

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

VIA ZOOM

Monday, March 24, 2025

AGENDA

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88121464412>

Meeting ID: 881 2146 4412 Passcode: 861208 Dial into meeting: +1 646 558 8656

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 March 10 and March 17, 2025
3. 6:30 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. 6:32 **Jon Dobosz, Parks & Recreation Director**
 - Request for special entertainment permit for amplified music/announcements at Unity Park for Peter Cottontails Eggstravaganza on April 19, 2025, from 11:00am to 2:00pm.
5. 6:35 **Vote recommendations for FY26 Budget**
 - A. Schedules for Elected and Appointed Officials**
 - 1 Schedule I- Elected officials
 - 2 Schedule II- Appointed officials
 - B. FY26 Operating Budget**
 1. Town operating budget - \$12,747,055
 2. Clean Water Facility operating budget - \$3,221,303
 3. Airport operating budget - \$425,732
 4. Colle operating budget - \$52,250
 5. Gill-Montague School District assessment - \$12,663,178
 6. Franklin County Tech School assessment - \$841,660
 - C. Special Articles**
 1. Smith Vocational tuition and transportation - \$59,000
 2. Transfer to reserves- \$230,608
 3. Library accessibility upgrades - \$10,000
 - D. Capital Requests**
 1. Clean Water Facility used mini-excavator- \$60,000
 2. Clean Water Facility Lake Pleasant + emergency generators- \$67,800
 3. Clean Water Facility thickened sludge pump replacement- \$104,000
 4. Sewer Collection System Rehab Phase II- \$3,000,000
 5. DPW 10 Wheel dump truck for \$365,000
 6. DPW dump truck for \$325,000
 7. DPW camera van- \$70,000
 8. DPW Pickup- \$65,000

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9. Oakman Street slope stabilization- \$60,000
10. Alley and non-chapter 90 paving-\$30,000
11. Meadow Road Guardrail- \$200,000
12. DPW Discretionary Account for \$36,470
13. Millers Falls Library storefront renovation- \$39,000
14. Unity Park Playground maintenance- \$125,000
15. Montague Center Complete Streets design- \$91,200
16. FRTA Bus Stop Improvements- \$60,000
17. Keith Footbridge Abatement- \$67,900

E. Other

1. Increase limit of Airport Fuel Revolving Fund to \$200,000

6. 6:55 **Review and vote recommendations for non-financial articles for May 7, 2025 Annual Town Meeting**

1. Selectboard and Assessors to enter into a 10-year Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with FirstLight Hydro Generating Company
2. Increase personal property taxation thresholds from \$1,000 to \$10,000
3. Authorize Treasurer to enter into tax title payment agreements in accordance with new state law
4. Unclaimed property
5. Authorize Selectboard to enter into a 10-year lease of the Shea Theater (71 Avenue A)
6. Franklin Regional Council of Governments charter amendments

7. 7:20 **Assistant Town Administrator's Business**

- Authorize contract with Innes Associates Ltd. For technical assistance for Montague City village re-zoning. Contract value is \$60,000 to be funded by Community Planning Grant from Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC)
- Other Updates

8. 7:25 **Town Administrator's Business**

- Rescind and revoke CDBG signatory authorization from 3/17/2025
- Planning for a pre-town meeting session
- Electricity purchase contracts up for renewal December 2025
- Consider lift of townwide parking ban
- Topics not anticipated in the 48-hour posting requirements

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9. 7:30 Executive session in accordance with G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(1) discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.
10. 8:15 Executive session in accordance with G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining relating to the 2024 Pay and Classification Study, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares.

Next Meeting:

- Finance Committee, March 26, 2025, at 6:00pm via ZOOM
- Selectboard, Monday, March 31, 2025, at 6:30PM via ZOOM