



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS Office of the Town Manager

MEMORANDUM

TO: SELECT BOARD
FROM: JOSEPH LAYDON, TOWN MANAGER
SUBJECT: TOWN MANAGER REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2024
DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

The following is the Town Manager's Report for the September 17, 2024 Select Board Meeting.

Community Choice Power Supply Program – On Wednesday, September 5, 2024, a public information session was held at the Upton Community Center. Twenty people attended the session. The video of the session is available on the Town's YouTube Channel at the following link.

<https://youtu.be/U1LZZBa7Reo?si=8L5QsU5k5U2R0eTt>

Police Chief Search – The deadline for resumes to be submitted for the Upton Police Chief position is Friday, September 20th. I am working with Public Safety Consultants to schedule interviews with stakeholders finalize the initial meeting of the Screening Committee.

Special Town Meeting Warrant – The warrant is closed, and a draft warrant is included in the Select Board's Packet. Presentations on articles are anticipated at the Board's October 1st meeting. Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at the Nipmuc Highschool Auditorium.

Rt. 140 Pavement Project – MassDOT is holding a preconstruction conference on Friday, September 20th to discuss the start of paving operations on Route 140 from Grafton through Upton and Hopedale. While the contractor has been given the notice to proceed, a definitive date has not been set, though it is anticipated to be imminent. This is a different project than the 140 TIP Project that is still in the design phase.

DPW – GURR held a construction meeting on Sept. 17th for the replacement of the sewer main within GURR Property. Construction is anticipated to start the first week of October. The contract with the roadway line painting company has been executed and work will start next week, including the Community Center Parking lot.

Upton Apartments/ 40B at 45-51 Main Street –The appeal period for the Upton Apartments 40B has ended and no appeal was filed with the Town Clerk.

Town Clerk – Early voting will start Saturday October 19th and continue for two weeks with the last day of early voting being November 1st. Early voting will be at Town Hall in the Main Hall.

Elder and Social Services / COA – A “Friends of Upton Elders” informational meeting will be held on Thursday, September 26th at 1:30 PM in the Community Center. Friends groups are locally organized charitable organizations that provide financial support to their council on aging.

Health – EEE and West Nile Virus Risk Levels – Upton continues to be identified as a moderate risk community for EEE and at low risk for West Nile Virus. Northbridge is identified as a high-risk community for EEE and Grafton is identified as a moderate risk community for West Nile. State health officials are recommending that people use mosquito repellent with an EPA-registered active ingredient and clothing to reduce exposed skin. It is also recommended that evening outdoor events be rescheduled to avoid the hours between dusk and dawn. The mosquitoes most likely to spread EEE are most active during the dusk to dawn hours.”

Upcoming Events

Upton Men’s Club Senior Dinner – Friday, September 20th at 5:00 PM @ UCC

Friends of Upton Elders – Informational Meeting – Thursday, September 26th at 1:30 PM @ UCC

Heritage Day – Saturday, September 28th from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM @ Upton Town Common

What’s New with Joint Replacements – Monday, September 30th at 1:00 PM @ UCC

Senator Fattman Staff Office Hours – Wednesday, October 2nd from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM @ UCC

Coffee with the Town Manager w/ Valerie Leonardo – Friday, October 4th from 9:15 AM to 10:30 AM

Thank you.