

1 Board of Selectmen

2 **Town of Upton**



3 **Massachusetts**

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6 Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2010

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8 *Location:* Fire & EMS Headquarters, 20 Church Street – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor training room.

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10 *Present:* Selectman Michael E. Goodwin, Selectman Robert J. Fleming and Department  
11 Coordinator Karen L. Varney. Chairman Kenneth E. Picard did not attend.

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13 The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

14 Appropriation Treasury Warrant in the amount of \$289,796.28 and Payroll Treasury  
15 Warrant in the amount of \$75,269.03 approved as submitted.

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17 The Board welcomed Boy Scout Dan Shorette. Dan came to request permission from the  
18 Board to perform specific projects at the Knowlton-Risteen building to help him achieve the rank  
19 of Eagle Scout. His project, which would focus on the entrance hallway of the Town Library,  
20 would include shelving organization, painting and a wall mural design. On the exterior of the  
21 building, his plan is to improve the flower beds on both sides of the building. Also at the entry  
22 way, construct a donation book box for the Library.

23 Dan has met with Mathew Bachtold, Director of the Library, Barbara Burke, Historical  
24 Commission Chairperson and the DPW. Dan will be coordinating his project with these  
25 Department Heads. Time line for completion would be late summer. Selectman Fleming will be  
26 the contact person for Dan. The Board thanked Dan for his great proposal and they look forward  
27 to seeing the project come to fruition.

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29 Jon Delli Priscoli, President of the G&U Railroad, his legal counsel, Patrick J. Moynihan  
30 and his project manager were welcomed by the Board. Mr. Priscoli gave an update and plan for  
31 the Railroad. North Grafton to West Upton is a section of the railroad that is up and running.  
32 Major tract improvements have been completed and trains will be running sporadically.  
33 Commenting on the extensive clean up of the area and the capping of the landfill, Mr. Priscoli  
34 said he has invested a lot of his money and wants to be a good neighbor and create jobs. In his  
35 presentation, Mr. Priscoli gave the Board a copy of the conceptual site layout plan of the G&U  
36 Railroad on Maple Ave depicting the locations of the future roadway, parking, utilities etc. The  
37 first wood pellet car is due into Upton tomorrow were the wood pellets will be bagged and  
38 delivered to businesses like Home Depot and Lowes.

39 Mr. Priscoli said the project is progressing along and is pleased with the creation of jobs  
40 and the industrial growth. He will be working in stages and a completion date for the Hopedale  
41 section will be the end of 2010. In closing, Mr. Priscoli noting public safety saying he is  
42 concerned with people trespassing on the tracks. This is an active railroad and people need to  
43 understand that. Mr. Priscoli will keep the communication open and the Town informed every  
44 few months. The Board thanked Mr. Priscoli for his update.

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Men’s Club President Bill McCormick and member Alan Rosenfield along with Matt Wally, member of the Habitat for Humanity Worcester office came before the Board looking for support for the opportunity of getting involved in the Habitat for Humanity project. Volunteer labor and donated materials would allow construction of basic homes which are sold to families at an affordable price based on their income. Mr. McCormick began the meeting by giving the Board an overview and background of Habitat for Humanity and how it works. The Local Community Housing Partnership Committee is supportive with this opportunity.

Community Preservation Committee Chairman Rena Richard said there is about \$300,000.00 in funds available for land purchase. Mr. McCormick informed the Board he is in the process of acquiring more information about the process. He has contacted the BVRVTHS Superintendent of Schools about students assisting with this project using their trades. The Board was fully supportive of bringing Habitat for Humanity into Upton and asked Mr. McCormick to contact the Collector/Treasurer Kenneth Glowacki for land assistance.

Regarding the Town Manager position, the Board spoke of the Employment Agreement drafted by Town Counsel saying they have made a few changes and to forward this draft to Ms. Robinson so she can have an opportunity for review before their meeting on Saturday.

*Correspondence reviewed by the Board:*

- 1. Memorandum to Municipal Clients: A. Regionalization of Municipal Services.  
B. Update on Green Communities program
- 2. Correspondence from Dr. Fitzpatrick, Blackstone Valley Re: request. *(approved)*
- 3. Letter from a resident on South St.
- 4. Internal job posting, P/T Communications officer.
- 5. Communication from the DCR Re: potential hazard mitigation Grant applicants. Cc: B. Kemp, J. Johnson.
- 6. Update from Seema Kenney Re: Training sessions.

Motion # 1: Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the request of Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick, Superintendent, Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District, for a one-day alcohol permit for Wednesday, March 4, 2010 for the Superintendent’s annual Gourmet Dinner. Majority: Selectman Goodwin.

Selectman Fleming will be involved in a work session with the Personnel Board for review of the Town’s Personnel By-Laws.

The Station Street pump station malfunctioned this week according to Water/Wastewater Superintendent Ron Sansouci. The reason for this malfunction was not known.

Motion # 2: Selectman Fleming motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:08pm. Majority: Selectman Goodwin.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen L. Varney, Department Coordinator