

# **TOWN OF MONTAGUE**

## **TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE**

One Avenue A  
Turners Falls, Massachusetts 01376  
413 863-3200 ext 203  
www.townclerk@montague-ma.gov

Debra A. Bourbeau

Town Clerk

Madelyn E. Hampp

Assistant Town Clerk

Debra A. Bourbeau

## **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF MONTAGUE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS May 5, 2012**

**ARTICLE 29 MOVED:** That the town vote to instruct our members of Congress to support an amendment to the United States Constitution to clarify that corporations do not have the same rights as people and that money is not speech for purposes of election- related spending, and/or take any action relative thereto. We further direct the Montague Town Clerk, upon passage of this resolution, to send copies to Montague's state representative, state senator, congressional representatives, U.S. senators, and the governor of Massachusetts with an accompanying cover letter, stating that this resolution was passed by the residents of Montague at their annual town meeting, Sat., May 5, 2012.

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution and the Bill of rights are intended to protect the rights of individual human beings ("real people"); and,

WHEREAS, corporations are not mentioned in the Constitution and The People have never granted constitutional rights to corporations;

WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court in citizens United v. Federal Election Commission presents a serious threat to self- government by allowing unlimited corporate spending to influence elections;

WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution empowers and obligates the people of the United States to use the constitutional amendment process to correct egregiously wrong decisions of the United States Supreme Court that go to the heart of our democracy;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the voters of Montague, Massachusetts hereby instruct the Senators representing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the member of the United States House of Representatives representing this Congressional District to propose and our state legislators to ratify an amendment to the United States Constitution to provide that corporations are not entitled to the constitutional rights of real people and that money is not speech for purposes of campaign- related expenditures and contributions.

The text of the proposed amendment is as follows:

### **Amendment**