

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of Friday, December 7, 2007

Present: Chairman Marsha A. Paul, Selectman Robert J. Fleming, Selectman Kenneth E. Picard, Ron Pong and Don Tata of Tata and Howard, Henry Papuga, Milford Water Company, Leonard White, R. H. White, Steve Donovan, and Donald Bunker of Whitinsville Water Company. Herman Meisner, Finance Committee Member, Leo Morin, Robert and Jane Richard, Henry Poirier Jr., DPW Director Steve Soma and Board of Health Member Rick Binaco.

Location: Upton Town Hall, main floor, 1 Main Street

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm for the purpose of meeting with individuals to talk about the Town's Municipal Water system current and future opportunities. Administrative Assistant James R. Bates was present for a short time when the meeting began for introductions and left shortly thereafter.

Overall discussion on facilities and equipment, water supplies and sources present and future. Chairman Paul talked about the Enterprise Fund Committee that meets on a regular basis. She noted that a lot of revenue is coming into the Town, on the average of \$520,000.00 a year with about \$580,000.00 going out. Upton water rates have not been increased in 5 years. In 2 separate years, the Town took in over \$250,000.00 from these sources that were put into the general fund.

Selectman Fleming spoke of the 3rd water source which is a six-year process and about half way to completion. The Town is making progress to correct the water delivery and storage problems. Chairman Paul stated that the DEP informed her that the Town is actually sitting on three aquifers, that not only is valuable to Upton, but other surrounding towns. There are about 4,000 residents on the Town's water system.

Discussion relative to Cost Sharing and Contract Agreements were conducted. Per Selectman Fleming a cost analysis showing cost of operations, depreciation and maintenance based on 15 years plus needs to be done. Chairman Paul has already started the process and has some information already. Selectman Fleming continued by saying he has not ruled out selling off the whole system and working on a partnership agreement. Chairman Paul's concern is the Town losing control and therefore the need for more investigation.

44 Henry Papuga of Milford Water company will prepare an Executive Summary of  
45 the pros and cons of the different options available using the guidelines prepared by the  
46 AA Jim Bates. Another meeting will be set up once the Executive Summary is received  
47 sometime mid January. The central contact person will be DPW Director Steve Soma,  
48 however email communication is to be emailed to Jim Bates and he will forward on to  
49 the Selectmen. Chairman Paul noted she only wants to collect information to be  
50 evaluation at this time, and *not to include any proposals*. The Board thanked all the  
51 participants and looks forward to receiving the Executive Summary.

52  
53 A Motion made by Selectman Fleming to enter into Executive Session under Chapter  
54 39, s.23B, exception # 2. Seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous, Chairman Paul.

55  
56 The Board will reconvene their regular meeting at the conclusion of the Executive  
57 Session for adjournment only.

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

59  
60 At 5:36pm a Motion was made by Selectman Fleming to adjourn the meeting.  
61 Seconded by Selectman Picard, unanimous, Chairman Paul.

62  
63 Respectfully submitted,  
64 Karen L. Varney, Administrative Clerk

65  
66