

Frequently Asked Questions

1. When is Town Meeting?

Uxbridge holds two annual town meetings. The Spring Annual Town Meeting is held the second Tuesday in May. The Fall Town Meeting is held the fourth Tuesday in October. The dates are set by the Town's Bylaws [§ 125-2. Date of adjourned Annual Town Meetings]. Both meetings start at 7pm.

In addition to the annual meetings the Board of Selectmen may call Special Town Meetings.

2. Where is Town Meeting?

The meetings of late have been held at the Valley Chapel Auditorium, 14 Hunter Road.

3. Why is the meeting held at Valley Chapel and not at town owned facility like the High School?

Massachusetts General Law [MGL Chapter 39, Section 10] provides for the Board of Selectmen to designate the time and place of the meeting. The voter turnout for recent meetings exceeded the capacity of the High School Auditorium, which seats about 240 people. The auditorium at Valley Chapel seats 1,000.

4. How do I place an article on the Town Meeting Warrant?

Massachusetts General Law [MGL Chapter 39, Section 10] requires the Board of Selectmen include in the Warrant any article submitted by 10 or more registered voters for an annual meeting and 100 or more voters for a special town meeting. The appropriate forms maybe collected at Town Hall.

5. Who can attend Town Meeting?

Anyone can attend town meeting. The town provides child care for those who need it.

6. Who can speak?

All registered voters can speak at town meeting. Non-voters [including out of town people] must request permission to speak. All town department heads, by Charter [Article 2, Section 8], must be available for town meeting and have the right to speak.

7. How do you make a motion or amendment an article?

At the appropriate time, ask to be recognized by the Moderator. S/he will assist you. The Town's Bylaws [§ 125-11] require all motions having to do with the expenditure of money shall be presented to the Moderator in writing. All other motions shall be in writing if so directed by the Moderator.

8. Who can vote?

All registered voters can vote.

9. What are the voting requirements?

Massachusetts General Law, followed by the town's bylaws set the voting requirements. All changes in the Town's bylaws, bot General and Zoning, require a two-thirds vote for approval. All money articles require a simple majority for approval at an annual town meeting; two-thirds at a special town meeting.

10. How is the budget considered?

The budget is voted on by its major categories [General Gov't, Education, Public Safety, etc.]. Anyone with a question about a particular line item in the budget or wishing to propose an amendment will be acknowledged by the Moderator at the appropriate time. As noted above, a simple majority is required for passage of the budget.