



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Memo To: Board of Selectmen
From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager
Date: June 13, 2014
Re: Town Manager's Weekly Report

Warrants:

- Payroll: \$ 117,630.59
- Expense Warrant: \$ 52,006.53

For Your Information/Follow Up:

- We received good news from MURSD with regard to refinancing their debt and reducing those costs, a portion of which we pay. As you may recall they needed to bond the project at the middle school (new roof, boilers, and windows) and at the same time they refinanced the Clough/Memorial Debt. The overall savings to both towns over the life of the bonds will be \$911,000, much higher than the \$500,000 anticipated. Once the process is complete the Treasurer will provide us with a new assessment schedule so we can better understand the savings to us.
- Did you happen to notice the list of graduates from MURSD in the Town Crier this past Friday? Leigh Hamlet, one of our Green Community Designation Committee members graduated, and she was the class valedictorian!
- We have listed Ladder #1 up for sale on the public surplus auction site. This past week staff removed from the vehicle any equipment and materials that will either be transferred to the Quint or useful in our fleet. The reserve price on the truck is \$4,000.
- Town Hall construction is humming along. The plasterers on are on site with a large crew hanging sheetrock and applying finish plaster. The restored window sashes are also going in so the exterior painting can be done soon after. Resolution has finally been reached on the Main Hall sprinkler system installation.
- We received word that the project to join the Hampshire County Municipal Aggregation process is moving forward, and approval by the State Department of Public Utilities is expected soon. Hampshire COG had to go through a process to add all of the Towns that wanted to join, prior to going out to bid for the purchased electricity. As we get closer to being able to notify residents I will let you know.
- Construction to make the exterior repairs to the Police Station continues this week and is going very well. The repairs are well underway and if the weather holds the project may wrap up in early July. The contractor has not identified any surprises in cutting out damaged insulation which is good news.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Robert J. Fleming, Chairman
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- We have three open positions posted on our website. We have started the recruitment for the two Firefighter/Paramedic positions that are crucial to upgrading our ambulance services from EMT/BLS to Paramedic/ALS. We have also posted the Animal Control Officer opening to fill this position on a permanent basis.
- The Men's Club fireworks in June 21st. Mark your calendars!
- We continue to push for the State DOT to hold the 25% design public hearing on the TIP project for Hopkinton Road/High Street/Hartford Avenue North. They have informed our consultant that we submit a waiver to the Healthy Transportation Policy for the sidewalks prior to the hearing. Since the time at which we began this project, the State has instituted a policy that sidewalks be installed on both sides of the street, where we were only planning for a variety of reasons to have walks on one side. The consultant will be ready to submit the waiver this week and we expect this will get the State to finalize the public hearing schedule.
- The developer for Crosswinds had requested a follow up inspection of the new sewer pump station to determine if it met all of the requirements. Staff conducted that last week and it did pass. We expect that payment to the Town for our costs to have engineering reviews of this station will be quickly forthcoming, and once received the developer may approach the Planning Board for lot releases.
- We are out to bid on two different contracts. The first is for the roadway paving to be completed this year with our Chapter 90 funds, Town revenues and State "pothole" money, with bids due on June 18th. Also out for bid and due June 25th is a bid to provide the water department with meters consistent with the rest of the ones in our system. Both contracts should be ready for execution at your July 1st meeting.
- The Recreation Commission will soon be advertising their summer concert series! Taking advantage of the beautiful new pavilion at Kiwanis Beach, the first of series of concerts will be Sunday, July 13th at 5:00 PM. Hope to see you there.