

MONTAGUE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 3:30 pm, Town Hall Annex Meeting Room and on ZOOM

In Attendance:

CIC Members: Gregory Garrison (GG), Chris Menegoni (CM), Ariel Elan (AE), Jason Burbank (JB) (arrived at 3:36 pm)

Absent: Lynn Reynolds (LR)

Town Staff: Christopher Nolan-Zeller (CNZ) – Assistant Town Administrator

Meeting called to order 3:34 pm, GG Presiding

1. Call to Order and Approve any outstanding meeting minutes: 3/25/26

MOTION to approve the minutes of 3/25/26, by GG, CM Seconded. GG-AYE, CM-AYE, AE-AYE. MOTION PASSED

2. Review Annual Town Meeting Capital Report

GG reviewed the structure of the report, including the summary table and the Committee's recommendation votes, noting that a good amount of detail was present, and no additions or clarifications were necessary.

JB arrives at meeting.

GG discussed the criteria for the Committee to recommend a capital request, including for public safety, cost avoidance, or to prevent service interruption. GG noted minor spelling and formatting errors to be corrected before the report is finalized.

CM recommended that this report be shared with all Finance Committee members, specifically to help new members better understand the processes involved with review of capital requests.

AE expressed appreciation that the background material in this year's report felt less repetitive than it had the previous year.

CM predicted that Town Meeting members would ask several questions on funding sources for specific projects. AE added that it was helpful to provide ample background information for those who were inclined to read it.

AE noted that the Main Library Building Project, as a proposed major debt exclusion, fell somewhat outside of the Committee's typical review processes, but recommended that the Committee still take a vote on whether to recommend funding the project.

MOTION to recommend the Montague Public Libraries Request for Construction of a New Main Branch Library at 38 Avenue A for a total of \$23,704,053 by AE, CM Seconded. GG-AYE, CM-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED.

MOTION to approve the Annual Town Meeting Capital Report, with the edits as discussed and including the Committee's recommendation vote for the Library Project by GG, AE Seconded. GG-AYE, CM-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED.

3. Updates on ongoing capital projects

AE asked if JB had a chance to meet with the Police Chief yet to discuss options for addressing the Public Safety Complex's HVAC needs. JB responded that he had not, and would follow up. AE expressed optimism about the framing of the Police Department's capital request for HVAC controls upgrades. JB emphasized that this project was needed, but would not fix all of the building's HVAC issues, and that more work would be required in the coming years.

AE expressed appreciation for the Town's plan to apply for grant funding to construct wheelchair-accessible ramps on the 102-112 block of Avenue A, noting that this would improve accessibility of multiple downtown storefronts and support economic development.

4. Topics not anticipated in the 48 hour posting requirements

None.

5. Schedule next meeting

The committee agreed to reconvene towards the end of Summer to begin preparing for the FY28 budget cycle.

6. Adjournment

MOTION to close the meeting at 4:14PM by CM, JB Seconded. GG-AYE, CM-AYE, AE-AYE, JB-AYE. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Nolan-Zeller