



# TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

---

Memo To: Board of Selectmen  
From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager  
Date: November 15, 2013  
Re: Town Manager's Weekly Report

### Warrants:

- Payroll: \$ 78,821.78
- Expense Warrant: \$ 47,932.81

### For Your Information/Follow Up:

- Work on Town Hall continues on track. Temporary heat has been installed for the winter months. The elevator shaft is being erected, and there is excavation in the rear of the building for installation of water proofing. The general contractor will have two teams of carpenters starting shortly to put in framing in the attic, as well as in the mechanical rooms in the lower level. Installation of steel beams and columns in the basement will start soon too that will allow some of the temporary shoring to be taken out.
- Just a reminder to all departments that with your next National Grid invoice you should see a decrease in the rate charged for electricity. Our contract with Constellation Energy was extended this month for another year at a price of .0712/kwh, down from .0799 on the three year contract just ending. This should help mitigate our energy costs slightly. I've recently checked extending our contract beyond November, 2014 and prices are over eight cents so I've been advised to wait for spring and hopefully an improved marketplace.
- The State Department of Revenue has finally given its pre-certification approval of our grand list, a critical step in being able to set a tax rate for this year. We're now able to finish the recap sheet, hold a tax classification hearing and be on our way to the rate needed to send tax bills.
- The Classification/Compensation study continues. Employee interviews with the consultants are scheduled for November 18<sup>th</sup>.
- We have a new auction ready to post on Publicsurplus.com. We'll be selling the Animal Control SUV (and keeping the DPW Director's old vehicle instead for that purpose), an electric car that we don't use, as well as two older compactors.
- The Veteran's Agent has submitted her resignation this week, as she has accepted a full-time position with the VA in this line of work. Thus we will be advertising the opening so that the position can be filled as soon as is practical.
- We continue to monitor the Milford Casino proposal. A hearing on their suitability was held by the Gaming Commission this week and it was announced that their financing is not completely in place. We'll see if that can be sorted out before voters go to the polls

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

**TOWN MANAGER**  
Blythe C. Robinson  
One Main Street • Suite 1 • Upton, MA 01568  
T: 508.529.6901 • F: 508.529.1010

on the 19<sup>th</sup> to vote in the referendum as to whether or not they want the casino built in their town.

- A reminder to all that Special Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to seeing everyone there!