

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

1 Avenue A, Turners Falls and VIA ZOOM

Monday, February 3, 2025

AGENDA

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84182270690>

Meeting ID: 841 8227 0690 Password: 638550 Dial into meeting: [+1 646 558 8656](tel:+16465588656)

This meeting/hearing of the Selectboard will be held in person at the location provided on this notice. Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting. Please note that while an option for remote attendance and/or participation is being provided as a courtesy to the public, the meeting/hearing will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the virtual broadcast, unless otherwise required by law. Members of the public with particular interest in any specific item on this agenda should make plans for in-person vs. virtual attendance accordingly.

Topics may start earlier than specified, unless there is a hearing scheduled

Meeting Being Taped

Votes May Be Taken

1. 6:30PM Selectboard Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken
2. 6:30 Approve Minutes: Selectboard Meeting, January 13, 2025
3. 6:32 **Public Comment Period:** Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Selectboard will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment
4. 6:35 **Maureen Pollock, Planning Director**
 - Announce receipt of FY25 MassDOT Complete Streets Tier 3 construction grant of \$499,682 - Traffic Calming and Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements in Montague Center. Next steps
 - Montague Seeks Community Input on Climate-Resilience Seed Project Concepts.
 - Authorization request to apply for Mass Trails Grant Application– Conduct a feasibility study that explores possible connectivity through the Montague Plains with connections to the surrounding 5 villages, the DCR Canalside Rail Trail, and Franklin County Bikeway
5. 6:45 **Jessica Strom, COO, Community Health Center of Franklin County**
 - Request for license to place directional sign in the public right of way at corner of Burnham St and Montague City Road
6. 7:00 **Public Works Superintendent, Sam Urkiel**
 - DPW Discretionary Account authorization request - \$30,000 for tack tank trailer
 - Sewer Collection System updates
7. 7:10 **FY26 Budget Review with Town Administrator and Town Treasurer**
 - Discuss Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust's plan to increase employee health insurance rates by 18-20% in FY26
 - Review budget and identify information gaps
 - Next steps in budget development process
 - Vote recommendations on draft FY26 budget

Montague Selectboard Meeting
February 3, 2027
Page 2

8. 7:30 **Assistant Town Administrator's Business**
- Budget review for charging stations (electricity, network fees)
 - Request for authorization to apply for no-cost EV charging planning support and feasibility studies from Massachusetts Clean Energy Center
 - Discussion on Colle Building strategy for proposals
 - Authorize Notice to Proceed with National Water Main Cleaning Co for Turners Falls Sewer Manhole Rehabilitation
 - Preliminary discussion on regional Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
 - Other project updates
9. 7:45 **Town Administrator's Business**
- Opioid Settlement funding spending strategy update
 - Topics not anticipated within 48 hour posting requirements
10. 7:50 Executive Session with Board of Assessors in accordance with G.L. c. 30A, § 21 (3) To discuss strategy with respect to litigation with FirstLight Power, Inc. if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.
11. 8:30 Executive session in accordance with G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining relating to National Association of Government Employees (NAGE), United Electrical Workers (UEW), and New England Police Benevolent Association (NEPBA) locals if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares

Next Meetings:

- Selectboard and Finance Committee GMRSD Budget Hearing, Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at 5:30 PM, Montague Town Hall Second Floor Conference Room
- Selectboard, Monday, February 10, 2025, at 6:00 PM, via ZOOM