

Board of Selectmen

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2009

Location: Fire & EMS Headquarters, 20 Church Street

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

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

Appropriation Treasury Warrant No. 37e in the amount of \$44,464.77 was approved.
Payroll Treasury Warrant No. 37P in the amount of \$68,911.10 was approved.

Motion #1: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes of February 24, 2009, Majority vote: Chairman Fleming.

Motion #2: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the meeting minutes of February 24, 2009, Majority vote: Chairman Fleming.

Motion #3: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the meeting minutes of March 3, 2009, Majority vote: Chairman Fleming.

Motion #4: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes of March 3, 2009, Majority vote: Chairman Fleming.

Reminder: Special Town Meeting March 31, 2009 at Nipmuc Regional Middle/High School.

Selectman Picard stated that he has completed a Grant Project Request Statement and after review by Chairman Fleming, will be forwarded to Megan DiPrete, Manager, Community Development and Planning at CMRP to proceed with researching Grant opportunities. Ms. DiPrete came before the Board on February 24th and gave an overview of her work experience and the process for Grant applications.

The Board welcomed Margaret Laneri, of Laneri Coaching who gave the Board an overview of her sessions with the employees of the DPW Department in team coaching. Chairman Fleming said the sessions and feedback has been very effective. However due to the Town's financial situation the Board may not be able to continue long term however Selectman Picard is confident for enough funding for a close out.

Chairman Fleming will be meeting with the Finance Committee next week and will inquire as to available funding. The Board would like every Department open to these services. The Board thanked Ms. Laneri for her update and will contact her soon.

In speaking with Water/Wastewater Superintendent Ron SanSouci and reviewing the Water and Wastewater fees, Chairman Fleming spoke of the need to increase these fees. Selectman Picard agreed saying he would like to see them increased over a five-year period. The Board will again review the proposed increase with Selectman Goodwin when he returns next week.

A reminder that the Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for May 7th, the Warrant closes April 3rd all Articles need to be submitted by 6pm. Posting of the Warrant: April 17th.

The Board welcomed Upton Truck & Auto Arnaud Goulette and Steve DeSantos. After receiving a citizen's complaint which prompted an investigation from the Police Department, the Board asked Mr. Goulette, who leases the property from Steve DeSantos, to come before them. Chairman Fleming reminded Mr. Goulette of the specific conditions stated on his Class II License and the need to comply with the number of vehicles located on the property. At the time of the inspection, there were fifty-five vehicles, none were for sale. It was also noted in the Police report that there were two trailers one being unregistered and vehicles that were inoperable. Mr. Goulette did say he has since removed some of the vehicles and is doing what he can to straighten up the area. Mr. DeSantos, who is the property owner of record, said the trailer contains business records which he needs to preserve for seven-years. After further discussion, Chairman Fleming told the gentlemen that the red truck and the grey trailer were to be removed from the property within sixty-days. The owner stated he will comply.

FYI's reviewed:

- ⇒ Memo to the Board from Insurance Coordinator Jim Bates Re: Wellness Program Survey.
- ⇒ Application (consideration) for a Class 2 License from a South St Resident.
- ⇒ Water Management Act – Interim Permit received from the DEP
- ⇒ Memorandum from the Department of Fire Services Re: Recent changes to the Mass Underground Storage Tank Regulations.
- ⇒ Invitation to the Fire Departments annual beef stew supper, March 24th 6:30pm.
- ⇒ Notification of Wetlands Protection Act dated February 25th.
- ⇒ Email from Ken Glowacki, Re: Main St mail boxes. **(Selectman Picard will speak with the Postmaster however there is not much they can do about the placement of mail boxes as Route 140 is a State highway).**
- ⇒ MVE Commitments from the Treasurer/Collector
- ⇒ Letter from the COA Director Re: On going problems with the Departments heating system. **(Selectman Picard feels this heating system problem needs to be addressed at the ATM).**
- ⇒ Request from United Parish for permission to place signs and to use the parking lot between Holy Angles and the Town playground for overflow parking for the May 9th and October 17th events. **(Approved)**
- ⇒ Franchise fee of \$1,076.00 received from Charter.

- ⇒ Correspondence from K&P Re: Finalization of the land transfer from Really Big Realty, Inc., to the Town of Upton. (BOS signatures)
- ⇒ Request from Rosaly Rupinski for Conservation Commission appointment.
- ⇒ Correspondence from the COA Director Re: Boiler problems/quote. (***BOS will take under consideration***).

Next on the Agenda was a request from a South Street resident, for a Class II License. The Board asked that Mr. Keeler come before them on March 24th at 7:30pm to discuss this request.

The Board spoke briefly about the potential opportunities of the third water source which is moving along and the possibility of partnering with a private firm to establish a relationship whereby this firm would provide a service to the Town. The Town in turn would provide a water resource to them however this undertaking could take a number of years. The Town's asset is water, the problem is the delivery. By partnering for the delivery of water, the well site could yield 400,000 gallons a day and have the potential to sell a substantial amount of water from this site as well as meeting the needs of the Town. At this time this project is in exploratory mode.

The Board will attend the annual beef stew dinner held at the Fire & EMS Station on Tuesday, March 24th at 6:30pm.

Motion # 5: Selectman Picard motioned to approve, as requested from the United Parish, to place five signs (adhering to the Board's Sign Policy) for their upcoming concerts, May 9th and October 17th. Also permission to use the parking lot on Route 140 between Holy Angles and the playground for overflow parking. Majority: Chairman Fleming.

In regards to finalizing the transfer of a Quitclaim Deed from Really Big Realty, Inc, for property identified as Parcel B portion of the remaining land of Grose Pond Incorporated (22.77A) and pursuant to the terms and provisions of Article 18 of the October 24, 2000 Special Town meeting, the Board signed off on the acceptance.

Motion # 6: Selectman Picard Motioned to appoint, as recommended by the conservation Commission, Rosaly Rupinski as a member of the Conservation Commission until the May 2009 annual appointments. Majority: Chairman Fleming.

The Board reviewed the Articles submitted for the STM on March 31st. The Board of Assessors submitted an Article to rescind the Actions of the March 20, 2000 Town Meeting establishing the CPA Act. This also requires a Ballot question. Also request from the Town Clerk for \$1,200.00 for Elections and Town Meeting Account, the Water/Wastewater Superintendent has submitted an Article for \$50,000.00 due to increased cost of required chemicals and overtime costs for the DPW for \$10,000.

Selectman Picard noted it is the Boards intention to submit two Articles for the Main St Water Main replacement project and the upgrading of the Station Street Pump Station. These are "shovel ready" and were submitted to the Federal Stimulus program.

Do to the financial situation of the Town the Board would like to have a discussion with the Unions.

Motion # 7: Selectman Picard Motioned to distribute a letter to the Local Unions requesting a meeting with the Board to discuss a wage freeze for FY2010. Majority: Chairman Fleming.

The Board reviewed the prior year appropriation summary and agreed to place an Article on the STM Warrant to transfer these funds to the General Stabilization Fund Account. The amounts may vary per verification from Town Accountant Fred Aponte.
Line item #5301 for \$702.24, #5890 for \$339.28 and #5241 for \$34,273.00.

Brief conversation:

- Aged invoices from Tata & Howard were addressed. Chairman Fleming will speak with the Administrative Assistant.
- Risteen Beautification Trust Fund to help with the Cemetery upgrades.

Confidential: Copy of a letter from Kopelman and Paige dated March 6, 2009.

Motion # 8 Selectman Picard motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:13pm. Majority: Chairman Fleming.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Varney, Administrative Clerk