

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43

Board of Selectmen

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes December 1, 2009

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

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

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

Appropriation Treasury Warrant in the amount of \$33,361.84 and Payroll Treasury Warrant in the amount of \$104,058.65 approved as submitted.

Motion # 1: Selectman Goodwin motioned to approve the November 24, 2009 meeting minutes. Majority: Chairman Picard.

Reminder of the upcoming Special State Primary for the U.S. Senator's office on Tuesday, December 8, 2009 from 7:00am to 8:00pm at Nipmuc Regional Middle/High School.

Regarding a request for an Eagle Scout project at the Knowlton-Risteen Building, Chairman Picard asked if this individual would like to attend the Board's meeting on December 15th. Mr. Bates will follow up on this email.

The Board welcomed Code Enforcement Building Inspector Patrick Roche, Inspector of Wiring, John Poirier and Assistant Plumbing Inspector Thomas French. The purpose of this meeting was to continue the discussion regarding the Inspectors compensation. The conversation focused on the number of inspections performed by each discipline, hours spent, consideration of an annual stipend, and a proposed hourly fee for weekend or Holiday calls of \$100 per hour. This was proposed by Inspector Roche in a report dated November 27th. Mr. Roche handed the Board a break down of hours performed from January 1, 2009 to November 30, 2009. Total hours calculated, 605. Chairman Picard said he wants to ensure the employees receive proper compensation. After discussion, the Board will evaluate the information given to them by Mr. Roche.

Chairman Picard commented by saying there may not be a rate increase this year and compensation may stay as it is.

The Board reviewed and approved a request for wreaths for the Town buildings.

44 Motion # 2: Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the amount of \$300 from the Ella Whitney
45 Risteen Claus D (Beautification) Trust Fund for holiday wreaths for Town buildings. Second:
46 Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Picard.

47

48 Correspondence reviewed:

- 49 ▪ Letter dated November 16th from Phillips & Angley Re: Cell Tower. (Letter will drafted
50 to Attorney Angley stating that the Board has made no commitment at this time however
51 they are currently reviewing RFP drafts.
- 52 ▪ Email from R. Van Bossuyt Re: Cell Tower (Mr. VanBossuyt has reviewed RFP
53 templates for the Board and has made some recommendations if the Board moves
54 forward).
- 55 ▪ CMRPC lecture December 17th: Recent changes: Pension system. (Forward to all
56 employees)
- 57 ▪ Letter from Mendon Town Coordinator Dale Pleau Re: Regional Emergency
58 Communications Center. (Correspondence forwarded to the Public Safety Supervisors to
59 evaluate the Towns options. A recommendation to the Board is requested by February
60 1st. A follow up letter will be sent to Mendon Town Coordinator Dale Pleau).
- 61 ▪ Letter from Riverdale Water Co. Re: Potable water. (AA Jim Bates will set up a meeting
62 in December with Tata & Howard at their facility to talk about a water source.
- 63 ▪ LCHPC letter of interest (Chairman Picard appointed last week. The first meeting has
64 already been scheduled).
- 65 ▪ Correspondence from Charter Communications. (3)
- 66 ▪ Email Re: Blackstone Valley 11 Town Coalition (Selectman Fleming attended a meeting
67 on November 18th sponsored by Uxbridge Chairman Mike Potaski with a representation
68 from Sutton, Northbridge and Douglas were some of the Towns attending. The purpose of
69 this meeting was to find a plan and to work as a team to deal with the continuing
70 financial situation that local Government is facing. One of the topics of discussion is that
71 many of the Towns in Blackstone Valley have formed a consortium to bid out fuel oil and
72 road material. It is Selectman Flemings feeling that Upton should look into the same. He
73 will attend the follow up meetings once scheduled and looks forward to sharing ideas.
74 His recommendation is to have the Administrators contact the Administrative Assistant to
75 let him know the rates (oil) are.

76

77 Robert Sims, Managing Engineer, Pare Corporation was welcomed by the Board. Mr.
78 Sims gave a summarization of the Main Street Water Main project and reviewed the final “to do”
79 list submitted by DPW Supervisor John Johnson and Water/Wastewater Superintendent Ron
80 SanSouci. Mr. Sims is planning is to meet with John and Ron about a few items on the list, and
81 then meet with the Contractor, Freitas Construction. Regarding the payment for the replacement
82 of a Main St business water heater, Chairman Picard stated that he wants the reimbursement
83 made as soon as possible.

84 Mr. Sims noted he will take this amount out of payment requisition No. 4 (Application and
85 certificate for payment. No 4). Chairman Picard said once he receives the requisition he will
86 approve it for payment.

87 A Main St resident is claiming that Freitas Construction Company was at fault at
88 loosening some of the stones on his stone wall and wants it repaired. Mr. Sims will contact this
89 person tomorrow for more information. The Board thanked Mr. Sims for his update.

90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100
101
102
103
104
105
106
107
108
109
110
111
112
113
114
115
116
117
118
119
120
121
122
123
124
125
126
127
128
129
130
131

Discussion items:

1. FY2011 budget preparation guidelines. (Chairman Picard asked that the AA Jim Bates, contact all Elected Boards this month and inform them that the Board would like to meet as a group the first week in January).
2. Employee compensation: Dialogue about the possibility of implementing a wage freeze, and having a conversation with the Unions. Discussion also about reducing employees' hours.
3. Town Building lighting projects: (Chairman Picard received approval from both Selectmen Goodwin and Selectman Fleming to move forward with the Police Station's exterior illumination of the sign and flag pole. More information is need for exterior lighting for the DPW garage and the Fire Station.

Selectman Goodwin reported to the Board that he had a conversation with both the VFW and the American Legion members about a permanent monument in Lakeview Cemetery honoring all Veterans. It was agreed that these two organizations research product, costs and size, and to come up with three-options. Selectman Fleming commented that it would be great to have this monument in place by Memorial Day 2010. Selectman Goodwin will also communicate with the Cemetery Commissioners.

The Board approved and signed off on the annual Liquor, Common Vic and Class 2 business licenses.

A confidential letter dated November 18th from Kopelman & Page was reviewed by Board.

The next meeting of the Board will be Tuesday, December 15th. They will not be meeting December 8th and Christmas week, December 22nd.

State Representatives will be meeting with the Mendon-Upton Regional School Committee on Monday, December 7th at Nipmuc Regional Middle/High School Auditorium.

Motion # 3: Selectman Goodwin motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. Seconded: Selectman Fleming, unanimous: Chairman Picard.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen L. Varney, Department Coordinator