

MONTAGUE FINANCE COMMITTEE
Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 6 PM
This meeting was held via Zoom and recorded:
<https://vimeo.com/982262386>

Finance Committee Chair Dorinda Bell-Upp called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Finance Committee members present: Chair Dorinda Bell-Upp, Vice Chair Fred Bowman, Leigh Rae at 6:04, Chris Menegoni, and John Hanold

Finance Committee members absent: Francia Wisnewski, Jennifer Waryas

Others present: Town Administrator Walter Ramsey, Town Accountant Angelica Desroches, Recreation Director Jon Dobosz

The meeting was recorded by MCTV as well as by Angelica Desroches.

Meeting minutes:

Mr. Hanold moved to approve the minutes of April 30, 2025. Seconded by Mr. Bowman and approved.
Bell-Upp – Aye, Bowman – Aye, Hanold – Aye, Menegoni – Aye

Reserve Fund Transfers:

- Recreation Department - \$2,500
 - Mr. Dobosz discussed that he had some overages in the internet and copier leases with the rates increasing after the FY25 budget was set. He also had the heat fail in the building in the middle of the winter and needed to spend some facilities money on getting a woodstove and fixing that. Mr. Hanold questioned if this will be a problem in FY26. Mr. Dobosz responded that he doesn't anticipate that at this time.
 - Move to approve the reserve fund transfer of \$2,500 for the listed recreation department accounts.
 - Mr. Hanold moved. Mr. Bowman Seconded.
 - Bell-Upp – Aye, Bowman – Aye, Hanold – Aye, Menegoni – Aye, Rae – Aye
- Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School - \$503.84
 - Ms. Desroches reported that an additional bill came for additional tuition to educate the student and we need an additional 503.84 to meet our legal obligation.
 - Move to approve the reserve fund transfer of \$503.84 for the Smith Vocational and Agricultural line item.
 - Mr. Hanold moved. Mr. Bowman Seconded.
 - Bell-Upp – Aye, Bowman – Aye, Hanold – Aye, Menegoni – Aye, Rae – Aye

Debrief of ATM and Budget Process:

- Ms. Bell- Upp stated she would like to continue to build in more long term forecasting to help predict what we can afford in the future years.
- Mr. Ramsey reported that the 5 year capital plan that is being worked on for this upcoming fiscal year is going to be more focused on needs with some tightening on what needs to be included in this year versus what can wait another year. Mr. Hanold reported that he would like to see

the CIC consider moving projects around from year to year based on current needs. Delaying some if they can be and pulling some earlier if need be. Mr. Menegoni stated that during the CIC meetings he did try to stress the necessity factor given the tumultuous financial future.

- Ms. Rae questioned if there is any changes around grants currently. Mr. Ramsey said he has noticed some federal grants drying up and that they are no longer relying on those grants for future projects and looking at other funding sources.
- Mr. Ramsey stated that next year's Annual Town Meeting is moving back to Saturday. It will be on May 2, 2026. And that the current plan for the fall Special Town Meeting is to have it on October 22, 2025. There is also the possibility of a second fall town meeting to discuss the six town school regionalization proposal which is being considered by the state at this time.

Updates from Town Administrator:

- None at this time.

Topics not anticipated within 48 hours of posting:

Adjournment

Ms. Bell-Upp makes the motion to adjourn at 6:31 PM. Seconded by Mr. Hanold and approved.

Bell-Upp – Aye, Bowman – Aye, Hanold – Aye, Rae – Aye, Menegoni – Aye

Respectfully submitted,
Angelica Desroches

Documents and exhibits: