

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of Thursday, May 29, 2008

Location: Upton Town Hall, Main Hall.

Present: Chairman Robert J. Fleming, Selectman Kenneth E. Picard, Selectman Michael E. Goodwin, Administrative Assistant James R. Bates, Donald Bunker, Whitinsville Water Company, Steve Donovan, Whitewater, and Leonard White and Henry Papuga of Milford Water Company.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm.
Chairman Fleming called for a recess until Selectman Picard arrived.

At 4:05pm the Board reconvened. The purpose of this meeting is to have a discussion with Mr. Leonard White and other interested individuals for potential opportunities for the Town. Chairman Fleming began the meeting by stating the Board has previously met with Mr. White and the Town is now interested in pursuing some avenues in greater detail. There are a number of potential opportunities where both parties can share resources and benefits. A few of the opportunities stated, is the South Upton water source, infrastructure and another water source on line that is 60% in process off West River Street.

Discussion for Upton to move forward with all the permitting process by engaging into a partnership with Mr. White, who would handle the capital side of the partnership, i.e. drilling of the wells and related infrastructure.

Chairman Fleming added that the Town recently voted in an Enterprise System and if the Town can develop some degree of profitability the Town could expand the water source outside the present connections. Entering into a partnership could potentially save the Town.

Milford Water Company has previously met with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers relative to the South St Well proposal submitted to them. A letter of support was requested to show that MWC and the Town of Upton have agreed to work together, endorsing the concept of a mutual agreement. This letter was never received from the Town of Upton, thus the report was never finalized with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Milford Water has agreements with the Town of Holliston, Medway, Bellingham and Hopkinton. Upton is the only abutter to the Town of Milford that has no interconnection agreement.

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47 Chairman Fleming believes the next step would be to contact professional
48 counsel to proceed with the process. It was stated that the Town could reactivate the
49 previous process with the Army Corps of Engineers and the DEP without going thru the
50 formal permitting process. All that is needed is a letter from the Town of Upton stating
51 they would be interested in mutually developing a well and to re file the submittal.

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53 Selectman Picard is in favor of moving forward and has recommended contacting
54 Tata & Howard. Both Chairman Fleming and Selectman Goodwin agree. Chairman
55 Fleming noted that the Board will be meeting on Monday, June 2nd and hopefully will be
56 able to contact Tata & Howard beforehand and therefore have a letter drawn up.

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58 The Board thanked the gentlemen for coming. They will contact Mr. White next
59 week.

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61 In other business, the Board briefly discussed a contractual employment
62 agreement for the Town Accountant and agreed to move forward.

63 64 Motion #1

65 Selectman Picard motioned to appoint Robert A. Perkins as Temporary-Interim
66 Town Accountant beginning July 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 (if needed) and as
67 outlined in the Employment Agreement / Contract Document dated May 27, 2008.
68 Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

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70 The Board signed off on legal expenses from Kopelman and Paige in the amount
71 of \$2,857.85.

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73 In regards to the Chapter 90 Contract Proposal for services submitted by Richard
74 Henderson, Chairman Fleming had copied the Board members on this proposal that
75 must be sent to Mass Highway for approval. Both the Highway Supervisor and the
76 consultant have worked together and set out a plan. It was agreed to approve this
77 contract proposal.

78 Kudos sent to the Highway Supervisor John Johnson. The DPW salt shed is filled
79 to capacity at today's market price.

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81 Selectman Picard made a comment relative to the notification of the tip request.
82 Information is forthcoming.

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84 The Board reviewed a letter drafted by Chairman Fleming, recognizing Mr.
85 Richard Grady, who is retiring from Miscoe Hill Elementary School. Mr. Grady was
86 responsible for the developing and instituting the curriculum on the "History of Upton" to
87 the sixth grade class. Barbara Burke will present this letter to Mr. Grady on behalf of the
88 Board of Selectmen.

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Motion # 2

Selectman Goodwin motioned to approve the meeting minutes of May 20, 2008, (with discussion on the word “dissolve” vs. “discharge”). Seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

Motion # 3

Selectman Goodwin motioned to approve the Executive Session Local 3338A, meeting minutes of May 20, 2008. Seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

The Board received the final draft for the Pleasant Street Agreement settlement. Due to the revisions made by Town Counsel, the Board members need additional time for review.

In a recommendation from Selectman Picard, relative to Article 17 of the STM, is to change “agreement to be completed”, to state, negotiated on the Motion card. Both Selectman Picard and Selectman Goodwin attended last nights meeting of the Fire Department and discussed the Articles and Rules and Regulations. They suggested making one modification that when establishing the search Committee, making sure the membership term is staggered. Selectman Picard forwarded this information onto the AA Mr. Bates who will in turn forward this on the involved individuals. Also a comment received from Chief Bradford about a section for a Clerk. A member of the Committee would be the actual Clerk.

Chairman Fleming noted that a copy of the Board’s discussion regarding Local 162 would be forwarded to the Police Union and also the recap proposal discussed with Local 3338A, to the Board of Fire Engineers so they can be prepared on Monday night.

As of today, the Ballot question for the override has been posted, it prohibits the Board of Selectmen from discussing the matter pro or con in a public building ;or having a discussion in a posted meeting or having any discussion while in the capacity of a member of the Board of Selectmen or any Elective Official impacted by it. If the Selectmen wish to speak about the Ballot question, individually, that is permissible. Selectman Picard asked the AA to obtain a copy of the law that states this.

Motion # 4

Selectman Goodwin Motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:07pm. Seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Fleming

Respectfully submitted,
Karen L. Varney, Administrative Clerk