Town of Upton



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Meeting Minutes of October 7, 2008

Upton Town Hall, Main Hall.

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 7:03pm.

Just after opening their meeting, the Board recessed so they can attend the Assessors meeting with the Financial Team for discussion of the tax rate recapitulation.

At approximately 8:00pm the Board reconvened their regular meeting. Chairman Fleming commented that the Board now has a better understanding of the Town's financial picture. Kathy Reed of the DOR reported free cash at: \$421,810.00.

The Selectmen reviewed the letters of interest they received from residents willing to serve on the Fire and EMS Advisory Committee. After Selectman Picard noted that he would like to see a better balance of applicants, it was recommended to hold off any appointments until additional letters are received.

FYI:

- ⇒ Mendon-Upton Education Foundation 4th Annual Celebration of Excellence, Oct 17th.
- ⇒ Correspondence from Pare Corp. Re: Main St Water Main Replacement. (Selectman Picard noted that ten contractors submitted bids ranging from \$861,000 to \$1.5 mil. He is waiting for the Town's Engineering Company for a recommendation. This will be submitted for the Special Town Meeting November 18th.
- ⇒ Abutter's Notice Re: Upton Development Group, LLC.
- ⇒ Notice from Teamsters Union Local 170 Re: Gala 75th Anniversary support.
- ⇒ Memorandum from AA James Bates to all Boards, Committees, Commissions etc. Re: STM Notice.
- ⇒ Email from Bruce Nickelsen Re: Blackstone Valley Economic Development Council. (Selectman Goodwin will oversee).
- ⇒ Memorandum from Fire Chief Michael Bradford, Sr. (The Board commended the Fire Department on the update.

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Confidential material reviewed:
 Noble Vista, LLC Dated October 2, 2008.
 Letter from Chris Scott, Chair, Conservation Commission dated September 10th
Re: Warren Brook Watershed Conservation area.
 Letter from a resident Re: dog issue. (The Liaison for the Dog Officer, Selectman)
<u>Picard will investigate the allegations).</u>
Town Common holiday lighting costs were discussed. A range of \$500 to \$2,500 was
submitted for material cost. Due to the financial constraints of the Town, Selectman Picard is not
in favor of this expenditure as other matters take priority. Selectman Goodwin agrees. Chairman
Fleming tabled this for consideration at a later date.
Chairman Fleming note the Board has been working on three Union Contracts and was
pleased to announce the completion of the DPW Local 170 Supervisors Agreement. This
Agreement is retroactive back to July 1, 2007. He complimented the Union for a reasonable
bargaining session. He added it would be beneficial to come to an agreement with the other two
pending contracts before the Special Town Meeting.
Salastman Digard reported on the CDA Dublic Hearing for funding nurneges for the Town
Selectman Picard reported on the CPA Public Hearing for funding purposes for the Town
Hall renovations and the Pratt Pond fishing jetties. He stated the Committee has recommended
against funding for the Town Hall renovations, saying they would prefer to see the request
broken down into smaller amounts. The Committee has also recommended a design change in
the fishing jetties. Selectman Picard will continue working on these projects.
The weekly warrants were signed by the Board.
It was noted that the roads at the cemetery are in poor condition and need to be upgraded.
Funding could come from the Beautification fund. This would be a spring project.
The Selectman agreed to move their meeting location from the Town Hall to the Upton
Fire & EMS Headquarters on Church St effective November until the spring.
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Reminder: Saturday, Oct 11 th CCC Day at the Upton State Forest.
Motion #1
Chairman Fleming motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm, Seconded by Selectman
Goodwin, unanimous by Selectman Picard.
Respectfully submitted,
Karen L. Varney, Administrative Clerk

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