

## **MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD MEETING**

**In-Person at 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls and VIA ZOOM**

**Monday, December 18, 2023**

### **AGENDA**

**Zoom Login:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86551263160>

**Meeting ID:** 865 5126 3160      **Passcode:** 291986      **Dial into meeting:** **+1 646 558 8656**

This meeting/hearing of the Selectboard will be held in person at the location provided on this notice. Members of the public are welcome to attend this in-person meeting. Please note that while an option for remote attendance and/or participation is being provided as a courtesy to the public, the meeting/hearing will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the virtual broadcast, unless otherwise required by law. Members of the public with particular interest in any specific item on this agenda should make plans for in-person vs. virtual attendance accordingly.

Topics may start earlier than specified, unless there is a hearing scheduled

#### **Meeting Being Taped**

#### **Votes May Be Taken**

1. 6:00PM      Selectboard Chair opens the meeting, including announcing that the meeting is being recorded and roll call taken
2. 6:00      Approve Selectboard Minutes from December 11, 2023 if available
3. 6:00      Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Selectboard will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment
4. 6:02      Dog Complaint Hearing, Jonnie Arabia and Brianna Snyder, 20 K Street, Turners Falls
  - Investigation of Nuisance or Dangerous Dog as those terms are defined in said statute
5. 6:45      Personnel Board with Chris Williams, Police Chief
  - Retirement of Sargent John Dempsey effective 12/31/2023
  - Appoint John Dempsey as reserve officer effective January 15, 2024
  - Proposal to change wage rate for on call reserve officers
6. 7:00      Personnel Board with Dept of Public Works
  - Proposal to add a Collection System Laborer position in FY25 Budget
7. 7:15      Personnel Board
  - Appoint Ryne Hager, to Cable Advisory Committee until 6/30/24, effective 12/19/23
  - Vote to affirm intention to appoint Walter Ramsey as Town Administrator upon departure of Steve Ellis
  - Town Administrator/Assistant Town Administrator transition plan

**Montague Selectboard Meeting**  
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8. 7:30 Executive Assistant Business
- Approve 2024 Annual Permit Applications and Licenses as set forth in the attached listing
  - Request by Mark Wisnewski, from the Rendezvous to remain open until 2:00AM on New Years Eve
  - Set Winter Special Town Meeting Date (Thursday, March 14, 2024)
  - Discuss upcoming Selectboard meeting dates
9. 7:40 Assistant Town Administrator's Business
- Vote to consider advancing the Six Town Regionalization Planning Board Study
  - Mass School Building Authority Update- Sheffield Elementary School not accepted into 2023 Statement of Interest process.
  - Topics not anticipated in the 24 hour posting requirements

**Next Meeting:**

- Selectboard, Monday, January 9, 2024 at 6:00 PM

## 2024 Licenses

<b>2024 Licenses</b>	
<b>Liquor Licenses</b>	
<b>BREWERY/WINERY POURING PERMIT - SEATING UNDER 50</b>	
	<b>\$110.00 each</b>
Brick & Feather Brewery, Inc.	78 11th Street, Turners Falls
Element Brewing Company dba Element Brewing Co. LLC	16 Bridge St, Miller Falls
Pioneer Valley Brewery, LLC	151 Third St, Turners Falls
<b>CLUB, ALL ALCOHOL</b>	
	<b>\$725.00 each</b>
Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club Inc.	201R Turners Falls Rd, Turners Falls
Montague Bpo Elks Lodge 2521	1 Elk Ave, Turners Falls
St. Kazimierz Society dba St. Kazimierz Society	197 Avenue A, Turners Falls
St. Stanislaus B and M Society, Inc.	6 K St, Turners Falls
Turners Falls Rod & Gun Club, Inc.	15 Deep Hole Road, Turners Falls
<b>GENERAL ON PREMISES - Wines &amp; Malt</b>	
	<b>\$580.00 each</b>
Sow Loud, LLC dba The Upper Bend	112 Avenue A, Turners Falls
<b>PACKAGE STORE, ALL ALCOHOL</b>	
	<b>\$975.00 each</b>
Bryan Call dba Crestview Liquors	68 Unity St, Turners Falls
Slow Village Ahead dba Montague Village Store	60 Main St, Montague
Purple Meadow Ventures, Inc. dba Connecticut River Liquor & Wine	123 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Om Shiv Shambhu, Inc. dba Carroll's Market	33 East Main St, Millers Falls
<b>PACKAGE STORE, WINES and Malt</b>	
	<b>\$550.00 each</b>
Crooked River Corp. dba Food City	250 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Pub General	27 East Main Street, Millers Falls
<b>RESTAURANT, ALL ALCOHOL</b>	
	<b>\$1,050.00 each</b>
Between the Uprights, LLC dba Between the Uprights at 2nd St.	23 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Crystal Spring Investments, LLC dba Millers Pub	29 East Main St, Millers Falls
Pamela Tierney dba Black Cow Burger	125 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Hole Pie, Inc., dba Harvey's	166 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Rocket Science, LLC dba The Rendezvous	78 Third St, Turners Falls
Secondhand Smoke, Inc. dba North Village Smokehouse	32 Federal St, Millers Falls
Shea Theater Arts Center	71 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Thomas Memorial Golf & Country Club	30 Country Club Ln, Turners Falls
<b>RESTAURANT, WINES and MALT</b>	
	<b>\$580.00 each</b>
CVB Harvest LLC dba Great Falls Harvest	50 Third St, Turners Falls
Lady Killigrew Café, Inc. dba Lady Killigrew Café, Inc.	444 Greenfield Rd, Montague
Shady Glen, Inc dba Shady Glen	7 Avenue A, Turners Falls

<b>Miscellaneous Licenses - (with Liquor Licenses)</b>	
<b>AUTOMATIC AMUSEMENT</b>	<b>\$45.00 each device</b>
Between the Uprights, LLC dba Between the Uprights at 2nd St.	23 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Millers Pub	29 East Main St, Millers Falls
Rocket Science, LLC dba The Rendezvous	78 Third St, Turners Falls
Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club Inc.	201R Turners Falls Rd, Turners Falls
Montague B.P.O Elks # 2521	1 Elk Ave, Turners Falls
St. Kazimierz Society	197 Avenue A, Turners Falls
St. Stanislaus B and M Society, Inc.	6 K St, Turners Falls
Pioneer Valley Brewery	151 Third Street, Turners Falls
<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b>	<b>\$55.00 each</b>
Between the Uprights, LLC dba Between the Uprights at 2nd St.	23 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Great Falls Harvest	50 Third St, Turners Falls
Element Brewing Company	16 Bridge St, Miller Falls
Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club Inc.	201R Turners Falls Rd, Turners Falls
Millers Pub	29 East Main St, Millers Falls
Montague Elks #2521	1 Elk Ave, Turners Falls
Pioneer Valley Brewery, LLC	151 Third Street, Turners Falls
Rocket Science, LLC dba The Rendezvous	78 Third St, Turners Falls
St. Kazimierz Society	197 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Secondhand Smoke, Inc. dba North Village Smokehouse	32 Federal St, Millers Falls
Shea Theater Arts Center, Inc.	71 Avenue A, Turners Falls
St. Stanislaus B and M Society, Inc.	6 K St, Turners Falls
Thomas Memorial Golf & Country Club, Inc.	30 Country Club Ln, Turners Falls
Turners Falls Rod & Gun Club	15 Deep Hole Road, Turners Falls
<b>COMMON VICTUALLER</b>	<b>\$40.00 each</b>
Black Cow Burger	125 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Crystal Spring Investments, LLC dba Millers Pub	29 East Main St, Millers Falls
CVB Harvest LLC dba Great Falls Harvest	50 Third St, Turners Falls
Element Brewing Company	16 Bridge St, Miller Falls
Hole Pie, Inc. dba Harvey's	166 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Lady Killigrew Café, Inc. dba Lady Killigrew Café, Inc.	444 Greenfield Rd, Montague
Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club Inc.	201R Turners Falls Rd, Turners Falls
Montague B.P.O. Elks Lodge 2521	1 Elk Ave, Turners Falls
Rocket Science, LLC dba The Rendezvous	78 Third St, Turners Falls
St. Kazimierz Society dba St. Kazimierz Society	197 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Secondhand Smoke, Inc. dba North Village Smokehouse	32 Federal St, Millers Falls
Shady Glen, Inc dba Shady Glen, Inc.	7 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Sow Loud, LLC dba The Upper Bend	112 Avenue A, Turners Falls
St. Stanislaus B and M Society, Inc.	6 K St, Turners Falls
Thomas Memorial Golf & Country Club - Dining Room	30 Country Club Ln, Turners Falls
Thomas Memorial Golf & Country Club - Clubhouse	30 Country Club Ln, Turners Falls
Turners Falls Rod & Gun Club, Inc.	15 Deep Hole Road, Turners Falls

<b>Miscellaneous Licenses - (Not related to Liquor Licenses)</b>	
<b>LODGING HOUSE</b>	<b>\$40.00 each</b>
F. C. Housing Authority	241 Millers Falls Road, Turners Falls
<b>CLASS II - USED CARS</b>	<b>\$110.00 each</b>
Bob's Auto	303 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Koch's Auto Sales	98 Turners Falls Rd, Turners Falls
Mark's Auto	366 Federal St, Montague
Mark's Auto	484 Federal St, Montague
Montague Garage (Gregory Precourt)	10 Station St, Montague
Rau's Sunoco	531 Turners Falls Rd, Montague
Semaski General Contractor & Equipment Sales	186 Turners Falls Rd, Montague
Zak's Auto Sales and Repair	221 Millers Falls Road, Turners Falls
<b>CLASS III -JUNK</b>	<b>\$110.00 each</b>
Bob's Auto	303 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Rau's Sunoco	531 Turners Falls Rd, Montague
<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b>	<b>\$55.00 each</b>
Montague Book Mill	Greenfield Rd, Montague
<b>COMMON VICTUALLERS</b>	<b>\$40.00 each</b>
Ce Ce's Chinese Restaurant	57 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Country Creemee	52 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Scotty's	66 Unity St, Turners Falls
TF F. L. Roberts dba NEC OPCO I, Inc.	132 Third St, Turners Falls
Subway dba CK Sandwiches	57 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Turners Falls Pizza	119 Avenue A, Turners Falls



*Selectboard*  
**Town of Montague**  
 1 Avenue A  
 Turners Falls, MA 01376

(413) 863-3200 xt. 108  
 FAX: (413) 863-3231

December 6, 2023

BY CONSTABLE

Ms. Jonnie Arabia  
 Ms. Brianna Snyder  
 20 K Street  
 Turners Falls, MA 01376

**NOTICE OF HEARING  
 NUISANCE OR DANGEROUS DOG**

Dear Ms. Arabia and Ms. Snyder:

On **Monday, December 18, 2023 at 6:02 PM** the Montague Selectboard will hold a public hearing in the Montague Town Hall, One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 140, Section 157, to determine whether the dogs owned and/or kept by you at 20 K Street, Turners Falls, Massachusetts, are Nuisance or Dangerous Dogs as defined in said statute.

This hearing is being convened in response to a complaint from the Town's Director of Public Health that an unlicensed dog kept by you at the property was roaming loose on November 16, 2023 and that it was involved in an attack on a smaller dog resulting in injuries to the dog and its owner. During the hearing, the Board will examine the evidence, which will include an examination of the complainant under oath, and based on the credible evidence and testimony presented, the Board may make such findings and orders concerning the restraint or disposal of said dog as may be deemed necessary, which may include an order that the dog be humanely euthanized.

You may attend the hearing and at that time you may produce any documentation and/or witnesses. You may be represented by counsel at your own expense if you so choose.

If you have questions related to the hearing process, please call me at (413) 863-3200 ext. 108.

Very truly yours,

Wendy M. Bogusz  
 Executive Assistant

For Date: 11/16/2023 - Thursday

<u>Call Number</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Call Reason</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Duplicate</u>
23-14622	1445	911 - Animal Complaint	REPORT TAKEN	2	
Call Taker: Chase, Steven Call Source: 911 Call Closed By: Morin, Anna 11/16/2023 1523 Call Modified By: Morin, Anna Location/Address: [TF 280] 16 K ST - 16 K ST Party Entered By: 11/16/2023 1448 Chase, Steven Calling Party: CUMMINGS, ALBERT L JR @ 9 K ST - TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376-1408 [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED] JOB: [REDACTED] Race: W Sex: M Party Entered By: 11/16/2023 1454 Chase, Steven Involved Party: VICTIM BOUCHARD, DENISE @ 63 SEVENTH ST - TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376 [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED] OB: [REDACTED] Race: W Sex: F Party Entered By: 11/16/2023 1518 Morin, Anna Involved Party: BARTOLON, HOLLY INEZ @ 24 CANADA HILL RD - GREENFIELD, MA 01301-0000 SSN: [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED] Race: W Sex: F Party Entered By: 11/16/2023 1522 Morin, Anna Involved Party: SNYDER, BRIANNA NICHOLE @ 341 PLAIN RD - GREENFIELD, MA 01301-9780 [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED] Race: W Sex: F Party Entered By: 11/16/2023 1522 Morin, Anna Involved Party: DEMERS, AUSTIN JOHN @ 118 FEDERAL ST - MILLERS FALLS, MA 01349-1232 [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED] Race: W Sex: M Party Entered By: 11/16/2023 1522 Morin, Anna Involved Party: [REDACTED] @ 20 K ST - TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376 [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED] DOB: [REDACTED] Race: W Sex: M Party Entered By: 11/16/2023 1949 Morin, Anna Involved Party: SOKOLOSKI, BONNIE @ 63 SEVENTH ST - TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376 [REDACTED] SSN: [REDACTED] OB: [REDACTED] Race: W Sex: F Unit: 3 Pervere, Nathan Disp-14:48:35 Arvd-14:50:49 Clrd-15:07:50 Cleared By: Morin, Anna Unit: 2 Dempsey, John Disp-14:48:39 Arvd-14:50:51 Clrd-15:23:07 Cleared By: Morin, Anna Location Change: [TF] 20 K ST [Modified: 11/16/2023 1510] Narrative: <b>11/16/2023 1448 Chase, Steven</b> 911 caller reporting that a female was just attacked by a dog and was bitten. Her own dog was also bitten. PD responding, Ambulance started by Shelburne Control Narrative: <b>11/16/2023 1501 Morin, Anna</b> Officer Pervere requesting ACO - ACO is unavailable 11/10-11/19/2023 Narrative: <b>11/16/2023 1505 Morin, Anna</b> TFFD received signed patient refusal for transport. Narrative: <b>11/16/2023 1944 Morin, Anna</b> Modified By: <b>11/16/2023 1947 Morin, Anna</b> Victims girlfriend called in wondering status of dogs rabies vaccine. States victim brought her dog to the vet and they put it down and vet suggested she get a rabies vaccine. Advised Sgt. Dempsey was verbally told up to date, we do not have records at this time. She states she has a good relationship with the dogs owners and feels comfortable asking them. Narrative: <b>11/16/2023 1953 Morin, Anna</b> Greenfield PD advising dog not registered with them. Narrative: <b>11/16/2023 2013 Morin, Anna</b> BFMC advising victim is now in ER stating she was bitten and isn't familiar with dog at all. ER staff looking for vaccine status. Again advised we do not have records but were told verbally dog is up to date at this time.					

Refer To Incident: [23-327-OF](#)





**Montague Police Department  
Incident Report**

**Incident #: 23-327-OF**  
**Call #: 23-14622**

Date/Time Reported: 11/16/2023 1445  
Report Date/Time: 11/17/2023 0845  
Occurred Between: 11/16/2023 1445-11/16/2023 1450  
Status: No Crime Involved

Reporting Officer: Sergeant John Dempsey  
Assisting Officer: Patrolman Nathan Pervere

**# EVENTS (S)**

LOCATION TYPE: Residence/Home/Apt./Condo      Zone: TURNERS FALLS  
16 K ST  
16 K ST  
TURNERS FALLS MA 01376

1 Animal Complaint

**# VICTIM(S)**      **SEX RACE**      **AGE**      **SSN**      **PHONE**

1	BOUCHARD, DENISE 63 SEVENTH ST TURNERS FALLS MA 01376	F   W	51		
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DOB:   
EMPLOYER: UNEMPLOYED  
INJURIES: Apparent Minor Injury  
ETHNICITY: Not of Hispanic Origin  
RESIDENT STATUS: Resident  
TAKEN TO: BAYSTATE FRANKLIN MED CENTER  
TAKEN BY: PRIVATE VEHICLE  
TREATED DATE: 11/16/2023 @ 2013  
VICTIM CONNECTED TO OFFENSE NUMBER(S): 1  
CONTACT INFORMATION:  
Home Phone            (Primary)        
Home Phone            (Primary)        
Home Phone  
CallBack Number      (Primary)        
CallBack Number

**# PERSON(S)**      **PERSON TYPE**      **SEX RACE**      **AGE**      **SSN**      **PHONE**

1	SOKOLOSKI, BONNIE 63 SEVENTH ST TURNERS FALLS MA 01376 DOB:	WITNESS	F   W	43		
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EMPLOYER: ST KAZIEMIRZ SOCIETY  
CONTACT INFORMATION:  
Home Phone            (Primary)        
Home Phone            (Primary)        
Cell Phone  
CallBack Number      (Primary)        
CallBack Number  
CallBack Number

Montague Police Department  
Incident Report

Incident #: 23-327-OF

Call #: 23-14622

#	PERSON(S)	PERSON TYPE	SEX RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
2	[REDACTED]	WITNESS				
	DOB: [REDACTED]					
	CONTACT INFORMATION:					
	Home Phone (Primary)	[REDACTED]				
	CallBack Number (Primary)	[REDACTED]				
3	DEMERS, AUSTIN J 118 FEDERAL ST MILLERS FALLS MA 01349-1232 DOB: [REDACTED]	OTHER	M W	20		[REDACTED]
	CONTACT INFORMATION:					
	CallBack Number (Primary)	[REDACTED]				
	CallBack Number	[REDACTED]				
4	BARTOLON, HOLLY I 24 CANADA HILL RD GREENFIELD MA 01301-0000 DOB: [REDACTED]	OTHER	F W	37		[REDACTED]
	CONTACT INFORMATION:					
	Home Phone (Primary)	[REDACTED]				
	Home Phone	[REDACTED]				
	Home Phone	[REDACTED]				
5	SNYDER, BRIANNA N 341 PLAIN RD GREENFIELD MA 01301-9780 DOB: [REDACTED]	OTHER	F W	21		[REDACTED]
	CONTACT INFORMATION:					
	CallBack Number (Primary)	[REDACTED]				
	CallBack Number	[REDACTED]				

#	OTHER PROPERTIES	PROPERTY #	STATUS
1	TAN BRINDLE PITBULL (TYSON) QUANTITY: 1 SERIAL #: NOT AVAIL DATE: 11/17/2023 OWNER: DEMERS, AUSTIN JOHN	VALUE: \$250.00	Suspected

Ref: 23-327-OF

On 11/16/2023 at approximately 1445 hrs I, Sgt Dempsey and Officer Pervere were dispatched to a dog bite incident which had occurred on K Street in Turners Falls. Upon arrival we were met by Denise Bouchard and Bonnie Sokoloski who were visibly shaken. Bouchard was holding a small dog that had multiple puncture wounds to his body. Bouchard had visible bleeding to one of her fingers which was checked by ambulance personnel. She refused to go to the hospital as she was concerned about getting her dog to the Animal Hospital. Bouchard stated she was walking her dog when another dog (later identified as a Pit bull named Tyson) approached her. Pit bull "Tyson" attempted to get at Bouchard's dog as she was holding him in her arms. "Tyson" bit Bouchard in the process of aggressing toward the dog she was holding. At some point Tyson bit Bouchard's dog several times causing severe trauma. Bouchard and Sokoloski stated that the dog came from 20 K street, which was a few feet from where the incident occurred.

I made contact with Austin Demers who was inside of 20 K Street. Demers stated he did not see the incident, but was aware his dog got outside of the fenced yard in the rear of the residence. Demers stated the dogs name was Tyson and described him as a Pit bull mix. Demers stated that the dog belonged to him and his girlfriend Brianna Snyder. Demers stated that they recently acquired Tyson and thought the dog was up to date on his shots. Demers stated that Tyson was outside with [REDACTED] when he got out of the yard. Demers stated he had contacted his girlfriend and the previous owner of Tyson was coming to house because of the incident. Demers stated that she would have more information concerning Tyson's registration and shot status.

I then spoke to [REDACTED] who stated he was outside in the back yard with Tyson when Tyson bolted out of the fence gate which he was able to push open. [REDACTED] stated that he saw Tyson going after Bouchard and her dog. [REDACTED] stated that he grabbed Tyson by the collar and pulled him away, then brought him back to 20 K Street.

Holly Bartolon arrived a short time later and identified herself as the previous owner of Tyson. Bouchard stated that Tyson was registered in the City of Greenfield and that he was up to date on his rabies shots. She attempted to locate the record in her phone, but was unable to find the document. Bartolon stated that Tyson received his vaccinations through a visiting Vet at Tractor Supply in Greenfield. She stated she would locate the records and email them to me. At the time of this report I have not received an email and when I called Bartolon on the phone it went to voice mail.

At approximately 1950 hrs I received notification from the Montague Police Dispatch that Bouchard had to euthanize her dog and that she was going to the Baystate Franklin Medical Center for treatment of her wound. Dispatch.

On 11/17/23 at approximately 1045 hr Snyder brought a copy of Tyson's rabies vaccination record. The document does have Tyson's name on it, and the description of him matches on the record. The vaccination record shows an expiration date of 08/17/23. The vaccination was given at the Greenfield Tractor Supply (PetVet). I made to contact Holly Bartolon to ascertain if there is another record showing that Tyson's rabies vaccine as valid but was advised that there was not. Bartolon told me that she gave Tyson away because she was expecting a baby and knew she would be too busy to properly care for him. She stated that Tyson had never been a problem prior to

Ref: 23-327-OF

giving him away and was a good family dog. She was surprised to learn of this incident.

Denise Bouchard was advised of the expired vaccination and was told to speak to a doctor about her getting preventative shots as the rabies shot was only 3 months expired.

Respectfully,  
Sgt John Dempsey



Case Number:  
C23-056

INCIDENT REPORT

Reporting Officer: Judie Garceau  
Assisting Officer:  
Approving Officer: Leslee Colucci

Reporting Officer Signature: [Signature]  
Approving Officer Signature: [Signature]

Incident Type: **Animal Bite: Dog to Human**

Case Status: Active  
Case closed by:

CASE DESCRIPTION

Dog bite to human and dog. Attack resulted in the animal having to be euthanized due to injuries sustained.

VIOLATIONS / ENFORCEMENTS

INVOLVED ANIMALS

Involvement: Victim Injury: Severe Rabies Exp:  
Name: Charlie Species: Dog Breed: Chihuahua (mix)  
Gender/ Altered: Male / Unknown or N/A Age: Approx. 5 years (approx. DOB: 11/22/2018)  
Color(s)/Pattern: White / Solid  
License: [No current licenses]  
Microchip:  
Cautions:  
Owner: Denise Bouchard  
\* Primary: [Redacted]  
\*No current e-mail addresses  
\* Physical: 63 Seventh Street  
Turnersfalls, Ma 01376

Involvement: Subject of case Injury: N/A Rabies Exp:  
Name: Tyson Species: Dog Breed: American Pit Bull Terrier (mix)  
Gender/ Altered: Male / No Age: Unknown  
Color(s)/Pattern: Tan Brown / Brindle  
License: [No current licenses]  
Microchip: 981020039538010  
Cautions:  
Owner: Brianna Synder  
\* Primary: [Redacted]  
\*No current e-mail addresses  
\* Physical: 341 Plain Road  
Greenfield, Ma 01301

INVOLVED PARTIES

Involvement:

- Called for dispatch
- Victim

Injury: N/A

Name: Bouchard, Denise

Address: 63 Seventh Street | Turnersfalls, Ma 01376

Phone: \* Primary: [REDACTED] Email: No current e-mail addresses

Involvement:

- Called for dispatch
- Officer assigned to case

Injury: N/A

Name: Garceau, Judie

Address: 10 Sandy Lane | Turners Falls, Ma 01376

Phone: \* Primary: [REDACTED] Email: No current e-mail addresses

Involvement:

- Violator/offender
- Called for dispatch

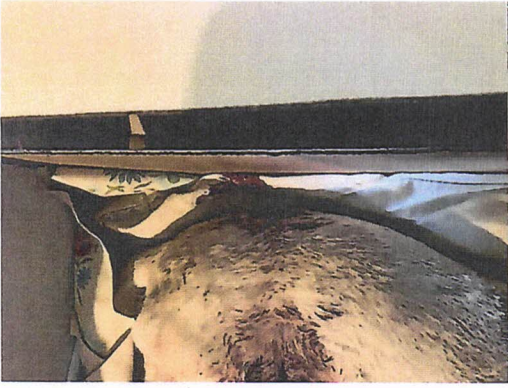
Injury: N/A

Name: Synder, Brianna

Address: 341 Plain Road | Greenfield, Ma 01301

Phone: \* Primary: [REDACTED] Email: No current e-mail addresses

PHOTOGRAPHS



**#70391**

**VOICE**

**Customer number:** 228887

**Address:** 1000 Highway 2823  
Hollywood, FL 33021  
Customer phone: 954-988-1111  
US PO, Box 12151  
Atlanta, GA 30324  
City: Atlanta

**Invoice number:** 228887

**Invoice date:** 10/21/2022

**Invoice amount:** \$100.00

**Invoice type:** Monthly

**Invoice period:** 10/01/2022 - 10/31/2022

**Invoice status:** Open

**Invoice due date:** 10/31/2022

**Invoice due time:** 11:59 PM

**Invoice due location:** Atlanta, GA

**Invoice due time zone:** Eastern Standard Time

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Monthly Fee	1	\$100.00	\$100.00

**Payment method:** Credit Card

**Payment status:** Pending

**Payment date:** 10/21/2022

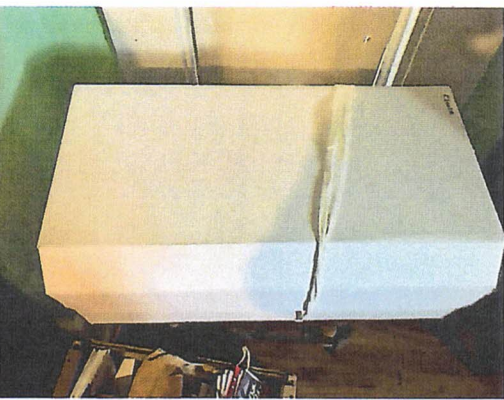
**Payment amount:** \$100.00

**Payment location:** Atlanta, GA

**Payment time zone:** Eastern Standard Time

**Payment status:** Pending







CALLS / DISPATCHES

Call Number: 23-777                      Date and Time: 11/17/2023 at 12:49 PM  
Call Type: Animal Bite (Human)  
Address: 341 Plain Road, Greenfield, Ma 01301

Call Number: 23-784                      Date and Time: 11/21/2023 at 11:05 AM  
Call Type: Follow Up Investigation (In Person)  
Address: 14 Court Square, Greenfield, Ma 01301

Call Number: 23-785                      Date and Time: 11/22/2023 at 9:35 AM  
Call Type: Follow Up Investigation (Phone/Email/etc.)  
Address: 10 Sandy Lane, Turners Falls, Ma 01376

Call Number: 23-786                      Date and Time: 11/22/2023 at 11:11 AM  
Call Type: Follow Up Investigation (Phone/Email/etc.)  
Address: 10 Sandy Lane, Turners Falls, Ma 01376

## Narrative Entry Form

On Friday November 17, 2023 at approximately 12:49 PM I Franklin County Regional Animal Control Officer Deputy Judie Garceau(ACO Garceau) received a call from Gabi Trudeau Office Manager at the Franklin County Regional Dog shelter(Trudeau). Trudeau stated that a woman Denise Bouchard(Bouchard) just called in reporting that she and her dog were attacked yesterday by a neighbor's dog. Trudeau provided me with a phone number 413-863-0174 and asked me to give her a call.

At 12:54PM I placed a phone call to Bouchard and asked when was a good time to meet to discuss yesterday's incident. Bouchard stated that she was currently home and I responded to her residence of 63 Seventh Street Turners Falls MA 01376.

At 12:58 PM I arrived at the residence. Upon arriving Bouchard's partner Bonnie Sokoloski(Sokoloski) invited me into the home. When I entered the home I could see that Bouchard was visibly upset and crying. I navigated through the clutter into the living room, I could also smell an odor of alcohol coming from the room. When Bouchard began talking about the incident Bouchard repeatedly stated that he killed my baby. I feel so bad that I couldn't help him and I'm sorry I just can't get the images out of my head. Bouchard then continued by saying that she was walking her chihuahua named Charlie down the sidewalk on K street around 2:30PM yesterday. When she got in front of the residence located at 20 K Street a pit bull named Tyson came out from that back yard and attacked Charlie on the sidewalk in front of the driveway. Bouchard said that she then picked up Charlie to try and protect him. When Bouchard picked Charlie up Tyson jumped up and bit her in the hand. Bouchard said that the force of Tyson jumping up on her knocked her to the ground. Bouchard then went on to say that a boy ( [REDACTED] ) came out from the backyard and pulled Tyson off of them by the collar.

At approximately 1:02pm I asked Bouchard if she could show me the injuries she sustained from the incident. At 1:02pm I photographed said injuries(Please see exhibit 1A-G). Upon completion, Bouchard stated that she had Charlie upstairs and that they were going to bury him in their yard. At that time, I asked if I would be able to see Charlie. I was escorted up stairs to where Charlie was being held. At 1:05PM I began photographing Charlie.(Please see exhibit #2A-F) After photographs were taken I returned down stairs to finish my interview.

## Narrative Entry Form

At approximately 1:12PM I asked Bouchard if she had taken Charlie to the Animal Hospital after the incident. Bouchard responded yes and provided me with a physical copy of the receipt that I photographed(Please see exhibit #3)Bouchard stated that if you could have seen the x-rays it was like swiss cheese. Bouchard's partner Bonnie Sokoloaki(Sokoloaki) then stated that when the vet came out and told them that they could do some things but it would be like \$10,000. Bouchard and partner then chose to euthanize Charlie.

At approximately 1:35PM I completed my interview. I then provided Bouchard with a formal complaint form and asked her to fill it out the best she could and provide me with a statement of the incident. At the time of this report I have not received a formal complaint form or written statement.

At 1:45PM I called the Montague animal inspector Kathleen Burek(Burek) and advised her that a quarantine would need to be placed on Tyson.

At approximately 1:52PM I arrived at 20 K Street to speak to Tyson's owner Brianna Snyder(Snyder) about the attack. I knocked on the door and waited. While waiting, I noticed that there was a camera pointed at the door. After a few minutes Snyder came out of the residence and on to the steps. Snyder stated she wasn't there at the time of the incident but from what she heard Tyson muscled through the backyard gate and went after Charlie. At that time Snyder's boyfriend Austin Demers(Demers)came out of the residence and stood on the steps as well. I then asked Synder if Tyson was licensed with the town of Montague to which Snyder told me that she just got Tyson from a co-worker so she had not licensed him.Snyder was unable to name the co-worker. I asked Snyder if Tyson was licensed in another town and Snyder stated yes either Greenfield or Gill. I then asked Snyder if Tyson was up to date with his rabies vaccination. Snyder responded that he was. I asked to see the paperwork. Snyder then walked over to her car and retrieved the paperwork. After reviewing the paperwork I informed Snyder that Tyson was not current with his rabies vaccine and that it had expired on 7/17/2023. Snyder had mistaken the expiration date of the Lot which was highlighted for Tyson's vaccine expiration date. At that time, Snyder stated that she had scheduled an appointment for Tyson to go to the vet at tractor supply through Petvet on 11/18/2023. I advised Snyder to please send a copy of that paperwork to me via email. On 11/18/2023 at 6:17PM I received the email from Snyder with Tyson's updated vaccination.(Please see exhibit #4)

## Narrative Entry Form

On November 17, 2023 at approximately 2:00PM I then asked Snyder if she could take Tyson outside so I could get a picture of him. Demers went into the home and took Tyson outside in the backyard. At 2:02PM I began photographing. I started with the gate to the backyard where Snyder claimed Tyson broke through the gate. (Please see exhibit #5) I then photographed Tysons face and neck. (Please see exhibits #6,7,8,) At the time of photographing Tyson was wearing a shock collar. (Please see exhibit #9) When I asked about the shock collar Snyder stated that it also has a beep and vibration mode and Tyson usually responds before having to shock him.

At approximately 2:05PM I advised Snyder that the animal inspector would be on her way to issue Tyson a quarantine and completed my interview.

At 2:13PM the animal inspector returned my call and stated that within the hour Tyson's quarantine would be issued.

On November 21,2023 I conducted follow-up on the interview with Snyder. At approximately 11:05 AM I arrived at the Greenfield Town Hall to see if Tyson was currently licensed under the previous owner. After speaking with the town clerk Tyson was not licensed for the year of 2023.

As of November 22,2023 at approximately 9:15AM I have not yet received a formal complaint form or statement from Bouchard. At this time, I am following up with the veterinarian to gather a full detailed report of injuries sustained to Charlie.

Respectfully submitted

Judie Garceau

Owner: HOLLY BARTOLON (112XC)

[Show](#) [Modify](#) [Application](#) [Order Form](#) [Orders](#) [Licenses](#) [Audit Trail](#) [Other](#)

Filter: Name: bartolon; Ordering: Name (asc)

Landing Page

Name HOLLY BARTOLON  
 Account ID 112XC  
 Owner Type Dog  
 Email  
 Is Active Y

Files	Number	Size
Account Uploads	0	0 B <a href="#">new</a>
Order Attachments	0	0 B
Total	0	0 B

Physical Address 24 CANADA HILL [map](#)  
 GREENFIELD MA 01301  
 ph1: [REDACTED]

Other Info	
Account Created	08/18/2022 11:42 EST
Balance	\$0.00
# Duplicates	0
Is Deletable	N

Mailing Address Use Physical Address

Sticky Note - none -

Current Licenses  
- none -

Unrenewed Licenses

	Year	Number	Type	Trans ID	Issued	Age	Sex	Sp/Ne	Color	Breed	Dog Name	Rabies Expire	Microchip	Own	Has Rnw
<a href="#">show</a>	2022	01401	Dog	Z0040002F3	08/18/2022	01-09	M	N	BR	American Pit Bull Terr	Tyson	07/17/2023		Y	N
<a href="#">show</a>	2022	01402	Dog	Z0040002F3	08/18/2022	03-03	F	N	TRI	Unknown Mix	Charley	08/17/2025		Y	N
<a href="#">show</a>	2022	01403	Dog	Z0040002F3	08/18/2022	09-09	F	Y	BL WH	Unknown Mix	Maya	08/17/2025		Y	N

Open Orders  
- none -

Last Five Closed Orders

	Placed Date/EST	Trans ID	Status	Location	Pay	Att	Vacc	Subtotal	Postage	Total	Licenses
<a href="#">show</a>	08/18/2022 11:42	Z0040002F3	Completed	Order Form	Cash	0		\$40.00	\$0.00	\$40.00	01401, 01402, 01403

Town of Montague  
Personnel Status Change Notice

Authorized Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_

Employee # \_\_\_\_\_

**General Information:**

Full name of employee: John Dempsey Department: Police  
Title: Sergeant Effective date of change: 12/31/2023

**New Hire:**

Permanent:    Y    N If temporary, estimated length of service: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hours per Week: \_\_\_\_\_ Union: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pay: Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Step \_\_\_\_\_ Wage Rate: \_\_\_\_\_ (annual/ hourly)  
Board Authorizing: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade/Step/COLA Change:**

Union: \_\_\_\_\_  
Old Pay: Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Step \_\_\_\_\_ Wage Rate: \_\_\_\_\_ (annual/hourly)  
New Pay: Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Step \_\_\_\_\_ Wage Rate: \_\_\_\_\_ (annual/ hourly)  
Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

**Termination of Employment:**

Resignation: \_\_\_\_\_ Retirement: \_\_\_\_\_ Involuntary Termination: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other:**

   Unpaid Leave of Absence Termination Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
   Unpaid Sick Leave Termination Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
  X Other/Specify:   **RETIREMENT**   Termination Date:   12/31/2023  

Copies to:

- Employee                         Department                         Board of Selectmen
- Treasurer                         Accountant                         Retirement Board
- Town Clerk

Town of Montague  
Personnel Status Change Notice  
**New Hires**

Employee # \_\_\_\_\_

Board Authorizing **Appointment:**           Selectboard           Meeting Date:           12/18/2023          

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Authorizing **Wages:**           Selectboard           Meeting Date:           12/18/2023          

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**General Information:**

Full name of employee: **John Dempsey**      Department: **Police**  
Title: **Reserve Police Officer**      Effective date of hire: **01/15/2024**

**New Hire:**

Permanent: **XX**\_Y \_\_\_N    If temporary, estimated length of service: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hours per Week: **PT**\_\_\_    Union: **N/A**\_\_\_\_\_  
Pay: Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Step \_\_\_\_\_    Wage Rate: **\$32.35** \_\_\_\_\_ **hourly**  
Board Authorizing: \_\_\_\_\_    Date of Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

**Wages:**

Union: **N/A**\_\_\_\_\_

Wages: Grade   0   Step   0      Wage Rate: **\$32.35** \_\_\_\_\_ **hourly**

Notes: Retired Police Officer receiving max patrol officer top step \$32.35 as Reserve Off.

Copies to:

- |                  |                  |                          |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| _____ Employee   | _____ Department | _____ Board of Selectmen |
| _____ Treasurer  | _____ Accountant | _____ Retirement Board   |
| _____ Town Clerk |                  |                          |



**Montague Police Department**  
**180 Turnpike Road**  
**Turners Falls, MA 01376**

(413) 863-8911  
(413) 863-3210 (fax)

*Chief Christopher P. William*



TO: Select Board  
FROM: Chief Christopher Williams  
RE: Adjust Part-Time Officer Pay  
DATE: 12-14-2023

I am requesting the board change the Part-Time Reserve Officer pay from its current range with a max of \$28.00 an hour to the Step in the Patrol Officer wage scale reflecting their years of full-time status. Retirees would be at the max step which is currently \$32.35 an hour.

I would also request the Reserve Officers receive the current shift differential for working the 3-11 or 11-7 night shifts. \$1.00 & \$1.25 respectively per hour.

Respectfully,

  
Chief Christopher P. Williams



SECTION TWO:

Wage/salary schedule and step increases, shall go into effect on July 1 or such other date as established by this Agreement. Newly hired and transferred/promoted employees must be working for the Town in their new grade/step for a period of 3 months prior to receiving a negotiated step increase for their new grade/position or else they are not entitled to any such increases until the effective date of step increases in the following fiscal year.

SECTION THREE:

A shift differential will be paid as follows:

3:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	\$1.00 per hour
11:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m.	\$1.25 per hour

SECTION FOUR:

When a patrol officer acts as “officer in charge” of an entire shift by assignment, he/she shall receive overtime compensation pay of One Dollar (\$1.00) per hour in addition to his/her regular pay, not an “Acting Sergeant” rate.

SECTION FIVE:

The Parties agree that K-9 officers spend no more than one-half (½) hour, on average, caring for the K-9 per day. In light of this, effective January 1, 2018, the K-9 officer shall receive a stipend of up to three and one-half (3½) hours’ additional compensation per week at time and one-half the federal minimum wage (currently \$7.25 per hour) in compensation for the additional duties that are associated with the handling of the K-9. The K-9 officer shall be responsible for submitting this overtime each week. On weeks when the K-9 officer is on vacation and/or the K-9 is otherwise kenneled during the K-9 officer’s absence, then the K-9 officer is not eligible for the one-half (½) hour of compensation on days he is not caring for the K-9 outside of regularly scheduled work hours. This payment is outside the base rate of pay for contractual overtime purposes.

SECTION SIX:

When unit members are promoted/assigned to a new position that results in a move to another pay scale in the labor agreement, the unit member will be placed on the Step on the new scale that allows for a ninety-five cent (95¢) per hour increase (or yearly equivalent if not an hourly position).

**APPENDIX “A”**  
**COMPENSATION**

SECTION ONE:

Effective July 1, 2022 (3.0% Increase):

Grade:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Patrol:	23.99	24.95	25.95	27.00	28.07	29.20	30.35	31.56
Detective:	26.00	27.05	28.12	29.25	30.42	31.63	32.91	34.23

Effective July 1, 2023 (2.5% increase):

Grade:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Patrol:	24.59	25.57	26.60	27.68	28.77	29.93	31.11	32.35
Detective:	26.65	27.73	28.82	29.98	31.18	32.42	33.73	35.09

Effective July 1, 2024 (2.5% Increase):

Grade:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Patrol:	25.20	26.21	27.27	28.37	29.49	30.68	31.89	33.16
Detective:	27.32	28.42	29.54	30.73	31.96	33.23	34.57	35.97

Effective July 1, 2018, this scale reflects an additional hazardous duty stipend of 0.5% added to the regular base rate of pay on the schedule for all unit members. This rate shall also be included in the base rate for overtime calculation purposes. The purpose of this stipend is to reimburse unit members for the evolving hazardous working conditions inherent in their job, which may change over time, including, but not limited to, responding to medical emergencies that may require the use of CPR, defibrillation (including with AEDs) or the administration of medication or medical procedures such as the administration of NARCAN and/or EpiPens or exposure to hazardous substances.



6

# DPW Collection System

## **2024 Budget Request:** *Collection System Operator* #2

Tom Bergeron – DPW Superintendent

Kyle Bessette – Lead Collection System Operator

Rebekah Novak – RCAP Solutions

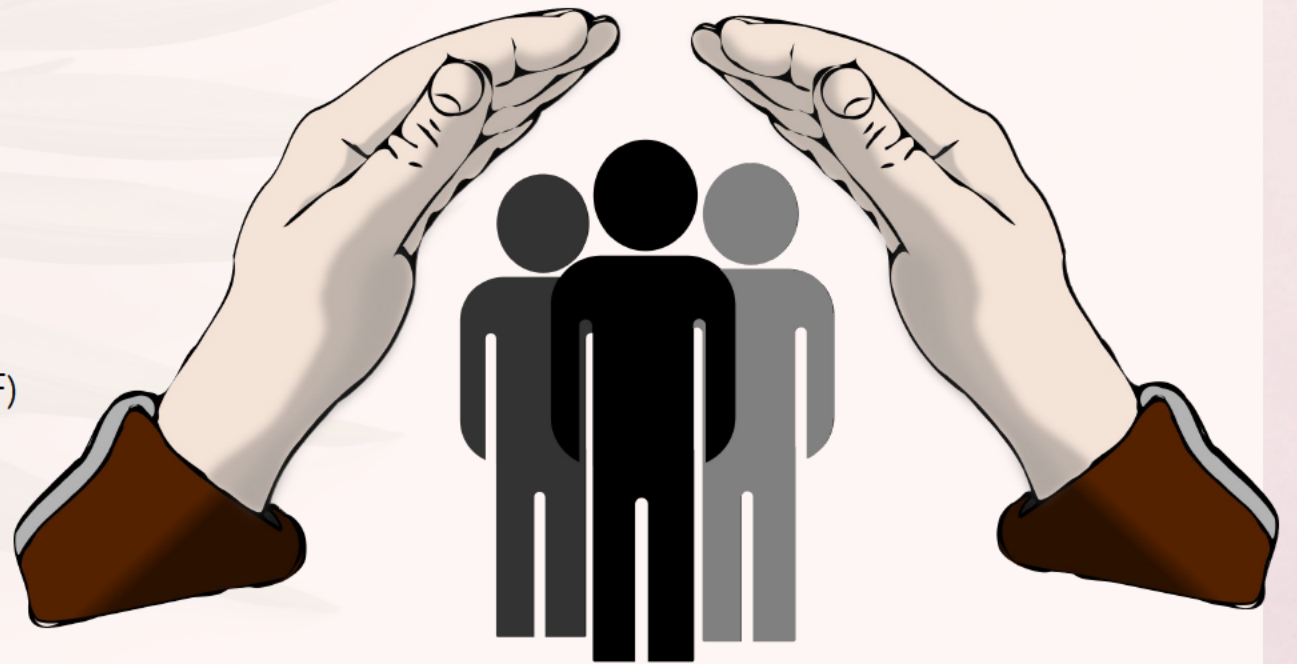
# Request for:

Collection System Operator #2



# Our mission is to improve:

- Service for our customers
- Safety of our staff
- Environmental health
- Status with MADEP and EPA
- Overall system health (including the CWF)



# Goals



## Proactive Maintenance

- Jet-cleaning
- CCTV
  - Identifies issues BEFORE a major problem
- Repairs
  - Bids
  - Research
  - On DPW schedule
- Pipe lining



## Increase Capacity

- Reduce inflow
  - Roof leaders, sump pumps
- Reduce infiltration
  - Groundwater
- Removing dirt/grit/debris
  - Sewer pipes
  - Stormwater pipes
  - \*catch basins



## Reduce Costs:

- Reactive Maintenance
  - Overtime
  - Emergency pricing
  - Skips procurement
- Administrative
  - Consent Order
  - Notice of Noncompliance
- Erving sewer bill

# The Future in GIS

## Geographic Information System

Creates, manages and analyzes maps and data

## Asset Management

A complete list of the system's assets, their locations and conditions, will ensure projects are prioritized correctly, and executed efficiently

## Recordkeeping & Reporting

Collect system information in a fast, easy and accurate manner that can be viewed in real-time by other staff

## Environmental

Improved system capacity will reduce overflows to the river

## Safety

More staff means more safety


## Stormwater System unknown

Maps are almost non-existent. Major groundwater issue that is conveyed by stormwater system.

## Assets in GIS

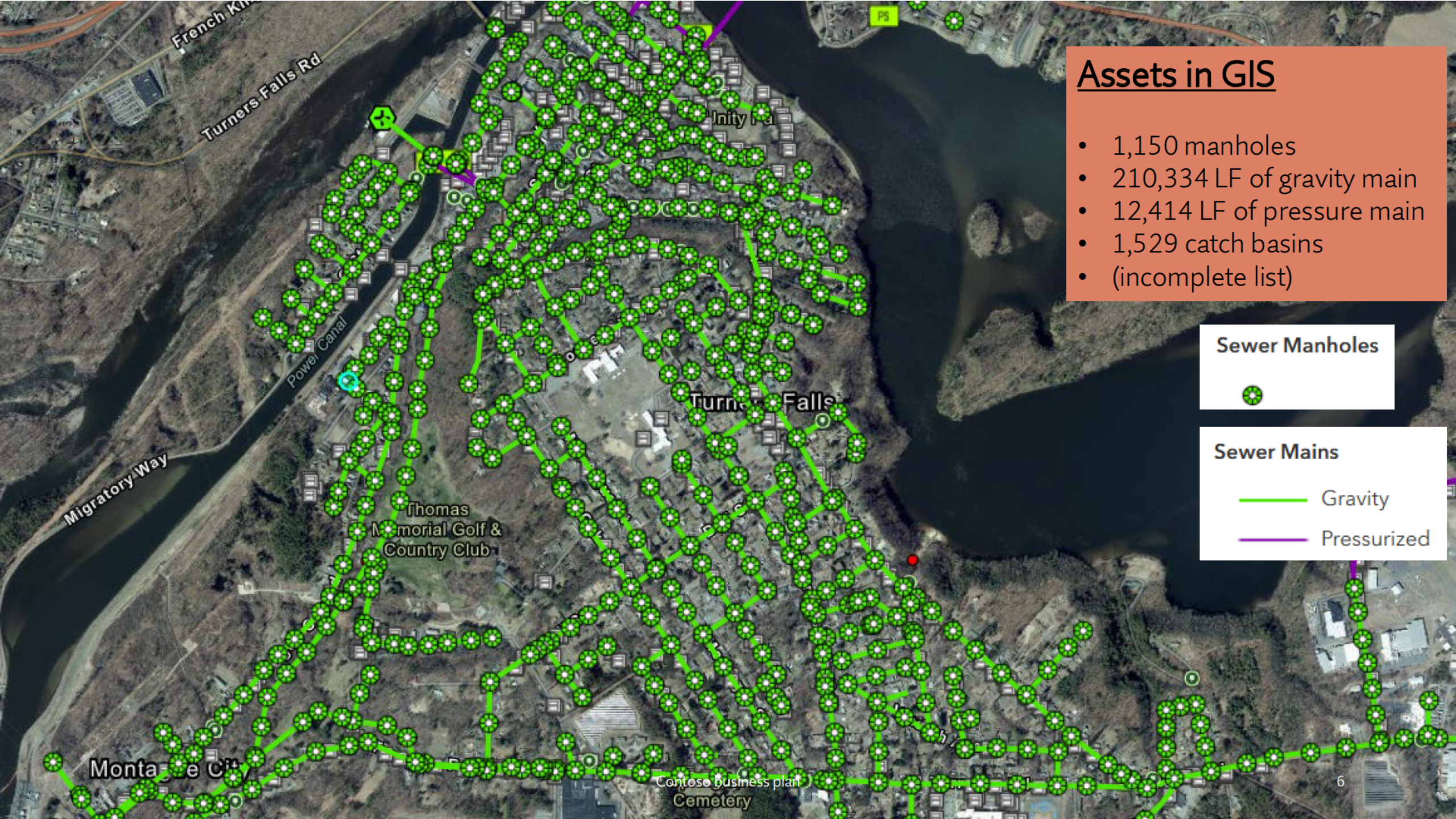
- 1,150 manholes
- 210,334 LF of gravity main
- 12,414 LF of pressure main
- 1,529 catch basins
- (incomplete list)

**Sewer Manholes**



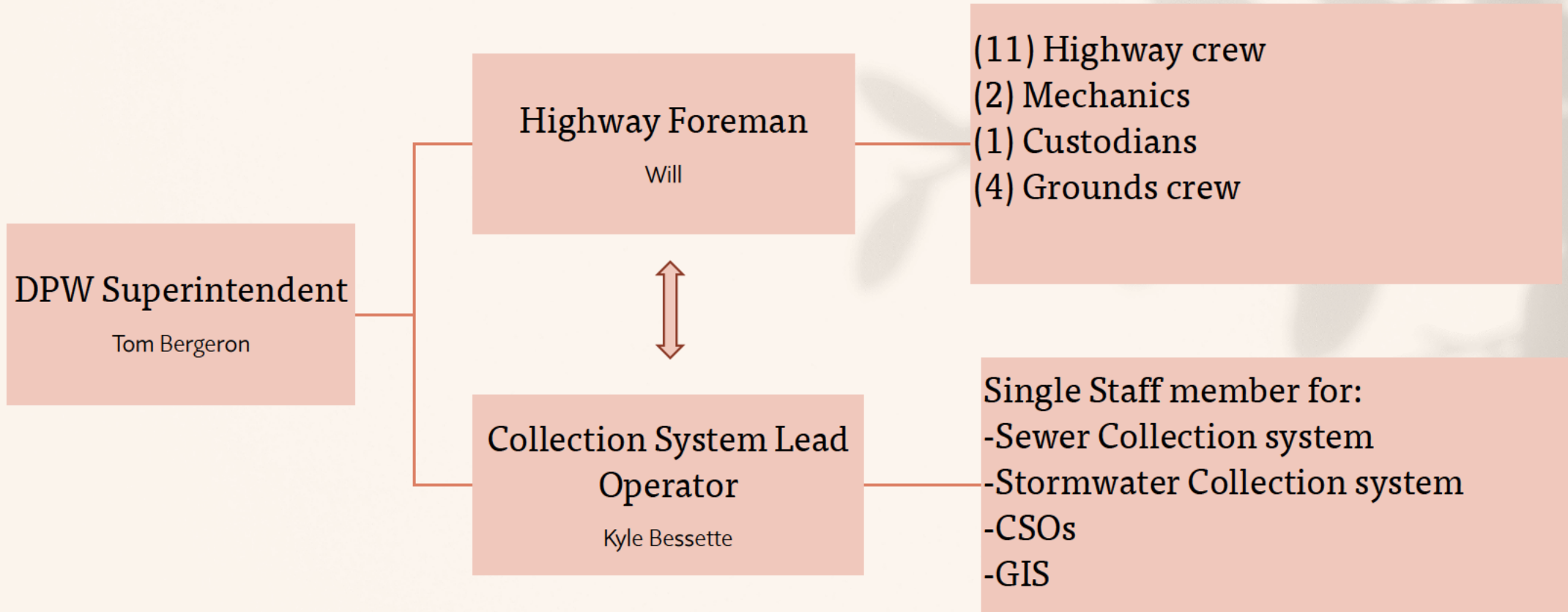
**Sewer Mains**

- Gravity
- Pressurized

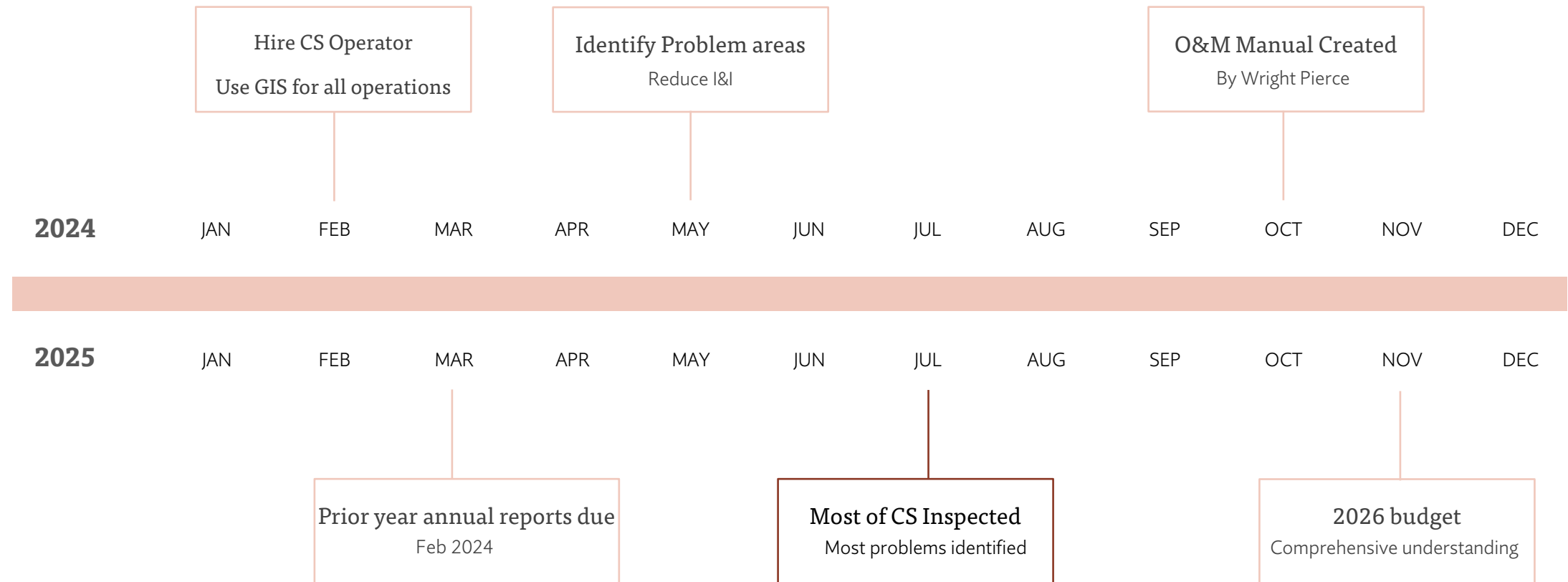




# The DPW Team



# Goals and objectives timeline



# Jet-Cleaning

Fridays from April to November, overtime pay, 2- man crew (2022 & 2023 real data)  
VS  
one day a week, all year, 2-man dedicated Collection System Operators (estimated)

	2022	2023	2024	?
Total hours of crew	620 hrs	620 hrs	1040 hrs	
Total \$ paid	\$26,000	\$26,000	\$28,000	
LF of pipe cleaned	5,900	28,000	47,000	
% of pipe cleaned	2.8%	13.3%	22.3%	

No work on Friday means:

- No Friday overtime expenses
- The crew is safer, working when all staff are present.
- Foreman does not have to keep tabs of crew on a Friday

# Other tasks

## Weekly inspections:

- CWF influent line
- CSO Structures
- Bufferline

## Post-storm inspections:

- CWF influent line
- CSO Structures
- Bufferline

Annual off-road easement clearing

Ongoing CCTV  
(camera inspection)

Ongoing dye testing  
and smoke testing  
(mitigate inflow &  
infiltration)

Ongoing Field  
investigations

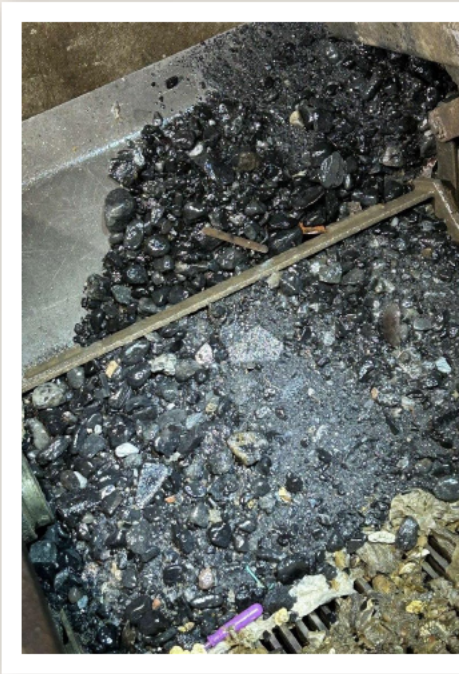
# Recent Discoveries



**Avenue A Bufferline**  
Clogged manhole over  
12 feet deep



**Offroad Manholes**  
Located in GPS, marked,  
easements cleared



**CWF Bar Racks Full**  
Sand, gravel, rocks,  
pavement



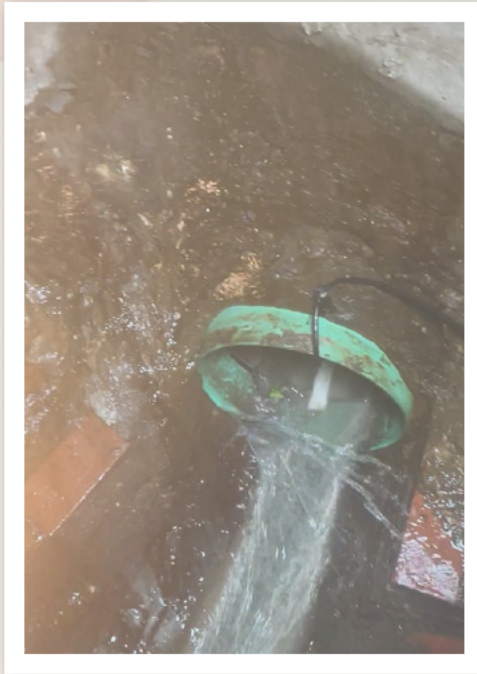
**Roadside drainage**  
Damaged, unsafe

# Recent Discoveries



**Erving Flume**

Manhole pipe almost completely blocked by roots



**7<sup>th</sup> & L**

Major Infiltration



**J Street Siphon inlet**

Flow from unknown source, CSO structure found



**“Dry Weather Discharge”**

Initially a violation, now just stormwater outlet

# Compliance

ACO – June 2020

NON- May 2023

**MassDEP** Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs  
**Department of Environmental Protection**  
Western Regional Office • 436 Dwight Street, Springfield MA 01108 • 413-784-1100

Maura T. Healy  
Governor

Robert L. Troger  
Secretary

Kimberly Dross  
Assistant Governor

Donna Siegel  
Commissioner

May 25, 2023

Mr. Thomas Bergeron  
Montague Department of Public Works  
128 Timmers Falls Road  
Montague, Massachusetts 01351

By e-mail: [troysage@massdep.state.ma.us](mailto:troysage@massdep.state.ma.us)

Re: NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE  
Enforcement Document Number: 00014945

Noncompliance with M.G.L. Chapter(s) 21, §§ 26-33 314 CMR 12.00 and 314 CMR 4.00

At: Town of Montague Sewer System  
And CSO Structures  
Montague, Massachusetts 01351

FMF Program ID # 192-001076  
NPDES Permit MA0100137  
Status: Expired Admin. Continued

Issuing Bureau: BWR  
Issuing Region/Office: WERO  
Issuing Program: WPC  
Primary Program Cited: WPC  
Subprog(s) Cited: NFEDES

Dear Mr. Bergeron:

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection ("MassDEP" or the "Department") personnel observed or determined on January 31, 2023, that activity occurred at the Town of Montague sewer system and Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) structures in noncompliance with one or more laws, regulations, orders, licenses, permits, or approvals enforced by MassDEP.

Enclosed please find a Notice of Noncompliance (NON), an important legal document describing the activities that are in noncompliance.

THIS PROGRAM IS QUALIFIED TO PARTICIPATE THROUGH FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE CLEAN WATER ACT. THE MASSDEP SERVICE IS 1-800-456-2379. MAINTAINING CLEAN WATER QUALITY. PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER.

**FEDERAL STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 1**

OF ) DOCKET NO. CWA-AO-R01-FY20-31  
e, Massachusetts ) FINDINGS OF VIOLATION  
) AND  
r Sections 308(a) and ) ORDER FOR COMPLIANCE  
(a) and 1319(a)(3) )

**I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

FINDINGS are made, and ORDER issued pursuant to Section 308(a) and Section 1319(a)(3) of the Clean Water Act, (the "Act"), 33 U.S.C. §§ 1318 and 1319(a)(3). Section 308(a) grants the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency authority to issue orders requiring persons to comply with Sections 301, 302, 306, 405 of the Act and any permit condition or limitation implementing any of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit issued of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1342. Section 308(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1318(a), require the submission of any information required to carry out the objectives authorities have been delegated to the EPA Region 1 Administrator, and, in Region 1 Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division (the "Director").

The Order herein is based on findings of violation of Section 301(a) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a). Pursuant to Section 309(a)(5)(A) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(a)(5)(A), the Order provides a schedule for compliance which the Director has determined to be reasonable.

*In re Town of Montague* Findings of Violation and Order for Compliance  
EPA Docket No. Page 1 of 14  
CWA-AO-R01-FY20-31



May 25, 2023

Mr. Thomas Bergeson  
 Montague Department of Public Works  
 128 Turner Falls Road  
 Montague, Massachusetts 01551

By e-mail: [tom.bergeson@massdep.state.ma.us](mailto:tom.bergeson@massdep.state.ma.us)

Re: NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE  
 Enforcement Document Number: 00014845

Noncompliance with M.G.L. Chapter(s) 21, §§ 26-33 314 C.M.R. 12.00 and 314 C.M.R. 3.00

At: Town of Montague Sewer System  
 Just CSO Structures  
 Montague, Massachusetts 01551

Issuing Division: BWR  
 Issuing Region Office: WERO  
 Issuing Program: WPC  
 Primary Program Code: WPC  
 Subprogram(s) Code: NPDES

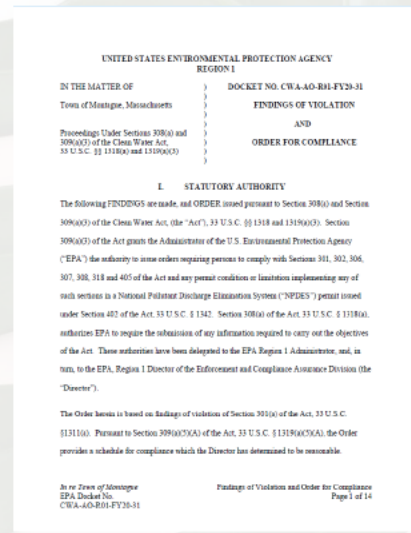
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Enclosed please find a Notice of Noncompliance (NON), an important legal document describing the activities that are in noncompliance.

This information is available electronically through the public website [www.mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov) at 011-400-2456. 1179 Accessible Version 1-08-2013-0101 MassDEP Website: [www.mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov) Printed on Recycled Paper

# Compliance Violations



## ACO – June 2020

- Outdated LTCP
- O&M deficiencies
- Annual report deficiencies
- Buffer line procedures
- Excessive overflow from CSOs

## NON – November 2022

- Annual report deficiencies
- Outdated O&M Report

## NON- May 2023

- Annual report deficiencies
- O&M deficiencies



# Thank you

Tom Bergeron

[hwysupt@montague-ma.gov](mailto:hwysupt@montague-ma.gov)

Kyle Bessette

[csolead@montague-ma.gov](mailto:csolead@montague-ma.gov)

Name: HAGER, Ryne

**MONTAGUE APPOINTED OFFICIAL**

NAME: Ryne Hager

DATE: 12/18/2023

COMMITTEE: Cable Advisory Committee

TERM: 6 months

TERM EXPIRATION: 6/30/2023

**SELECTMEN, TOWN OF MONTAGUE** **TERM STARTS:** 12/19/23

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Ryne Hager personally appeared and made oath that he/she would faithfully and impartially perform his/her duty as a member of the Cable Advisory Committee according to the foregoing appointment.

Received \_\_\_\_\_ and entered in the records of the **Town of Montague.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**MONTAGUE TOWN CLERK**

This is to acknowledge that I have received a copy of Chapter 30A, Sections 18 - 25, of the General Laws, the Open Meeting law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**APPOINTED OFFICIAL**

\*\*\*If you choose to resign from your appointed position during your term, you must notify the Town Clerk in writing before such action takes effect.

Ryne Hager  
54 Prospect St.  
Turners Falls, MA 01376

### **Montague Comcast Committee — Letter of Interest**

I corresponded previously with Steven Ellis and some other members of the town government about possibly helping with the upcoming Comcast contract negotiations. Reaching out more formally (as requested) with an explicit letter stating my interest in assisting.

I've been a resident of the town since 2020, and I've been on Town Committee since 2021. In regards to my bona fides: I'm a former technology reporter with better-than-average technical knowledge, I write the technology column for the Reporter on a volunteer basis, and I currently work remotely for a smartphone startup in California as head of communications there. I've also been a deep advocate of community-based internet solutions, and I know a few people in Leverett who worked on that town's municipal fiber system.

I don't know of any direct conflicts of interest that might prevent me from participating — I have no employment or financial relationships with any ISPs or other companies that may directly compete with Comcast. However, I should note that the company I work for does occasionally do business with cellular carriers, including MVNOs, and Comcast is an MVNO provider. It is possible that my company may do business with them in their capacity as a phone retailer in the future, though I do not believe it would have any direct bearing on the cable business negotiations the town plans to do. I may be able to recuse myself internally should any such business happen until the town's negotiation is complete, though I can't necessarily guarantee that my employer will require otherwise.

I have pretty strong feelings in general when it comes to Comcast's business practices and the de facto monopoly they secure in most markets that they serve (sadly, including Montague). I am deeply motivated, on behalf of both myself and my neighbors, to try to bring competition into our market so they are required to act in the customer's interests rather than rest easy knowing our constituents have no other choice when it comes to high-speed internet. This is because internet connectivity is not a luxury anymore but a requirement for even basic employment in many cases and a fundamental part of participation in modern life.

Despite this, the US pays higher-than-average prices for high-speed internet connectivity, ranking in the top 5, according to some recent studies. And yet, our average internet speeds fall below those of many other countries on both upload and download speeds. Furthermore, as the recent pandemic proved, both work-from-home and remote education efforts suffer greatly from the artificially reduced upload speeds companies like Comcast force on customers. Massachusetts ranks only 23rd in the US for wireless internet speeds and 14th for wired speeds. And while the 23 Mbps wired upload speed noted as the state average (by [Ookla for October 2023 at Speedtest.net](#)) is more than the 3.8 Mbps upload [recommended by services](#)

[like Zoom](#) for a single HD call, that's a limit even a medium-sized household can hit very quickly if all members need to use it, far below Comcast's network capacity, and a joke compared to services like Google Fiber, AT&T's wired access, Verizon's wired access, and what our neighbors offer in Leverett.

On top of that, Comcast's service in recent weeks has been unreliable for many Montague customers, with network "upgrades" happening outside communicated and scheduled times and for longer durations than claimed, disrupting billing for local businesses and interfering with basic, expected, and paid-for connectivity.

In short: While I'm not sure it's in our power through this contract to try to make a difference in regards to the level and quality of service for Comcast subscribers in Montague, if there is an opportunity to make a positive difference, I'd really like to.

Thanks for your time,  
Ryne Hager



# Office of the Town Administrator

## Town of Montague

One Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Phone (413) 863-3200 ext. 108

FAX (413) 863-3231

**To:** Selectboard

**From:** ATA Walter Ramsey and TA Steve Ellis

**RE: Recommended Town Administrator Transition Strategy**

**Date:** 12/14/2023

The Selectboard has invited the Town Administrator's Office to develop a transition plan whereby the current Assistant Town Administrator (ATA) Walter Ramsey would succeed the Town Administrator (TA) Steven Ellis upon his planned retirement date of 6/29/2023. We present this as a framework for what we envision to be smooth and orderly transition over the next 6 months.

### **Transition Timeline**

Given the existing proximity and access that WR has to SE and the long lead time, we propose that WR be appointed to TA effective upon the date of SE's last day in the office (Assumed 6/24/2023). We propose hiring a new Assistant Town Administrator on or about June 17, 2024 to allow for up to a two week overlap with the incumbent ATA WR. We feel a two week overlap would be sufficient to get the new ATA important hands-on training from both WR and SE. Any longer would be an inconvenience as there is no office space available and comes at an expense to the Town of approximately \$2,000/week. An added benefit of this timeline is that it may allow the ATA position and job description to be considered within the context of the pay and classification study which should be delivered by February.

### **ATA Hiring Committee**

In order to find the best possible candidate for ATA, the Board will want to consider establishing a hiring committee. The Board has discretion as to how many individuals make up the committee and who is represented. Typically a hiring committee will have no more than seven members in total.

We recommend that the group should consist of the incumbent ATA, the Selectboard's Executive Secretary, two department heads, one representative from the Selectboard, One representative from the CIC, and one at-large member from the community. TA will assist as may be required.

## ATA Hiring Timeline

Based on a recommended target hire date of June 17, 2024 and assuming an external hiring process, we propose the following hiring schedule:

	Scenario 1 2 Week Overlap (Recommended)	Scenario 2 4 week overlap
SB to finalize ATA Job Description	Feb 12	Jan 22
SB to appoint ATA hiring committee	Feb 26	Feb 5
Hiring Committee convenes	Week of March 4	Feb 12
Position advertised	March 25	March 4
Interviews	Week of April 22	Week of April 1
Hiring/ Appointment date	May 13	April 29
Target Start Date	June 17	June 3

## FY24 Budget Impacts (Current Budget Year)

### New ATA Overlap

We propose up to two weeks of Overlap costs upwards of \$2,000/ week. Two weeks is adequate given office space availability. This would cover the last two weeks of FY24. Proposed scenario one would cost \$4,000, compared to Scenario 2 which would cost \$8,000.

### SE Sick leave and vacation buyback

A buyback of approximately \$22,600 will need to be accounted for in Special Article Request at Winter STM or at the FY24 ATM.

## FY 25 Budget Impacts (Next Fiscal Year)

In FY25, the Selectboard Office budget accounts for the ability to hire SE on a limited on-call basis for technical consulting to the new TA.

The FY25 budget assumes the same pay and grade for the TA and ATA, however that figure is subject to change based on the contracted salary amount for the new people in those positions. We have no reason to believe that cost should exceed the current total salary for the two positions.

## **ATA Hiring Committee**

In order to find the best possible candidate for ATA, the Board will want to consider establishing a hiring committee. The Board has discretion as to how many individuals make up the committee and who is represented. Typically a hiring committee will have no more than seven members in total.

We recommend that the group should consist of the incumbent ATA, the Selectboard's Executive Secretary, two department heads, one representative from the Selectboard, One representative from the CIC, and one at-large member from the community.

## **WR's Transition Strategy to from ATA to TA**

In the immediate term, Walter will start to take lead on emerging tasks that will extend beyond Steve's tenure. For example, the Cable Re-licensing Process which will start of the next 3-6 months, but is a 24 month endeavor. Updating the Erving Sewer Agreement is another example. Steve will provide WR guidance and orientation at the outset.

Walter is engaging closely in the FY25 budget cycle so that he will have a strong basis of policies and practices for the FY26 cycle. Walter engaged closely with Steve on the development of the FY25 Selectboard budget. Walter will take an active role in supporting the development of the FY Town Meeting Warrant

Emerging tasks (Walter to take lead with guidance from SE)

- Cable Television Re-licensing
- Erving Sewer Agreement
- Hiring and onboarding of ATA
- Acquisition and redevelopment of the Farren Property
- Library MBLC program

Sunsetting Tasks (Steve to see through, or advance as far as possible)

- Pay and Class Study
- Personnel Bylaws
- Hand off Collections System Compliance and Administration to DPW
- FERC Erosion lobbying
- STRPB

### **Critical outset tasks for the new ATA**

- Ongoing Planning and execution of Capital Projects
  - Streetscape grant (Lead)
  - Ave A CSO reduction project (Lead)
  - Strathmore Demo Design (Lead)
  - Screw Pump Replacement (Support)
  - Municipal Right-Of Way Coordination for upcoming Bridge Projects
  - Technical support to department heads for complex capital projects
- Annual update to Capital Improvement Plan and staffing to the CIC
- Goal for the position is for the ATA to be primary point for municipal procurement for both 30B and non-30B. This may take some training depending on the candidate.

The ATA job description will be updated and approved by the Selectboard by late January/Early February. We anticipate it will generally remain similar in scope. The focus of the position is in support of effective capital planning and grant and project management for complex, interdisciplinary projects in addition to general assignment of tasks by the TA and SB.



## 2024 Licenses

### Liquor Licenses

#### **BREWERY/WINERY POURING PERMIT - SEATING UNDER 50** **\$110.00 each**

Brick & Feather Brewery, Inc.	78 11th Street, Turners Falls
Element Brewing Company dba Element Brewing Co. LLC	16 Bridge St, Miller Falls
Pioneer Valley Brewery, LLC	151 Third St, Turners Falls

#### **CLUB, ALL ALCOHOL** **\$725.00 each**

Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club Inc.	201R Turners Falls Rd, Turners Falls
Montague Bpo Elks Lodge 2521	1 Elk Ave, Turners Falls
St. Kazimierz Society dba St. Kazimierz Society	197 Avenue A, Turners Falls
St. Stanislaus B and M Society, Inc.	6 K St, Turners Falls
Turners Falls Rod & Gun Club, Inc.	15 Deep Hole Road, Turners Falls

#### **GENERAL ON PREMISES - Wines & Malt** **\$580.00 each**

Sow Loud, LLC dba The Upper Bend	112 Avenue A, Turners Falls
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#### **PACKAGE STORE, ALL ALCOHOL** **\$975.00 each**

Bryan Call dba Crestview Liquors	68 Unity St, Turners Falls
Slow Village Ahead dba Montague Village Store	60 Main St, Montague
Purple Meadow Ventures, Inc. dba Connecticut River Liquor & Wine	123 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Om Shiv Shambhu, Inc. dba Carrolls Market	33 East Main St, Millers Falls

#### **PACKAGE STORE, WINES and Malt** **\$550.00 each**

Crooked River Corp. dba Food City	250 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Pub General	27 East Main Street, Millers Falls

#### **RESTAURANT, ALL ALCOHOL** **\$1,050.00 each**

Between the Uprights, LLC dba Between the Uprights at 2nd St.	23 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Crystal Spring Investments, LLC dba Millers Pub	29 East Main St, Millers Falls
Pamela Tierney dba Black Cow Burger	125 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Hole Pie, Inc., dba Harvey's	166 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Rocket Science, LLC dba The Rendezvous	78 Third St, Turners Falls
Secondhand Smoke, Inc. dba North Village Smokehouse	32 Federal St, Millers Falls
Shea Theater Arts Center	71 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Thomas Memorial Golf & Country Club	30 Country Club Ln, Turners Falls

#### **RESTAURANT, WINES and MALT** **\$580.00 each**

CVB Harvest LLC dba Great Falls Harvest	50 Third St, Turners Falls
Lady Killigrew Café, Inc. dba Lady Killigrew Café, Inc.	444 Greenfield Rd, Montague
Shady Glen, Inc dba Shady Glen	7 Avenue A, Turners Falls

<b>Miscellaneous Licenses - (with Liquor Licenses)</b>	
<b>AUTOMATIC AMUSEMENT</b>	<b>\$45.00 each device</b>
Between the Uprights, LLC dba Between the Uprights at 2nd St.	23 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Millers Pub	29 East Main St, Millers Falls
Rocket Science, LLC dba The Rendezvous	78 Third St, Turners Falls
Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club Inc.	201R Turners Falls Rd, Turners Falls
Montague B.P.O Elks # 2521	1 Elk Ave, Turners Falls
St. Kazimierz Society	197 Avenue A, Turners Falls
St. Stanislaus B and M Society, Inc.	6 K St, Turners Falls
Pioneer Valley Brewery	151 Third Street, Turners Falls
<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b>	<b>\$55.00 each</b>
Between the Uprights, LLC dba Between the Uprights at 2nd St.	23 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Great Falls Harvest	50 Third St, Turners Falls
Element Brewing Company	16 Bridge St, Miller Falls
Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club Inc.	201R Turners Falls Rd, Turners Falls
Millers Pub	29 East Main St, Millers Falls
Montague Elks #2521	1 Elk Ave, Turners Falls
Pioneer Valley Brewery, LLC	151 Third Street, Turners Falls
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St. Kazimierz Society	197 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Secondhand Smoke, Inc. dba North Village Smokehouse	32 Federal St, Millers Falls
Shea Theater Arts Center, Inc.	71 Avenue A, Turners Falls
St. Stanislaus B and M Society, Inc.	6 K St, Turners Falls
Thomas Memorial Golf & Country Club, Inc.	30 Country Club Ln, Turners Falls
Turners Falls Rod & Gun Club	15 Deep Hole Road, Turners Falls
<b>COMMON VICTUALLER</b>	<b>\$40.00 each</b>
Black Cow Burger	125 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Crystal Spring Investments, LLC dba Millers Pub	29 East Main St, Millers Falls
CVB Harvest LLC dba Great Falls Harvest	50 Third St, Turners Falls
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Sow Loud, LLC dba The Upper Bend	112 Avenue A, Turners Falls
St. Stanislaus B and M Society, Inc.	6 K St, Turners Falls
Thomas Memorial Golf & Country Club - Dining Room	30 Country Club Ln, Turners Falls
Thomas Memorial Golf & Country Club - Clubhouse	30 Country Club Ln, Turners Falls
Turners Falls Rod & Gun Club, Inc.	15 Deep Hole Road, Turners Falls

<b>Miscellaneous Licenses - (Not related to Liquor Licenses)</b>	
<b>LODGING HOUSE</b>	<b>\$40.00 each</b>
F. C. Housing Authority	241 Millers Falls Road, Turners Falls
<b>CLASS II - USED CARS</b>	<b>\$110.00 each</b>
Bob's Auto	303 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Koch's Auto Sales	98 Turners Falls Rd, Turners Falls
Mark's Auto	366 Federal St, Montague
Mark's Auto	484 Federal St, Montague
Montague Garage (Gregory Precourt)	10 Station St, Montague
Rau's Sunoco	531 Turners Falls Rd, Montague
Semaski General Contractor & Equipment Sales	186 Turners Falls Rd, Montague
Zak's Auto Sales and Repair	221 Millers Falls Road, Turners Falls
<b>CLASS III -JUNK</b>	<b>\$110.00 each</b>
Bob's Auto	303 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Rau's Sunoco	531 Turners Falls Rd, Montague
<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b>	<b>\$55.00 each</b>
Montague Book Mill	Greenfield Rd, Montague
<b>COMMON VICTUALLERS</b>	<b>\$40.00 each</b>
Ce Ce's Chinese Restaurant	57 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Country Creemee	52 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Scotty's	66 Unity St, Turners Falls
TF F. L. Roberts dba NEC OPCO I, Inc.	132 Third St, Turners Falls
Subway dba CK Sandwiches	57 Avenue A, Turners Falls
Turners Falls Pizza	119 Avenue A, Turners Falls



# Massachusetts School Building Authority

**Deborah B. Goldberg**  
*Chair, State Treasurer*

**James A. MacDonald**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

**Mary L. Pichetti**  
*Executive Director / Deputy CEO*

December 13, 2023

Mr. Brian Beck, Superintendent  
Gill-Montague Regional School District  
35 Crocker Avenue  
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Re: Gill-Montague Regional School District, Sheffield Elementary School

Dear Superintendent Beck:

The Massachusetts School Building Authority (the “MSBA”) would like to thank the Gill-Montague Regional School District (the “District”) for expressing an interest in the MSBA’s grant program for school building construction, renovation, and repair projects through the 2023 Statement of Interest (the “SOI”) process.

Overall, the MSBA received 63 SOIs from 52 different school districts for consideration in 2023. In reviewing SOIs, the MSBA identifies the school facilities that have the greatest and most urgent need based on an assessment of the entire cohort of SOIs that are received for consideration each year.

Based upon the MSBA’s review and due diligence process, it has been determined that the Sheffield Elementary School SOI will not be invited into the MSBA’s Eligibility Period this year. If the District would like this school to be considered for future collaboration with the MSBA, the District should file an SOI in an upcoming year. The MSBA will begin accepting SOIs for consideration in 2024 on Friday, January 12, 2024. Please see the information below regarding the upcoming 2024 SOI process, which is also stated on the MSBA’s website.

If the District is planning to submit an SOI in 2024, consider notifying local governing boards of your intentions, as local governing bodies will have to vote to approve submission of an SOI with the vote(s) uploaded to the SOI system.

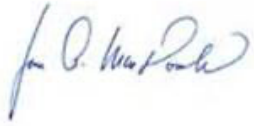
- The SOI closing date for districts submitting under the Accelerated Repair Program, which is primarily for the partial or full replacement of windows/doors and/or roofs in an otherwise structurally sound facility, will be Friday, March 1, 2024.
- The SOI closing date for districts submitting under the Core Program, which is primarily for projects considered as extensive repairs, renovations, addition/renovations, and new school construction will be Friday, April 12, 2024.

The MSBA remains committed to collaborating and partnering with the Gill-Montague Regional School District to better understand school facility issues. The MSBA will be sending detailed information regarding the 2024 SOI process in the coming weeks.

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December 13, 2023  
2023 Core Program Statement of Interest Status Letter

Please feel free to contact Katie DeCristofaro, Capital Program Manager at (617) 720-4466 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



James A. MacDonald  
Chief Executive Officer



Mary L. Pichetti  
Executive Director/Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Attachment: 2023 Core Program Statement of Interest Overview

Cc: Legislative Delegation  
Jane Oakes, Chair, Gill-Montague Regional School Committee  
Joanne Blier, Director of Business and Operations, Gill-Montague Regional School District