

**Governance Charter
Town of Montgomery
As Proposed by Selectboard January 27th 2022
*Pending Adoption March 1st 2022***

§ 1. Statement of purpose

Under the authority granted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont, this charter establishes certain guidelines with respect to organization and functioning of local Town government in the Town of Montgomery, Vermont.

§ 2. General law; application

Except when changed by the provisions of this charter, all provisions of the statutes of the State of Vermont relating to municipalities shall apply to the Town of Montgomery.

§ 3. Local options tax

The Selectboard is authorized to impose a one percent sales tax, a one percent meals and alcoholic beverages tax, and a one percent rooms tax upon sales within the Town that are subject to the State of Vermont tax on sales, meals, alcoholic beverages, and rooms. The Town tax shall be implemented in the event the State local options tax as provided for in 24 V.S.A. § 138 is repealed or the 70-percent allocation to the town is reduced. A tax imposed under the authority of this section shall be collected and administered by the Vermont Department of Taxes in accordance with State law governing the State tax on sales, meals, alcoholic beverages, and rooms. The amount of 70 percent of the taxes collected shall be paid to the Town, and the remaining amount of the taxes collected shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for deposit in the Pilot Special Fund first established in 1997 Acts and Resolves No. 60, § 89. The cost of administration and collection of this tax shall be paid 70 percent by the Town and 30 percent by the State from the Pilot Special Fund. The tax to be paid to the Town, less its obligation for the 70 percent of the costs of administration and collection a, shall be paid to the Town on a quarterly basis, and shall be set aside in the Sewer Reserve Fund to assist in the repayment of debt obligations related to the construction of a Municipal Wastewater System in Montgomery Center and Village. The Town may repeal the local option taxes by Australian ballot vote.

§ 4. Separability

If any provision of this charter is held invalid, the other provisions of the charter shall not be affected thereby. If the application of the charter or any of its provisions to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the application of this charter and its provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

§ 5. Amendment

The amendment of this charter shall be as provided by law.