

Board of Selectmen

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2010

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

Present: Chairman Michael E. Goodwin, Selectman Robert J. Fleming, Selectman Kenneth E. Picard, Town Manager, Blythe C. Robinson, and Department Coordinator Karen L. Varney.

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

Motion #1: Selectmen Fleming motioned to approve the meeting minutes of July 27, 2010 with a minor amendment. Second: Selectman Picard, unanimous: Chairman Goodwin.

The Board signed the Warrant for the State Primary election to be held on September 14, 2010 at Nipmuc Regional High School gymnasium from 7:00am to 8:00pm.

Town Manager Blythe Robinson gave her weekly manager’s report noting the road work taking place at several locations in Town and informing the Selectmen the water line extension to St. Gabriel’s Church in underway. This project is being monitored by the DPW Department.

In her report Ms. Robinson stated that she is waiting to hear from the Chairman of the Men’s Club in response to the Selectmen’s offer to share the cost of the defibrillator’s for the schools. (The manager’s full report is attached and is incorporated into these minutes).

Regarding the Noble Vista project, the ZBA Chairman John Lebrun sent a letter to the Board asking for clarification as to the status of this project. Due to many revisions over the years, the Selectmen agreed to invite the ZBA to their next meeting on August 24th for a final resolution.

A request from Margaret Laneri, Commander, George L. Wood Post 5594 for approval to host a 5K road race at the VFW property as a fundraiser for the VFW was discussed. Ms. Robinson contacted the Chief of Police Michael Bradley and his review and recommendation was considered. The Selectmen motioned to approve this event.

Motion # 2: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the request of Margaret Laneri, Commander, George L. Wood Post 5594 to host a 5K road race on Saturday, October 2nd at 9:00am as a fundraiser for the VFW. Second: Selectman Fleming, unanimous: Chairman Goodwin.

Discussion relative to the appointments to the MURSD Regional Planning Board. Selectman Picard volunteered to serve as long as the meetings did not take place on a

45 Wednesday. Selectman Fleming said he would be available if there was a conflict for Selectman
46 Picard. As Town Manager, Blythe will also contribute as a member on this board.

47

48 In a memorandum to the Board, Ms. Robinson reported that she and the COA Director
49 conducted interviews for the vacant Social Service Coordinator position receiving 21 external
50 applications and one internal application. The Personnel Board met and qualified eight of the
51 applications for consideration. Six candidates were chosen; four participated in the interview
52 which was narrowed down to 2 candidates, one being the internal candidate Holly Whalen.

53 The interview committee consisted of the Town Manager, the COA Director, COA
54 Chairperson and the Personnel Board Chair. It was Ms. Robinson's recommendation that Holly
55 Whalen be promoted to this position. Her progress will be monitored over the next six-months. A
56 20 hour clerk's position within the COA will now be vacant. Standard posting requirements for
57 this position will be posted in the following weeks.

58 Selectman Fleming complimented Ms. Robinson on the excellent process. The Board
59 agreed with her recommendation.

60 The Board welcomed Joseph Deliso, Chairman Economic Development Committee,
61 Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Deliso gave a summary of what the Regional
62 Council is and how it can guide the Town. The mission of the Valley's Economic Development
63 Office is to encourage and manage business and industrial growth in the Valley, while helping to
64 preserve the unique characteristics. Five towns are involved in the Council and have signed
65 agreements of intent, Mendon, Uxbridge, Sutton, Douglas and Millbury. The regional council
66 needs the involvement of more contiguous towns to be considered for State grants stated Mr.
67 Deliso.

68 There are two basic requirements for the regional organization, one is for the Board to name
69 a person to sit on the Council, number two, is a financial commitment of \$1.00 per resident with
70 a \$10,000.00 cap. Each Town will equal one vote. Mr. Deliso gave the Board a copy of Senate
71 Bill No. 2380, section 3K relative to economic development reorganization. Eligible
72 organizations must have a primary focus on economic development. The Town operates
73 regionally and its membership includes more than 10 contiguous Towns. Resident Bruce
74 Nickelsen added that he works as an environmental consultant and volunteers his time with the
75 Regional Economic Development Council and would like to see Upton have more of an
76 industrial tax base.

77 The Board thanked Mr. Deliso for his presentation and will take his proposal under
78 advisement.

79

80 Correspondence reviewed:

- 81 1. Copy of a letter to Whitinsville Water Company Re: Northbridge/Upton Water
82 Connection.
- 83 2. Copy of a letter to MIIA Loss Control Grant Application for FY11.
- 84 3. Request to the Board from the ConCom to attend the Land Use Regulations Public
85 Hearing on September 22nd meeting.
- 86 4. Correspondence from DEP Re: State Revolving fund Loan Program.
- 87 5. Copy of a resignation letter from Anthony Bonina.
- 88 6. Copy of a resignation letter from Susan Bonina from the Board of Registrars.
- 89 7. Letter of interest to serve on the Board of Registrars.
- 90 8. The Beacon.

- 91 9. Street sign request from a resident of 245 Mendon St (blind drive). (*Approved*)
92 10. Notice from Worcester Regional Retirement Re: Early Retirement Incentive (*The Town*
93 *Manager will attend this August 26th informational meeting*).
94 11. Comcast Notice
95 12. July report of the Library Director.
96 13. Account statements (June 1 – June 30th).
97 14. Correspondence from City Manager, Lowell Ma Re: Group Insurance Policies.
98 15. Commonwealth Capital application
99

100 The Board received notice of resignation from Assessor Anthony Bonina. Tony and Sue
101 Bonina have relocated to the Town of Milford. The Board of Assessors will be attending the
102 Selectmen’s meeting on August 24th for a recognition ceremony. Ms. Bonina has resigned her
103 position as a member of the Board of Registrars. Town Manager Blythe Robinson will contact
104 the Board of Registrars Chair, Joan Shanahan to confirm with her the procedure for filling this
105 vacancy.
106

107 Motion #3: Selectman Fleming motioned to accept the resignation of Sue Bonina as a member of
108 the Board of Registrars. Second: Selectman Picard, unanimous: Chairman Goodwin.
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110 In review of a Street Sign request from a resident of 245 Mendon St, the Board agreed with
111 the recommendation of the Police Chief and the DPW Supervisor to post a *Blind Drive* sign. The
112 DPW Department will be responsible for the ordering and installation of this sign.
113

114 Motion # 4: Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the Street Sign request for 245 Mendon St
115 as recommended by Chief Michael Bradley and DPW Supervisor John Johnson. Second:
116 Selectman Picard, unanimous, Chairman Goodwin.
117

118 BETA Engineering, DPW Consultant Larry Bombara, the Board of Assessors and the
119 ZBA will be attending the Selectmen’s meeting on August 24th.
120

121 At 7:13pm a motion was made to enter into Executive Session.
122

123 Motion #5: Selectman Fleming motioned to enter into Executive Session under M.G.L. c.30A,
124 Section 21, option #2 to conduct a session in preparation for negotiations in reference to the
125 hiring of a Fire Chief. Second: Selectman Picard, unanimous Chairman Goodwin.
126 The Board will reconvene their regular meeting for adjournment purposes only.
127 Ken Picard aye, Robert Fleming aye, Michael Goodwin aye.
128

129 At 8:00pm the Board reconvened.
130

131 Motion #6: Selectman Fleming motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm. Second: Selectman
132 Picard, unanimous: Chairman Goodwin.
133

134 Respectfully submitted,
135 Karen L. Varney, Department Coordinator
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