

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 of October 28, 2008

Location: Upton Town Hall, Main Hall.

Present: Chairman Robert J. Fleming, Selectman Kenneth E. Picard, (Selectman Michael E. Goodwin arrived at 7:00pm) and Administrative Clerk Karen L. Varney.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

At 6:31pm Chairman Fleming gaveled to enter into Executive Session under M.G.L. C. 39 s. 23B exception #3 to have a confidential discussion with the Town's insurance Company MIIA. Poll taken: Robert Fleming "I", Ken Picard "I", The Board will reconvene their regular meeting at the completion of Executive Session. (Selectman Goodwin did not attend this Executive Session).

At 7:00pm the Board reconvened their regular meeting. Poll taken: Michael Goodwin "I", Ken Picard "I", Robert Fleming "I".

The meeting began by Chairman Fleming noting the Board's pleasure with the duty of the official swearing in of Officer Lisa Vass to rank of Sergeant and Communication Officer Matthew Rankins to Patrol Officer.

Chairman Fleming stated that at their October 14th meeting, the Board unanimously voted to appoint Lisa Vass to rank of Sergeant with the official swearing in this evening. The recommendation of Chief Michael J. Bradley, Jr., was read aloud by Chairman Fleming. It reads: based on the final examination scores, a review of each applicants personnel file, work history with Upton Police Department and educational level, it was recommended that the Board of Selectmen appoint Officer Lisa Vass to the position of Police Sergeant. Officer Vass has attained the highest score on both the written and oral portion of the examination process and was recommended by the panel of area Police Chiefs. In addition to receiving the highest score in the examination process, Officer Vass has been a valuable employee of the Upton Police Department for 22 years and holds a Bachelors Degree in Criminal Justice. Chairman Fleming noted that he had the pleasure of appointing Officer Vass as a Police Officer 22 years ago.

Town Clerk Kelly McElreath officially administered the Oath of Office. The Board, family and friends congratulated Sergeant Vass on her promotion. Sergeant Vass's father had the honors of pinning Lisa's badge.

44 Next on the Agenda the Board also has the privilege of appointing Communication
45 Officer Matthew R. Rankins to the position of Police Officer.

46
47 Motion # 1: Based on the recommendation of Police Chief Michael J. Bradley, Jr., Selectman
48 Goodwin motioned to appoint Matthew R. Rankins to the position of full-time Police Officer
49 effective Monday, October 27, 2008 at the contractual salary established under the contract
50 between the Town of Upton and Local #162 signed on October 14, 2008. Seconded by Selectman
51 Picard, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

52 Town Clerk Kelly McElreath administered the Oath of Office to Officer Rankins and was
53 pinned by Chief Bradley. Officer Rankins was congratulated by the Board, family and friends.

54
55 The Board had the pleasure of an additional appointment.

56
57 Motion # 2: Based on the recommendation of Police Chief Michael J. Bradley, Jr.,
58 Selectman Goodwin motioned to appoint Roberta L. Lamothe to the position of full-time
59 Communications Officer effective Monday, October 27, 2008 at the contractual salary
60 established under the contract between the Town of Upton and Local #162 signed October 14,
61 2008.

62 Ms. Lamothe was congratulated by the attendees.

63
64 Chairman Fleming called for a 15 minute recess so they can attend a small reception in
65 honor of these appointments.

66
67 At 7:40pm the Board reconvened their meeting.

68
69 The Board signed the Appropriation Treasury Warrant No. 18e in the amount of
70 \$787,374.88, the payroll Treasury Warrant No. 18P in the amount of \$68,933.62 and a Refund
71 Warrant No. 18r in the amount of \$1,880.58.

72
73 Motion # 3: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the October 14, 2008 meeting minutes as
74 revised: line # 33 from them to Conservation Commission, line #35: take out regulatory, #114 to
75 read Architectural retainer account. Seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman
76 Fleming.

77
78 Motion # 4: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes of
79 October 14, 2008 relative to a dog complaint. Majority vote: Chairman Fleming.

80
81 Motion # 5: Selectman Picard motioned to approve the Executive Session meeting minutes of
82 October 14, 2008 with Local #162. Majority vote: Chairman Fleming.

83
84 Please note: Selectman Goodwin did not attend the above Executive Sessions due to a
85 prior commitment.

86
87
88 Motion # 6: Selectmen Goodwin motion to establish a 275th Anniversary Committee, consisting
89 of seven (7) members, one of who shall be (Historical Commission Chair) Barbara Burke, open

90 of who shall be a high school student from Upton (with parental consent if under the age of 18)
91 and the remaining five (5) be Upton residents at-large). Seconded: Selectman Picard, unanimous:
92 Chairman Fleming.

93
94 Motion # 7: Selectman Goodwin motioned the 275 Anniversary Committee shall, 1. Organize
95 themselves a quickly as practicable but no later than December 3, 2008 2. Orchestrate and
96 publicize events (existing or newly created) that celebrate Upton's heritage occurring between
97 approximately October 2009 and July 2010: 3. Foster a spirit of cooperation among participating
98 groups to help achieve increased overall attendance that would be realized as separate events; 4.
99 Make periodic reports to the Board of Selectmen at least twice per month. Seconded by
100 Selectman Picard, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

101
102 Motion # 8: Selectman Picard motioned to appoint Lorraine Loeper to the 275th Anniversary
103 Committee, seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

104
105 The Board is looking for letters of interest from citizens looking to participate in this
106 Committee. A notice will be posted on the local channel 12.

107
108 Due to the Presidential Election on Tuesday, November 4th, the Board of Selectmen will
109 not be meeting. The Board's next meeting is Wednesday, November 12th.

110
111 Motion # 9: Selectman Picard motioned to accept the Town of Upton's Poll Evacuation
112 Procedures as submitted by Town Clerk Kelly McElreath, Seconded by Selectman Goodwin,
113 unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

114
115 After review, discussion and consideration of all letters of interest received to serve on
116 the Fire & EMS Advisory Committee, the following appointments were made.

117
118 Motion # 10: Selectman Picard motioned to appoint Jim Brochu as the Citizen at-large to serve
119 on the Fire & EMS Advisory Committee. Seconded by Selectman Goodwin. Chairman Fleming
120 asked if there were any other nominations, and hearing none, unanimously approved the
121 appointment.

122
123 Chairman Fleming made a statement saying the Board is very sensitive to the
124 appointments of this Committee and in no way should anyone construed that if they submitted
125 their name for consideration and they are not selected that there is any inference whatsoever. The
126 Committee needs the proper composite.

127
128 Selectman Goodwin recommended the appointment of Gary T. Daugherty, Jr. as the paid
129 on-call EMT. Chairman Fleming recommended Nader Hamed. Discussion took place. Poll taken:
130 Selectman Goodwin Gary T. Daugherty, Jr., Selectman Picard: Nader Hamed, Chairman
131 Fleming: Nader Hamed.

132
133 Motion # 11: Selectman Picard motion to appoint Nader Hamed as the paid on-call EMT to serve
134 on the Fire & EMS Advisory Committee, majority vote by Chairman Fleming.

135

136 Motion # 12: Selectman Picard nominated and motioned to appoint Daniel J. Lazarz as the paid
137 on-call Firefighter, seconded by Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

138
139 Motion # 13: Selectman Goodwin nominated and motioned to appoint Shaun Marchand as the
140 full-time career Firefighter, seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

141 It was noted that that Chief Bradford, under the current structure, will participate in this
142 Committee.

143 Selectman Picard will attend the Committees first meeting.

144

145 FYI's reviewed:

- 146 □ Correspondence from Pare Re: Rt. 140 Water Main replacement project
 - 147 ○ Trench backfill requirements
 - 148 ○ MHD Meeting of October 8th follow-up.
- 149 □ Copy of a letter to CPC from Selectman Picard Re:
 - 150 ○ Resubmitting revised application - Town Hall rehabilitation. *(Selectman Picard*
 - 151 *drafted a correspondence noting the Board's decision to move forward).*
 - 152 ○ Pratt Pond fishing jetties – favorable recommendation from CPC. *(This will be put*
 - 153 *on the STM Warrant).*
- 154 □ Letter from Representative Peterson, Re: House bill 4976 (rescinds Finance Director)
- 155 signed by Governor Patrick.
- 156 □ Recognition to Upton Fire Department.
- 157 □ Email from Library Trustee Chair John Robertson Re: Library construction. *(Looking at*
- 158 *all alternatives).*
- 159 □ Letter from State Senator Ed Augustus, Jr. Re: States finances.
- 160 □ Lakeview Cemetery – repair estimate. *(NOI would need to be filed, this is a spring*
- 161 *project. Cost is estimated at \$47,000.00 coming from the Beautification Trust fund).*
- 162 □ Notice from Tennessee Gas Pipeline Re: Emergency personnel list.
- 163 □ The Beacon
- 164 □ Notice from Department of Public Utilities: public hearing November 3rd.
- 165 □ MMA Special State Budget Alert.
- 166 □ ZBA Public Hearing: October 29th.
- 167 □ Copy of a letter to Pulte Homes from the Planning Board Re: Glen Echo proposed
- 168 athletic field. .

169

170 Selectman Picard noted a conversation he had this week with a resident concerned about the
171 cell tower application that is before the Town. The Town of Upton has an antenna on the tower
172 and per FCC Regulations the Town must be listed as a co-applicant. Selectman Picard is in favor
173 of putting antennas on the cell tower for communication purposes. Also, Selectman Picard
174 mentioned that he spoke with the Administrative Clerk for the ZBA regarding a draft that will be
175 submitted amending the Town's Zoning by-laws for cell towers.

176

177 The Board of Selectmen read aloud the 19 Articles on the STM Warrant. Selectman
178 Picard advocated for Article 18 (upgrades to the Station Street pumping station) noting the
179 critical need for this Article to pass. Selectman Picard will speak with the Administrative
180 Assistant about the amount listed in Article 19. Per the Board, Town Council should be present at
181 the Special Town Meeting.

182
183 Chairman Fleming spoke of the Senior Tax Credits, noting that someone raised the
184 question about the COA Senior Members able to get tax credits for the times they spend on the
185 COA Committee and to be applied as abatement to their real estate taxes. Selectman Picard said
186 this is for Seniors who put in working hours for specific Town Departments and not for volunteer
187 Boards or Committees. After discussion the Board agreed the COA does not fit the eligible
188 criteria.

189
190 In other business, Chairman Fleming brought to the Board's attention that the Parking
191 Clerk Warrant Officer has not been included in the five-year Classification Compensation survey
192 process conducted by the Personnel Board. It was agreed that this employee should be part of
193 this survey, and classified by the Personnel Board. A job description will also be drafted. The
194 Administrative Clerk will contact Personnel Board Chair, Seems Kenney.

195
196 The Town Accountant Search Committee recently interviewed candidates for this
197 position and is prepared to recommend a finalist to the Board. The Personnel Board will be
198 invited to participate in this process.

199
200 Chairman Fleming asked the Board members if they would take a look at the
201 appropriation summary report balances for possible transfers to the general fund.

202
203 In regards to the Grant Writer position, the Board feels they are not getting the level of
204 service they expected. Another individual who applied and was interviewed for this position is
205 John LaPoint, a Grafton resident. The Board asked that Mr. LaPoint come before the Board to
206 see if he is still interested in this position.

207
208 In closing, Chairman Fleming commented that he sent an email to the Board members
209 updating them relative to discussions he has had with Mr. & Mrs. Richards saying they will
210 contact the Recreation Commission to pursue other opportunities for the additional land.

211
212 Motion # 14: Selectman Picard motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:42pm. Seconded by
213 Selectman Goodwin, unanimous: Chairman Fleming.

214
215 Respectfully submitted,
216 Karen L. Varney, Administrative Clerk

217
218