



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Memo To: Board of Selectmen
From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager
Date: April 3, 2015
Re: Town Manager's Weekly Report

Warrants:

- Payroll: \$ 73,964.05
- Expense Warrant: \$1,013,765.99

For Your Information/Follow Up:

- It has been a while since I've reported on the electricity energy aggregation project we joined with the Hampshire Council of Governments. With the high price of electricity over the winter this has been a real concern for residents. The issue at present is that the State DPUC has not issued its final ruling on the petition by Hampshire COG on the 35 communities who want to establish this program, despite the fact that the final arguments were submitted in December, 2014. We've sent a letter off to the DPUC urging them to take final action so that Hampshire COG can go out to bid for the group.
- The Green Community Committee resubmitted a list of projects to the State to include lighting upgrades at the wastewater treatment plant and Highway garage, and weatherization at the Fire Station. These were approved and our contract for this work should arrive shortly.
- A page in Upton's history will be turned soon with the retirement of Ron Sansouci from the DPW Water and Wastewater division as its Supervisor. Ron has served the Town for 28 years, and his last day is planned to be Friday, May 1st. We're going to miss his dedication to the job, his institutional knowledge of the Town and his unique style! Because of this we'll be posting the vacancy to fill his position in the department.
- Have you been to the Library lately? If not I suggest that you stop by. The former Board of Health space has been transformed into a quiet reading room and it is terrific. The Library was fortunate to have volunteers paint the room, got matching carpet installed, and obtained some quality used furniture and racks from another library. It looks wonderful and gives those who want some quiet space a nice place to work or read.
- A date for a special election on the budget override will be Monday, May 18th. We'll meet with the Finance Committee on April 8th to finalize the number which is approximately \$1.5 million at this time.
- Next week a request for proposals will be advertised for facilities management services for the Town Hall, Police Station and Fire Station for a contract to be effective July 1st. Copies will be available to vendors on our website, and they are due May 6th.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Robert J. Fleming, Chairman
Kenneth E. Picard
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- We've submitted a claim to National Grid for the damage done to Westborough Road by a power line that came down in late January and burned crevices into the pavement. This section of road was completely rebuilt last year, which makes damage like this frustrating. The cost of repair is almost \$10,000, so we've asked them to address it on our behalf.
- As a reminder, we'll be holding the ceremony to be designated a Purple Heart Community on Tuesday, April 7th. We're looking at having that in the Main Hall so that we can comfortably accommodate all who might like to attend.
- Now that the snow is finally melting activities are picking up around Town. The Tri-Valley Front Runners have their annual road race this Saturday starting and ending at Nipmuc High School. Loyalty Day is scheduled for Sunday, April 26th, and the Board of Health has planned this year's household hazardous waste day for Saturday, May 2nd.
- I wish everyone a happy holiday this weekend!