

**MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING
1 Avenue A, Turners Falls and VIA ZOOM
Monday, March 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM**

Meeting was opened at 6:00 PM. Present were Selectboard members Rich Kuklewicz, Chris Boutwell, Matt Lord; Town Administrator Steve Ellis; Assistant Town Administrator Walter Ramsey; Executive Assistant Wendy Bogusz; DPW Superintendent Tom Bergeron; CWF Superintendent Chelsey Little; and Parks and Recreation Director Jon Dobosz.

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

Approve Minutes of March 4, 2024

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Minutes of March 4, 2024 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

None

Chelsey Little, CWF Superintendent

Execute Dept of Energy and Resources Energy Planning Assistance Grant Contract for Hydroelectric Feasibility Study in the amount of \$6,000

Boutwell makes the motion to execute the Dept of Energy and Resources Energy Planning Assistance Grant Contract for Hydroelectric Feasibility Study in the amount of \$6,000, and authorize the Chair to sign any appropriate documents. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Award Contract to Inovair for Aeration System Blowers in the lump sum amount of \$248,793.00

Boutwell makes the motion to award the Contract to Inovair for Aeration System Blowers in the lump sum amount of \$248,793.00, and authorize the Chair to sign the appropriate documents. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Public Assembly Request: CWF 4th Annual Earth Day Celebration April 22, 2024 1PM-2PM

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Public Assembly Request: CWF 4th Annual Earth Day Celebration April 22, 2024 1PM-2PM. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Permitted Discharge Summary for February 2024 (No Blending Discharges)

Little displays the Permitted Discharge Summary for February 2024. Everything is in the green.

Jon Dobosz, Parks and Recreation Director

Request to transfer \$1,500 from the bid/cost over run account to the 3/21/23 Town Meeting Appropriation for the evaluation of the former blacksmith shop

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the transfer \$1,500 from the bid/cost over run account to the 3/21/23 Town Meeting Appropriation for the evaluation of the former blacksmith shop; and authorize the Chair to sign the appropriate documents. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Personnel Board

Appoint Eric Cole to Truck Driver/Laborer, Grade C, Step 3, \$21.90/hr, effective March 12, 2024

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Eric Cole to Truck Driver/Laborer, Grade C, Step 3, \$21.90/hr, effective March 12, 2024; and authorize the Chair to sign any appropriate documents. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Appoint Matt Lord and Dorinda Bell-Upp as Montague Representatives to the STRPB District Regional Agreement Subcommittee effective March 12, 2024

- *Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Matt Lord as a Montague Representative to the STRPB District Regional Agreement Subcommittee effective March 12, 2024. Seconded by Kuklewicz, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye, Lord - Abstain*

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- *Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Dorinda Bell-Upp as a Montague Representative to the STRPB District Regional Agreement Subcommittee effective March 12, 2024. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye*

**Executive Assistant Business
Hybrid Meeting Discussion**

Because of the technical difficulties at last week's meeting, there will be technical support present at the first April meeting. The problem has been fixed.

Assistant Town Administrator's Business

Authorize Community Services Agreement with RCAP solutions for free grant writing technical assistance to pursue a USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant to purchase a new police cruiser

Boutwell makes the motion to authorize the Community Services Agreement with RCAP solutions for free grant writing technical assistance to pursue a USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant to purchase a new police cruiser, and authorize the Chair to sign it. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Town Administrator's Business

Notice of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission "Ready for Environmental Analysis" Declaration and Opportunity to File for Intervenor Status and Submit Comments Relative to FirstLight MA Hydro LLC Relicensing Application. Opportunity to comment on the 401 Water Quality Certificate coming soon

It has been several months since we completed the Recreation Settlement Agreement with FirstLight. Its submission to FERC has triggered the "Ready for Environmental Analysis" process, which kicks off the 401 Water Quality Certificate process with DEP. The Town needs to prepare itself to offer comments. Ellis and Ramsey will work with FRCOG in drafting a motion, which would give the Town the right to comment as an intervenor.

Consider Two-Year Agreement for Membership in the Upper Pioneer Valley Services District (UPVVSD) commencing July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Two-Year Agreement for Membership in the Upper Pioneer Valley Services District (UPVVSD) commencing July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026; and authorize the Chair to sign the document. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Notice: Seat Available for Montague Representative to the UPVVSD

Montague is looking for a Representative to serve on the UPVVSD. A notice will be posted on the website as well as on Facebook.

Annual MA Selectboard Association Conference, April 27, 2024

The Annual MA Selectboard Association Conference will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2024 from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the Hotel Northampton. There are funds in the Selectboard budget if any member wants to attend the meeting.

Topics not anticipated in the 48-hour posting

None

Other:

Franklin County Sheriff's Regional Dog Shelter YEAR END MEETING Wednesday, March 13th, 2024, Greenfield Public Library at 5:15 PM

HOLD THE FOAM! Free Styrofoam Block Recycling Collections. April 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2024, 9:00 AM - 12 noon

Next Meeting:

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Monday, March 11, 2024 at 6:00 PM

- Special Town Meeting, Thursday, March 14, 2024, 6:30 PM at the Turners Falls High School, 222 Turnpike Road, Montague
- Selectboard, Monday, March 18, 2024 at 6:30 PM via ZOOM
- Finance Committee/Selectboard Joint Meeting, March 20, 2024 at 6:00 PM via ZOOM

Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Lord, unanimously approved. Boutwell - Aye, Lord - Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye