



# TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

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## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Memo To: Board of Selectmen  
From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager  
Date: February 21, 2014  
Re: Town Manager's Weekly Report

### Warrants:

- Payroll: \$ 77,678.59
- Expense Warrant: \$ 113,642.86

### For Your Information/Follow Up:

- This week I had a meeting with the BVT Business Manager and the company retained by the Town of Mendon to market a parcel of land for development including a solar array to review the way the finances of joining such a project works so we can better understand what it would mean to Upton. It is clear that over life (25 years) of a solar project there are likely to be savings, it is unclear at this point as to how the Town would realize the credits that would be derived. It will require further study with other Towns that have signed similar agreements and the DPUC to make sure that it is indeed a good option for us in the near and longer term.
- The Library renovation project is about to get underway. We've executed a contract, and the Library will be closing on February 24<sup>th</sup> so that the collection can be packed and moved across the street into storage units. The construction is to begin on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and take about 3 weeks, after which the Library will spend another week or so getting moved back in and set up in time to open again on April 1<sup>st</sup>. They will be offering limited services from the Fay Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Risteen Building during this period.
- The Town Hall Renovation Committee met this week to work on technical aspects of the project. We also spent a half day with the company designing the furniture layouts and all of the affected departments to make decisions about each office so that we can coordinate with the electrical work going on in the building at present.
- It was a pleasure to have some warmer weather this week! Not counting the snow we had this week the snow/ice deficit is at \$22,000 and we are awaiting a number of salt deliveries to refill our shed. A run of good weather will give the supplier a chance to catch up.
- We had a meeting this week with the owner of the Grafton & Upton Railroad to discuss the styrene spill we had in December and how to move forward from that. I am pleased that the railroad has offered to reimburse us for out of pocket costs we had as a result, to provide us with some equipment to be better prepared in the future, to provide training for some of our employees, and consider the installation of additional equipment at the yard that would be beneficial should a similar event ever take place.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
James A. Brochu, Chairman  
Robert J. Fleming  
Kenneth E. Picard

**TOWN MANAGER**  
Blythe C. Robinson  
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- As you know, BVT has sent out a letter to all of its member towns informing us of their plans to seek a renovation/expansion project. Twelve of the member towns, including myself signed a letter that was sent to the Superintendent this week requesting a meeting to discuss the implications of this project for us, and to discuss the overall budget and enrollment process that we must budget for annually. A meeting with the Superintendent has been tentatively set for Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.