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Board of Selectmen

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of August 30, 2011

Location: Nipmuc Regional Middle / High School – Pleasant Street PDC room.

Present: Chairman Robert J. Fleming, Selectman Kenneth E. Picard, Selectman James A. Brochu, Town Manager, Blythe C. Robinson, and Department Coordinator Karen L. Varney. Finance Committee Co-Chair Joan Shanahan, Steve Bern and members, Paul Flaherty, John O’Sullivan, and Jonathan Calianos.

Approved: September 13, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:45pm. Chairman Fleming stated that before they meet with Mendon officials at 7:00pm the Board will have a Joint election with the Finance Committee to fill the vacancy on the Finance Committee. There is another topic that was not anticipated by the Chairman at posting that they will discuss. At the conclusion of this meeting, the Board will motion to enter into Executive Session under MGL c.30A, S. 21 exception #6 to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate. The Board will then reconvene for adjournment only.

Chairman Fleming confirmed that the Finance Committee members had an opportunity to meet with the candidate interested in filling the FinCom vacancy. At 6:46pm Chairman Fleming opened the nomination for the vacancy on the Finance Committee. Finance Committee member Paul Flaherty nominated Robert J. Driscoll, second by Steve Bern. Chairman Fleming asked for any debate, hearing none. Roll call vote taken: Jim Brochu aye, Steve Bern aye, Jonathan Calianos, aye, John O’Sullivan aye, Paul Flaherty aye, John Shanahan aye, Ken Picard aye, Robert Fleming aye. Unanimous vote by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee members who were present. Mr. Driscoll’s term expires May 2012.

Town Manager Blythe Robinson gave an update on the anticipated expenses incurred by Hurricane Irene. The Town will have some additional expenses that will need to be covered later on this fiscal year. Police and Fire staff have been working double time and the Water / Waste Water crew on 24 hours until the power came back today at noon. Ms. Robinson has asked for a reserve fund transfer to bring in additional crews for tree removal. National grid and the DPW workers are clearing as much as possible making the streets passable. Her recommendation is to approve at least a transfer of a week’s work of tree removal assistance and at the end of the week evaluate the situation. At \$1,200 a day, Ms. Robinson is asking for approval of \$6,000.

43 She added that Deputy Chief Richard Henderson has been managing the Fire Department assures
44 the Town that this will be reimbursable. After a brief discussion, this transfer was approved by
45 the Finance Committee.

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47 Motion was made by the Finance Committee to approve the transfer in the amount of \$6,000
48 from the reserve fund.

49 The discussion continued as to the possibility of asking for more reserve funding if needed, at the
50 fall town meeting. Mr. Flaherty confirmed it is possible. Roll call was taken and Finance
51 Committee members who were present were in favor.

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53 The Board reconvened and at 6:58pm Chairman Fleming motioned to recess until they meet with
54 Mendon officials and the School Committee at 7:00pm.

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56 7:00pm the Board reconvened. (See meeting minutes of Joint meeting).

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58 At 9:20pm Chairman Fleming motioned to enter into Executive Session under MGL c. 30A, sec.
59 21 exception #6, to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real estate. The Board will
60 reconvene their regular meeting upon completion of this executive session only to adjourn:
61 James Brochu, aye. Ken Picard aye, Robert Fleming aye.

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63 At 9:38pm, Chairman Fleming motioned to adjourn the meeting. Second: Selectman Picard,
64 unanimous: Selectman Brochu.

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66 Respectfully submitted,

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68 Karen L. Varney, Department Coordinator

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