MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING
1 Avenue A and VIA ZOOM
Monday, November 2, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM. Present were Selectboard members Rich Kuklewicz, Marina Goldman, and Nate Card; Town Administrator Walter Ramsey; Assistant town Administrator Chris Nolan-Zeller; Executive Assistant Fern Smith; RiverCulture Director Suzanne LoManto; and FCRHA Director of Community Development Brian McHugh.

Approve Minutes: October 26, 2026, if available
Goldman makes the motion to approve the Minutes for October 26, 2026. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Selectboard will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment
Resident Will Quale expresses appreciation to the Town staff for their work on the Complete Streets Project in Montague Center.

Personnel Board
Historical Commission
Appoint Will Quale to Historical Commission effective 11/3/2026 for a 3-year term. Term expires on 6/20/2029
Goldman makes the motion to appoint Will Quale to Historical Commission effective 11/3/2026 for a 3-year term. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Licensing
Request to consider and vote a Change of Manager from Michelle Cloutier to James Leveille, as submitted by Norman Emond, Montague Bpo Elks Lodge 2521 located at 1 Elks Avenue, Montague, MA 01376 for their All-Alcohol Cub License
Goldman makes the motion to approve the Change of Manager from Michelle Cloutier to James Leveille as requested. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

RiverCulture with Suzanne LoManto
- **Friday, December 4, 2026, use of Spinner Park for "It's a Wonderful Night in Tuners Falls." Children are greeted by Santa from 6:30-7:15 PM. Co-sponsored by RiverCulture.**
  Goldman makes the motion to approve the Use of Public Property at Spinner Park for the "It's a Wonderful Night in Turners Falls" event. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
- **Saturday, December 12, 2026, Montague Center Fire Department Santa Parade. Use of Montague Center Common at 1:30 PM and Rutters Park at 2:00 PM. Co-sponsored by RiverCulture**
  Goldman makes the motion to approve the Use of Public Property at the Montague Center Common on December 12, 2026 for the Santa Parade. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Brian McHugh, Community Development Program Manager, Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority
- **Authorization for Selectboard to approve the final payment to HM Nunes & Sons for the Avenue A Streetscape Improvements 5.1 Project**
  Goldman makes the motion to pay Invoice #2 for the FY25 Streetscape Improvements 5.1 Construction Project to HM Nunes & Sons in the amount of $242,459.09. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
- **Review and signature on the Certificate of Final Completion for HM Nunes & Sons for the Avenue A Streetscape Improvements 5.1 Project**
  Goldman makes the motion to approve the Certificate of Final Completion for HM Nunes & Sons for the Avenue A Streetscape Improvements 5.1 Project. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Assistant Town Administrator's Business
- **Authorize Contract with Bowman Consulting Group, Ltd., for Professional Engineering & Traffic Services for Intersection/Signal Reconstruction Avenue A @ 3rd Street and Avenue A @ 7th Street. Contract value is $110,000 to be funded with Municipal & Tribal Technical Assistance Grant.**
  Goldman makes the motion to authorize the Contract with Bowman Consulting Group, Ltd., for Professional Engineering & Traffic Services for Intersection/Signal Reconstruction Avenue A @ 3rd Street and Avenue A @ 7th Street. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
- **Other Project Updates**
  The Unity Park Playground is reopened.

Town Administrator's Business

- **10/28/2026 Special Town Meeting debrief and follow-ups**
  - All the business at the Special Town Meeting got done and approved.
  - Town Accountant Angelica Desroches will balance the books with the appropriations that were made and update our budget.
  - The Senior Tax Credit Program was authorized. There was a lot of good feedback.
  - The Lease for 34 Central Street was authorized. Ramsey and Nolan-Zeller will work on a timeline for an RFP.
  - The Elementary School Feasibility Study was authorized. The next step for the committee is to develop an agreement with the MSBA.
  - Card mentions that there is a lot of concern about the airport.
- **Authorize Intermunicipal Agreement with Gill-Montague Regional School District to establish the financing framework for the Sheffield/Hillcrest Elementary School Building Project. Next Steps for the project.**
  - *Goldman makes the motion to authorize the Intermunicipal Agreement with Gill-Montague Regional School District to establish the financing framework for the Sheffield/Hillcrest Elementary School Building Project. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
  - The committee will meet again to discuss Next Steps for the project on Wednesday, November 4 via ZOOM.
- **Request for Advocacy to bring additional State resources to the Franklin County Tech High School Building Project**
  - The Mayor's Office in Greenfield is hoping to get some of the Franklin County communities together to appeal to the State regarding funding for the Franklin County Tech School.
  - The Selectboard has no objection to Ramsey's re-wording a draft letter and signing it.
- **Authorize Deed and Land Development Agreement with Franklin Hampshire Habitat for Humanity for First Street Housing Site (Parcel ID 04-0-0031)**
  - *Goldman makes the motion to authorize the Deed and Land Development Agreement with Franklin Hampshire Habitat for Humanity for First Street Housing Site (Parcel ID 04-0-0031). Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
  - *Goldman makes the motion to authorize Habitat for Humanity to do additional drilling on-site for soil-test assessment, as well as fence the property boundaries prior to the closing as requested. Seconded by Card, unanimously approved. Goldman - Aye, Card - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*
- **Topics not anticipated within 48-hour posting requirements**
  The Village Services Study Working Group is having their second meeting this Wednesday. They hope to reach a consensus on what the priority issues are. Ramsey is hoping they can agree on what scenarios we want to explore.

Other

Card mentions that on Friday, he received a resignation from the Tree Advisory Committee, so there is currently an opening.

Next Meeting

Selectboard Meeting: Monday, November 9, 2026 at 6:30 PM via ZOOM

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