



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Memo To: Board of Selectmen
From: Blythe C. Robinson, Town Manager
Date: October 30, 2015
Re: Town Manager's Weekly Report

Warrants:

- Payroll: \$ 82,170.20
- Expense Warrant: \$ 1,362,907.99

For Your Information/Follow Up:

- We have made application this week to the State for a grant from the sewer rate relief fund. The grant, if approved, would provide the Town with \$16,619.93 in funds to offset the cost of debt service owed on the Station Street pump station this year. Kudos to DPW Director Roy for bringing this to our attention.
- As you know, our legal firm offers training on topics that important to the Town, and on a limited basis these are done free of charge. We're making arrangements to have training for our public safety staff on the HIPPA law, which is important given all of the contact our police and EMS staff have with patients on ambulance runs.
- We have more good news on the grant writing front. MIIA offers grants of up to \$5,000 to enhance loss control activities. We applied for a thermal imaging camera for use by the Fire and Code Enforcement department which was approved. The full cost of the cameras is \$400 more than that, which will cover out of the operating budget.
- On Thursday I participated in meeting with Grafton and Northbridge to talk about opportunities for sharing services. We discussed Conservation Agent services for the future as well as working together on storm water management once the new MS4 permit is executed by the EPA.
- You may have noticed driving by Lakeview Cemetery that a portion of the white fencing on North Main Street has been damaged. There was an accident there last weekend and the Police and DPW are following up to have this repaired and the cost borne by the vehicle operator who hit it.
- We are currently operating with one ambulance for the next several weeks. Med-1 went out for repainting due to some issues we have with it, which is all being covered by warranty. In the meantime we'll be utilizing Med-2 and when necessary either reaching out for mutual aid or to one of the private ambulance companies that we contract with.
- We continue to monitor the number of dogs residing at 35B Pleasant Street given the Board's order that eight be removed and four could stay. The owner purports that

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seven have been removed which is excellent. We are working with her to determine when the last one will be removed and once that happens we'll have her apply for a new kennel license and conduct the required inspection.

- We've been alerted by Town Counsel that they are raising their hourly rates next month by \$5 to \$175. The last increase occurred in 2010.
- Just a reminder that the Fire & EMS Association Halloween parade takes place tomorrow at 5:30 PM stepping off from the VFW to the Fire Station. Clocks get turned back for daylight savings time that night by one hour.