

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2007

Present: Chairman Marsha A. Paul, Selectman Robert J. Fleming, Selectman Kenneth E. Picard and Administrative Clerk Karen L. Varney,

Location: Upton Town Hall, main floor, 1 Main Street
The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

At 7:01pm Chairman Paul gaveled to enter into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 39 §23B, exception #3.

Poll taken: Marsha Paul "I", Robert Fleming "I", Ken Picard "I".

The Board will reconvene their regular meeting upon completion of Executive Session.

At 7:38pm the Board reconvened their regular meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Videotaping provided by Jonathan Miguel, Cable TV Access Provider.

The meeting began with the Board welcoming the Town Manager Assessment Committee members, John Robertson, Jr., Joan Scribner, Richard Desjardins and Michael Bravo. Member Robert Miller was unable to attend the meeting. The Committee was set up in order to study the need for a Town Manager form of Municipal Government. John Robertson gave a summary of the fifty-six-page report specifically reviewing page 5, section 8, Recommendations. Well organized with detailed research, the report was completed with twelve committee meetings. Chairman Paul looks forward to reviewing the report and thanked the Committee members for a great job. Selectman Fleming and Selectman Picard also gave accolades to the members and commented that they completed this report in 12 meetings.

A Town Manager Search Committee will need to be formed and Chairman Paul indicated the Board might call upon the same Committee members.

Appropriation Treasury Warrant No. 17e in the amount of \$145,187.32 was signed.

Payroll Treasury Warrant No. 17P in the amount of \$72,752.27 was signed.

Refund Warrant No. 17r in the amount of \$1,378.04 was signed.

Motion # 1

44 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the *regular* meeting minutes of October
45 2, 2007 (w/minor change on pg 2), seconded by Chairman Paul, unanimous by
46 Selectman Picard.

47
48 Motion # 2

49 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the *Executive Session* (149 Main St)
50 meeting minutes of October 2, 2007, seconded by Chairman Paul, unanimous by
51 Selectman Picard.

52
53 Motion # 3

54 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the *Executive Session* (B. Perry)
55 meeting minutes of October 2, 2007), seconded by Chairman Paul, unanimous by
56 Selectman Picard.

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58 Motion # 4

59 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the *Executive Session* (Pleasant St)
60 meeting minutes of October 2, 2007, seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by
61 Chairman Paul.

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63 Motion # 5

64 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the *regular* meeting minutes of October
65 9, 2007, seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Paul.

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67 Motion # 6

68 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the *Executive Session* (Grievance)
69 meeting minutes of October 9, 2007, seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by
70 Chairman Paul.

71
72 Motion # 7

73 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the *Executive Session* (UDG) meeting
74 minutes of October 9, 2007, seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman
75 Paul.

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77 Motion # 8

78 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the *regular* meeting minutes of October
79 15, 2007 seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Paul.

80
81 Motion # 9

82 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the *Executive Session* (DPW) meeting
83 minutes of October 15, 2007, seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman
84 Paul.

85
86 Motion # 10

87 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the *Executive Session* (149 Main St)
88 meeting minutes of October 15, 2007, seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous by
89 Chairman Paul.

90
91 Next on the agenda, the Board scheduled an open meeting at 8:00pm to discuss
92 the water emergency the Town is facing and had requested specific departments to
93 attend. Members of the Finance Committee, Board of Health, Collector / Treasurer,
94 Town Accountant, Water / Wastewater Superintendent, Upton Fire Chief, EMS Director
95 and DPW Director attended the meeting. Representative George Peterson, Jr. was also
96 in attendance. A number of concerned citizens were present.

97 Chairman Paul began by updating the residents on the water crisis. Last Tuesday
98 the Town experienced a malfunctioning water pump at the West River pumping station
99 that caused the pumping station to shut down. The original pump installer arrived at the
100 site and proceeded to remove the pump and motor which took two days and it clearly
101 was a difficult task. The emergency water interconnection with the Town of Grafton was
102 initiated. Chairman Paul thanked them for their assistance along with the DEP who has
103 also been a big help.

104 Water / Wastewater Superintendent Ron SanSouci informed the citizens that he
105 is expecting delivery of the needed parts by tomorrow (October 24th) or Thursday. As
106 soon as the parts arrive, they will be installed and if all goes well, the pumping station
107 will be operational on Friday. Chairman Paul stressed the need to conserve water.

108 To compound the situation, a water break occurred on Thursday (October 18th) at
109 the corner of Main and Plain Street, making this the 3rd break in the past few months on
110 Main St.

111 Representative Peterson noted that there is no State Grant money but there's a
112 good chance that the Department of Agriculture might have a Rural Development
113 Program that could help with this funding and continued by saying at least, the Town
114 should be able to obtain a low interest loan. Chairman Paul stressed the need to move
115 quickly to set up this meeting with Rural Development.

116 The Board had an emergency meeting on Thursday to discuss the process of
117 moving forward with a plan. The Board, noting the best way to go, welcomed Selectman
118 Picards' suggestion of getting a quote for bid purposes. Tata & Howard and Weston &
119 Sampson will be contacted this week and will be asked to submit a budgetary quote for
120 engineering bid purposes.

121 Selectman Fleming informed the citizens that the Board has been proactive in
122 taking the necessary steps to insure the Town has ample water. The Board has been
123 actively working on a third water source for the Town, however this is two-years
124 minimum away from fruition. The dilemma, stated Selectman Fleming is that these
125 breaks cost in the range of \$30,000.00 to \$40,000.00. The Board has brought this issue
126 before the Town with no success.

127 We need the support of the Boards and the citizens, stated Chairman Paul,
128 noting that the cost of the water pipe replacement is in the \$1.3 mil figure. Discussion of
129 a prop 2.5 override and if passed, would equate to about \$40 per year, per homeowner.

130 Finance Committee Co-Chair sees the problem with Articles not passing on Town
131 meeting floor, is the lack of communication. The homework must be done and properly
132 presented with all the facts at Town meeting. Board of Health member Rick Binaco said
133 the citizens have to understand the added value to the community.

134 The Board took questions from citizens. In put was given by Water /Wastewater
135 Superintendent Ron SanSouci who told the Board that the West River Pumping station

136 pumps 300 gallons a minute, with Glen Ave station pumping 150 to 200 gallons a
137 minute. He added that water chlorination testing is done on a daily basis with additional
138 testing once a month.

139 On the request of Selectman Picard, Chairman Paul called a recess at 8:37pm.

140 At 8:40pm the regular meeting came back in session.

141 Representative Peterson stated that he would help to file legislation that could
142 generate a large amount of revenue, in leftover lottery funds from fy04-06 but would
143 need the support of the area Towns.

144 In closing the discussion, Selectman Picard said the plan is, the Board of
145 Selectmen will take charge. We will all work together to get this problem addressed.
146 Chairman Paul told the residents, there would be better communication. The Board
147 thanked everyone for coming and providing input.

148

149 *Confidential material reviewed:*

150 ⇒ Email dated October 11th from Kopelman & Paige Re: Drainage issues.

151 ⇒ Copies of a correspondence (dated: Oct 10th & 16th) from Kopelman & Paige Re:
152 Governor's Landing.

153 ⇒ Memorandum from Chief Stockwell dated October 5, 2007.

154

155 *FYI:*

156 ● Public Hearing Notice from the Town of Hopkinton (Rockwood Meadows,
157 October 29th).

158 ● Copy of a letter to the Planning Board from Kopelman & Paige Re:
159 Rockwood Meadows. (Verbiage Re: Costs need to be looked at. Selectman Fleming
160 will speak with a Planning Board member about BOS concerns. Chairman Paul
161 expressed an Interest in attending a Planning Board meeting however they meet on
162 Tuesday evenings as well).

163 ● Tax Rate – Recap information from Board of Assessor Chairman Charles
164 Marsden. (setting tax rate about 6 weeks away)

165 ● RBC Dain Rauscher Account Statement.

166 ● Tata & Howard, Glen Echo Booster Pump Station: Aged Invoicing.

167 *Mail:*

168 1. Letter of Engagement for Consulting Services (Grant Writer) from
169 John Zakian.

170 2. Petition to Repeal 40B.

171 3. Letter to a Main Street resident Re: Notice of Violation.

172 4. FY08 Community Preservation State matching Grant for Upton:
173 \$251,203.00.

174 5. Memorandum from Chief Bradford Re: Personnel recognition *and*
175 Upton Fire Department recognized by the Residential Fire Safety
176 Institute.

177 6. Halloween Parade on October 31st at 6pm beginning at the VFW,
178 sponsored by Upton Fire and EMS Association

179 7. Request for an appointment to the CPC from AL Holman.

180 8. Quarterly payment schedule received from District Treasurer,
181 Barbara A. Auger, BVRSD.

182 9. Thank you letter from scholarship recipient Eric Dorenzo.
183

184 In regard to the letter of Engagement for Consulting Services, drafted by Grant
185 Writer candidate John R. Zakian, it is the Boards recommendation that this be sent on
186 to Town Counsel for review and if preferred by the Selectmen, Town Counsel will be
187 directed to draft an agreement.
188

189 Selectman Picard spoke to the Administrative Clerk, Ann Perkins in Town
190 Accountant's office who informed him that there is \$1.1 mil dollars available in the CPA
191 (Community Preservation Account) fund. An additional \$251,203.00 in matching funds
192 will be forthcoming this month from the DOR.
193

194 Motion # 10

195 Selectman Fleming motioned to approve the Upton Fire & EMS Association
196 sponsoring a Halloween parade on October 31st at 6:00pm starting at the VFW parking
197 lot and ending at the Fire & EMS Headquarters. Seconded by Selectman Picard,
198 unanimous by Chairman Paul.
199

200 Motion # 11

201 Selectman Picard motioned to appoint Alfred C. Holman as a member of the
202 Community Preservation Committee until May 2009. Seconded by Selectman Fleming,
203 unanimous by Chairman Paul.
204

205 At about 9:15pm, Chairman Paul gaveled to enter into another Executive Session
206 under M.G.L. Chapter 39, § 23B Exception 1 & 3.

207 Marsha Paul "I", Robert Fleming "I", Ken Picard "I".

208 The Board will reconvene their regular meeting upon completion of Executive
209 Session.
210

211 9:55pm the Board reconvened their regular meeting.
212

213 At 9:56pm, Chairman Paul gaveled to enter into another Executive Session
214 under M.G.L. Chapter 39, § 23B Exception #6.

215 Marsha Paul "I", Robert Fleming "I", Ken Picard "I".

216 The Board will reconvene their regular meeting upon completion of Executive
217 Session for adjournment.
218

219 The Board reconvened their regular meeting at 10:09pm.
220

221 Motion # 12

222 Selectman Fleming motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:10pm. Seconded by
223 Selectman Picard, unanimous by Chairman Paul.
224

225 Respectfully submitted,
226 Karen L. Varney, Administrative Clerk
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