



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Town Manager

MEMORANDUM

To: SELECT BOARD
From: JOSEPH LAYDON, TOWN MANAGER
Subject: TOWN MANAGER REPORT FOR MARCH 19, 2024
Date: MARCH 19, 2024

The following is the Town Manager's Report for the March 19, 2024 Select Board Meeting.

PROJECT UPDATES

Town Clerk – Town voter turnout at the March 5th State Primary Election was 32%, with 51% of those voting in-person on election day and 49% voting by mail or voted early. The deadline for nomination papers to be submitted was at 5PM on Tuesday, March 19th. The [No Solicitation Registry webpage](#) is now live and so far, 283 people have registered.

Town of Upton Annual Scholarship – The applications for the Town of Upton Annual Scholarship are now available on the Town's website. Complete applications must be returned to the Select Board's Office by noon on Thursday, April 25th. Visit the [Town's Scholarship Page](#) on the Town's website for more information.

Route 140/Main Street TIP Project – Staff is holding an informational meeting on April 2nd at 5:30 PM in Room 203 to review current parking and pedestrian accommodations for Upton Center. Post cards are being mailed to abutters and participants from last year's 25% Design Hearing.

Grove Street Bridge – The Conservation Commission has issued the Order of Conditions for the project. for permitting.

Milford Road Water/Sewer Extension Project – The Conservation Commission has issued the Order of Conditions for the project. Town Counsel is working to prepare taking documents.

Fire: Lieutenants Exam is scheduled for May 18, 2024. Dept has one a vacancy and another is filled by an acting Lieutenant, looking to put on two permanent Lieutenants in those positions, taking letters of interest through March 22nd. Contracted with Public Safety Consultants to administer the exam, followed by assessment center interview. Posted internally for ALS/EMS Coordinator (stipend position).

Facilities – Cleaning contract with Green Life Janitorial has been executed for an April 1, 2024 start date. UCC Building Committee is meeting on March 19th to discuss clearance issues associated with the air handling units and solutions to ice buildup that occurred in during the winter.

Recreation – Board of Health compliance issues are being addressed with assistance from our DPW/Facilities Director. Sinks, hot water heater, paper towel dispensers needed to be repaired and adjusted to allow for Board of Health to sign off for opening the Ramsey Building for the season.

Economic Development – Site visit for the reuse/redevelopment of Holy Angels is scheduled for Wednesday, March 20th at 9:00 am. Responses to the expression of interest are due April 25th. State has executed economic development earmark and staff will begin drafting scope of work for projects funded by the earmark. Earmark must be spent by June 2026 and projects will be timed through the fall of 2024 through early 2025.

Planning – The Planning Board has selected RKG as its consultant to assist in the development of a plan to comply with MBTA Communities legislation. Planning Board approved the application for lights at the soccer field at Kiwanis.

Affordable Housing – AHT, the Town Planner, and Town Counsel have been finalizing a Request for Proposal for the redevelopment of 28 Hartford Ave North. The RFP is anticipated to be published the first week of April, contingent on publication requirements.

MURSD – The MURSD School Committee held their public hearing for the FY2025 school budget last night. The School Committee approved a final budget of \$40,804,542, which is available on the [MURSD District website](#). The Superintendent confirmed that the district has submitted a Statement of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority's Expedited Building Program for roof repairs at Nipmuc High School.

Upton Apartments/ 40B at 45-51 Main Street –The ZBA will hold its next public hearing on Wednesday, March 20th at the Upton Community Center. The 40B Proponent will be requesting an extension of the deadline to close the hearing to allow time for the ZBA to review revised site plan and architectural plans resulting in a decrease of units from 68 to 60.

Upcoming Events:

March 23rd: [Upton Men's Club/Upton Police and Fire/EMS Associations Egg](#) Hunt at Memorial School, 11AM to 1PM

March 29th: Dana Farber Mobile Blood Drive, visit [Kraft Family Blood Drive Website to register](#)

March 30th: [Tri-Valley Front Runners, 43rd Annual Frank Nealon Boston Tune-Up 15K](#), starting and ending at Nipmuc Regional High School.

April 2nd: Senior Center hosting a presentation from Worcester County District Attorney Office on “Scams Targeting Older Adults” Presentation is at 2PM at the Upton Community Center

Thank you.