



**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
VIA ZOOM  
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021 6:30 P.M.**

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK  
2021 APR 28 AM 10:37

**This meeting was held via Zoom.**

Present: Chair Brian Butler, Vice Chair Jeffrey Shaw, Clerk Brian Plasko, Select Board Member Stephen Mandile. Also present: Town Manager Steven Sette, Administrative Assistant Ellen Welch

**1) CALL TO ORDER**

**2) ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**a) Volunteers needed: Vaccine staffing**

Town is anticipating holding a regional vaccination clinic, the Town is looking for volunteers to assist especially nurses with licenses. Please contact the Board of Health or Town Manager's office for more information.

**b) Uxcellent News**

- March 28<sup>th</sup> RISE UP Initiative Lunch Program  
Representative Soter is working with local restaurants and volunteers to distribute meals for the RISE UP Initiative. Drive-up distribution will take place at Uxbridge High School on March 28<sup>th</sup> for Uxbridge Seniors. Seniors should contact the Uxbridge Senior Center by March 19<sup>th</sup> to sign up to receive a ham dinner. Pickup is preferred, delivery if needed.
- Medline Donation - Thank you to Medline for donating 5,000 face masks, 1,000 gloves, and 100 gallons of disinfectant to our emergency services.

**3) CITIZENS' FORUM**

Alexa Romasco – Virginia Blanchard Scholarship is available for (2) \$2,000 scholarships for two deserving seniors pursuing an education degree. Uxbridge residency is required. Information can be found on the town website or local guidance departments.

Pat Stephan – inquired about town meeting warrant article discussion and public input.

**4) BUSINESS**

- a) PUBLIC HEARING (Continued):** Request for Class III License Approval for Wild Fifty Sevens, Inc.  
870 Quaker Highway

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned to reopen the public hearing to request for a Class II and Class III license approval for Wild Fifty Sevens, 870 Quaker Highway. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES, Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

Mr. Pereira, Wild Fifty Sevens, was present. Mr. Butler extended thanks for the sizable cleanup on the vehicle removal. Mr. Pereira noted that the work has been non-stop and will take a few more weeks. Mr. Shaw asked about the disposition of the vehicles on the other lot, Mr. Pereira noted that they have been sold. The Board was pleased with the progress.

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned to close the public hearing. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the request for a Class III License for Wild Fifty Sevens Inc., 870 Quaker Highway, subject to: the approval of this license is expressly contingent on the licensee diligently continuing ultimately completing certain cleanup activities on the site. The cleanup shall include, but not be limited to: removal of all unsalvageable vehicles, vehicles not covered under this license for example, scrapped machinery, containers, scrap metal, and things that are not vehicles until all such activities must be cleaned up to the sole satisfaction of the Uxbridge Selectboard or its designated agent by no later than June 6, 2021. The Selectboard or its designated agents may enter onto the property to inspect the premises for compliance with this property. In the event the licensee does not diligently pursue such cleanup activities or complete the same by the forgoing deadline, the Selectboard may upon duly notice given, revoke this license. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

**b) PUBLIC HEARING: License Violations:**

- Mom's Restaurant/307 N. Main Street
- Gia's Ristorante/785 Quaker Highway
- Uxbridge Limited Sports/The Habitat for Soccer & Sports/374 West Street

This hearing is to discuss outstanding taxes due for the three businesses. Town Counsel Jay Talerman and Treasurer/Collector Lisa Troast provided an update on Uxbridge Limited Sports. The Town has received a payment and the Town is waiting for a signed agreement on a payment plan.

Ms. Troast provided an update on Mom's Restaurant who was unavailable tonight. There has been a verbal agreement made but the Town is waiting for the return of the signed agreement.

Ms. Troast noted that Gia's has paid in full.

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned to open the public hearing in regards for the license for Gia's Ristorante on 785 Quaker Highway. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

Gia's has paid in full.

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned to close the public hearing and the Board issue the license to Gia's Ristorante, 785 Quaker Highway. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned to open the public hearing for Mom's Restaurant, 307 N. Main Street. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

Ms. Troast updated the Board on the status of Mom's, the owner has agreed to sign the terms of the payment plan, the Town is just waiting for the signed agreement. Ms. Troast asked this to be continued until the next meeting since Mom's was unable to attend the meeting.

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned to continue the public hearing in regards to Mom's Restaurant, 307 N. Main Street to the Board's next scheduled meeting. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned to open the public hearing in regards to Uxbridge Limited Sports/The Habitat for Soccer & Sports/374 West Street. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

Town Counsel Jay Talerman, mentioned that they have agreed to enter into an agreement and have dropped off the first payment. The Town is waiting for the signed agreement, recommend to continue.

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned to continue the public hearing in regards to the license for Uxbridge Limited Sports/The Habitat for Soccer & Sports/374 West Street. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

c) **PUBLIC HEARING: Cable Contract License Renewal**

The town cable license with Spectrum is up for renewal. The Cable Advisory Committee provided the Board with a report. PEG Access Coordinator Barry Giles was present to discuss contract renewal and negotiations.

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned to open the public hearing in regards to the cable contract license renewal. Second by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

Mr. Giles noted that the Cable Advisory Committee met a few times to review the existing contract and go made some suggested updates/changes to the renewal. Mr. Giles noted some items the Committee would like to recommend/change to the Board of Selectmen, acting as the Cable TV Licensing Authority. The Committee recommends the following actions:

Public, Educational and Government Access Equipment Facilities Fund and Annual Grant:

The Cable Advisory Committee would like to request that we continue to receive the \$105,000 for improvements for PEG Access facilities and equipment. Also, the Committee recommends raising the percentage from 4% to 5%, the maximum amount allowed by law.

Access Coordination:

At this present time, there are three locations that do not have fiber drops installed - Senior Center, Fire Station, Town Library. These drops still have not been completed in the current contract. Would like to see these installed or some other fiber locations within town in the new contract.

Mr. Giles will discuss some updated language with the Town Manager that should be included in the new contract. The Board was concerned that drops were never completed as part of the existing contract. Mr. Giles mentioned the Committee has tried for several years to reach out to other cable providers. The current contract is 10 years old and the Town will need to reach out to Spectrum to start negotiations. Board would like to give residents choices. Residents complain about internet speed, connectivity, bad service.

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned to continue the public hearing on the cable contract license renewal. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

d) **Legislative Streaming Bill Endorsement**

Mr. Giles looking for the Board to consider endorsing a legislative streaming bill letter. The Board reviewed a letter from MassAccess who is looking to towns for their support in the Streaming Funding Bill that has

been submitted to the state legislation to charge a right of way to stream fee. National streaming services like Netflix and Hulu and others are using the same ways of providing services as Spectrum but the national streaming services aren't charged a fee, Spectrum charges this fee and this fee is passed onto the rate payers. This is another source of revenue for cable access and it makes it equal so cable providers and streaming services are all being charged the same fee. Mr. Giles noted this would help communities that receive funding for PEG Access and would go to the Cable Enterprise Fund - funds are used for PEG Access operations/salaries. Other states have already started charging this fee. The Board discussed the fees being passed onto the rate payers. Mr. Mandile would like to see the rate payers who subscribe to these services endorse the bill versus the Board. Mr. Butler asked for additional information from Mr. Giles. The Board would also like to hear from Representative Soter. Item continued until next meeting.

e) Uxbridge Youth Soccer Lease Proposal Discussion

Uxbridge Youth Soccer League (UYSL) is interested in securing a lease for the fields on Sutton Street. A lease agreement would need to come before Town Meeting. Benn Taylor and Bryan Kindl from UYSL were in attendance. UYSL discussed improvements including field expansion and adding a well for irrigation. The UYSL is asking for a partnership with the Town to enter into a formal long-term lease. UYSL is looking for the authority to maintain and improve (within standard guidelines) the fields to better serve the community. Town Counsel mentioned land research would need to be done on the property and discussed potential hurdles. Mr. Sette will look into the land and circle back with Mr. Taylor.

**MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned that the Board of Selectmen support the request from the UYSL to enter into an extended lease on Town owned land at 285 Sutton Street to expand the soccer facilities by placing a Warrant Article sponsored by the Board of Selectmen on the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Second by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

f) Retail Marijuana Article Consideration

At the October 2019 Fall Annual Town Meeting, the article to increase the number of licenses was defeated. The Town has approved four retail HCA's so one additional retail license is needed. The Planning Board will need to conduct the necessary public hearings. The Board reviewed the article and discussed rewording the article to remove language after up to 6 retail establishments.

**MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned that the Board of Selectmen support the submission of this warrant article to the Planning Board for hearing and recommendation with the amendment that shall state no more than 6 licenses. Second by Mr. Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

g) SATM Warrant Articles Discussion and Vote

Mr. Sette reviewed the proposed articles on the warrant as of today. There was a discussion about moving some of the Zoning articles to the Fall Meeting. The Board asked questions. Due to COVID, there are still some unknowns but the Spring Annual Town Meeting will be on Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Stephan inquired about Citizen's Petitions. Mr. Sette noted all Citizen's Petition's received are placed on the warrant for the spring

**MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned that the Board of Selectmen set the date of May 15, 2021 as the date of the Spring Annual Town Meeting at 2:00 p.m. Second by Mr. Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

5) TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

a) Town Audit discussion

Mr. Sette noted that our regular town audit is on track. Accounting has provided materials to the auditors and they are moving along. As far as the forensic audit, we do have a vendor who has agreed to do the audit, no payment has been made to the vendor yet. The investigation with the AG's office is still ongoing. Due to this, this could delay the forensic audit. Mr. Sette mentioned that the Town has recently completed a Financial Management Review with DLS. We hope to have this report prior to Town Meeting so that it may be presented at that time.

Mr. Sette mentioned that the Board and Finance Committee will receive the budget tomorrow for their review. If anyone has any questions, please submit to the Town Manager prior to the finance hearings so that answers can be provided at the meeting and the process will run smoother.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

Mr. Mandile announced that all VA Boston healthcare systems will now vaccinate all veterans so if you know anyone, please let them know. Veterans just need to be enrolled in the VA healthcare system. The phone number to book an appointment is 857-203-3919 or visit [boston.va.gov](http://boston.va.gov) for more information.


6) MEETING MINUTES

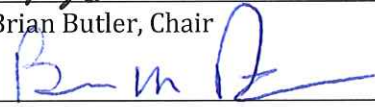
Pass over

7) ADJOURNMENT


**MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion carried 4-0.**

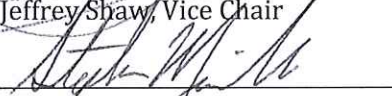
Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen Welch  
March 8, 2021 minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Butler, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Plasko, Clerk

4/26/21  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Mandile, Member