

Montague SELECTBOARD MEETING
Town Hall, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376
Monday, November 1, 2021

Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM. Present were Selectpersons Rich Kuklewicz (Chair), Chris Boutwell, and Matt Lord, Town Administrator Steve Ellis, Executive Assistant Wendy Bogusz, WPCF Superintendent Chelsey Little, Board of Health members Al Cummings (Chair), Michael Nelson, and Melanie Ames Zamojski, Director of Public Health Daniel Wasiuk, Town Planner Walter Ramsey, and Finance Committee Chair Jen Audley.

MCTV VIMEO Link: <https://vimeo.com/641354095>

Selectboard Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken.

Approve Minutes
Selectboard Meeting October 25, 2021 if available
Postponed

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

Personnel Board
Appoint Noah Diamond, WPCF Laborer/Operator UE Grade B, Step 3, effective 11/8/21
Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Noah Diamond, WPCF Laborer/Operator UE Grade B, Step 3, effective 11/8/21. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Status Change: Daniel Poirier, Grounds Group Leader, UE Grade D, Step 7 (formerly UE Grade C, Step 9), effective 11/2/21
Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Status Change for Daniel Poirier, Grounds Group Leader, UE Grade D, Step 7 (formerly UE Grade C, Step 9), effective 11/2/21. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Liquor License Transfer
Om Shiv Shambhu, Inc. d/b/a Carroll's Market, Govindbhai (Gary) Ramdas Patel as manager, has applied for transfer of the Annual \$15 Package Store, All Alcoholic Beverages Liquor License from Sahirat, LLC d/b/a Carroll's Market. The premise is located at 33 East Main Street, Millers Falls
Lord makes the motion to approve the transfer of the Annual \$15 Package Store, All Alcoholic Beverages Liquor License from Sahirat, LLC d/b/a Carroll's Market to Om Shiv Shambhu, Inc. d/b/a Carroll's Market at 33 Main Street, Millers Falls. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Boutwell - Abstain

Board of Health Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken.

Montague Board of Health
Review of Montague COVID Case Counts and Trends

- Active Cases from October 24 to October 31, 2021 equals 3; active cases from October 17 to October 30, 2021 equals 8; cumulative cases from March 1, 2020 to October 30, 2021 equals 420.

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- Percentage of all individuals vaccinated in Montague from October 28 equals 61%; percentage of all individuals ages 12 and older with at least one dose is 68%.
- Of the three active cases from October 24 to October 31, one was fully vaccinated, one was partially vaccinated, and one was not vaccinated. Breakdown of age categories is as follows: 18-35, none; 36-49 years old, 1; 50-64 years old, 1; 65-80 years old, 0; 81+, 0; 17 or under, 0.
- Ellis reviews the case counts and trends in Franklin County. Dramatic drop-offs are happening just about everywhere.

Review of Notice of COVID-19 Emergency Order: Indoor Mask Requirement

- *Nelson makes the motion that the Board of Health rescind the Mask Mandate effective immediately and change it to a Mask Advisory for the Town of Montague. Seconded by Zamojski, approved. Nelson - Aye, Zamojski - No, Cummings - Aye*
- *Boutwell makes the motion that the Selectboard rescind the Mask Mandate in the Town of Montague with the exception that any person not fully vaccinated wear a mask in Town buildings, including libraries; persons not vaccinated are recommended to wear masks in all other public buildings. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

Discuss any other needed response to COVID situation

None

Zamojski makes the motion to adjourn the Board of Health. Seconded by Nelson, unanimously approved. Zamojski - Aye, Nelson - Aye, Cummings - Aye

Consideration of Town Financial Policy Recommendations as presented by the Finance Committee

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the following Financial Management Policies as presented: A-3 Debt Management, A-4 Enterprise Fund, A-6 Investments, A-7 Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB), A-8 Enforcement of Property Tax Collections, A-9 Tax Rate Setting, A-10 Revenue and Expenditure Forecasting, A-11 Annual Audit, A-12 User Fees, B-1 Cash and Receivables Reconciliations, B-2 Grant Management, B-3 Employee Reimbursements, B-4 Anti-Fraud, B-5 Procurement, and B-6 Revenue Processing. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Jan Ameen, FCSWMD

Mass DEP Yard Waste General Permit Certification 2021

Boutwell makes the motion to accept the Mass DEP document on Solid Waste Program for the General Compliance of Composting, Aerobic or Anaerobic Digesting of Organic Materials, and to authorize the Chair to sign it. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Walter Ramsey, Town Planner

Presentation of draft 2021 Economic Development Plan for the Montague Economic Development and Industrial Corporation

- Ramsey gives a quick overview of the 2021 Montague Economic Development Plan.
- Kuklewicz suggests putting the plan in the Winter Town Meeting if it is ready by then.
- The plan and presentation are on the Planning Board website.

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Town Administrator's Business

- **Execute MOA w/ FRCOG, \$16,500 in support of compact feasibility study to be performed by Stantec**
Boutwell makes the motion to execute the MOA w/ FRCOG, \$16,500 in support of compact feasibility study to be performed by Stantec, and to authorize the Chair to sign it. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
- **Consider Contract for a Composting Feasibility Study with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. in the amount of \$35,000; \$18,500 of which is to be paid by the Town of Montague WPCF and \$16,500 to be paid by FRCOG**
Boutwell makes the motion that the Selectboard execute and sign the Contract for a Composting Feasibility Study with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. in the amount of \$35,000; \$18,500 of which is to be paid by the Town of Montague WPCF and \$16,500 to be paid by FRCOG. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye
- **Turners Falls and Loomis Roads in Greenfield will be paved on Tuesday 11/2/21 with a rain date of Wednesday, 11/3/21**
Greenfield is on track to have its contractor pave Turners Falls and Loomis Roads, which will take place on Tuesday, November 21 with a rain date of Wednesday, November 3. Schools, bus lines, downtown businesses, and industrial park businesses have been notified in order to discourage travel during the peak hours.
- **Summary of Expected Capital Requests for FY23**
Today was the date of request for the individual Town departments to submit capital Articles for consideration. Ellis provides a handout that shows projects that will be on the Capital Improvements Committee's docket to vet and consider on Wednesday at 3:00 PM.
- **Office 365 Migration**
We changed our vendor for information technology services to Suzer IT. We would like to undertake a migration away from our locally based servers for email and network file storage. That transition began this past weekend.
- **Topics not anticipated in 48 hour posting**
None

Executive Sessions:

Executive Session under G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(2) to conduct negotiations with Police Chief, Chris Williams, votes may be taken

Executive Session in accordance with G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(6), to consider the possible purchase, exchange, taking, lease or value of real property - First Light Power, votes may be taken

- The Chair deems that holding either of these sessions in open meeting would be detrimental to the Town's position.

Boutwell makes the motion to go into Executive Sessions for the two meetings as presented. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye