

Board of Selectmen

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2012

Location: Fire & EMS Headquarters, 20 Church Street – 2nd floor training room.

Present: Chairman Robert J. Fleming, Selectman Kenneth E. Picard, Selectman James A. Brochu and Town Manager, Blythe C. Robinson.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Chairman Fleming stated that it is the intention of the Board that at the completion of this meeting to enter into two executive sessions under MGL c. 30A, sec. 21 exception #3, collective bargaining and exception #6, value of real estate. The Board will reconvene only to adjourn.

Motion #1: Selectman Brochu motioned to approve the December 20, 2011 meeting minutes. Second: Selectman Picard, unanimous Chairman Fleming.

The Board welcomed Stephen Poirier of Scout Troop 132. Stephen spearheaded the Lakeview Cemetery project last summer and came before the Board to obtain a signature of completion for his Eagle Scout designation. He thanked the Board for their support. Chairman Fleming, Selectman Brochu and Selectman Picard thanked Stephen for a great job done.

Town Manager report:

- Payroll: \$ 70,535.97
- Expense Warrant: \$308,016.89

Information/Follow Up:

- This past Saturday the water division crews were called in at 3 AM for a water main break on Hartford Avenue North right in front of Dunkin Donuts. An old water service broke which caused the main to break as well. Crews repaired it but it took until about 2 PM to accomplish the task.
- A copy of a letter from the State regarding their efforts to develop GIS for the Commonwealth in the program called Mass GIS. As the Board may recall this year’s budget included a warrant article for \$10,000 to create and enhance digital mapping of Upton’s tax parcels. We will continue to monitor this program to see if it is a good model for the town to use to expand the use of GIS for the other Town departments.
- An effort is being made to continue to try and manage and resolve the problems the town has had with animals impacting the town roads and parks. Seventeen (17) beavers have

45 been taken at several locations in Town, and the water level at Southborough Road has
46 gone down quite a lot. With the reopening of the hunting season for Canadian Geese the
47 Town had two hunts at Kiwanis Beach and has removed 3 geese thus far. Officials will
48 continue this as long as the season is open as this is an ideal time to do so with limited
49 use of the park area.

- 50 • Department heads will be turning in their budgets shortly, and a package will be prepared
51 for the Board by January 19th for discussion at forthcoming budget meetings.
- 52 • The office has received notice from the owners of the Red Rock Grill & Bar that they
53 would like to apply for a permit to have outdoor entertainment. We are gathering the
54 relevant information so that a public hearing on this matter may be held at our January
55 31st meeting.
- 56 • The Town Hall Renovation Committee continues to work with the architect to refine the
57 floor plans for the building (a copy was included in the Board's packet). The Committee
58 will be attending the January 17th meeting to supply more detailed information.

59
60 *Correspondence / Discussion Items:*

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62 *Funding Request by Tri-Valley*

63 Tri-Valley is asking for a contribution by all of the Towns they serve to help support their
64 services. After consideration the Board agreed to fund \$500.00 from the Selectmen's account. It
65 was suggested this be added to the line item on the COA's budget for next year.

66
67 *Motion # 2:* Selectman Picard motioned to approve funding \$500 for the Tri Valley Crisis
68 Intervention Program from the Selectmen's expense account. Second: Selectman Brochu,
69 unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

70
71 *Proposed Letter to Governor Patrick – Education Funding*

72 Enclosed in the Board's packet was a letter that has been drafted by Kathleen Drennan for
73 signatures by all board chairs regarding education funding in the Commonwealth. After
74 consideration, the Board feels this is a step in the right direction and therefore they will take
75 action at their January 17th meeting.

76
77 *Letter from Senie & Associates – Land for Solar Energy Projects*

78 A letter was received from a Westborough legal firm regarding their efforts to assist a client with
79 finding municipal land suitable for development into a solar energy installation. After review of
80 the letter, it was agreed to consider the possibilities. Ms. Robinson will gather more information
81 for the Board's revisit.

82
83 *Correspondence from the Planning Board re: Release of Municipal Interest Re: Glen*
84 *echo Estates.* No action required by the Board. This was just a FYI.

85
86 *Suburban Coalition Re: Membership*

87 No action taken.

91 Town Manager's Performance Evaluation

92 As called for in the Personnel By-Law performance evaluations for all employees are to be
93 completed in December. Chairman Fleming will be meeting with the Town Manager this week.
94 The full Board will review at a later time.

95
96 The Town Manager received a memorandum from MIIA requesting the voting delegate
97 designation for the Town of Upton form to be completed.

98
99 *Motion # 3:* Selectman Brochu motioned to nominate Bob Fleming as the MIIA voting delegate.
100 Second: Selectman Picard, Unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

101
102 Selectman Brochu asked the Town Manager for an update on the overdue Personal
103 Property tax balances. Ms. Robinson stated that all has been resolved with the exception of one
104 Class 11 license holder who has not renewed by December 30, 2011.

105
106 On the agenda for upcoming meetings, the Board will hold a hearing for a new Class 11
107 license on High St, a transfer of a Class 11 license and a hearing for an entertainment license for
108 the Red Rock Grill & Bar. Also coming up are department budget meetings that will take place
109 in February.

110
111 At 6:26pm Chairman Fleming motioned to enter into an executive session under MGL
112 c. 30A, sec. 21 exception #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining.

113 Robert Fleming aye, Ken Picard aye, James Brochu, aye
114

115 At 7:31pm the Board reconvened their regular meeting and motioned to enter into
116 another Executive Session under MGL c. 30A, sec. 21 exception #6, value of real estate. The
117 Board will reconvene only to adjourn.

118 Robert Fleming aye, Ken Picard aye, James Brochu, aye.
119

120 At 7:45 pm the Board reconvened.

121
122 Motion was made by Selectman Brochu to adjourn the meeting. Second: Selectman Picard,
123 unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

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125
126 Respectfully submitted,
127 Karen L. Varney
128 Department Coordinator
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