

**SELECTBOARD, FINANCE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES**

UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM, 1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA

Due to COVID-19 Public Participation will be by:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/341572861> or call [+1 \(872\) 240-3311](tel:+18722403311)

Access Code: 341-572-861 (Remote meeting will open at 6:50 PM)

MONDAY, March 30, 2020

1. Call to Order:

Present: Chris Boutwell, Selectboard Clerk, Steven Ellis, Town Administrator, Wendy Bogusz, Executive Assistant

Participating Remotely:

Selectboard: Michael Nelson, Vice Chair; Richard Kuklewicz, Chair,

Finance Committee: Jen Audley, Chair, John Hanold, Francia Wisnewski, Gregory Garrison,

Board of Health: Al Cummings, Chair, Gina McNeely, Acting Director of Public Health, Ann Stuart, Administrative Assistant

Kuklewicz calls meeting to order at 7:00 PM and announces the meeting is being recorded (but machine did not actually record)

Selectboard:

Nelson makes the motion to open the Selectboard Meeting, Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

Finance Committee:

Garrison makes the motion to open the Finance Committee Meeting, Seconded by Hanold, approved unanimously. Garrison – Aye, Hanold – Aye, Wisnewski – Aye, Audley - Aye

Board of Health:

Boutwell makes the motion to open the Board of Health Meeting. Seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Cummings - Aye

2. Approve Selectboard Minutes of March 9 and 16, 2020 if available

Approve Selectboard Minutes of March 9, 15 and 16, 2020

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the minutes of March 9, March 15 and March 16, 2020. Seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye

3. Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Selectboard will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment

NONE

4. Selectboard with Finance Committee:

Allocations of Free Cash to Reserves

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What happened was that we started with an extra \$204K in available free cash, but it was hand written down on a work copy of the draft minutes as \$240K. Which, divided by 3 would be the \$80K spoken about at the 3/25/20 Finance Committee Meeting. Using the rationale from that meeting, the numbers for the allocation of the free cash balance SHOULD have been \$204/3 or \$68,000 for the FCTS and OPEB, and \$68+\$50 or \$118,000 to the Town Cap Stab. This was discovered when Carolyn updated the budget file with 3/25/20 Finance Committee Meeting votes.

Selectboard Moved:

Nelson makes the motion to rescind the votes of March 25, 2020 that recommended appropriations of \$130,000 to the Town Capital Stabilization Fund, \$80,000 to the FCTS Stabilization Fund, and \$80,000 to the OPEB Trust Fund, all funded from Free Cash. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Finance Committee Moved:

Garrison makes the motion to rescind the votes of March 25, 2020 that recommended appropriations of \$130,000 to the Town Capital Stabilization Fund, \$80,000 to the FCTS Stabilization Fund, and \$80,000 to the OPEB Trust Fund, all funded from Free Cash. Seconded by Hanold, approved unanimously. Garrison – Aye, Hanold – Aye, Wisnewski – Aye, Audley - Aye

Selectboard Moved:

Nelson makes the motion to recommend appropriations of \$118,000 to the Town Capital Stabilization Fund, \$68,000 to the FCTS Stabilization Fund, and \$68,000 to the OPEB Trust Fund, all funded from Free Cash. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Finance Committee Moved:

Garrison makes the motion to recommend appropriations of \$118,000 to the Town Capital Stabilization Fund, \$68,000 to the FCTS Stabilization Fund, and \$68,000 to the OPEB Trust Fund, all funded from Free Cash. Seconded by Hanold, approved unanimously. Garrison – Aye, Hanold – Aye, Wisnewski – Aye, Audley - Aye

Garrison makes the motion at 7:17 PM to adjourn the Finance Committee portion of the meeting. Seconded by Wisnewski. Approved unanimously. Garrison – Aye, Hanold – Aye, Wisnewski – Aye, Audley – Aye

5. Town Meeting Warrant – To review May 2, 2020 Special and Annual draft warrants,

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attached hereto, and to make recommendations on all items in warrants; votes may be taken

5/2/2020 Special Town Meeting Draft Warrant:

Kuklewicz reads Special Town Meeting Warrant Article into the record:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$51,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the appropriation of Article 7 of the March 5, 2020 Special Town Meeting, which appropriated \$75,000 to remove and dispose of an existing oil tank and vault, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(WPCF Interim Superintendent Request)

5/2/2020 Annual Town Meeting Draft Warrant:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to receive and act upon the reports of the Officers of the Town and to receive the report of any committees and act thereon.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard, or other Town departments with the approval of the Selectboard, to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Government, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or any other source, and to expend the same for purposes received without further appropriation, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of all elected officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, as set forth in Schedule I, Elected Officials, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of all appointed officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, as set forth in Schedule II, Appointed Officials, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to amend the classification plan to add the position of Assistant Planner at Grade D as per a Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Montague and the National Association of Government Employees (NAGE), or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Planning Department Request)

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ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$10,527,445, or any other amount, for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule III, Budget, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, and for any other necessary changes, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$2,449,068, or any other amount, for the purpose of operating the Water Pollution Control Facility and associated pumping stations, said sums to be allocated in accordance with Schedule IV, WPCF Budget, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$79,750, or any other amount, for the purpose of funding the operations, maintenance, and debt service of the Colle Building, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Selectboard Request)

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$55,694, or any other amount, for the purpose of operating the Turners Falls Airport, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Airport Commission Request)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$1,255,456, or any other amount, for the purpose of paying the Franklin County Technical School District for Montague's share of the assessment for the yearly operation of the Franklin County Technical School, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Franklin County Technical School Request)

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$10,732,268, or any other amount, for the purpose of paying the Gill-Montague Regional School District for Montague's share of the assessment for the yearly operation of the Gill-Montague Regional Schools, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.
(Gill-Montague Regional School District Request)

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ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$20,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of building a wall in the Sheffield Library to provide additional private instructional space or other uses, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (GMRSD Request)

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$10,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of making repairs to the canopy over the Gill Montague Regional School District Administration Building's side entry, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (GMRSD Request)

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$60,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of repairing the Hillcrest Elementary School façade and roof, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (GMRSD Request)

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$60,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of resurfacing the Turners Falls High School tennis courts, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (GMRSD Request)

ARTICLE 16: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$21,953, or any other amount, for the purpose of obtaining Building Condition Assessments to support capital planning for the Sheffield School, Hillcrest School, and Great Falls Middle School/Turners Falls High School Buildings, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (GMRSD Request)

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$16,250, or any other amount, for the purpose of hiring a contractor to provide valuation services relating to the natural gas and electric

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transmission/distribution utility properties located in town, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Board of Assessors Request)

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$100,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of replacing coarse bubble diffusers at the Montague WPCF with fine bubble diffusers or similar energy saving technology, including any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (WPCF Superintendent Request)

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$40,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of replacing a primary sludge pump at the Montague WPCF, including purchasing and equipping a new pump, removal and disposal of the existing pump, design and installation services, and any and all incidental and related costs, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (WPCF Superintendent Request)

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$100,000 (changed to \$80,000), or any other amount, for the purpose of purchasing, equipping, and making major repairs to DPW vehicles and equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Department of Public Works Request)

Nelson makes the motion to amend Article 20 to \$80,000 (as we need to be cautious going forward how the Town spends its money). Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

ARTICLE 21: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$50,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of replacing the Council on Aging roof, including any and all incidental and related costs, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Council on Aging Request)

ARTICLE 22: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$4,800, or any other amount, for the purpose of

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funding the local share of a \$96,000 state and federal grant titled “Wildlife Hazard Assessment Study”, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Airport Commission Request)

ARTICLE 23: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow, or otherwise provide the sum of \$37,260, or any other amount, for the purpose of repairing traditional walking paths in the villages of Millers Falls and Turners Falls, including but not limited to repair or replacement of the existing public stairway leading from the Millers Falls Village Center to Highland Park and the existing public walkway running from 7th Street to High Street, near its intersection with Avenue B, inclusive of the purchase and installation of any necessary equipment and anything incidental or related thereto, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Planning Department Request)

Discussion about the proper wording to be used in this article.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$5,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of hiring professionals to survey the parcels comprising Montague Center Park in support of its future redevelopment, and anything incidental or related thereto, or to pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Parks & Recreation Commission Request)

J. Singleton asks about the use of the word plots. Ellis will look into this and whether or not it should be referred to as parcels.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide the sum of \$820.49, or any other amount, which represents the net premium paid to the Town upon the sale of the Town’s \$5,785,000 DPW Facility Bonds dated January 22, 2020, to pay costs of the DPW facility authorized by the vote of the Town passed March 29, 2018, and to reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed for such project by such amount, as set forth in M.G.L. c. 44, §20 or any other applicable law, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$39,185, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the GMRSD Stabilization Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

(Finance Committee Request)

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ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$61,507, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the Town General Stabilization Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Finance Committee Request)

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$200,259, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the Town Capital Stabilization Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Finance Committee Request)

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$118,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the Town OPEB Trust Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Finance Committee Request)

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, borrow or otherwise provide the sum of \$68,000, or any other amount, for the purpose of increasing the Franklin County Technical School Stabilization Fund, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto. (Finance Committee Request)

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the ~~Board of Selectmen~~ Selectboard to petition the General Court for one (1) additional all alcohol on premises liquor license to be exercised and located at 112 Avenue A in the Turners Falls village of the Town, said license not to be transferred to any other location; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the ~~Board of Selectmen~~ Selectboard approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court which are within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

The petition for special legislation shall take the following form:

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AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE TO ISSUE ONE ADDITIONAL LIQUOR LICENSE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding Section 17 of Chapter 138 of the General Laws or any other general or special, rule or regulation to the contrary, the licensing authority of the Town of Montague may grant one (1) additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be consumed on premises under Section 12 of said Chapter 138 to be exercised at and located at 112 Avenue A, in the Turners Falls Village in said town. A license granted under this section shall be subject to all of said Chapter 138 except said Section 17.

(b) Once issued, the licensing authority shall not approve the transfer of the license issued under this section to any other location, but it may grant the license to a new applicant at the same location if the applicant files with the authority a letter from the department of revenue and a letter from the department of unemployment assistance indicating that the license is in good standing with the department and that all applicable taxes, fees and contributions have been paid.

(c) If the license granted under this section is cancelled, revoked or no longer in use, it shall be returned physically, with all of the legal rights, privileges and restrictions pertaining thereto, to the licensing authority, which may then grant the license to a new applicant at the same location under the same conditions as specified in this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage. (Selectboard Request)

Board of Selectmen changed to Selectboard in two places

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to file a Home Rule petition with the General Court for special legislation to expand the Town's quota for liquor licenses as set forth in the proposed petition below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Selectboard approves amendments to the bill prior to enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the

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Selectboard to approve amendments which shall be within the public purposes of the petition, or pass any vote or votes in relation thereto.

The text of the petition shall take the following form:

AN ACT INCREASING THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE'S ON-PREMISES LIQUOR LICENSE QUOTA

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by authority of the same, as follows:

Section 1. (a) Notwithstanding section 17 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, the licensing authority of the Town of Montague may grant **three (3) additional** licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises pursuant to section 12 of said chapter 138, which licenses shall be located only within **the Town's Central Business District**, as that district is defined under the Town's Zoning Map, as it existed as of **May 6, 2017 (the "Central Business District")**, upon approval of and under conditions set by the licensing authority of the Town. The licenses shall be subject to all of said chapter 138 except said section 17.

(b) Notwithstanding section 12 of chapter 138 of the General Laws, the licensing authority may restrict the licenses issued pursuant to this act to holders of common victualler licenses.

(c) The licensing authority shall not approve the transfer of any license granted pursuant to this special act to any location other than a location **within the Central Business District**; but it may grant the license to a new applicant and/or for a new location **within the Central Business District**; pursuant to subsection (a) if the applicant files with the licensing authority a letter from the department of revenue and a letter from the department of unemployment assistance indicating that the license is in good standing with those departments and that all applicable taxes, fees and contributions have been paid.

If any license granted pursuant to this special act is cancelled, revoked or no longer in use, it shall be returned physically, with all of the legal rights, privileges and restrictions pertaining thereto, to the licensing authority which may then grant the license to a new applicant but only for a location **within the Central Business District and under the same conditions as specified in this act.**

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

(Selectboard Request)

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ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to transfer care, custody and control of the land or building commonly known as the former DPW Garage, located at 500 Avenue A, Turners Falls, and shown as Assessors' Parcel ID 05-0-127, from the Selectboard for general municipal purposes to Selectboard for general municipal purposes and for the purpose of conveyance and lease; and to authorize the Selectboard to sell or lease, transfer or convey all or any portion of such land and/or building for such sum and upon such conditions determined by the Selectboard to be in the best interests of the Town, pursuant to G.L. c. 30B, and to authorize the Selectboard to execute any and all instruments, including deeds, leases or other agreements and take all other actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the vote taken hereunder, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to transfer care, custody and control of the land or building commonly known as the Town Hall Annex, located at 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls, and shown as Assessors' Parcel ID 04-0-0004, from the Selectboard for general municipal purposes to the Selectboard for general municipal purposes and for the purpose of conveyance and lease; and to authorize the Selectboard to sell or lease, transfer or convey all or any portion of such land and/or building for such sum and upon such conditions determined by the Selectboard to be in the best interests of the Town, pursuant to G.L. c. 30B, and to authorize the Selectboard to execute any and all instruments, including deeds, leases or other agreements and take all other actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the vote taken hereunder, or pas any vote or votes in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 35:

We are writing to request that funds be appropriated to facilitate the repair of the public stairway leading from the Millers Falls Village Center to Highland Park. While many people continue to use the stairs they are in a sorry state and could cause someone harm if not addressed. Several of the concrete stairs are crumbling and the railings are rusted and broken. We feel that this is an important connector between the village center and the park and we hope that fixing the stairs would increase the use of the park by residents of the village center. Please repair the stairs so that we can use them safely. (Petitioned Article)

Discussion whether this article should be moved to come after article 23?

The warrant is in draft form and will be looked at further and be brought back before the Selectboard for approval at a future meeting

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6. Personnel Board: Affirm Appointment of Gina McNeely, Acting Director of Health, Grade 6, Step 11, \$40.23/hr, up to 35 hrs/wk, effective 3/25/20 for 6 – 8 weeks
Boutwell makes the motion to affirm the appointment of Gina McNeely, Acting Director of Health, Grade G, Step 11, \$40.23/hr, up to 35 hrs/wk, effective 3/25/20 for 6 – 8 weeks. Seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

7. Brian McHugh, Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority
 - Vote to award the FY19 Community Development Block Grant contract for the Spinner Park Restoration Project to Sciaba Construction Corporation of Walpole, MA in the amount of \$282,200
Boutwell makes the motion to award the FY19 Community Development Block Grant contract for the Spinner Park Restoration Project to Sciaba Construction Corporation of Walpole, MA in the amount of \$282,200. Seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

 - Authorization to disburse a payment from the Town's FY18 Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$7,003.60 to GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. for construction management services and laboratory testing performed in the Fall of 2019 for the Rutter's Park Phase 1 Improvements Project.
Boutwell makes the motion to authorize to disburse a payment from the Town's FY18 Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$7,003.60 to GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. for construction management services and laboratory testing performed in the Fall of 2019 for the Rutter's Park Phase 1 Improvements Project. Seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

8. Walter Ramsey, Town Planner
 - Award Spinner Park Construction project to Sciaba Construction, Inc. \$282,200
Duplicate of Brian McHugh, This is a duplicate from above disucssion
 - Approve Change Order #1 – Complete Streets Project, First Street Concrete Sidewalk \$15,940.
This is due to the change of materials to be used. Concrete instead asphalt.
Boutwell makes the motion to approve change Order #1 – Complete Streets Project, First Street Concrete Sidewalk \$15,940. Seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
 - Award Strathmore Mill Hazardous Materials Abatement project to Air Quality Experts, Inc. – Base bid and alternate #1, \$450,000

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Boutwell makes the motion to award the Strathmore Mill Hazardous Materials Abatement project to Air Quality Experts, Inc. – Base bid and alternate #1, \$450,000. Seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

- **Industrial Park Updates**

- **New Business: Caluwe Inc.**

The site plan was approved by the Planning Board for a 20,000 square foot industrial building by Caluwe Inc.

- **Atlantic Golf and Turf Expansion**

The site plan was approved by the Planning Board for a 14,000 square foot addition to the Atlantic Golf and Turf building.

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9. Update on Town response to COVID-19

- **Operational/Departments**

- Ellis states that the Town is complying with both Federal and State guidelines in the emergencies that have been declared. All departments are operational, but each is functioning differently than they normally do. Public safety professionals are always on duty. Town hall's offices are all active and operational, and individual field offices are working to keep business moving.
- Parks and Recreation Director Jon Dobosz asks for guidance regarding patronage of the parks, especially Unity Park and the skate park.
- Fire Chief Zellman feels that we need to send a strong message to make sure that social distancing is being implemented, especially at the parks.
- Cummings and McNeely will be meeting tomorrow to see if they can put up more signs regarding social distancing.
- McNeely suggests that we may have to close some parks, especially the skate park.
- *Nelson makes the motion to close the skate park and the play structures at all Town-owned parks beginning tomorrow until April 13, and to do so in some fashion that renders the items not easily usable; this issue will be re-evaluated at the April 13 meeting. Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye*

- **Town Meeting and Elections**

Ellis: It appears that there are bills that are likely to pass that would provide a number of new flexibilities to municipalities, including flexibility to push Town Meetings and Elections back into the end of June.

SELECTBOARD, FINANCE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES

UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM, 1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA

Due to COVID-19 Public Participation will be by:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/341572861> or call [+1 \(872\) 240-3311](tel:+18722403311)

Access Code: 341-572-861 (Remote meeting will open at 6:50 PM)

MONDAY, March 30, 2020

- **State progress toward revised deadlines for taxes and fees**

Ellis: We are waiting to see what flexibility the State is going to give us to change their statutory frameworks regarding taxes and other fees. We believe that an April 1 due date will be revised to a June 1 due date, with a 30-day interest-free period, but we do not have confirmation that that has happened yet.

- **Other/Council on Aging**

The Council on Aging has implemented various programs and protocols which include outreach calls to in-home elderly. Anyone who wants this service may contact the COA (coa@montague-ma.gov, 413-863-9357).

10. Town Administrators' Report

- **Welcome Chelsey Little, WPCF Superintendent to the Team**

Ellis: Today was Chelsey's first day as the WPCF Superintendent. At some point we are going to have the chance to offer her the kind of welcome we normally do for new staff, but for now she is getting a social-distance welcome from all of her colleagues here.

- **Execute contract amendment with Veolia Water North America-Northeast, LLC**

Nelson makes the motion to execute the contract amendment with Veolia Water North America-Northeast, LLC and to authorize the Chair to sign the contract. Seconded by Boutwell, unanimously approved. Nelson - Aye, Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Announcement MPD has been awarded \$4,974 worth of car seats as part of the federal fiscal year 2020 Child Passenger Safety Seat Distribution Grant Program**

Ellis announces that the Police Department has been awarded a grant that would allow the Town of Montague to distribute \$4,974 worth of car seats as part of the federal fiscal year 2020 Child Passenger Safety Seat Distribution Grant Program. People who are interested may contact Officer Miner.

- **Update on in process or soon to begin capital projects**

- All of the current projects are considered essential and not identified as high-risk.
- Work began with the replacement of fascia boards at the Unity Park Field House on Friday.
- The Complete Streets Project is happening in earnest. First Street between Avenue A and L Street will be closed during the day on March 31st and periodically over the next few weeks.

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- The Massworks project is proceeding.
- Work on Spinner Park is expected to begin in the coming months, as is the Strathmore Abatement Project and the General Pierce Bridge project.
- **Public Meeting Posting requirements**
Ellis recommends establishing a policy that any public meeting must be posted electronically as well as on the Town Hall outdoor board.
- **Urge residents to sign up for CodeRED**
Residents can sign up for CodeRED by going onto the website.
- **Topics not anticipated in 48 hour posting**
None

Nelson makes the motion to adjourn the Selectboard meeting at 9:20 PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the Board of Health meeting at PM. Seconded by Nelson, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Cummings - Aye