



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Memo To: Board of Selectmen
From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager
Date: March 14, 2014
Re: Town Manager's Weekly Report

Warrants:

- Payroll: \$ 72,569.13
- Expense Warrant: \$ 254,743.40

For Your Information/Follow Up:

- Jeff Thompson, Ken Picard and I attended a meeting of the Central Mass. Metropolitan Planning Organization to give a presentation on the Hopkinton Road/High Street/Hartford Avenue North TIP project on Wednesday. At this point we've completed 25% design of this project, and we are trying to get the State to hold a public hearing on that so we can continue on with design to the 75% stage. The CMMPO invited both Upton and Uxbridge to give overviews of our projects, which we hope will be funded at least in part beginning in FY 18/19. This winter has not been kind to this road surface and we'd like to see the project scheduled before we need to spend significant dollars keeping it in reasonable shape. The presentation seemed to go well and we're hopeful that the public hearing can be scheduled this spring. The total project cost is just over \$8 million.
- This week the Insurance Advisory Committee met with our representative from the MIIA Health Trust to go over alternative plan design changes to try and mitigate our increase in health insurance rates for next year. Due in large part to our high utilization rates for our insurance plan, our rates are scheduled to go up 9.8% on July 1st. I am pleased to let you know that working together the Committee voted to accept co-pay changes that will limit this increase by 3.2%. The new rates and copays will go into effect on July 1st.
- The new Town Hall basement floor is in place! After many months of work in the lower level of the building the floor was poured on Friday, which will allow for work to speed up on the project overall.
- This week I attended a meeting called by the new director of the Milford Chamber of Commerce. She invited a number of area/member Town Managers/Administrators to get together and discuss issues in the region, how the Chamber can be more helpful, and other items of interest to the group. We discussed getting together on at least a quarterly basis to continue the conversation.
- The warrant for Town Meeting closed this week and we have about 40 articles at this point. As we get closer to posting it I'm sure this number will vary slightly. The last day for a vote by the Board to place questions on the annual town election ballot is March 31st.

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

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- The construction of the Library renovation project is going quite well. The contractors got in there right on schedule and took care of the demolition and asbestos removal easily in the first week. Painting came after that and thus far there have been no unforeseen conditions brought to our attention. It appears that they will finish on schedule so the Library can reopen again on April 1st.
- The first day of spring can't come soon enough this next week – as the snow/ice deficit is about \$110,000 now, or equal to the total of our Free Cash for the year.
- Coming up next week is a pre-proposal meeting with vendors interested in providing pricing to the Town, BVT and MURSD on refuse and recycling services. On Friday applications are due for the Department Specialist in the COA, and the Cable TV Assistant.