

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING

1 Avenue A and VIA ZOOM

Monday, April 24, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM. Present were Selectboard members Rich Kuklewicz, Chris Boutwell, and Matt Lord; Executive Assistant Wendy Bogusz; Assistant Town Administrator Walter Ramsey; Library Director Caitlin Kelley; Director of RiverCulture Suzanne LoManto; Parks and Recreation Director John Dobosz; and FCRHA Director of Community Development Brian McHugh.

Selectboard Chair opens the meeting at 6:30 PM, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken

Approve Selectboard Minutes from April 10, 2023

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Selectboard Minutes from April 10, 2023 as presented. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

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

Library Director, Caitlin Kelley

- **Request Letter of Support for Library Trustees' Application to the MA Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) Construction Program**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve and sign the Letter of Support for Library Trustees' Application to the MA Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) Construction Program. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Use of Peskeompskut Park on August 4, 2023, 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM for free family Puppet Show**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Use of Peskeompskut Park on August 4, 2023, 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM for free family Puppet Show. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Suzanne LoManto, Director of RiverCulture

- **Use of Peskeompskut Park: Free Summer Events sponsored by RiverCulture, various dates in June, July, and August 2023. Schedule of events provided**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Use of Peskeompskut Park: Free Summer Events sponsored by RiverCulture, various dates in June, July, and August 2023; schedule of events provided. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Use of Public Property; Spinner Park, Antenna Cloud Farm Music Walk, July 1, 2023, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Use of Public Property; Spinner Park, Antenna Cloud Farm Music Walk, July 1, 2023, 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Use of Public Property; Puppet Parade down Avenue A from Peskeompskut Park to Discovery Center, May 7, 2023**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Use of Public Property; Puppet Parade down Avenue A from Peskeompskut Park to Discovery Center, May 7, 2023. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Use of Public Property to place at Peskeompskut Park for placement of porta-potty from June 1, 2023 - August 21, 2023**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Use of Public Property to place at Peskeompskut Park for placement of porta-potty from June 1, 2023 - August 21, 2023. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Other, not on agenda/Use of Peskeompskut Park and Spinner Park on July 1 (raindate: July 2) for musical events**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the request for Use of Peskeompskut Park and Spinner Park on July 1 with a raindate of July 2 for the musical events as discussed. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Montague Parks and Recreation Director, John Dobosz

Execute contract with Scott Dixon of Tailblock Coping Company to complete Unity Skate Park cleaning and re-sealing services, \$1,200.00

Boutwell makes the motion to Execute contract with Scott Dixon of Tailblock Coping Company to complete Unity Skate Park cleaning and re-sealing services, \$1,200.00. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Unity Fest and Makers Market, Nova Motorcycles/Parks & Rec/Pioneer Valley Brewery

- **Use of Public Property: Close 2nd Street, end in front of 141-147 2nd Street to Unity Park Parking Lot, June 3, 2023, 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

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Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Use of Public Property: Close 2nd Street, end in front of 141-147 2nd Street to Unity Park Parking Lot, June 3, 2023, 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Entertainment License at 141-147 2nd Street to Unity Park to hold Unity Fest and Makers Market, Saturday, June 3, 2023, 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Entertainment License at 141-147 2nd Street to Unity Park to hold Unity Fest and Makers Market, Saturday, June 3, 2023, 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM; and to authorize the Chair to sign the document. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Steve Valeski, Pioneer Valley Brewery request for a Special 1 Day License for the sale of beer and wine from 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM (148 2nd Street Property)**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the request by Steve Valeski, Pioneer Valley Brewery for a Special 1 Day License for the sale of beer and wine from 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM (148 2nd Street Property). Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Mark Wisniewski, Rocket Science DBA The Rendezvous

Execute License to use Real Property for the use of Town parking lot adjacent to the Rendezvous, 78 Third Street from 4/1/23 to 12/1/23

Postponed until next week

Brian McHugh, FCRHRA

- **Authorize Payment #8 to Berkshire Design Group, in the amount of \$1,100.00 for professional landscape architectural, civil engineering and land surveying services for the FY21 MONT CDBG Avenue A Streetscape Phase III Continuation Project**

Boutwell makes the motion to authorize Payment #8 to Berkshire Design Group, in the amount of \$1,100.00 for professional landscape architectural, civil engineering and land surveying services for the FY21 MONT CDBG Avenue A Streetscape Phase III Continuation Project. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Authorize Payment #9 to Berkshire Design Group, in the amount of \$985.00 for professional landscape architectural, civil engineering and land surveying services for the FY20 MONT CDBG Avenue A Streetscape Phase III Continuation Project**

Boutwell makes the motion to authorize Payment #9 to Berkshire Design Group, in the amount of \$985.00 for professional landscape architectural, civil engineering and land surveying services for the FY20 MONT CDBG Avenue A Streetscape Phase III Continuation Project. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Personnel Board:

- **Appoint Angela Wheeler to the Montague Tree Advisory Committee through 6/30/24**

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Angela Wheeler to the Montague Tree Advisory Committee through 6/30/24. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Appoint Ryan Paxton as Board of Health Director, Non-Union, Grade G Step 4, 35 hours/week, effective May 8, 2023**

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Ryan Paxton as Board of Health Director, Non-Union, Grade G Step 4, 35 hours/week, effective May 8, 2023. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Walter Ramsey, Assistant Town Administrator

- **11th Street Bridge Design Proposal**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the 11th Street Bridge Design Engineering Proposal from Weston and Sampson in the amount of \$22,250, and to authorize the Chair to sign the associated documents. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Amendment to South Ferry Road Culvert Engineering Contract and overall scope of work**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the proposed Amendment to South Ferry Road Culvert Engineering Contract and overall scope of work, and to authorize the Chair to sign the associated documents. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Proposed ARPA Spending Strategy and Decision Criteria**

- Ramsey reviews a Proposed Targeted Spending Distribution of ARPA funds Strategy (Wastewater Infrastructure, Economic and Community Recovery, Unforeseen Expenses, and General Capital Projects).
- In response to a question by Ariel Elan about clawbacking ARPA funds, Ramsey states that we've been advised by our congressional delegation that everything is on the table right now.
- Ramsey reviews an ARPA Project Ratings Criteria for the Selectboard and CIC to score, to address the fact that there are more potential projects than there are funds available.

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- In response to a question by Jeff Singleton, Lord states that he is not concerned about how the public follows the results of the ratings criteria in determining what projects to select. He states that there are Town members who have found ways to advocate for issues that they find important and they have made their voices known. Lord states that from his perspective, he is doing the best that he can to build a process that engages with the appropriate sets of people in Town who are knowledgeable and experienced in making these types of decisions.
- The Board agrees to move forward with the plan.

Town Administrator Report (Presented by ATA Walter Ramsey)

- **Discussion of Potential Municipal Vulnerabilities Program (MVP) Grant Request to Support NPDES Compliance, to Require 25% Match**

Ramsey states that the NPDES draft permit requires major stormwater event plans for the collection system and treatment plan. We have asked Wright Pierce to develop a quote and hope to submit it to the MVP grant program. The Board endorses this plan.

- **FirstLight FERC Settlement Updates**

We have a tentative agreement on final Recreational Settlement language that protects the Town's right to comment on matters related to erosion during the upcoming REA (fed term)/401 water quality review (statement) process. We would expect the revised copy to be available for the next meeting. FERC has signaled that they will accept our Recreation Settlement agreement even after the May 1 deadline.

- **Endorse Steve Ellis' Appointment to Mass Economic Development Planning Council**

Boutwell makes the motion to endorse Steve Ellis' appointment to Mass Economic Development Planning Council and participation through the end of FY2023. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Congressionally Directed Spending Request for \$2M in Collection System Improvements Included in Senator Markey and Warren FY24 Budget Priorities**

We received word that Senators Warren and Markey included our \$2M request for funds for wastewater collection system improvements to reduce CSO events among their CDS request for federal budget year FY24.

- **Allow Staff to Submit Feedback to Draft National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit**

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Request to allow the Town Administrator and CWF Director to Submit Feedback to Draft National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

- **Share Communication from Trinity Health New England Relative to Historical Commission Requests**

- We received a letter from Trinity Health informing us which ones of the historical artifacts have been preserved and where they are currently being stored.
- The Town is pushing for is getting a clean environmental report prior to the land transaction happening.

- **Review Shea Theater and Colle Building Roof Bid Results**

Three different bids came in. The low bid was \$205,000 from Triumph Roofing of Baldwinville. Our architect is currently vetting the firm. The other two bids are outside of the project budget.

- **Topics not anticipated within the 48 hour posting/Montague City Road project**

In response to a question by Kuklewicz regarding the Montague City Road project, Ramsey states that Davenport is talking about mobilizing in late June or July. Ramsey adds that he has been working with our engineering firm to get through the final hurdles of the State and Federal permitting agencies that we are working with.

Next Meetings:

- Selectboard Hybrid Meeting, Monday, May 1, 2023 at 6:30 PM
- Annual Town Meeting, Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 9:00 AM in the theater at Turners Falls High School, 222 Turnpike Road

Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye