

Board of Selectmen

Town of Apton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of March 31, 2009

Location: Town Hall – 1 Main St.

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 6:30pm.

Appropriation Treasury Warrant No. 40e in the amount of \$124,694.74 was approved.
Payroll Treasury Warrant No. 40P in the amount of \$62,685.21 was approved.

Motion #1: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the meeting minutes of March 10, 2009, second: Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

Motion #2: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the meeting minutes of March 17, 2009, second: Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

Motion #3: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes of March 17, 2009, second: Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

Motion #4: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the meeting minutes of March 24, 2009, second: Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

Motion #5: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the meeting minutes of March 25, 2009 with minor (clarification corrections), majority: Selectman Goodwin.

Motion #6: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the meeting minutes (COA facility) of March 26, 2009, second: Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

Regarding the resignation of COA Director Natasha Heimrath, Selectman Picard and Selectman Goodwin gave Chairman Fleming an update of the meeting they had with Social Services Coordinator James Gardner and Administrative Assistant Holly Whalen last week. Basically Mr. Gardner is willing to take on the responsibilities as Interim COA Director if he is appropriately compensated. Selectman Picard stated he spoke with Personnel Board Chairperson Seema Kenney who suggested the Board offer Mr. Gardner a monthly “bonus” for a specific period of time, vs. a salary increase. This way the Board can monitor his work performance and

44 either appoint him permanently to the position or begin the hiring process of posting this position
45 internally.

46 After the Board discussed the salaries of the COA and the Social Service Coordinator,
47 they believe a monthly bonus of \$600 would be appropriate if Mr. Gardner agrees to take on the
48 temporary interim position of COA Director.

49 They continued by stating that it is mandatory that Ms. Whalen become a Certified
50 S.H.I.N.E. Counselor and also receive the necessary training for SMOC Certification if she is to
51 assist or move into the Social Services Coordinator position. This certification will take a few
52 months to achieve therefore she will not be able to take on this position until the proper
53 Certification is obtained. Ms. Whalen is already at the maximum for her current grade level
54 therefore the Board did not entertain any increase or bonus.

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56 Motion #7: Selectman Picard motioned to offer Social Services Coordinator James Gardner a
57 monthly bonus of \$600 commencing April 1st to June 30, 2009 to serve as the Temporary Interim
58 Director for the Council for the Aging. Seconded: Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman
59 Fleming.

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61 Selectman Picard passed on a complaint he received to the Liaison to the DPW
62 Department Chairman Fleming for review and resolution.

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64 In reference to a copy of a correspondence addressed to the Building Commissioner from
65 Harold Turner, President/CEO of the H.L. Turner Group regarding Blackstone Valley Regional
66 Vocation High School. Chairman Fleming had a conversation with Building Commissioner
67 Patrick Roche about this correspondence. Copies will be made available to the Board for
68 discussion at next weeks meeting.

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70 Selectman Picard was pleased to attend the Graduation Ceremony of Patrol Officer
71 Matthew Rankins in Springfield last week.

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73 In review of the weekly payroll Warrants, Chairman Fleming noted the high overtime
74 amounts for the Police Department. Selectmen Picard suggested asking Chief Bradley to come
75 before them to have a discussion. The Chief is to bring Department schedules with him. It was
76 agreed April 14th at 7:15pm for this meeting.

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78 Based on an email the Board received from the AA Jim Bates, due to the actions of the
79 BoS meeting of 3/26/09, a Motion to rescind Motion #2 was made.

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81 Motion #8: Selectman Goodwin motioned to rescind Motion #2 of the Board's meeting of March
82 3, 2009, to place two Ballot questions for the Annual Town Meeting. 1: Main Street Water Main
83 project and 2: Upgrading the Station Street Wastewater Pump Station. Second: Selectman Picard,
84 unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

85
86 Motion #9: Selectman Picard motioned to reinstate Susan Wadehul to the Upton EMS
87 Department after a leave of absence. Second: Selectmen Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman
88 Fleming.

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90 Motion #10: At 7:01pm Selectman Picard Motioned to recess the meeting so the Board can
91 attend the Special Town Meeting at Nipmuc Regional Middle/High School. Second: Selectman
92 Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

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94 The Board reconvened at Nipmuc Regional at 7:25pm. According to Selectman Picard,
95 who took minutes of this meeting the following discussion took place.

96 At the conclusion of the Special Town Meeting the Board met with the Finance
97 Committee and agreed with their recommendation of placing an Article on the ATM Warrant for
98 a general override of \$650k.

99
100 The Board agreed to place a \$50k Article on the ATM Warrant for funding multiple
101 building energy conservation projects.

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103 Motion #11: Selectmen Goodwin motioned to adjourn the meeting. Second: Selectman Picard,
104 unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

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107 Respectfully submitted,

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109 Karen L. Varney, Administrative Clerk

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