

# **MONTAGUE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

## **MEETING AGENDA**

### **Carnegie Library- 201 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA Meet at Main Lobby**

**Wednesday, November 30, 2023 from 3:45 to 4:45 pm**

#### **Votes May Be Taken**

1. Call to Order
2. Review of Montague Public Libraries Capital Article Request (Library Director Caitlin Kelley, invited)
  1. New Main Branch Feasibility Study (\$150,000)
3. Tour of Carnegie Library
4. Status of currently funded capital projects including Carnegie Basement renovations, Montague Center Masonry/roof/windows, and Millers Falls Library rear windows and doors
5. Topics not anticipated in the 48 hour posting requirements
6. Adjournment

Next Scheduled Meeting Wednesday, December 6 3:15PM via ZOOM



## Annual Town Meeting

### SPECIAL ARTICLE REQUEST – CAPITAL EXPENSE

Budget Year  
**FY 25**

*This form is intended for use with capital article submissions  $\geq$  \$25,000 with a lifespan of 5+ years. For major building projects, please consult the Town Administrator.*

***Please complete this form in its entirety! Initial Submission due November 1***

Check Here if this an expedited request for Winter 2023 Special Town Meeting

Department: Libraries Submitted by: Caitlin Kelley

Item/Project Cost: \$150,000 Date Prepared: 10/17/2023

Item/Project Title: Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program Funding Appropriation

#### Proposed Article Wording:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of **\$150,000**, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding for the planning and design phase of the Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

#### Detailed Description for Background Materials: *(Provide a full description of the item or service. Use attachments as needed.)*

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners requires municipalities applying for state construction program funding to appropriate \$150,000 for the planning and design phase of the Massachusetts Public Library Construction Program. Should the town fail to be accepted into the state construction program, these funds will not be used.

During the planning and design phase of the project, the Libraries's director, the Trustees' Building Committee, and a special Community Building Committee will work with an architect on design options for both an expansion of the existing Carnegie Library and a new main library, which would be located at 38 Avenue A. Public comment would be sought and a ballot initiative would be voted on at a future town meeting. Based on Montague's community need, the town is eligible to have 67.53% of eligible construction costs covered by the state program.

**Scoping Questions**

**Yes**

**No**

*Please elaborate in the comments box at bottom of the page*

Do you have a written estimate or proposal for the scope of work?

*If yes, attach the estimate*

Is there a lease option for this expense?

Will this item or project replace a capital asset?

Will this create ongoing costs or savings?

Will this leverage grant or other external funding?

Is this request identified on the Capital Improvement Plan?

**Describe how the project/ purchase will be managed**

The Library Director will manage the project with support from the Library Trustees' Building Committee and will collaborate with an architect hired with project funds.

**Why is it essential that the Town makes this investment now?**

The Carnegie Library does not meet the needs of the Montague community and has not for the past 108 years, when the first expansion of the building was proposed in 1915. The opportunity to either expand the Carnegie Library or build a new main library with over 67% of eligible construction costs covered will not come around again for many years and there's no guarantee that the state will have the resources to be as generous in their next construction round. To act now is to make a sound investment in our community with the goal of providing a library space that serves the needs of everyone in Montague.

**Relative Priority** : Your assessment of the how important this is to the Town at the present time.

Critical Importance

Highly Important

Moderately Important

X

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**Comments and additional information:**

[Empty box for comments and additional information]