

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
October 10, 2023

MOTIONS

ARTICLE 1. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the Town of Montague Consolidated Personnel By-Law by adding Section XIII as follows:

Section XIII Longevity

- A) Annual longevity payments will be provided in the following amounts for benefited, non-police employees who have completed the indicated years of service:

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Five years | \$300 |
| Ten years | \$500 |
| Fifteen years | \$900 |
| Twenty years | \$1,000 |
| Twenty-five years | \$1,100 |
| Thirty years | \$1,200 |

- B) The payments authorized by this section shall be applied to the compensation of eligible employees retroactively as of July 1, 2023.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 2. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,100 for the purpose of increasing the FY2024 budgets for the following departments to fund the cost of longevity payments to eligible non-police employees, said appropriation to be contingent upon passage and approval of the bylaw amendment proposed in Article 1 of this Special Town Meeting Warrant, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

| <u>Line Item</u> | <u>Dollar Amount Increase</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 122 Selectboard | \$ 800 |
| 135 Accountant | \$1,000 |
| 145 Treasurer/Tax Collector | \$ 300 |
| 420 DPW | \$1,000 |

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 3. MOVED: That the Town vote to increase the COLA base for Montague Contributory Retirement System retirees from \$18,000 to \$30,000 effective July 1, 2024.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 4. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$12,500 for the purpose of purchasing and installing cable-related equipment for MCTV and anything incidental or related thereto, said sum to be raised from PEG Access Funds.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 5. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$12,885.56 for the purpose of increasing the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 6. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for the purpose of purchasing and installing two signs for the Highland Woods green burial area, including any and all incidental or related costs, said sum to be raised from Sale of Highland Cemetery Lots.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 7. MOVED: That the Town vote pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 114, Section 23 to approve all policies and regulations promulgated by the Montague Cemetery Commission prior to the date of this meeting, as shown on the handout titled “Rules and Regulations of the Montague Cemetery Commission, Revised May 8, 2023”; and further to grant the Montague Cemetery Commission authority to promulgate additional policies and regulations and to amend, revise and/or delete all such policies and regulations, subject to the approval of the Selectboard, without further approval at Town Meeting.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

AMENDMENT to ARTICLE 7. MOVED: That the Town vote pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 114, Section 23 to approve all policies and regulations promulgated by the Montague Cemetery Commission prior to the date of this meeting, as shown on the handout titled “Rules and Regulations of the Montague Cemetery Commission, Revised May 8, 2023”; and further to grant the Montague Cemetery Commission authority to promulgate additional policies and regulations and to amend, revise and/or delete all such policies and regulations, subject to the approval of ~~the Selectboard, without further approval at~~ Town Meeting.

FAIL/MAJORITY VOTE

ARTICLE 8. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$500,000 for the purpose of constructing and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, park improvements on the Town’s property located at Montague Center Park, Map 43, Lots 118, 119, 121, 122, & 123 which property is held by, managed and controlled by the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Town of Montague for public playground and recreation center purposes; and, further, subject to receipt and acceptance of the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (“PARC”) Grant, described hereinafter, to dedicate said property to park and active recreation purposes under the provisions of G.L. Chapter 45, Section 3 in perpetuity; provided,

however, that such funds shall not be expended unless the Town is approved for a Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (“PARC”) Grant from the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services for reimbursement of all or a percentage of the project cost, and to authorize the Parks and Recreation Commission, with the approval of the Selectboard, to file on behalf of the Town any and all applications deemed necessary for grants and/or reimbursements from any federal, state or other funds, and to enter into such grant agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing, said sum to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 9. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$7,566.81 for the purpose of paying a prior year unpaid bill of the Clean Water Facility, said sum to be raised from Clean Water Facility Retained Earnings.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

Article 10. MOVED: That the Town vote to establish a special purpose Clean Water Facility Do Not Use (DNU) Until 2064 Stabilization Fund in accordance with MGL Chapter 40 Section 5B, and appropriate the sum of \$68,100 for the purpose of funding said stabilization fund, said sum to be raised from the Clean Water Facility Retained Earnings.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 11. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$209,000 for the purpose of increasing the amount appropriated pursuant to Article 18 of the May 7, 2022 Annual Town Meeting, which appropriated the sum of \$130,000 for the purchase and installation of a backup generator for the Clean Water Facility and all incidental installation costs to include but not be limited to the corresponding moving of transfer switches and fuel tank, said sum to be raised from Clean Water Facility Retained Earnings.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 12. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,400 for the purpose of performing a local limits study in accordance with the Town's National Pollution Elimination Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit obligations requirements, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Clean Water Facility Retained Earnings.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 13. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$95,000 for the purpose of replacing two pumping station generators, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Clean Water Facility Retained Earnings.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 14. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$99,900 for the purpose of securing professional consulting services to conduct analysis and reporting in support of collections system regulatory compliance, and for the development of updated local sewer regulations, including any and all related or incidental costs, said sum to be raised from Free Cash.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 15. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of securing professional consulting services to assess and develop plans related to the Town's wastewater collections system capacity, operations and maintenance, and high flow protocols, including any and all related or incidental costs, said sum to be raised from Clean Water Facility Retained Earnings.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE

ARTICLE 16. MOVED: That the Town vote to acquire and accept, by donation, from Farren Care Center, Inc., or the current owner, the real property located at 340-350, and 356 Montague City Road, Turners Falls, and shown as Parcels 12-0-044, 12-0-044A, and 12-0-051, and being Lots B and C on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Montague Massachusetts Surveyed for The Farren Memorial Hospital" dated September 11, 1989, recorded with the Franklin Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 79, Page 4, on such terms and conditions as the Selectboard shall deem to be in the best interest of the Town; and to authorize the Selectboard to take all actions and execute all documents necessary and appropriate for said acquisition and acceptance, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

PASSED/UNANIMOUS VOTE