

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of October 14, 2008

Location: Upton Town Hall, Main Hall.

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 7:00pm.

Appropriation Treasury Warrant No. 16e in the amount of \$47,700.72 was signed
Payroll Treasury Warrant No. 16P in the amount of \$59,822.58 was signed.

Motion # 1: Selectman Goodwin motioned to approve the meeting minutes of September 30, 2008, seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

Motion # 2: Selectman Goodwin motioned to approve the meeting minutes of October 7, 2008, seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

The Board agreed to put an Article on the Special Town meeting Warrant for the Glen Ave Wellfield Water Supply Yield Evaluation cost proposal of \$7,600. This proposal was submitted by Tata & Howard.

In a discussion regarding drainage issues caused by beavers at the Southborough and Westborough intersection area, Selectman Picard noted that DPW employees do not have enough time to monitor this matter but they have agreed to reduce the water level, trench it out re-install the pipe and back fill. This however should be managed by the Conservation Commission. Selectman Picard said he would be in favor of the Conservation Commission submitting a STM Article for some type of plan to manage this situation. The DPW can assist with any installation but it is not their job, as it should be done through an outside agency. Chairman Fleming concurs and asked that a memorandum be sent to the Chairman of the Conservation Commission advising them that the Board is requesting them to put an Article on the upcoming STM Warrant for a plan for Beaver management. This Warrant closes on Friday, October 24th. Selectman Picard volunteered as the contact person.

In a letter dated October 6, 2008 from the Humane Society outlining a yearly maintenance contract for water flow control devices at a cost of \$299.00. Also noted in this invoice was the water flow control device (beaver impeder) installation at a cost of \$1,165.38,

44 for a total cost of \$1,464.38. The Board will include this on the Warrant for the Special Town
45 Meeting.

46
47 *FYI's:*

- 48 ⇒ DHCD Memorandum Re: 2008 Subsidized Housing inventory biennial update. (Cc: Town
49 Clerk)
- 50 ⇒ Email from ConCom Chair Chris Scott Re: Humane Society invoice. Put on STM
51 Warrant).
- 52 ⇒ RBC Account Statement
- 53 ⇒ Correspondence from T&H Re: Amendment No 6: West River St. (Chairman Fleming will
54 contact the Richard's for their decision. If they are still interested in the proposal the BOS needs
55 to move forward with the DEP).
- 56 ⇒ MMA workshop (Mass Green Communities Act) notice November 7th. (Selectman Picard
57 has contacted an energy lighting Supply Company and forwarded information to the AA and
58 asked him to call National Grid to see if the Town is eligible for any rebate programs. A total
59 cost \$9,000 to install all new fixtures in the DPW garage and exterior.
- 60 ⇒ Email from Upton Historical Commission Chair Barbara Burke Re: Upton's 275th
61 Anniversary meeting on Wednesday, October 22nd. (Chairman Fleming is not able to attend
62 due to a prior commitment. Selectman Picard and Selectman Goodwin both plan on attending.
- 63 ⇒ Letter of interest from Ellen Arnold Re: appointment to the Cultural Council.
- 64 ⇒ Memo from Chief Bradford Re: surplus equipment.

65 The Board of Selectman signed the General Election Warrant.

66 Chairman Fleming stated that the Board will be going into 2 Executive Session this evening,
67 to discuss local #162 negotiations and to review a letter received relative to the Dog Officer.

68

69 *Motion # 3:* Selectman Picard motioned to appoint, Ellen Arnold to the Upton Cultural Council
70 as recommended by Chairman Bonnie Adams. Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous by
71 Chairman Fleming.

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73 *Motion # 4:* As recommended In a memorandum dated October 10, 2008 from Fire Chief
74 Michael J. Bradford, Sr., Selectman Picard motioned to declare surplus property, of one 1972
75 American LaFrance 100' Aerial ladder, Model Number 4-100 100', serial number 121-2904,
76 VIN 121-2904. Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

77

78 In regards to an email from Recreation Commission Chairman Dave Adams asking the
79 Board for their recommendation in filling of the Memorial School ice rink, the Board agrees it
80 should be filled from the hydrant and overseen by the Fire Department.

81

82 In a discussion about cost for the Holiday lighting display, it was a majority vote of the
83 Board to do a partial display on the Town common. Selectman Picard felt that during these
84 difficult financial times it was not appropriate to spend money lighting the common. Chairman
85 Fleming stated that it is a Town tradition and the funds can come from the Beautification fund by
86 way of expendable interest thus not taking from tax dollars. Both Chairman Fleming and
87 Selectman Goodwin opted for option 2, which is a partial display on the common. A notice will

88 be placed in the Town Crier notifying the residents that due to financial constraints, the lighting
89 will be limited.

90
91 Motion # 5: Selectman Goodwin motioned to approve the recommendation of Facilities
92 Personnel Paul Marchand for a partial display on the common with a range of \$1,000 to
93 \$1,500.00 coming from the Town's Beautification fund. Majority vote: Chairman Fleming.

94 Motion # 6: In a request from EMS Director Brian Kemp dated October 6, 2008, Selectman
95 Picard motioned to appoint EMT Douglas Cook to the position of Assistant Director of Training
96 and Infection Control Coordinator. Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman
97 Fleming.

98 Motion # 7: In a request from EMS Director Brian Kemp dated October 6, 2008, Selectman
99 Picard motioned to appoint EMT Daniel Lopez to the position of Assistant Director of
100 Administration. Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

101 Motion # 8: In a request from EMS Director Brian Kemp dated October 6, 2008, Selectman
102 Picard motioned to appoint EMT Nader Hamed to the position of CPR Coordinator. Seconded
103 by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

104 Regarding the Town Accountant's position that will be available in January due to the
105 retirement of Bob Perkins, the Board appointed five members to serve on the Town Accountant's
106 Screening Committee.

107 Motion # 9: Selectman Goodwin motioned to appoint Robert A. Perkins, Kelly McElreath,
108 Charles T. Marsden, Kenneth W. Glowacki and James R. Bates to serve on the Town Accountant
109 Screening Committee. Seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

110 The Administrative Assistant Jim Bates will coordinate and set up the first Committee
111 meeting.

112

113 Selectman Picard spoke of a \$10,000 energy reduction savings in oil if the heat was
114 reduced. He is requesting a \$1,000.00 amount to be put on the STM Warrant for Architectural
115 retainer (line item) account.

116

117 Selectman Picard spoke with the Town Clerk this evening about Debt Exclusion Articles
118 on the STM and if they pass, a special election would need to be set up. This office will contact
119 Ms. McElreath for appropriate dates in December and to notify the school facility.

120

121 The Board of Selectman welcomed Police Chief Michael J. Bradley, Jr. to their meeting.
122 Chief Bradley came before the Board to announce the results of the Sergeant's position and the
123 process which began over 3 months ago. In June two Patrol Officers applied for the position and
124 Chief Bradley began the process. The written examination (75%) done by Commonwealth
125 Services and an oral exam (25%) was conducted by 3 area Police Chiefs. He was pleased to
126 announce that Officer Lisa Vass scored the highest both on the written and oral examination and
127 has recommended her to be promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Officer Vass is a 22 year veteran
128 of the Police Department and has a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice. Selectman Picard

129 noted that there were 2 candidates for this position and the Town is fortunate to have such
130 qualified individuals and how grateful he is for their services.

131 Motion # 10: Selectman Goodwin motioned to accept the recommendation of Police Chief
132 Michael J. Bradley and appoint Lisa Vass to the rank of Sergeant effective October 28, 2008.
133 Seconded by Selectmen Picard, unanimous by Chairman Fleming.

134 The official swearing in ceremony will take place on Tuesday, October 28th at the Town
135 Hall. Also that evening, the Board, upon the recommendation of Chief Bradley, will also
136 officially appoint Communication Officer Matthew R. Rankins to the position of full-time Patrol
137 Officer.

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139 With no other general business before the Board, a Motion was made to enter into
140 Executive Session with respect to collective bargaining.

141
142 At 7:25pm Chairman Fleming motioned to enter into Executive Session under M.G.L.
143 Chapter 39, s. 23B, exception # 3, collective bargaining with Local #162. Poll taken: Ken Picard
144 "I", Michael Goodwin "I", Robert Fleming "I".

145 At the conclusion of this Executive Session, the Board will reconvene their regular meeting and
146 motion to enter into another Executive Session.

147 Note: Selectman Goodwin excused himself from the Executive Sessions due to a prior
148 commitment.

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150 At 7:40pm the Board reconvened.

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152 At 7:41pm Chairman Fleming motioned to enter into another Executive Session under
153 M.G.L. Chapter 39, s. 23B, exception # 5, to investigate charges of criminal misconduct. Poll
154 taken: Ken Picard "I", Robert Fleming "I".

155 At the conclusion of this Executive Session, the Board will reconvene their regular meeting only
156 to adjourn.

157
158 At 7:56pm the Board reconvened.

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160 Motion # 11 Chairman Fleming Motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:57pm Seconded by
161 Selectman Picard.

162
163 Respectfully submitted,
164 Karen L. Varney, Administrative Clerk

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