



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Memo To: Board of Selectmen
From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager
Date: July 29, 2016
Re: Town Manager's Weekly Report

Warrants:

- Payroll: \$ 127,770.82
- Expense Warrant: \$ 1,278,503.70

For Your Information/Follow Up:

- We had a visit this week from our State Green Community representative, the utilities reps and our Green Committee Chair to kick off starting the projects funded from the competitive grant just received. You might be interested to know that of the 155 communities in the State that are in the program, Upton is the first one to accomplish applying for and winning a competitive grant the year immediately following achieving the green community designation. I believe Bill Taylor deserves all of the credit for managing our initial projects to a successful completion in time to be able to apply for a second round of funding. Our State representative Kelly Brown was very impressed!
- Although it is summer, the budget process for FY 18 is already starting. I have sent out the request to our departments asking them to update the projects in the five-year capital improvement program and to add any projects that should be considered in the final year (FY 23), as well as projects or equipment that for some reason need to be added sooner or moved forward. Project details and budgets are due by the end of August so we can compile the draft report for review by Capital Budget, Finance and the Selectmen throughout the fall.
- Now that the Cable Advisory Committee once again has three members we held their first meeting on Wednesday afternoon. All three members had some good ideas about public education regarding cable TV and other options residents have these days, addressing concerns about Charter cable service, and assisting staff with technology upgrades and programming. The Committee plans to meet again in a month or so.
- I hope that you've had a chance to enjoy the summer concert series put on by the Recreation Commission. If not, there is one more concert to be held on Thursday, August 4th.
- I continue to remind everyone of the water restrictions that are in place as they are every summer. The hot dry weather has persisted and if you've noticed the local news, more towns are monitoring water use and ramping up restrictions. We have appreciated the changes residents have made to comply with the restrictions and ask

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
James A. Brochu, Chairman
Robert J. Fleming
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that they continue to do so until there is some measurable rainfall. Thus, please remember that no outdoor watering is allowed except by hand from 9 AM – 5 PM.

- Staff held a meeting this week regarding our State Community Compact grant that we won to upgrade our electronic permitting program. We sought input from an outside consultant on whether an upgrade with our current vendor makes the most sense, or to switch to a different provider. Through the State we've also offered to host a demonstration day for all of the Towns that have won a similar grant where we can meet with other vendors and obtain information that will help us make the best choice.
- Construction is nearly complete on the new upper parking lot at Kiwanis Beach. If you're at the beach walk up and have a look!