



# TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

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## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Memo To: Board of Selectmen  
From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager  
Date: November 28, 2014  
Re: Town Manager's Weekly Report

### Warrants:

- Payroll: \$ 137,231.51
- Expense Warrant: \$ 107,691.85

### For Your Information/Follow Up:

- I hope everyone had a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!
- Unfortunately winter decided not to wait until the official date to arrive. We had crews out on Wednesday into Thursday morning handling the snow, sleet and rain we received. Hopefully the rest of the winter is not as difficult as last year, in part because salt prices are up \$14/ton this year or 29%. If we needed to buy the same 2,092 tons as last winter that translates to \$29,000. The consortium of towns we work with on this managed to get a better price than the State \$63/ton versus \$70, but it still is a noticeable increase. Calcium prices are essentially flat which will be helpful.
- I received word this week that the Towns that are in the consortium agreement with Wheelabrator for incineration of our trash have met with the company regarding a renewal of the agreement at more favorable costs. They have negotiated a reduction on the per ton cost of trash by just over \$11/ton, and then limited increases in this cost over the next 14 years. Should the tons of trash delivered by Upton stay consistent (1,300 tons/year), the savings over the life of the contract could exceed \$200,000.
- The punch list for Town Hall is nearly complete. The contractor has just a few things to get accomplished, and some other small additional items that we've asked them to do. All remaining furniture has been removed from the Church and been taken to the Risteen building for use by other departments. Window washing is scheduled for December 4<sup>th</sup>. We are still working on addressing the records still in storage at DPW so they can be returned to Town Hall, and bringing back the vault contents also in storage at the moving company.

The Architect's office has prepared all of the forms required for the Town to receive rebates for installing energy efficient fixtures. The total amount anticipated is \$24,000.

- The Library Trustees and Feasibility Committee are working with the consultant hired to develop the building plan as part of the grant. They've asked if the Board would like to

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
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hear a presentation about the library planning process and brainstorm ideas about the future of library services. The options range from the Board attending one of the scheduled meetings, or the building consultant coming to meet with us. I'd like to bring this up at our next meeting and determine how you'd like to proceed.