board of Commissioners
Karen Casey-Chretien, Chairman
Stanley Zera, Vice Chairman
Paula Girard, Treasurer
Judith Hastings, Asst. Treasurer

Respectfully submitted,
Bellamine Dickerman, Executive Director

MONTAGUE PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The year began with our Annual Sawmill River 10k Run, held on New Year's Day. We hosted 140 runners who wanted to ring in the New Year trekking through the pastoral roads of Montague Center. Proceeds from the run benefit our Sponsor-A-Child Scholarship Program. In the winter we also offer our Youth Basketball Program, which included one 3/4 grade co-ed team, and a K-2 Instructional Program. We also run The Bluefish Swim Team in the fall and winter months. The Bluefish are members of the Pioneer Valley Swim League, and often swim against teams twice their numbers. However, despite our small roster (50 swimmers) we are very comparable relative to skill level. We also host Open Swim, which includes a Family session and an Adult Lap session from January through March. In mid-February, we host a Babysitter Training Course for young adults aged 11 – 15. It's a small program, but most often completely booked. This was also the first winter in which we hosted a Night Sledding event down at Unity Park. We provided hot chocolate and the fixings for 'S'mores, for those who wished to toast some marshmallows on a small campfire we got going for the event. Approximately, fifty sledders came out for what we hope will be a nice little tradition.

Spring has become just as busy as our summer when it comes to programs and events, and this year was certainly no exception. Typically our first event of the season, the Annual Peter Cottontail EGGstravaganza draws a few hundred children and family members every year. The main event is the egg hunt, which includes approximately 5,000 candy and toy-filled eggs strewn throughout Unity Park. The success of the EGGstravaganza is certainly due in part to our partners; the Montague Elks, Letourneau Plumbing and Greenfield Savings Bank. This time of year, we also provide girls softball, youth baseball and tee ball. Girls softball was represented by the Purple Panthers (Ages 7-9) who are members of the Greenfield Girls Softball League. This was also the first spring in a few years in which we had a rookie baseball team, for kids ages 7-9. Approximately twenty boys participated and they're certainly on their way to the big leagues! One of our most popular programs, Tee Ball, consisted of four teams that played one another in a round robin format on Saturday mornings. Not being "just for kids", we continue to offer the Montague Adult Coed Softball "B" League. In its 22nd season, this American Softball Association sanctioned league hosts games Monday and Thursday evenings from May through August.

In June, we partnered with Hillcrest Elementary School to offer our second Warrior Dash Adventure Course Race! The Warrior Dash is geared towards girls and boys ages 5-12, and is designed around the current adventure/obstacle course craze. Seventy-five kids participated in this event that comprised of a dozen obstacles, including a dirt mound, hay bale wall, crawl tunnel, and water slide. Medals were awarded to both girls and boys in the various age categories. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Hillcrest Playground Project, and MPRD's scholarship program.

Quite possibly, the most significant event this spring was the start of Phase I construction of the Rutter's Park Improvement Project. Phase I construction focused on a total refurbishment of the playground area, installation of a picnic shelter, a defined parking area, and landscape beautification. Funding was made possible by the Community Development Block Grant, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held in the spring of 2020.

At the beginning of summer we completed the Master Plan for Montague Center Park, with The Conway School of Landscape Design (CSLD) facilitating the process. CSLD did a fantastic job of illustrating current conditions, and formulating design concepts to help us move forward. The MC Park Planning Committee will be working closely with the department to develop a design plan. The park's master plan is available on the departmental webpage on www.montague.net.

To say that the summer was busy would be an understatement. Summer Camp is offered to children ages 5-12 for eight weeks, and we served almost 500 children. Each week had a different theme which allows us the opportunity to give the kids a more creative program. We also take weekly trips to Laurel Lake, offer special events, as well as field trips. This summer was also our third providing special events at the Unity Skatepark! Our "Night Skates" were held on three evenings over the summer (beginning/middle/end), and proved to be a huge hit. We were able to obtain the use of portable, outdoor lighting from the Franklin County House of Corrections, and illuminate the park until 10:00pm. Dozens of skateboarders came out each evening, and it certainly seems this will be a great event for years to come.

This was also our first summer providing "Movies in The Park", with RiverCulture and The Friends of Sheffield (FOS). We showed three films; *E.T. The Extra-terrestrial*, *Finding Dory*, and *Cars 3*, and it proved to be a huge hit.

The film series was held at Peskeompskut Park, and we averaged approximately 100 movie-goers each night. RiverCulture scheduled the musical acts before each showing, and the FOS provided refreshments.

Unity Park also hosted its second 3-on-3 Youth Basketball Tournament during the second weekend in August. Approximately 12 teams from throughout the Pioneer Valley participated. Turners Falls resident and basketball coach, Josh Morse, organized the event and it was very well received. Our intent, aside from having a great event for kids, is that profits help support future upkeep of the court.

During the autumn months we offer Youth Soccer Program, which consisted of two travel teams (one 3/4 grade, and one 5/6 grade), and our Squirt Program for children in grades K-2. Over fifty kids participated in the program, overall! In late September, we get into the season and hold a Scarecrow Stuffing Party. We also help out with the Great Falls Fest by running the pumpkin decorating area during the event.

The ability to offer a full array of quality programs and services would not be possible without the generosity of many wonderful partners and supporters in our fine community. Therefore, we would like to thank Greenfield Savings Bank, The Montague Elks, The Turners Falls Athletic Club, A.H. Rist Insurance, Co., Letourneau Plumbing, Judd Wire, Inc., Turn It Up Music, Franklin County Housing & Redevelopment Authority, the Franklin County House of Corrections, and the Gill-Montague Regional School District and Partnership for their support.

We would also be remiss if we didn't take a moment to acknowledge the Department of Public Works for maintaining our parks and other facilities. Tom Bergeron and his crew are invaluable when it comes to keeping our facilities clean and safe. Additionally, we would like to thank our volunteers for their time, effort and passion they invested in our programs in 2019. Their community spirit contributes significantly to the success of our department and we simply could not function without them. Finally, we would like to thank our patrons for their interest and enthusiasm in Parks & Recreation programs. We hope to continue to serve you well in 2020.

Parks & Recreation Department
Jonathan J. Dobosz, Director, CPRP, CPO
Jennifer L. Peterson, Clerk/Bookkeeper

Parks & Recreation Commission
Dennis Grader, Chair
Barbara Kuklewicz, Vice Chair
Albert Cummings, Secretary

PLANNING & CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Department Staff:

Walter Ramsey, AICP- Town Planner and Conservation Agent

Suzanne LoManto- Cultural Coordinator

Anne E. H. Stuart- Planning Clerk (Through November 2019)

The Montague Planning and Conservation Department is responsible for 1) Land use planning 2) Natural resource protection and 3) Economic and community development activities identified in Town Plans

The primary function of the Planning Department is to manage regulatory processes for development proposals submitted to the Planning Board and Conservation Commission. As part of that process the Planning Department evaluates development proposals for their contribution toward community planning goals as documented in Montague Comprehensive Plan and other local strategic plans. The Department is also actively engaged in programs and projects that help the community achieve its planning goals.

The Department provides technical support to the Turners Falls RiverCulture Project, Board of Selectmen, and the Economic Development and Industrial Corporation (EDIC). The Department represents the Town and its interests at both the regional and state level through a variety of projects and planning initiatives such as the regional brownfields program and the regional economic development strategy (CEDs). The Department manages the Turners Fall RiverCulture Program, the Green Communities Program, Complete Streets Program, and the Municipal Vulnerabilities Preparedness Program.

The Department managed, obtained or applied for over \$3.7M of grant fund in 2019.

The highlights of 2019 included:

- Passing zoning overhaul in February 2019
- Assisting Town to obtain a \$2.1M MassWorks Infrastructure grant for the Canal District Gateway Improvement Project- a project identified in the 2013 Downtown Livability Plan
- Obtaining a \$250,000 Massdevelopment brownfield Program grant to abate the Strathmore Mill Complex
- Developing the Millers on the Move Strategic Plan for the village of Millers Falls
- Securing a development proposal for a mixed-use building at 38 Avenue A- the first new mixed use building to be built in downtown since the 1950's.
- Working collaboratively with the Greenfield Community Development Office to participate in Smart Growth America's Massachusetts Opportunity Zone Academy to build our region's capacity for sustainable economic and downtown development.
- Oversaw an update to Montague's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

In November 2019, after nine years of dutiful service to the Planning Department, Anne Stuart vacated the Planning Clerk post to work full time for the Board of Health. Suzanne Lomanto, Cultural Coordinator assumed the planning clerk duties for an additional 10 hours per week through the remainder of the year. The Town Planner attended Mass. Certified Public Purchasing Official (MCCPO) procurement training, thanks to support from Nancy Galkowski Legacy Fund.

Planning Board

The Planning Board maintains the Comprehensive Plan, prepares zoning bylaws and zoning map amendments for Town Meeting acceptance, administers Subdivision Regulations, approves site plans and issues special permits for industrial development and common driveways. The Planning Board meets monthly and is staffed by Walter Ramsey, AICP-Town Planner and the Planning Clerk. The Planning Board's business included:

Three (3) Special Permits/ Site Plan Approvals

- Granting a special permit to Robert Savage of 128 Lower Road, Deerfield, MA to allow a common driveway to benefit two properties at 10 Industrial Boulevard (Assessor's Map 17 Lot 32) in accordance with Montague Zoning Bylaws Section 6.3.2
- Issuance of site plan approval to Great Falls Aquaculture, LLC to permit construction of an anaerobic digestion facility that exceeds 3,000 square feet at 0 Industrial Boulevard (Assessors Map 17 Lot 19).
- Granting of a Special Permit to 253 Organic, LLC to permit to permit a marijuana cultivation facility in the Industrial District at 10 Industrial Boulevard (Assessors Map 17 Lot 32)

Eleven (11) "Approval Not Required" (ANR) Subdivision Plans Endorsements:

The highlight of the year was passing a suite of zoning bylaw amendments at Town Meeting February 19, 2019- an effort that spanned most of CY2018 as well. The public hearing was in January, Town meeting vote in February, and the Attorney General Approved the Bylaws in May. Much of 2019 was spent monitoring the implementation of the bylaws.

Planning Board Members in December 2019

Ronald Sicard (Chair)
Frederic H. Bowman (Vice Chair)
Elizabeth Irving (FRCOG Rep)
Robert Obear (CIC rep)
George Cooke
Matt Lord – Associate Member

Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission administers the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, which regulates work in or near surface waters and wetlands. The Commission also works to support the protection of important natural resources areas through land conservation. The Commission meets monthly and is staffed by Walter Ramsey-Conservation Agent and the Conservation Clerk. The Commission's business included the following:

Wetlands Administration:

The Commission engaged in the following permitting activities:

- Four (4) Requests for Determination of Applicability
- Five (5) Notices of Intent
- Zero (0) Forest Cutting Plans

Open Space:

The Commission did not execute or acquire and conservation land in 2019.

Addie Rose Holland resigned and was re-appointed as an associate member

Laurie Reid was welcomed as fully appointed member

Conservation Commission Members in December 2019:

Mark Fairbrother (Chair)
Justin Fermann (Vice Chair)
Deb Henson
Donna Francis
Sean Werle
Alexander Peterkin
Laurie Reid
Addie Rose Holland (Associate Member)

Agriculture Commission

The mission of the agriculture commission is as follows:

- 1) Promotion and education of agriculture
- 2) Mediation and assistance for farmers and farmer related issues
- 3) Land preservation
- 4) Community building (potlucks, networking, etc.)

The Commission hired Annie Levine to manage the Great Falls Farmers Market in 2019. The Market was relocated to Peskeompskut Park.

Agricultural Commission Members in 2019:

Donna Francis (Chair)
Diane Flynn
Bob Mizula
Paul Voiland
Karl Garbiel

Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation

The Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation was created for the purpose of acquiring and holding real property and financial assets to be developed in the public interest of the town. The MEDIC has authority to conduct development activities within areas of the town only as designated by a town meeting adopted “Economic Development Plan”. It is a seven-member board comprised of town residents with expertise in certain areas defined by general law and appointed to three-year renewable terms by the Board of Selectmen.

For the last twenty-seven years the MEDIC has been the “holding company” for the development of what has become the Great Falls Discovery Center. The MEDIC managed the development locally, and worked with state and federal partners to redesign and complete the project as state funding priorities shifted multiple times over the course of the project. In 2005, the MEDIC transferred to the Commonwealth ownership of the completed Great Falls Discovery Center, now jointly operated by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and the US Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Town Planner provides administrative staff support.

38 Avenue A

Crabapple Whitewater withdrew their proposal for a whitewater operation center due to the uncertainty of flows in the Connecticut River. In August, the EDIC issued a request for expressions of interest for re-use of the site. The MEDIC selected a proposal from NEWCare Inc, to develop a new 4 story mixed use building on the site- similar to that envisioned in the 2013 Downtown Livability Plan. The MEDIC intendeds to advance the project and transfer the property in 2020.

EDIC Members in 2019:

Moon Morgan (Chair).....General
Linda Ackerman (Treasurer).....Finance
Richard RuthIndustrial Development
John Furbish.....Low/Moderate Income
Ella Ingraham.....Municipal Government
VACANT.....General

Battlefield Grant Advisory Board

The Battlefield Grant Advisory Board is a consortium of 5 neighboring towns and 4 tribal historic preservation offices that have partnered with the Town and the National Park Service to conduct a comprehensive study of the extent and context of a 1676 conflict on Montague/ Gill/Greenfield soil. An additional purpose is to engage local officials, landowners and the interested public in effort to locate and encourage the protection of the battlefield.

The Town began work on a grant in the amount of \$81,000 from the American Battlefield Protection Program to conduct a second phase of archeological investigation that was identified in the first phase. Work will begin in 2019. The field work for this report was started and completed over the year by the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center who was secured as the principal investigator by the Town.

The reconciliation ceremony between the Town of Montague and the Narragansett Indian Tribe, and the NPS ABPP grants GA-2287-14-012 and GA-2287-16-006 have focused a great deal of public attention on the historical significance of the Great Falls Battlefield. Significantly, these efforts have gained the support and participation of neighboring towns of Gill and Greenfield where much of the battle, and the colonial approach and retreat, took place. At the same time, preliminary discussions between some town officials, the NPS and multiple Tribal officials about promoting cultural tourism and establishing a Great Falls Cultural Landscape Park further increases awareness and support. 5 public information sessions have been attended by over 50 to 100 people. The monthly battlefield Grant Advisory Board Meetings are always well attended by at least 15 people. Local newspapers have covered the process with great interest.

The Board meets monthly and grant administration is provided by the Town Planner.

David Brule, Chair

Riverculture Program and Steering Committee

Suzanne LoManto, Director of RiverCulture, riverculture@montague-ma.gov

RiverCulture Steering Committee: Eileen Dowd (Chair), Erin MacLean, Oliver Miller, Rachel Teumim, Lucinda Kidder, Rick Widmer.

The Cultural Coordinator implements the goals and activities of the RiverCulture program, and provides professional project management for the Department of Planning and Conservation. Supervision and guidance is provided by the Montague Town Planner and the RiverCulture Steering Committee, appointed by the Select Board.

RiverCulture works to: Foster art and culture in Montague; Enhance quality of life in our community; Establish art and culture as a highly visible element of our identity; and Cultivate an environment that attracts new businesses, residents, investment, cultural partners and visitors to Montague.

RiverCulture accomplishes this by: Serving as a central sounding-board for the Arts; Participating in the Town's economic development initiatives; Building working relationships across municipal, public, private, and non-profit sectors; Supporting and promoting cultural events in Montague; Helping the business community leverage these cultural events; Developing cross-marketing strategies, and maintaining a social media presence.

The Cultural Coordinator has a non-voting seat on the **Shea Theater Board** and works as a liaison between that body and the Town, in addition to coordinating Shea programming within the Turners Falls Cultural District.

In February 2019 RiverCulture received a \$15,000 grant for a **"Millers Falls Village Center Strategic Plan."** Working in conjunction with the Town Planner, Peg Barringer (FinePoint Associates) and the Millers Falls Community Improvement Association, the cultural coordinator conducted a series of surveys and input meetings to help residents and business owners to 1.) Identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and priorities in Millers Falls, 2.) Establish clear action steps to implement established priorities and 3.) Create a document from which both the community and the Town of Montague can work. The final report "Millers on the Move!" was written by Peg Barringer and accepted by the Montague Select Board in December 9, 2019. The document can be found on the Town website at: https://www.montague-ma.gov/files/Millers_on_the_Move.pdf

Despite being a 25-hour (part-time) program, RiverCulture partnered or acted as an advisor for **several dozen cultural events** including of Radical Interconnectedness, Turners Falls Summer Park Series, River Valley Ice Cream Ride, Pocumtuck Homelands Festival, Fairy House Day, Unity Park Night Skates, Fab Fashion Passion, the Great Falls Word Festival, The Migration Festival, and It's A Wonderful Night in Turners Falls.

The Cultural Coordinator attends **Franklin County Cider Days** meetings, and actively works to leverage this tourism with the business community. Similarly, the Cultural Coordinator works to attract and support new cultural producers, like Laudable Productions, who successfully launched their first **"Barbes in the Woods"** festival in Montague Center in this August.

The Cultural Coordinator manages the \$5,000 Mass Cultural Council grant, which is awarded to the Turners Falls Cultural District annually. In calendar year 2019 the funds were primarily spent producing and advertising the **"Turners Falls Park Series"** A successful partnership between RiverCulture, Montague Parks and Recreation, and Friends of Sheffield. The series included live music, Skate Nights, and three family movies in Peskeompskut Park.

In calendar year 2019 RiverCulture contributed about \$2500 on direct artist support, including musicians, historians, theater groups, fashion, word/poetry, video, and visual artists.
www.turnersfallsriverculture.org

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Montague Police Department is to provide professional, knowledgeable, and equitable police services to ensure and promote the safety, well-being and quality of life of all people, while maintaining the highest levels of integrity, transparency, fairness and mutual respect with the community. The members of the Police, Dispatch and Animal control Departments take great pride in this solemn responsibility and will continue to strive for nothing less than excellence in our partnership with the community we serve.

In 2019 Detective John Dempsey was promoted to a full-time sergeant and Officer Jake Lapean was promoted from patrolman to the Narcotic Detective position vacated by Sgt. Dempsey. We also hired Jacob Dlugosz as a full-time police officer to fill a vacant position. The Department was able to re-join and participate with the North Western District Attorney's Office Anti-Crime Task Force. The promotions were well deserved, good luck gentlemen.

Our training programs continue to flourish and grow. We continue to see increased inter-agency participation and cooperation with local departments. Officers from across Franklin County, The Franklin County Sheriff's Department as well as Officers from the Massachusetts Environmental Police are able to train and interact with each other on a regular basis and continue to foster relationships.

Our dispatch center continues to be the unseen heroes of the department as they are the first line of both triage and emergency response for all the calls that come our way. They are truly vital and an integral link in our public safety chain.

The Police Department handled 18,873 calls for service which is lower than the previous year by 857 calls. This represents and is a testament to the competency, dedication and cooperative efforts of all the men and women who commit themselves to the service of the town of Montague. Looking forward, we have high hopes for our continued success in bulking and fostering productive and positive relationships within the Town and all of our brother and sister agencies and every person we serve and protect.

My sincerest thank you to all the town boards and their respective members, members of town meeting and residents for your continued support of our department and their shared mission and most importantly to all the men and women of the Montague Police, Dispatch and Animal Control Departments; without your dedication and service, none of our success could be possible.

Be safe and happy in 2020!

Respectfully,

Chief Christopher P. Williams

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report of the Montague Police Department for the year ending December 31, 2019

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 18,946 | 19,730 | 18,873 | Calls for Service |
| 2726 | 3318 | 3300 | 911 Emergency Calls |
| 340 | 421 | 381 | Persons arrested by the Police |
| 230 | 270 | 330 | Persons were male, 9 were juveniles |
| 110 | 151 | 51 | Person were female, 5 were juveniles |
| 545 | 387 | 531 | Victims of crime |
| 82 | 59 | 52 | Restraining orders served (209a & 258E) |
| 5 | 0 | 0 | Alarm by-law tickets |
| 41 | 43 | 59 | Registered Sex Offenders |

TOTAL REPORTABLE MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS OVER \$1,000 IN VALUE

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 138 | 142 | 115 |

TOTAL REPORTABLE MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS UNDER \$1,000 IN VALUE

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 25 | 27 | 34 |

TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLES ACCIDENTS

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 163 | 169 | 149 |

INJURED PERSONS

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| 19 | 17 | 15 | Operators |
| 13 | 2 | 5 | Passengers |
| 3 | 1 | 1 | Pedestrians |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | Bicyclist |
| 0 | 1 | 3 | Motorcyclists |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | Fatalities |
| 36 | 23 | 25 | Total Injuries |

MOTOR VEHICLE CITATIONS

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 768 (Fines \$4,335.00) | 1244 (Fines \$5,380.00) | 1165 (Fines \$2,685.00) |

FIREARMS REGISTRATION: PERMITS TO CARRY

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 190 | 204 | 226 |

PARKING TICKETS ISSUED

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 381 (\$7,530.00) | 466 (\$9,070.00) | 442 (\$8,680.00) |

HOUSE CHECKS WHILE PEOPLE WERE AWAY

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 197 | 127 | 99 |

SUMMONS SERVED

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 109 | 89 | 109 |

RETIREMENT BOARD

Annual Statement for the MONTAGUE RETIREMENT SYSTEM for The Year Ended December 31, 2019

| Assets and Liabilities | 2019 End Balance | 2018 End Balance | 2017 End Balance |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1040 – 1049 Cash | 157,091.49 | 240,220.35 | 428,072.69 |
| 1100 – Short Term Investments | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1180 – Fixed Income Sec (book value) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1170 - Equities | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1101 - Pooled Short Term Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1172 - Pooled Domestic Equity Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1173 - Pooled International Equity Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1174 - Pooled Global Equity Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1181 - Pooled Domestic Fixed Income Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1182 - Pooled International Fixed Income Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1183 - Pooled Global Fixed Income Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1193 - Pooled Alternative Investments | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1194 - Pooled Real Estate Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1195 - Pooled Domestic Balanced Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1196 - Pooled International Balanced Funds | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1198 - PRIT Cash | 170,448.34 | 60,311.14 | 60,188.03 |
| 1199 - PRIT Fund | 46,898,008.60 | 41,019,595.67 | 42,337,724.96 |
| 1891 - Principal Adjustment Account | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1550 - Interest Due & Accrued Fixed Inc Sec Cur Yr | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 1398 - Accounts Receivable (A) | 12,229.32 | 16,661.07 | 14,385.93 |
| 2020 - Accounts Payable (A) | (1,731.85) | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total | 47,236,045.90 | 41,336,788.23 | 42,840,371.61 |
| Funds: | | | |
| 3293 – Annuity Savings Fund | 6,835,104.87 | 6,695,691.66 | 6,586,733.53 |
| 3294- Annuity Reserve Fund | 3,031,627.73 | 2,986,526.53 | 2,842,540.45 |
| 3295- Military Service Fund | 2,213.58 | 2,211.37 | 2,209.16 |
| 3296 – Pension Fund | 36,440.38 | 187,528.37 | 0.00 |
| 3298- Expense Fund | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3297- Pension Reserve Fund | 37,330,659.34 | 31,464,830.30 | 33,408,888.47 |
| Total Assets at Market Value | 47,236,045.90 | 41,336,788.23 | 42,840,371.61 |

| Receipts | | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Annuity Savings Fund: | | | | |
| (a) 4891 – Members Deductions | | 733,386.18 | 713,027.02 | 692,174.42 |
| (b) 4892 – Transfers from Other Systems | | 79,661.46 | 127,045.65 | 212,004.87 |
| (c) 4893 – Make Up and Redeposit Payments | | 15,154.21 | 1,689.82 | 0.00 |
| (d) 4900 – Member Payments from Rollovers | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (e) Investment Income CR to Members A/C | | 12,854.74 | 6,816.96 | 12,299.17 |
| | Subtotal | 841,056.59 | 848,579.45 | 916,478.46 |
| | | | | |
| 2. Annuity Reserve Fund: | | | | |
| (a) Investment Income Cr to Annuity Reserve Fund | | 86,062.04 | 87,237.38 | 81,244.43 |
| | Subtotal | 86,062.04 | 87,237.38 | 81,244.43 |
| | | | | |
| 3. Pension Fund: | | | | |
| (a) 4898 – 3(8)c Reimburse from Other Systems | | 147,692.98 | 126,320.31 | 96,969.17 |
| (b) 4899 – Rec'd from State for COLA & Survivor Ben. | | 11,828.16 | 17,869.74 | 6,423.63 |
| (c) 4894 – Pension Fund Appropriation | | 1,961,980.00 | 1,865,000.00 | 1,796,504.64 |
| (d) 4840 – Workers Compensation Settlement | | 6,600.00 | 6,000.00 | 0.00 |
| (e) 4751 – Recovery of Pension from Reinstatement | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (f) 4841 – Recovery of 91A Overearnings | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | Subtotal | 2,128,101.14 | 2,015,190.05 | 1,899,897.44 |
| | | | | |
| 4. Military Service Fund: | | | | |
| (a) 4890 Contributions Received from Municipality | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (b) Investment Income Credited | | 2.21 | 2.21 | 2.21 |
| | Subtotal | 2.21 | 2.21 | 2.21 |
| | | | | |
| 5. Expense Fund: | | | | |
| (a) 4896 – Expense Fund Appropriation | | | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (b) Investment Income Cr to Expense Fund | | 346,499.59 | 349,902.81 | 304,313.33 |
| | Subtotal | 346,499.59 | 349,902.81 | 304,313.33 |
| | | | | |
| 6. Pension Reserve Fund: | | | | |
| (a) 4897 – Federal Grant Reimbursement | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (b) 4895 – Pension Reserve Appropriation | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (c) 4822 – Interest not Refunded | | 276.89 | 110.37 | 3,889.88 |
| (d) 4825 – Misc. Income | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (e) Excess Investment Income | | 6,362,412.10 | -1,217,443.54 | 6,015,681.40 |
| | Subtotal | 6,362,688.99 | -1,217,333.17 | 6,019,571.28 |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | | 9,764,410.56 | 2,083,578.73 | 9,221,507.15 |

| Disbursements | | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Annuity Savings Fund: | | | | |
| (a) 5757 – Refunds To Members | | 99,546.59 | 31,420.57 | 82,547.82 |
| (b) 5756 – Transfers to Other Systems | | 129,411.01 | 151,139.49 | 62,339.79 |
| | Subtotal | 228,957.60 | 182,560.06 | 144,887.61 |
| 2. Annuity Reserve Fund: | | | | |
| (a) 5750 – Annuities Paid | | 523,056.57 | 500,312.56 | 449,797.84 |
| (b) 5759 – Option B Refunds | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | Subtotal | 523,056.57 | 500,312.56 | 449,797.84 |
| 3. Pension Fund: | | | | |
| (a) 5751 – Pensions Paid Total | | 2,557,298.72 | 2,418,026.36 | 2,251,524.64 |
| | | | | |
| Regular Pension Payments | | 2,064,562.75 | 1,969,021.31 | 1,841,285.69 |
| Survivorship Payments | | 152,428.22 | 137,943.33 | 112,447.98 |
| Ordinary Disability Payments | | 3,866.40 | 3,722.16 | 3,582.12 |
| Accidental Disability Payments | | 336,441.35 | 307,339.56 | 294,208.85 |
| Accidental Death Payments | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Section 101 Benefits | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (b) 5755 – 3(8)(c) Reimbursements To Other Systems | | 209,340.41 | 136,360.32 | 178,571.59 |
| (c) 5752 – COLA’S Paid | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (d) 5753 – Chapter 389 Ben Increase Pd | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | Subtotal | 2,766,639.13 | 2,554,386.68 | 2,430,096.23 |
| 4. Military Service Fund: | | | | |
| (a) 4890 – Return to Municipality for Members who withdrew their fund | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | Subtotal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5. Expense Fund: | | | | |
| (a) 5118 – Board Member Stipend | | 23,100.00 | 22,959.58 | 22,100.00 |
| (b) 5119 – Salaries & Benefits | | 49,496.15 | 46,682.68 | 31,088.76 |
| (c) 5304 – Management Fees | | 227,905.67 | 224,321.24 | 206,076.88 |
| (d) 5305 – Custodial Fees | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (e) 5307- Investment Consultant Fees | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (f) 5308 – Legal Fees | | 7,340.62 | 0.00 | 675.00 |
| (g) 5309- Medical Expenses | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (h) 5310 – Fiduciary Insurance | | 2,336.00 | 2,236.00 | 2,188.00 |
| (i) 5311 – Service Contracts | | 20,800.00 | 37,700.00 | 15,400.00 |
| (j) 5312 – Rent Expense | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (k) 5315 Professional Services | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (l) 5316-Actuarial Service | | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (m) 5317 – Accounting Services | | 5,000.00 | 4,500.00 | 4,500.00 |
| (n) 5320 – Education and Training | | 1,470.00 | 2,560.00 | 2,650.00 |
| (o) 5589- Administrative Expenses | | 6,316.75 | 6,679.19 | 14,395.25 |
| (p) 5599 Furniture and Equipment | | 621.87 | 0.00 | 889.31 |
| (q) 5719 Travel | | 2,112.53 | 2,264.12 | 4,350.13 |
| TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS | Subtotal | 346,499.59 | 349,902.81 | 304,313.33 |
| | | 3,865,152.89 | 3,587,162.11 | 3,329,095.01 |

| Investment Income | 2019 End Balance | 2018 End Balance | 2017 End Balance |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Investment Income Received From: | | | |
| (a) Cash | 1,374.88 | 200.76 | 481.66 |
| (b) Short Term Investments | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (c) Fixed Income Securities | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (d) Equities | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| (e) Pooled Funds | 1,186,447.89 | 1,165,994.64 | 1,089,645.21 |
| (f) Commission Recapture | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4821 – TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME | 1,187,822.77 | 1,166,195.40 | 1,090,126.87 |
| | | | |
| Plus: | | | |
| 4884 – Realized Gains | 2,202,271.00 | 1,957,106.33 | 1,786,943.28 |
| 4886 – Unrealized Gains | 5,347,629.99 | 1,514,944.21 | 3,536,470.39 |
| 1550- Interest Due & Accrued Fixed Inc Sec Cur Yr | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | | | |
| Less: | | | |
| 4823 – Paid Accrued Interest – Fixed Income Securities | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4885 – Realized Losses | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4887 – Unrealized Losses | 1,929,893.08 | 5,411,730.12 | 0.00 |
| 1550 – Inc Due & Accrued Prior Year | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | | | |
| NET INVESTMENT INCOME | 6,807,830.68 | -773,484.18 | 6,413,540.54 |
| | | | |
| Income Required: | | | |
| Annuity Savings Fund | 12,854.74 | 6,816.96 | 12,299.17 |
| Annuity Reserve Fund | 86,062.04 | 87,237.38 | 81,244.43 |
| Expense Fund | 346,499.59 | 349,902.81 | 304,313.33 |
| Military Service Fund | 2.21 | 2.21 | 2.21 |
| | | | |
| TOTAL INCOME REQUIRED | 445,418.58 | 443,959.36 | 397,859.14 |
| | | | |
| Net Investment Income | 6,807,830.68 | -773,484.18 | 6,413,540.54 |
| Less: Income Required | 445,418.58 | 443,959.36 | 397,859.14 |
| EXCESS INCOME TO THE PENSION RESERVE FUND | 6,362,412.10 | -1,217,443.54 | 6,015,681.40 |
| | | | |

REPORT OF TREASURER'S CASH AS OF JUNE 30, 2019

BANK ACCOUNTS INTEREST BEARING

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| UniBank | 286,048.16 | |
| Peoples United | 52,818.14 | |
| Unibank - Credit Card Account | 25,122.11 | |
| Greenfield Savings Bank - Airport | <u>(12,206.75)</u> | |
| | | 351,781.66 |

BANK ACCOUNTS NON-INTEREST BEARING

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Greenfield Savings Bank - Park & Rec. | (1,955.64) | |
| Greenfield Co-Operative Bank - Sewer | 489,846.23 | |
| Greenfield Co-Operative Bank | <u>4,657,152.29</u> | |
| | | 5,145,042.88 |

INVESTMENTS

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| MMDT | 326,161.27 | |
| Greenfield Savings - Sewer | 10,021.34 | |
| SRBT | 473,376.43 | |
| Unibank - DPW Facility Account | 2,003,532.84 | |
| UniBank | <u>60,574.07</u> | |
| | | 2,873,665.95 |

CONSERVATION FUND

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Balance July 1, 2018 | 50,977.00 | |
| Investment Income | <u>836.09</u> | |
| Balance June 30, 2019 | | 51,813.09 |

STABILIZATION FUND

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| Balance July 1, 2018 | 846,591.95 | |
| Investment Income | 23,383.37 | |
| Added to Fund | 121,726.00 | |
| Disbursements from Fund | <u>-</u> | |
| Balance June 30, 2019 | | 991,701.32 |

GILL MONTAGUE EDUCATIONAL STAB FUND

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Balance July 1, 2018 | 44.29 | |
| Investment Income | 422.45 | |
| Added to Fund | 37,811.00 | |
| Balance June 30, 2019 | | 38,277.74 |

FRANKLIN TECH EDUCATIONAL STAB FUND

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Balance July 1, 2018 | 99,477.43 | |
| Investment Income | 18.33 | |
| Added to Fund | - | |
| Disbursements from Fund | <u>53,465.00</u> | |
| Balance June 30, 2019 | | 46,030.76 |

MONTAGUE SEWER CAPITAL STAB FUND

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| Balance July 1, 2018 | 200,263.41 | |
| Investment Income | 99.87 | |
| Added to Funds | | |
| Disbursements from Fund | | |
| Balance June 30, 2019 | | 200,363.28 |

TOWN OF MONTAGUE CAPITAL STAB FUND

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| Balance July 1, 2018 | 60,081.40 | |
| Investment Income | 2,284.20 | |
| Added to Funds | 116,444.00 | |
| Disbursements from Fund | <u>-</u> | |
| Balance June 30, 2019 | | 178,809.60 |

MSCP PI TRUST

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------|
| Balance July 1, 2018 | 15,197.25 | |
| Investment Income | 1.93 | |
| Added to Funds | - | |
| Disbursed from Fund | <u>(15,172.00)</u> | |
| Balance June 30, 2019 | | 27.18 |

SEWER USER FEES AS OF JUNE 30, 2019

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------|
| <u>2019 SEPTAGE FEES COLLECTED</u> | | | 211,265.00 |
| <u>2019 INDUSTRIAL USE FEES</u> | | | |
| Committed prior to June 30, 2019 | | | 325,595.85 |
| Committed after June 30, 2019 | | | <u>0.00</u> |
| | | | 325,595.85 |
| Collected prior to June 30, 2019 | | | 320,010.35 |
| Collected after June 30, 2019 | | | <u>0.00</u> |
| Outstanding Balance | | | 5,585.50 |
| | | | - |
| <u>2013 SEWER USE FEES</u> | | | |
| Commitment Balance | | | 0.00 |
| Receipts | 0.00 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 0.00 | |
| Outstanding June 30, 2019 | | <u>0.00</u> | |
| <u>2014 SEWER USE FEES</u> | | | |
| Commitment Balance | | | 0.00 |
| Receipts | 0.00 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 0.00 | |
| Tax Title | | 0.00 | |
| Outstanding June 30, 2019 | | <u>0.00</u> | |
| <u>2015 SEWER USE FEES</u> | | | |
| Commitment Balance | | | 961.31 |
| Receipts | 961.31 | | |
| Refunds | | | |
| Net Receipts | | 961.31 | |
| Outstanding June 30, 2019 | | <u>0.00</u> | |
| <u>2016 SEWER USE FEES</u> | | | |
| Commitment Balance | | | 12,966.17 |
| Receipts | 2,616.51 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 2,616.51 | |
| Outstanding June 30, 2019 | | <u>10,349.66</u> | |
| <u>2017 SEWER USE FEES</u> | | | |
| Commitment Balance | | | 37,854.30 |
| Receipts | 5,595.15 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 5,595.15 | |
| Outstanding June 30, 2019 | | <u>32,259.15</u> | |
| <u>2018 SEWER USE FEES</u> | | | |
| Commitment Balance | | | 119,306.47 |
| Receipts | 63,701.94 | | |
| Refunds | -211.48 | | |
| Ind Sewer - Southworth | <u>-27,936.30</u> | | |

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Net Receipts | 35,554.16 |
| Rate Adjustment correction Comm #1 | 34,852.91 |
| Outstanding June 30, 2019 | <u>48,899.40</u> |

2019 SEWER USE FEES

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Commitment Balance | | 919234.46 |
| Add'l Commitment | | <u>912413.18</u> |
| Total Commitment | | 1831647.64 |
| Receipts | 1568810.9 | |
| Refunds | <u>-6496.59</u> | |
| Net Receipts | | 1562314.31 |
| Abatement | | 40475.27 |
| Outstanding June 30, 2019 | | <u>228858.06</u> |

INTEREST AND CHARGES ON ABOVE

\$13,801.49

EILEEN M. SEYMOUR
TAX COLLECTOR

REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR AS OF JUNE 30, 2019

2015 REAL ESTATE

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|-------------|-------------|
| Commitment Balance | | | 0.00 |
| Receipts | 0.00 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 0.00 | |
| Outstanding as of June 30, 2019 | | <u>0.00</u> | |
| | | | <u>0.00</u> |

2016 REAL ESTATE

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|-------------|-----------------|
| Commitment Balance | | | 27622.17 |
| Receipts | 27622.17 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 27622.17 | |
| Outstanding as of June 30, 2019 | | <u>0.00</u> | |
| | | | <u>27622.17</u> |

2017 REAL ESTATE

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|-----------------|------------------|
| Commitment Balance | | | 142071.94 |
| Receipts | 95298.73 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 95298.73 | |
| Outstanding as of June 30, 2019 | | <u>46773.21</u> | |
| | | | <u>142071.94</u> |

2018 REAL ESTATE

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|
| Commitment Balance | | | 325343.36 |
| Proforma | | | <u>34.32</u> |
| Total Commitment | | | 325377.68 |
| Receipts | 174284.45 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 174284.45 | |
| Outstanding as of June 30, 2019 | | <u>151093.23</u> | |
| | | | <u>325377.68</u> |

2019 REAL ESTATE

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Commitment Balance | | | 7473418.71 |
| Add'l Commitment | | | 7833819.02 |
| Proforma | | | 1140.48 |
| Chapter 61A Rollback | | | <u>1498.13</u> |
| Total Commitment | | | 15309876.34 |
| Receipts | 14834559.12 | | |
| Refunds | -40600.67 | | |
| Payment Reversals | <u>-677.81</u> | | |
| Net Receipts | | 14793280.64 | |
| Abatements | | 19074.89 | |
| Exemptions | | 62130.53 | |
| Tax Title | | 57036.40 | |
| Outstanding as of June 30, 2019 | | <u>378353.88</u> | |
| | | | <u>15309876.34</u> |

2015 PERSONAL PROPERTY

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|---------------|---------------|
| Commitment Balance | | | 140.96 |
| Receipts | 0.00 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 0.00 | |
| Outstanding as of June 30, 2019 | | <u>140.96</u> | |
| | | | <u>140.96</u> |

2016 PERSONAL PROPERTY

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------------|
| Commitment Balance | | | 32187.13 |
| Receipts | 29600.26 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 29600.26 | |
| Outstanding as of June 30, 2019 | | <u>2586.87</u> | |
| | | | <u>32187.13</u> |

2017 PERSONAL PROPERTY

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------------|
| Commitment Balance | | | 53742.38 |
| Receipts | 51373.11 | | |
| Net Receipts | | 51373.11 | |
| Outstanding as of June 30, 2019 | | <u>2369.27</u> | |
| | | | <u>53742.38</u> |

2018 PERSONAL PROPERTY

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Commitment Balance | | | 3952.68 |
| Receipts | 639.37 | | |
| Refunds | <u>-323.68</u> | | |
| Net Receipts | | 315.69 | |
| Outstanding as of June 30, 2019 | | <u>3636.99</u> | |
| | | | <u>3952.68</u> |

2019 PERSONAL PROPERTY

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Commitment Balance | | | 1121031.01 |
| Add'l Commitment | | | <u>1504846.00</u> |
| Total Commitment | | | 2625877.01 |
| Receipts | 2481295.64 | | |
| Refunds | <u>-164.12</u> | | |
| Net Receipts | | 2481131.52 | |
| Abatements | | 653.75 | |
| Outstanding as of June 30, 2019 | | <u>144091.74</u> | |

INTEREST AND CHARGES ON ABOVE**\$103,503.51**

EILEEN M. SEYMOUR
TAX COLLECTOR

UPPER PIONEER VALLEY VETERANS' SERVICES DISTRICT

Our district has now been in operation for 4 ½ years. We are the largest district by community count and square miles covered in the state. Below are just some of the programs and services we help veterans' and their dependents with:

- M.G.L. Ch 115 benefit – Needs based program of financial and medical assistance to eligible veterans and their dependents
- Assistance to veterans and dependents to help file for VA health care, pensions, and service-connected disabilities
- Homeless prevention assistance to veterans and their families
- Employment help with job searches, resumes, and job interview skills
- Burial assistance to include government markers, flag holders, internment, and VA burial reimbursement
- Veterans records retrieval and storage
- Referral to other public and private agencies to include housing, fuel assistance, employment, training, education
- Attend area outreach events(fairs, festivals, health care expos)

We have continued to work hard helping veterans and dependents file for VA benefits due them. Montague now has around \$201526.45 in monthly Federal VA payments being paid to approximately 137 Montague residents. This is tax-free income paid due to service-connected injuries, low-income or survivor status.

We forecast Montague's M.G.L. Ch115 caseload to remain flat for the foreseeable future. This is the states low income assistance program for veterans' and their dependents. Although reimbursed back to the towns at 75%, this takes over a year to get back from the state, so reducing payouts up front has freed up funds for Montague. This budget item has been reduced from \$13,882.08 per month to \$6638.20 in the 4 ½ years Montague has been in the district by thorough investigations and helping clients file for alternative source of income

For the coming year we will continue to assist veterans, and will emphasize programs for the dependents of veterans, particularly the elderly population. Our long-term goals include up dated hardware and expanding satellite hours in the district.

Timothy Niejadlik, Director
Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans' Services District

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY

Service

The Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) services all sewered residences, commercial and industrial businesses and public buildings in each Montague village except Millers Falls. The WPCF also services the Riverside section of Gill. Septage is received from the Towns of Montague and Gill, outside of these areas it is received at the discretion of the WPCF Superintendent. The sanitary sewage from the Montague side of Millers Falls is treated at the Erving WPCF. Facility average design flow is 1.83 million gallons per day (mgd) and presently treats an average flow of .785mgd. Approximately 10% of the collection system (above 7th & L Streets) remains a combined sewer receiving flows from catch basins as well as receiving sanitary sewerage. Treatment is 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, receiving flow from a sanitary sewer collection system of approximately 36 miles in length. In addition WPCF staff operate and maintain 8 remote pump stations, 4 grinder pump stations, three combined sewer overflow (CSO) regulators, two CSO outfalls, the Millers Falls flume and 2 canal crossing heaters.

Statistics for the WPCF are listed below:

| Calendar Year | WPCF Flow MG | Septage gallons | % Removal (permit limit is 85%) | | BOD/TSS loadings | | | | Bio solids Dry Tons |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----|------------------|---------|--------|---------|---------------------|
| | | | BOD | TSS | BOD in | BOD out | TSS in | TSS out | |
| 2017 | 313 | 2,402,380 | 84 | 71 | 1191 | 174 | 1100 | 282 | 50 compost |
| 2018 | 340 | 2,665,636 | 89 | 88 | 561 | 36 | 515 | 29 | 2 compost |
| 2019 | 287 | 539,450 | 84 | 70 | 613 | 49 | 568 | 92 | 0 compost |

Treatment Process Description

Minimum percent removal required by the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for both Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) raw sewage strength characteristics is 85%. To meet the criteria of the NPDES Permit, two main processes are necessary to separate water from the waste via settling and biological treatment. The first or primary treatment entails the physical separation of wastes from the water due to some materials being heavier or lighter than the water carrying it. The second involves a biological process to convert non-settleable or floatable waste remaining untreated by the primary process, to a material that will settle in outdoor concrete tanks called secondary clarifiers.

Accomplishments & events in 2019:

- Ms. Tina Tyler retired in the summer after 32 years of service to the Town.
- The WPCF Superintendent, Robert McDonald, departed for other employment in September. The Chief Operator is acting as Interim Superintendent and the previously retired Superintendent (Robert Trombley) agreed to return as Consulting Superintendent to support facility staff.
- Returning plant process control to a conventional activated sludge treatment process per Mass DEP continued with removal by mobile centrifuge of 45,000 lbs from the treatment plant.
- Two sanitary sewage pump stations, Lake Pleasant Rd. and Denton St., had their control systems replaced with updated controls. Preparation for similar work on the Tech School station was started in the fall with completion scheduled in Spring 2020. Remote monitoring goal is being accomplished as part of this work.
- UMass Amherst conducted a sludge reduction study funded by MassCEC.
- It was found that the underground fuel tank at the Administration Building had leaked some fuel oil into the concrete vault. Work to evaluate and remove the tank and concrete vault was begun. A new 1,320 gallons above ground fuel storage system was installed to supply the emergency generator, building heat and hot water.
- Secondary clarifier spare drive was purchased.

- The sludge garage door electric operator having been inoperable for some time was replaced.
- The Tech School sanitary sewer pump station fence previously damaged by a car was fixed.
- Removal of accumulated grit and debris from several areas at the WPCF was accomplished.
- Controls were added to SCADA to allow for more efficient process control which will result in lower costs.

Staffing

The facility was staffed by 7 full time personnel, all are licensed Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) Operators. The continuing goal is to provide a greater depth of knowledge and a capable professional staff to better serve the community as aided by operator certification via the DEP exam process. Concerning the pump stations, per regulations all stations are to be inspected daily. The Pump stations remote monitoring system is to be completed in the spring of 2019. This upgrade of the control and alarm system will allow for remote monitoring from the WWTP or from an iPad and hence require fewer visits to pump stations.

I extend my appreciation to facility staff for their continuing diligence and efforts to operate and improve the Montague WPCF and sanitary sewer pump stations. It is our belief that well trained motivated personnel are essential to the operations of this facility and are critical in keeping staffing at lower levels.

Finance

Financial support is based on Enterprise Funding where the users of the system pay based on the volume of water used. The sewer rates increased 1% for FY 2020. Operational, capital expenditure and debt service expenses are supported by the sewer users with the Town paying an annual Inflow & Infiltration (I/I) surcharge.

Inflow & Infiltration

The entry of water into the sanitary sewer collection system from surface and subsurface sources is what constitutes I/I. The reduction of this essentially clean water has a positive impact on WPCF capacity and sanitary sewage pump stations as well as a reduction in the I/I assessment charged to the Town property tax base each fiscal year, also the cost to the town for Erving to treat Millers Falls sewerage. For every gallon of I/I removed more capacity to treat raw sewage is available. It is hoped that as the sanitary sewer repair program progresses that leaks into the system will be reduced, this should result in a reduction in the Town I/I surcharge.

Regulatory Controls

A Multi Sector Storm Water Permit was issued to the WPCF to control storm water runoff to the Connecticut River.

Continuing Priorities at the WPCF

- Efficient and cost effective operations.
- I & I reduction for Millers Falls
- Expand composting capabilities
- Pump Station upgrades will continue.
- Protection of the public health and the environment.
- Pursuit of facility equipment replacement, upgrades and low cost effluent nutrient removal.

The most important objective at the facility is to provide a safe working environment for the staff by supporting safety and professional training and to work to couple that with sense of personal accomplishment and involvement. From that objective extends the need to maintain valuable staff that is motivated and trained. In this way the Town works to ensure the continued efficient operation of a significant infrastructure component.

Also my thanks to the Highway Department, Treasurer and Accounting offices and other Town departments we have worked with throughout the year.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Zoning Board of Appeals is the Town's final arbitrator of land use issues. It hears and decides requests for Special Permits and Site Plan Review. They decide upon conditional uses for activities such as, signage, multi-family construction, earth removal and some commercial uses of land. It is empowered to vary the terms and requirements of our Zoning Bylaws under certain prescribed conditions such as hardship and unique circumstances where the strict application of the By-laws is unfair or unanticipated. The Board is also the last local appeal body for land use decisions of the Inspector of Buildings and of Sub-division decisions of the Planning Board.

The Board of Appeals is a volunteer board appointed by the selectmen consisting of 5 full member positions and 3 associate member positions. For 2019 the Board had 5 members and 1 associate member.

The Board collected \$400.00 in application fees for 2019 while the Board's expenses were \$965.78.

Christopher H. Rice
Inspector of Buildings
Zoning Enforcement Officer