

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MONTAGUE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
May 7, 2016**

ARTICLE 1. MOVED: That the Town 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. MOVED: That the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, or other Town departments with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, 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. (Board of Selectmen Request)

ARTICLE 3. MOVED: That the Town vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, as amended, to reauthorize a revolving fund for the Hazardous Materials Response Planning Committee (a.k.a. the SARA Title III Committee) into which fund will be placed the fees collected from individuals responsible for oil and hazardous material spills, and to further authorize the SARA Title III Committee to expend up to a maximum of \$7,500 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016 from the Revolving Fund for the purpose of cleaning up oil and hazardous material spills. (Emergency Manager Request)

ARTICLE 4. MOVED: That the Town vote to fix the salaries of all elected officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, as set forth in Schedule I, Elected Officials.

**SCHEDULE I
Elected Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY15 ACTUAL</u>	<u>FY16 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY17 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY17 RECOMMEND</u>
MODERATOR	340	340	340	340
BOARD OF SELECTMEN				
Chairman	1,500	1,500	2,040	2,040
Second/Third Members	1,500	1,500	2,040	2,040
BOARD OF ASSESSOR				
Chairman	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Second/Third Members	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
TREASURER/COLLECTOR	66,270	68,271*	69,609**	68,271
*G-10 **2% increase				
TOWN CLERK	63,697	65,620*	66,933**	66,933
*G-8 **G-9				
BOARD OF REGISTRARS				
Town Clerk	800	800	800	800
TREE WARDEN	1,300	1,300	1,500	1,500
BOARD OF HEALTH				
Chairman	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Second/Third Members	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
			Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0-0	
			Selectmen recommend Voted 2-0	

ARTICLE 5. MOVED: That the Town vote to fix the salaries of all appointed officials as required by law for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, as set forth in Schedule II, Appointed Officials.

**SCHEDULE II
Appointed Officials**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>FY15 ACTUAL</u>	<u>FY16 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY17 REQUEST</u>	<u>FY17 RECOMMEND</u>
<u>ANNUAL STIPENDS</u>				
BOARD OF REGISTRARS (3)	500	500	500	500
EMERGENCY MGMT DIRECTOR	5,490	5,490	5,490	5,490
BURIAL AGENT	670	zero	zero	zero
ANIMAL INSPECTOR	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
BARN INSPECTOR	500	1,000	1,000	1,000
IT ADMINISTRATOR	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
FOREST WARDEN	1,631	1,631	1,631	1,631
<u>RATES PER INSPECTION</u>				
ASST. BUILDING INSPECTOR	27.06	27.50	27.50	27.50
GAS INSPECTOR	27.06	27.50	27.50	27.50
PLUMBING INSPECTOR	27.06	27.50	27.50	27.50
ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR	27.06	27.50	27.50	27.50
<u>HOURLY RATES</u>				
	<u>Ranges/hr.</u>	<u>Ranges/hr.</u>	<u>Ranges/hr.</u>	<u>Ranges/hr.</u>
EXTRA CLERICAL	8.00-10.00	8.00-10.00	10.00-12.00	10.00-12.00
ELECTION WORKERS	8.00-10.00	8.00-10.00	10.00-13.00	10.00-13.00
SUMMER HIGHWAY	8.00-12.00	8.00-12.00	10.00-13.00	10.00-13.00
SNOW PLOW DRIVERS	15.00-25.00	15.00-25.00	15.00-25.00	15.00-25.00
PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS	14.50-17.00	14.50-17.00	14.50-17.00	14.50-17.00
PART TIME DISPATCHERS	13.00-15.00	17.00-19.00	17.00-19.00	17.00-19.00
PARKS & RECREATION	9.00-25.63	9.00-25.63	9.00-20.00	9.00-20.00

NON-UNION EMPLOYEES NOT SHOWN ABOVE

	Grade	Range FY2016		Range FY2017	
		Start	End	Start	End
<u>SALARIED</u>					
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	J	85,737	105,515	85,737	105,515
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	G	55,746	68,271	55,746	68,271
CHIEF OF POLICE	I	77,943	95,922	77,943	95,922
DPW SUPERINTENDENT	H	70,858	87,202	70,858	87,202
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH	G	55,746	68,271	55,746	68,271
LIBRARY DIRECTOR	G	55,746	68,271	55,746	68,271
WPCF SUPERINTENDENT	H	70,858	87,202	70,858	87,202
<u>HOURLY</u>					
SELECTMEN'S SECRETARY	E	20.72	25.50	20.72	25.50

Informational Only: Fiscal Year 2017 budgeted wages

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR	103,446	DIRECTOR OF HEALTH	68,271
TOWN ACCOUNTANT	68,271	LIBRARY DIRECTOR	61,533
DPW SUPERINTENDENT	83,817	WPCF SUPERINTENDENT	87,202
CHIEF OF POLICE*	103,241	SELECTMEN'S SECRETARY	25.50

*includes add'l 20% educational incentive pay

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 2-0

ARTICLE 6. MOVED: That the Town vote to establish the position of Police Lieutenant within the Classification Plan, at Grade G+8.5 with a Lieutenant not to be hired below step 6 (\$34.78-\$ 37.68 per hour), with such benefits as are awarded to other non-union management personnel, as well as sick leave, longevity, educational incentives, clothing, and uniform and cleaning allowance afforded to police personnel.

(Police Chief Request)
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 7. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$8,769,783 for the maintenance of the several departments of the Town and for any other necessary changes, with \$125,000 to be raised from Free Cash and \$8,644,783 to be raised from Taxation said sums to be allocated in accordance Schedule III, Budget.

**SCHEDULE III
BUDGET**

DEPT NO.		EXPENDED FY15	BUDGET FY16	REQUESTED FY17	SELECTMEN FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY17
	GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
113	TOWN MEETING	1,615	1,720	1,700	1,700
122	SELECTMEN	148,667	162,535	196,493	196,493
131	FINANCE COMMITTEE	572	840	690	690
132	RESERVE FUND	41,400	50,000	60,000	60,000
135	TOWN ACCOUNTANT	73,936	76,100	74,421	74,421
141	ASSESSORS	149,757	156,533	160,060	159,060
141	ASSESSORS SOFTWARE		3,860	-	-
145	TREASURER/COLLECTOR	206,758	212,387	215,058	211,820
151	TOWN COUNSEL	104,258	70,000	70,000	70,000
155	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	22,313	33,206	34,575	34,575
159	SHARED COSTS	43,387	51,450	51,109	51,109
161	TOWN CLERK	134,638	130,320	145,307	143,857

NO.		EXPENDED	BUDGET	REQUESTED	SELECTMEN FIN COMM RECOMMEND
		FY15	FY16	FY17	FY17
175	PLANNING	76,610	79,226	84,917	84,917
176	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	1,239	2,710	2,710	1,650
182	MEDIC	676	1,500	800	800
190	PUBLIC BLDG UTILITIES	94,949	111,215	111,435	111,435
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,100,776	1,143,602	1,209,275	1,202,527
	PUBLIC SAFETY				
211	POLICE	1,370,950	1,440,962	1,490,676	1,490,676
211	POLICE CRUISER	39,103	39,500	39,500	39,500
212	DISPATCH	261,016	270,691	275,247	275,247
241	BUILDING INSPECTOR	118,338	125,384	126,059	125,259
244	SEALER OF WEIGHTS	-	2,750	2,750	2,750
291	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	5,590	5,740	5,590	5,490
292	ANIMAL CONTROL	16,352	17,800	18,396	18,396
294	FOREST WARDEN	1,631	1,631	1,631	1,631
299	TREE WARDEN	12,951	13,510	14,210	14,210
511	BOARD OF HEALTH	119,109	136,908	136,998	136,998
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	1,945,040	2,054,876	2,111,057	2,110,157
	PUBLIC WORKS				
420	DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS	1,131,644	1,148,529	1,276,324	1,239,695
423	SNOW & ICE	219,245	216,000	219,000	219,000
433	SOLID WASTE	408,831	447,000	447,500	447,500
491	CEMETERIES	5,850	6,000	7,000	7,000
	CEMETERY FENCING	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	1,765,570	1,817,529	1,949,824	1,913,195
	HUMAN SERVICES				
541	COUNCIL ON AGING	37,844	39,669	43,676	43,676
543	VETERANS' SERVICES	161,951	175,500	164,000	164,000
	TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	199,795	215,169	207,676	207,676
	CULTURE & RECREATION				
610	LIBRARIES	337,643	351,149	362,911	362,911
630	PARKS & RECREATION	104,042	116,179	119,463	119,463
691	HISTORICAL COMMISSION	434	500	500	500
693	WAR MEMORIALS	1,049	1,200	1,200	1,200
	TOTAL CULTURE & RECREATION	443,169	469,028	484,074	484,074
	DEBT SERVICE				
700	DEBT SERVICE	653,276	661,201	659,072	659,072
	INTERGOVERNMENTAL				
840	INTERGOVERNMENTAL	71,938	94,259	92,564	92,564

	EXPENDED FY15	BUDGET FY16	REQUEST FY17	SELECTMEN FIN COMM RECOMMEND FY17
MISCELLANEOUS				
910 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,748,594	1,851,271	1,963,295	1,963,295
946 GENERAL INSURANCE	90,802	89,371	92,946	92,946
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	1,839,396	1,940,642	2,056,241	2,056,241
PERCENT INCREASE FROM FY16			5.96%	5.96%
GRAND TOTAL GENERAL FUND	8,018,959	8,396,306	8,769,783	8,725,506

Finance Committee recommends \$8,725,506 Voted 4-0
 Selectmen recommend \$8,725,506 Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 8. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,331,733 for the purpose of operating the Water Pollution Control Facility and associated pumping stations, with \$201,261 to be raised from Taxation and \$2,130,472 to be raised from Sewer User Fees, said sums to be allocated in accordance Schedule IV, WPCF Budget.

**SCHEDULE IV
 WPCF Budget**

DEPT NO.		EXPENDED 2015	BUDGET 2016	REQUEST 2017	FIN COMM SELECTMEN RECOMMEND 2017
	WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY				
440	Wages & Expenses	1,416,215	1,525,575	1,602,016	1,602,016
700	Debt Service	446,469	437,052	430,457	430,457
910	Employee Benefits	181,400	227,327	249,260	249,260
	SUBTOTAL WPCF	2,044,083	2,189,954	2,281,733	2,281,733
449	DPW SUBSIDIARY				
	Wages & Expenses	41,679	46,959	42,000	42,000
	Capital Outlay	-	8,000	8,000	8,000
	SUBTOTAL DPW SUBSIDIARY	41,679	54,959	50,000	50,000
				188.36%	
	TOTAL WPCF	2,085,762	2,244,913	2,331,733	2,331,733

Finance Committee recommends \$2,331,733 Voted 4-0
 Selectmen recommend \$2,331,733 Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 9. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$102,150 for the purpose of funding the operations, maintenance, and debt service of the Colle Building, said sum to be raised by Colle Receipts Reserved for Appropriations.

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
 Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 10. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$48,812 for the purpose of operating the Turners Falls Airport with \$16,825 to be raised from Taxation and \$31,987 from Airport User Fees.

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
 Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 11. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$8,350 for the purpose of providing the town share of a federal grant for an Airport Planning Project, wherein said project may include a Master plan Update and/or an Airport Layout plan Update, said local share to be raised from Airport Retained Earnings.

(Airport Commission Request)
Finance Committee recommends Voted 5-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 12. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$659,356 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 said sum to be raised from Taxation.

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 13. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$8,852,114 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 with \$125,000 to be raised from Free Cash and \$8,727,114 to be raised from Taxation.

Finance Committee recommends \$8,802,571 Voted 5-0
Selectmen recommend \$8,802,571 Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 14. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of repair/replace leaking pipes in an access tunnel at Hillcrest Elementary School, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

(Gill-Montague Regional School District Request)
Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 15. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate, the sum of \$24,000 for the purpose of funding the purchase of information technology equipment, parts, accessories, and software and for the installation thereof, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

(Computer Administrator Request)
Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 16. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of purchasing, equipping, and making major repairs to DPW vehicles and equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from the Town General Stabilization Fund.

(2/3 vote required)
(Department of Public Works Request)
Finance Committee recommends \$75,000 Voted 3-1
Selectmen recommend \$75,000 Voted 2-1
Capital Improvements Committee Recommends \$79,000

ARTICLE 17. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$43,325 for the purpose of funding FY 2017 principal and interest payments due on the Six Wheel Dump Truck authorized for lease at the May 5, 2012 Annual Town Meeting, said sum to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

(2/3 vote required)
(Department of Public Works Request)
Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0
Capital Improvements Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 18. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$44,700 for pre-development assessments for a Department of Public Works Facility at Sandy Lane, said sum to be raised from Chapter 90 Receipts.

(Department of Public Works Facility Planning Committee)
Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 19. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the purpose of upgrading and/or replacing the primary sludge pumps and equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

(WPCF Request)
Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0
Capital Improvements Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 20. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$200,000 for the purpose of increasing the WPCF Capital Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

(2/3 vote required)
(WPCF Request)
Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0
Capital Improvements Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 21. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of purchasing and equipping and making major repairs to WPCF vehicles and equipment, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Sewer User Fees.

(WPCF Request)
Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 22. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of funding the following water pollution abatement facility project: engineering, design, bidding, construction and any other costs pertinent thereto, in connection with the repair or replacement of the combined sanitary sewer overflow and storm drain system running from Avenue A under the canal to the Connecticut River, including without limitation, the payment of all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the General Laws; and to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen is authorized to borrow under Chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8 of the General Laws, or any other lawful enabling authorities, which amount may be borrowed through the Rural Development Administration of the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust or otherwise; it is anticipated that the principal and interest due on \$100,000 of such borrowing shall be repaid through the Sewer Enterprise Fund, and the principal and interest on the remaining \$900,000 shall be repaid through the General Fund; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept, and expend grants for such purpose and take all actions as may be necessary to meet the purposes of this article; provided, however, that the vote to authorize the borrowing in the amount of \$900,000 shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the voters of the Town of a Proposition 2 ½, so-called, debt exclusion question in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 59, §21C(k).

(DPW & WPCF Request)
Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0
Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0
Capital Improvements Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 23. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$14,000 for the purpose of repairing two sections of roofing at the Carnegie Library, said sum to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

(2/3 vote required)

(Libraries Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0

Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 24. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of repairing slate roofing at the Montague Center Library, said sum to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

(2/3 vote required)

(Libraries Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0

Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 25. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$14,000 for the purpose of repairing and re-pointing masonry work at the Carnegie and Montague Center Libraries, said sum to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

(2/3 vote required)

(Libraries Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0

Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 26. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$35,000, for the purpose of upgrading the Police Department radio system, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

(2/3 vote required)

(Police Department Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0

Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

Capital Improvements Committee Does Not Recommend

ARTICLE 27. MOVED: That the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine, for general municipal purposes, industrial development, and for the purpose of conveyance, the fee simple ownership or any lesser interest in a parcel of land comprising approximately 7.887 acres as shown on Assessors' Map 17, Lot 58, and being more particularly described in the deed recorded with the Franklin County Registry of Deeds in Book 6457, Page 1; and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$132,000 from the Sale of Real Estate Fund, for this purpose or any purpose incidental or related thereto; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments and to take all related actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the purpose of this vote.

(Town Planner Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0

Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

Capital Improvements Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 28. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$385,000 for the purpose of abating hazardous and asbestos containing materials within the Strathmore Mill Complex, 20 Canal Road, including any and all incidental and related costs, that this appropriation be raised under the authority of General Laws under Chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8, or any other lawful enabling authority; amounts required to repay the principal and interest on any such bonds are anticipated to be repaid through the General Fund; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept and expend grants for such purpose; and that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to enter into all agreements and execute any and all contracts as may be necessary to meet the purposes of this article; provided, however, that the vote taken hereunder shall be expressly contingent upon approval by the

voters of the Town of a Proposition 2 ½ , so called, debt exclusion question in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 59, Section 21 C(k).

(2/3 vote required)

(Town Planner Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0

Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

Capital Improvements Committee Recommends

ARTICLE 29. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$6,500 for the purpose of paying the costs of a feasibility study for segmented demolition and identification of probable demolition costs by a structural engineer within the Strathmore Mill Complex, 20 Canal Road, including any and all incidental and related costs, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

(Town Planner Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0

Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 30. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,574 for the purpose of increasing the Town OPEB Trust Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

(Town Administrator Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 3-1

Selectmen does not recommend Voted 0-3

ARTICLE 31. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$26,068 for the purpose of increasing the FCTS Stabilization Fund, said sum to be raised from Taxation.

(2/3 vote required)

(Finance Committee Request)

Finance Committee does not recommends Voted 2-2 (on the original motion of \$36,068)

Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 32. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of repairing or replacing the HVAC system at the Shea Theater, and any and all costs incidental or related thereto, said sum to be raised from the Town Capital Stabilization Fund.

(2/3 vote required)

(Board of Selectmen Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 4-0

Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

Capital Improvements Committee Does Not Recommend

ARTICLE 33. MOVED: That the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to continue Montague's participation in DPU docket 15-178 (or any succeeding docket number), concerning a proposed contract by Berkshire Gas Company to purchase transportation on the proposed Northeast Energy Direct (NED) pipeline, and to participate in any appeals, consolidations of cases, or related regulatory or legal proceedings at the state or Federal level, said sum to be raised from the Town General Stabilization Fund.

Funds appropriated in this Article shall be spent at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen. Funds appropriated in this Article may fund or help to fund actions undertaken by the Town alone and/or in conjunction with actions taken by any other municipality, coalition, or organization engaging in such regulatory or legal action.

(2/3 vote required)

(Board of Selectmen Request)

Finance Committee recommends Voted 3-1

Selectmen recommend Voted 3-0

ARTICLE 34. MOVED: That the Town vote to transfer from the Board of Selectmen, in its role as tax title custodian, the care, custody and control of all or a portion of the parcel of land comprising approximately .745 acres located at 15 Power Street, as shown on Assessors' Map 3, Lot 89 and as more particularly described in a

Judgment in Tax Lien Case recorded with the Franklin County Registry of Deeds in Book 6744, Page 8, including all land and buildings thereon, to the Board of Selectmen for general municipal purposes and for purposes of conveyance; and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey any or all of the said property upon such terms and for such consideration as the Selectmen deem in the best interests of the Town; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and to execute any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient on behalf of the Town to effect said conveyance.

(2/3 vote required)
(Planning Department Request)

ARTICLE 35. MOVED: That the Town will vote, in accordance with Town Bylaw Article 4 Section 1, to rename the segment of the public way known as Greenfield Road from its intersection with Turners Falls Road to the Pan-AM Railway in Montague Center to “Old Greenfield Road”.

(Planning Department Request)

ARTICLE 36. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the Montague Zoning Bylaws pertaining to Section 6.3.3 (Vehicular Egress/Access to a Lot) in the following manner:

Strike text from section 6.3.3 and replace it with the following text:

For Residences with a setback of 500 feet or more from an accepted way, a driveway for such residence must have a grade of no greater than 10%, a curve radius not less than 30 feet, passing turnouts with a width of 20 feet and length of 35 feet that are spaced no more than 300 feet between turnouts or terminus of the driveway, a turnaround area with a minimum 30 foot turn around radius and that the driveway be no less than 16 feet in width over its entire length. The Planning Board may issue a Special Permit to allow relief for any of the requirements in this section.

(2/3 vote required)
(Planning Department Request)

ARTICLE 37. MOVED: That the Town vote to amend the Montague Zoning Bylaws pertaining to Solar Energy Facilities in the General Business District in sections 5.2.5 (b) and 7.9.4(a) in the following manner:

By adding the text shown in **bold** below to section 5.2.5(b):

5.2.5(b) Uses allowed on Special Permit from the Board of Appeals:

- One family dwellings
- Two family dwelling
- Motel or hotel
- Retail sales and services that involve construction or alteration of over 5,000 square feet of floor area or the development of over 130,680 square feet (3 acres) of land.
- Business office or professional office that involve construction or alteration of over 5,000 square feet of floor area or the development of over 130,680 square feet (3 acres) of land.
- Lodging House
- Earth removal
- Open recreational enterprise
- Multi-family dwelling
- Public Utility
- Registered Marijuana Dispensary, in accordance with Section 7.10
- Solar Energy Facility, in accordance with Section 7.9**
- Other non-industrial uses if similar to the above in externally observable attributes.

By adding the text shown in **bold** below to section 7.9.4:

7.9.4 **Solar Energy Facilities**

Solar Energy Facilities are allowed in the ID..Industrial Districts and are permitted in the HI..Historic Industrial, RE..Recreation Education, **GB..General Business Districts** and UN..Unrestricted, by Special Permit, subject to the following requirements:

- (a) Conditions of Approval:
1. A plan shall be provided for the general procedures of operation and maintenance of the installation including security measures, maintenance of emergency access and the clear and available means of shutting down the facility in the event of an emergency;
 2. A fully inclusive estimate of the costs associated with removal and site restoration, prepared by a qualified engineer;
 3. Notice of Public Hearing shall be provided to the utility company that operates the electrical grid where the facility is proposed;
 4. Adequate access and parking, shall be provided for service and emergency vehicles;
 5. Clearing of natural vegetation shall be limited to what is necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance of the facility or as otherwise prescribed by applicable laws, regulations, and bylaws;
 6. An 8 foot security fence shall be installed no closer to a property line than the setback required for a principal building. In addition, the site and its fencing shall be screened by buffering vegetation from general view from the surrounding ground level unless the Board determines that there is no public benefit from such screening;
 7. To the extent feasible, all network interconnections and power lines, to and from the facility, shall be via underground lines;
 8. Drainage from impervious surfaces shall be fully accommodated onsite;
 9. No array shall be floodlit;
 10. Owners and successors in title shall provide a satisfactory form of surety, either through escrow account, bond or otherwise, to cover the cost of removal and restoration of the landscape, in an amount determined to be reasonable by the Board, but in no event to exceed more than 125 percent of the cost of removal. Such surety may be waived for municipally or state owned facilities.
 11. **The permit may be subject to a time limitation of 20 years in the General Business District**

(2/3 vote required)
(Planning Board Request)

ARTICLE 38. MOVED: That the Town vote to establish a study committee to investigate the potential of a Town wide municipally owned fiber optic cable system to meet the town wide needs and to develop a plan to implement this technology in the area of telecommunications.

(Petitioned Article)

ARTICLE 39. “The 2016 annual town meeting directs its Finance Committee to encourage and help organize a discussion of the Chapter 70 education formula, the mechanism for distributing the largest form of state aid to cities and towns. This discussion should 1) allow and encourage diverse opinions on the strengths and weaknesses of the formula 2) attempt to develop a consensus political strategy to reform the formula and 3) involve outreach to other towns and cities in the region and state.”

(Petitioned Article)