

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2009

Location: Fire & EMS Headquarters, 20 Church Street.

Present: Chairman Robert J. Fleming, Selectman Kenneth E. Picard, Selectman Michael E. Goodwin and Administrative Clerk Karen L. Varney.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

Town Accountant Fred Aponte came before the Board to present his level funded budget for FY2010. Insurance Coordinator James Bates also addressed the Board with the Town's FY2010 Insurance expense portion of the Budget.

At 7:00pm, the Board reconvened their regular meeting.

Appropriation Treasury Warrant No. 29e in the amount of \$173,225.12 was signed.

Payroll Treasury Warrant No. 29P in the amount of \$70,636.62 was signed.

Chairman Fleming reminded the citizens of the Special Town Election on January 27th to vote on two-ballot questions; 1) upgrading of the Station St Sewage Pump Station and 2) Route 140 water main replacement.

Nipmuc Regional Middle/High School student Tyler Kenney will be honored on January 17th for achieving the Eagle Scout rank, Boy Scouting's highest honor. The Board was pleased to award a Certificate of Recognition to Tyler for his outstanding achievement.

In 2000, the Town of Upton was granted 22.77 acres of (non-buildable) land entitled Goss Pond Estates which was accepted by the Town on December 27, 2000 but has never been transferred to the Town. A request in a letter dated January 6, 2009 from Robert Henderson (former owner) to add three stipulations. These stipulations stated in his letter, do not need to be incorporated in the Deed. The Board approved these by Motion.

Motion # 1: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the following three-stipulations in a deed shown as Parcel B, Portion of the remaining land of Grose Pond Incorporated (non-Buildable) 991,939 S.F. (22.7 acres) on a plan of land entitled, Goss Pond Estates Definitive Subdivision Plan of land in Upton, Mass. 1) Retain the naming rights for the

45 parcel, 2). An area approximately 20'X20' to install a permanent sign that names the
46 area (between Lots #24 & #26 Green Lane) and 3) The Town will build a path to gain
47 access to the entire area. Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous by Chairman
48 Fleming.

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50 Motion # 2: Selectman Goodwin motioned to approve the meeting minutes of December
51 30, 2008. Seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

52
53 The Board of Selectmen welcomed resident Kathy Trenholm of Boy Scout Troop
54 132. Ms. Trenholm came before the Board to ask their permission to place a plaque
55 either in the Town Hall or the Town Library naming all 66 Eagle Scouts. This will be
56 perpetual plaque going back to 1959 and adding names annually. There will be no cost
57 to the Town states Ms. Trenholm. Troop 132 will incur the cost of the plaque and
58 engraving. It was agreed by the Selectmen that perhaps one plaque allowing room
59 for 100 names is acceptable. Jim Bates the AA will work with Ms. Trenholm in finding a
60 location.

61
62 F.Y.I.

- 63 ○ Letter from Teamsters Union Local 170 Re: Union Contract. Request to schedule a meeting
64 date. **(The Board agrees with a March meeting to begin Union contract talks. A**
65 **confirmation letter will be sent by the AA to Union Representative Ed Peloquin).**
- 66 ○ Bulletin from the DOR Re: Storm Damage Costs
- 67 ○ Fire & EMS Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for January 14th.
- 68 ○ Letter from the Department of Public Health Re: EMS Service Zone Planning. **(Cc: B. Kemp**
69 **& BOH).**
- 70 ○ Copy of a letter to Mr. Afonso from the Conservation Commission Re: Resolution of the
71 Enforcement Orders for lots 1,2,3,4, and 5 under the Wetlands Protection Act.
- 72 ○ Letter of interest from Steve Rakitin Re: Serving on a Feasibility Study Committee for Town
73 Hall renovations.
- 74 ○ CMRP questionnaire Re: Identifying high crash locations. **(Cc: Chief Bradley & J.**
75 **Johnson).**
- 76 ○ The Beacon
- 77 ○ Copy of a letter to Susan Hamilton, DCR from the AA Re: Land Swap Proposal between the
78 Town of Upton and State Forest Land.
- 79 ○ Internal posting, part-time Communications Officer. Posting closes
- 80 ○ Meeting Minutes of the Personnel Board.
- 81 ○ Memorandum from COA Director Natasha Heimrath Re: Returning \$600 to the Town's
82 General fund.
- 83 ○ Local #162 Section 4: Stipend. (FYI).

84
85 Chairman Fleming spoke of a special Grant program (STRAP) for Towns that
86 have less than 7,000 residents. He will follow up on this Grant.

87
88 A request from Personnel Board Chairman Seema Kenney in which she has
89 asked the Selectmen to temporarily fill her vacancy on the Board until mid-March the

90 Board agreed to appoint Chairman Fleming. This motion is to ensure the continuation of
91 the Personnel Board's Classification & Compensation study.

92
93 Motion # 3: Selectman Picard motioned to appoint Robert J. Fleming as a Temporary
94 interim member of the Personnel Board until mid-March while Member Seema Kenney
95 is out on personal leave. Majority vote by Selectman Goodwin.

96
97 The Board has scheduled January 22nd to meet with the DPW Department, Code
98 Enforcement and the COA Supervisors to review their budgets for FY2010. On January
99 29th they will meet with Police Chief Michael Bradley, Fire Chief Michael Bradford, EMS
100 Director Brian Kemp and the Dog Officer. Chairman Fleming noting the Town's financial
101 constraints and the need for the Selectmen to be pro-active.

102 The State's fiscal restraints are severely impacting the Town's local aid numbers
103 and the likelihood the Town will have to make numerous cuts. The Board is taking a very
104 aggressive proactive approach towards the FY10 budget. Chairman Fleming made a
105 statement saying if there was anyone in Town who believes there are places in the
106 budget to cut, to come forward and share your thoughts. Board members agreed to a
107 motion to freeze spending.

108
109 Motion # 4: Selectman Goodwin motioned to implement a spending freeze for all
110 Departments and each Department is to submit a budget forecast through FY09 by
111 February 3, 2009 for approval by the Board. If any Department Supervisor would like to
112 discuss this spending freeze, they can address the Board with their concerns.
113 Seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

114
115 The Board has a concern with the Enterprise Fund Committee as they have not
116 yet submitted the required budget as required by law. This budget needs to be received
117 by the Board of Selectmen by February 13th, or the Board will have the task of preparing
118 said budget.

119
120 In closing, Chairman Fleming spoke of a garage fire on South Street this past
121 weekend and the rapid response by the Fire Department. There was no damage done
122 to the house. Compliments were sent to the Public Safety Departments for their fast
123 response.

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125 Motion # 5:

126 Selectman Picard Motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. Seconded by
127 Selectman Goodwin, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

128
129 Respectfully submitted,

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131 Karen L. Varney, Administrative Clerk
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