



**Town of Montague**  
**Department, Board, Committee, Commission**  
**BUDGET NARRATIVE**

**FY 21**

*Complete this form electronically! Be clear and concise!*

Department: Board of Health Submitted by: Daniel Wasiuk

**1. Please describe and provide the rationale for any substantial changes in your FY21 line item budget submission.**

Removal of the Board of Health Inspector eliminates wage and expenses totaling 31395.00  
Replacement of this position involves the increase to a full-time Clerk at 37941.00 per year and a part-time Nurse at 9800.00 (four hours per week at a compensation rate of \$45/hour for contracted position) – the nurse position is being reinstated to the department based on current needs and state mandates.

To clarify the contract previously was with the City of Greenfield which is currently not an option to continue with as of November 1, 2019. The non continuation is due to the fact that the City of Greenfield notified us that they would not be participating in the regional Health partnership with the Community Public Health Nurse (CPHN).

With the previous contract, it stated that we would pay \$35 a month for the ongoing monitoring of the Town of Montague’s MAVEN account. If any case investigation work was needed, the rate went to \$55/hr for all required work; and if a TB (tuberculosis) case was confirmed and DOT is required the pay rate went to \$75/hr for all related work.

The current contract with the nurse involves the compensation rate of \$45/hr which is a non-benefitted position for four hours a week which will be inclusive to the monitoring of the MAVEN account, case investigation work and any TB (tuberculosis) cases that might arise.

**2. Did you receive funding for any special articles in FY20? What is the status of those expenditures/investments?**

Funding was not received for any special articles in FY20.

**3. Did you receive funding for a discretionary account in FY20? What have you purchased to date, at what cost? Looking forward in FY21, what do you expect to purchase at what cost?**

Funding was not received for a discretionary account in FY20.

**4. To-date in FY20, has your department experienced any notable successes, such as improving or providing new programs or services, or implementing new technologies? If so, please describe.**

Notable successes for the Board of Health entail expanding the Clerk position to a full-time Clerk (Anne Stuart) and a contracted nurse position (part-time at 4 hours per week). Both adopted positions were decided upon with full backing and approval of the Board of Health Members.

A full-time Clerk is essential to providing the public with office related assistance, such as public file research and health permit processing. In addition, the full-time role is conducive to proficiency to the daily operational procedures of the Board of Health. Ultimately, the additional hours leading to a full-time position have increased services to the public and improved efficiency with office related matters.

The contracted nurse (Cheryl Volpe) will be beneficial with compliance of disease surveillance and reporting requirements set forth by state department of health regulations – local Board of Health is mandated to fulfill regulatory obligations regarding infectious and communicable diseases. Also, the nurse position will be a resource to the public for health topic outreach (i.e., tobacco cessation, vaccinations, infectious disease education, etc.). And finally, having the contracted nurse available in the event of public health emergency involving disease isolation/quarantine and vaccine administration, is vital to a sound approach with protecting the safety and welfare of the citizens of Montague.

Incorporation of both of these positions amounts to the benefit of the department's FY21 Budget. This is accomplished by eliminating the need of previous intentions to staff the Board of Health with a full-time nurse and a part-time sanitary inspector. The full-time Clerk and part-time Nurse will provide the necessary services of the department at this time.

**5. Are there challenges to your department's ability to meet its goals and objectives that are due to its FY20 operating budget? If so, offer your recommendation(s) for improving the situation.**

There are no challenges to the department's ability to meet goals and objectives that are due to its FY20 operating budget.