

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2008

Location: Upton Fire and EMS Headquarters, 20 Church St, 2nd floor training room.

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 7:30pm.

Chairman Fleming reminded everyone of the Special Town Meeting Thursday, June 12, 2008 at 7:00pm just before the Annual Adjourned Town Meeting at 7:30pm. He also noted that Selectman Picard is attending the Planning Board Hearing this evening and therefore he will be arriving late. Building Inspector Patrick Roche is scheduled to meet with the Board relative to appointments and Conservation Commission Chairman Chris Scott is on the agenda to update the Board on Beaver control. At 8:30pm, Attorney Jay Talerman and the Board will be going into Executive Session to discuss the Noble Vista project.

FYI:

- Letters of interest to serve on the Selection Committee for the Town Manager position. (Appointments made)
- Observations & Suggestions from Grant Writer John Zakian to be reviewed.
- Check in the amount of \$9,596.90 received from Charter for the bi-annual Peg Grant payment.
- Copy of a letter of appreciation from Hopedale Fire Department Chief Scott Garland to Fire Chief Michael Bradford.
- Notice from Town Accountant Bob Perkins Re: monthly summary & payroll vouchers to Department Supervisors.
- Copy of the Upton Fire & EMS Advisory Committee Rules & Regulations with modifications.
- Request from Marcella Stasa, Chairperson Land Stewardship Committee Re: NHESP to be approved by the Board and signed off by Chairman Fleming.
- Internal Postings (3 positions) EMS Department.

Land Stewardship Committee Chairperson Marcella Stasa, sent a project request to the Board asking for approval and to be signed off by Chairman Fleming so she can

44 submit it to the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (NHESP). Approval
45 given.

46
47 A sign request from Cecelia E. Henderson, Co-Chairman of the Blackstone
48 Valley Gardeners was approved.

49
50 Motion # 1

51 Selectman Goodwin motioned to approve the request of the Blackstone Valley
52 Gardeners to place signs advertising a garden tour and plant sale on June 21, 2008
53 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Locations Rte. 140 island, Pleasant St and Mendon Rd, corner
54 of High St and North Main St. and the library. Majority vote: Chairman Fleming.

55
56 At the conclusion of the Board of Selectmen's meeting, they will recess until
57 Wednesday, June 11th to attend the Finance Committee's meeting to discuss budget
58 reductions due to the failed override on June 9th.

59
60 Motion # 2

61 Selectman Goodwin motioned to appoint Ann L. Perkins as Temporary-Interim
62 Clerk to the Town Accountant beginning July 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008 if
63 needed. Majority vote: Chairman Fleming.

64
65 In an email received from Grant Writer John Zakian, stated he would be available
66 to Department supervisors July 21st. The Board is not pleased that Mr. Zakian is not
67 readily available to assist with grants and this is a concern with the Selectmen.

68
69 The Board is looking for an update on the Westborough Road intersection matter.
70 The Administrative Clerk will follow up with the AA Jim Bates.

71
72 Chairman Fleming read aloud a thank you letter addressed to Fire Chief Michael
73 J. Bradford from Hopedale Fire Chief Scott D. Garland, commending the service and
74 professionalism of the Upton Fire Department at the site of a recent fatal motor vehicle
75 accident on Route 140 last month.

76
77 The Special Town Meeting Warrant for Thursday, June 12, 2008, was read aloud
78 by the Board. This meeting will take place a Nipmuc Regional Middle / High School at
79 7:00pm followed by the Annual Adjourned Town meeting at 7:30pm.

80
81 The Board welcomed Building Inspector Patrick Roche. The Board invited Mr.
82 Roche to the meeting so the Board can have a discussion relative to the appointments
83 of the Departments Assistant Inspectors. Mr. Roche stressed that the Assistant
84 Inspectors are a back up to the Inspectors and are available 24/7. In regards to new
85 construction, most of these inspections are done the same day, providing prompt and
86 accurate service. On an average of 10 hours a week, the Assistant Inspectors earn
87 \$17.03 per hour. Mr. Roche pointed out the fee for a Building Permit for a new home is
88 about \$2,500.00 and continued by saying he feels these Assistant Inspectors are a
89 value to the Town and will be disappointed if they are cut from the Budget. Chairman

90 Fleming confirmed the reason the Board put a hold on the Assistant Inspectors
91 appointments, was a financial reason and feels Mr. Roche justified the positions at
92 tonight's meeting. Selectman Goodwin echoed Chairman Fleming's opinion. Selectman
93 Picard has not yet arrived at the meeting and therefore the Board will revisit the
94 Assistant Inspector appointments at the Board's meeting next week.
95

96 The Board welcomed Conservation Commission Chairperson Chris Scott and
97 Conservation Administrator John Savello for discussion on a plan for Beaver
98 management. Ms. Scott noted that the Commission is working on a policy to control the
99 problem with beavers as they are affecting roads, trees and septic systems. Ms. Scott
100 noted Towns that have instituted policies are Marlboro, Bolton and Grafton.

101 These species are protected by the State and trapping can only be done if it's a
102 safety issue. It was noted that there are two areas in Town (Hopkinton Road and
103 Southboro Road) where Beaver deceiver devices were installed. They appear to be
104 effective. The Conservation Commission will be asking for input from the Board of
105 Health and the DPW on their ideas for beaver management. The Board of Selectmen
106 thanked Ms. Scott and Mr. Savello for attending this meeting and updating them on this
107 critical problem. Note: Selectmen Picard arrived at the meeting and was present during
108 the latter part of the Commissions update.
109

110 Appropriation Treasury Warrant No. 50e in the amount of \$63,232.16 was signed.
111 Payroll Treasury Warrant No.50P in the amount of \$115,854.97 was signed.
112

113 **Motion # 3**

114 Selectman Picard motioned to approve the meeting minutes of May 27, 2008.
115 Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.
116

117 **Motion # 4**

118 Selectman Picard motioned to approve the meeting minutes of June 2, 2008.
119 Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.
120

121 **Motion # 5**

122 Selectman Picard motioned to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes
123 of May 27, 2008 (Local 162). Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous by
124 Chairman Fleming.
125

126 **Motion # 6**

127 Selectman Picard motioned to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes
128 of June 2, 2008. Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.
129
130
131
132
133

134 **Motion # 7**

135 Selectman Picard motioned to approve the request from Treasurer/Collector
136 Kenneth Glowacki to have the May 6, 2004 Annual Town Meeting Article #13, dump
137 truck's term extended from five-years to six-years. Seconded by Selectman Goodwin,
138 unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

139
140 The Board was pleased to recognize the annual Scholarship recipients:
141 Kathryn B. Porter, Rebecca N. Cunningham, Alexandra H. Marokhovsy, Kathryn A.
142 Howard, Alison L. Mayfield, Catherine G. King, Alison L. Majkut, Justin J. Hunt, Sarah
143 G. Crosby, Allyson M. Dargie, Danielle M. Rivard, Lauren E. Mazzone. The Board of
144 Selectmen is pleased to participate in the annual Scholarship process and extend their
145 congratulations to all the graduates.

146
147 The Board of Selectmen received letters of interest to serve on the Town
148 Manager Search Committee. A motion was made to appoint these individuals.

149
150 **Motion # 8**

151 Selectman Picard motioned to appoint Michael A. Bravo, Robert J. Miller, and
152 Thomas J. Giblin, Esq., to serve on the Town Manager Search Committee. Seconded
153 by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

154 Selectman Picard will draft a mission statement.

155
156 Selectman Picard noted he meet with the Fire and EMS Advisory Committee last
157 week to review the rules and regulations and added one section, which is to stagger the
158 appointment terms. The Committee unanimously endorsed the rules and regulations.

159
160 Relative to the construction (estimate) costs of the athletic field, Selectman
161 Picard asked the Planning Board earlier this evening if they had any funds available to
162 help off set the cost.

163
164 Selectman Picard will be meeting with Pare Engineering Managing Engineer
165 Robert P. Sims on Friday relative to the Wastewater treatment and the Main St water
166 replacement project. He continued by saying he has been receiving an update on the
167 design progress every other week.

168
169 Mass Highway approved the Chapter 90 funds in a timely manner due to the
170 documentation submitted by Richard Henderson. Mr. Henderson will be available to
171 assist with the TIP program. He will have a discussion with the Board around the first
172 week of July. Thank you to Richard Henderson and Highway Supervisory John
173 Johnson.

174
175 **Motion # 9**

176 Selectman Goodwin motioned to approve a transfer request from COA Director
177 Natasha Heimrath dated June 5, 2008. Under M.G.L. Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2006
178 and M.G.L. Chapter 44, section 33B (as amended) the transfer of funds from account
179 #01-541-5421 Expenses, to account #01-541-5113 wages in the amount of \$1,500.00.
180 Seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

181
182 Chairman Fleming informed the Selectmen that he has had conversations with
183 the Pleasant St residents.

184
185 Selectman Picard said he was at the Pleasant Street properties with
186 Conservation Commission Chairman Chris Scott and discussed the role of the
187 Conservation Commission. She added that if any type of machinery goes on the
188 property, an engineering plan would be required. The Board would need to contact the
189 firm to find out where they are at this point. Ms. Scott added that the Conservation
190 Commission would work with the owners.

191
192 Also, Selectman Picard said he had a meeting with Chris Scott and Ron Pong of
193 Tata and Howard relative to Storm water Management and the By-law. The general
194 consensus was to send Samples or a model By-law to Mr. Pong and he will review the
195 strong and weak points, make comments as to what is appropriate. Hopefully this
196 information can be put together by the winter Special Town Meeting.

197
198 Chairman Fleming will be meeting with the Supervisors of the DPW Department
199 tomorrow regarding budget reductions.

200
201 At 8:27pm, Chairman Fleming gaveled to recess the meeting until Attorney
202 Talerman arrives. Ken Picard "I", Michael Goodwin "I", Robert Fleming "I".

203
204 At 8:39pm Chairman Fleming reconvened the regular meeting.

205
206 Motion # 10

207 Chairman Fleming motioned to enter into Executive Session under M.G.L.
208 Chapter 39 section 23B, exception #3 to have a discussion with Attorney Jason
209 Talerman relative to the Noble Vista project. Seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous
210 by Selectman Goodwin.

211 Ken Picard "I", Michael Goodwin "I", Robert Fleming "I"

212
213 At the completion of the Executive Session, the Board will reconvene only to
214 make a motion to recess the regular meeting until tomorrow, Wednesday, in order to
215 meet with the Finance Committee to discuss budget reductions.

216
217 The Board reconvened their regular meeting.

218
219 Motion # 11

220 Chairman Fleming motioned to recess the meeting until 7:15pm tomorrow, June
221 11th so they can attend the Finance Committee's meeting to discuss budget reductions
222 due to the failed override on June 9th.

223
224 Respectfully submitted,
225 Karen L. Varney, Administrative Clerk