

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK  
2019 SEP 11 AM 8:45

TOWN OF UXBRIDGE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM  
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MASS  
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2019 6:30PM

Present: Brian Butler/Chairman, Jeffrey Shaw/Vice Chair, Brian Plasko/Clerk, Stephen Mandile/Selectman  
Susan Franz/Selectman. Also present: Peter Hechenbleikner/Interim Town Manager

1. 6:30 PM CALL TO ORDER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Volunteers needed: please see the Clerk's Office or Town Manager's office for a list of openings.  
b) Uxcellent News

- Police Commendation Policy & Awards presentation. Chief Montminy reviewed a new department Commendation Policy and gave the first awards to Officer/dispatcher Jesse Miller, Officer Tom Stockwell, and Officer Ryan Mastromatteo with commendations for their work in rescuing two people from a burning car.

3. CITIZENS' FORUM Silber

Mr. Stockwell commented on 2 items:

- The handicapped parking spaces in front of Town Hall should be restored
- Concerns about the Dog Park including cost and management

4. DONATIONS

- a) 75" TV from Ken and Linda Worthington

The COA director advised that a donation of a new large screen TV has been made to the Senior Center by Ken and Linda Worthington. The TV has been installed. **Motion by Susan Franz seconded by Jeff Shaw. Move that the Board of Selectmen accept the donation of a 75" TV to the Senior Center by Ken and Linda Worthington in memory of Thomas Ham (Linda's brother), with great thanks for the donation. Voted 5/0/0.**

5. BUSINESS

- a) Water & Sewer Rate Discussion

During FY 2019, the Board of Selectmen implemented a new Water and Sewer rate structure and implemented it "off cycle" in the fall of 2018, rather than the usual cycle of Spring to be effective July 1. Benn Sherman and Mr. Schneider from Tighe & Bond presented information on Water and Sewer rate setting including a "look back" at the rate setting from fall 2018. It appears that although revenues and expenditures for FY 2019 are not closed out because of the transition to new staff, the Town will be able to avoid doing any rate modifications until FY 2021. The model projects a 20% water rate increase for 2021, and a 25% sewer rate increase, but the assumptions are conservative, and it is very possible that the needed rate increases will not be that high.

- b) Road Improvement Projects – status and update

DPW Director Benn Sherman gave the Board of Selectmen and the community an update on the road paving program, and what to expect during FY2020. Information included the projected schedule of bidding, expected construction timetable, and specific updates on the North Main Street project, and East Hartford Road. East Hartford Road water line will be constructed this fall and reconstruction of the road and construction of sidewalks next spring/summer, and the fall bidding by the state of the North Main Street project. The Board would like to have quarterly progress reports, and more information on the web site for public information.

- c) Senior Center Parking Lot – cost of Railroad insurance  
As we have moved forward with the final steps with the railroad to secure the easement for a portion of the proposed parking lot, we have determined that the cost of RR liability insurance, to be carried for the duration of the easement (10 years) would be a minimum of \$4000 per year. In addition, the town would have an obligation to pay the \$900 per year easement fee. The cost of the spaces that would be on the RR property would be \$49,000 for the 10-year lease, in addition to the construction cost of that portion of the lot. **Motion by Jeff Shaw seconded by Susan Franz. Move that the Board of Selectmen recommend to the Interim Town Manager that he not proceed with the portions of the Senior Center Parking lot which would be placed on railroad property. Voted 5/0/0.**
- d) Request for Cultivation and Manufacturing Host Community Agreement – Venus, 120 Campanelli Drive: The Interim Town Manager updated the Board on the project and plan to revisit the discussion in 2 weeks. No action or vote taken.
- e) Request for Cultivation & Manufacturing Host Community Agreement: Mainely Productions LLC, 660 Douglas St. Suite 600  
This is an application for Cultivation and Manufacturing. The applicant made a detailed presentation and introduced his team. **Motion by Susan Franz seconded by Stephen Mandile. Move that the Board of Selectmen authorize the Interim Town Manager to negotiate a Host Community Agreement for marijuana cultivation and manufacturing for Mainely Productions LLC, 660 Douglas St. Suite 600. Voted 5/0/0.**
- f) Consideration to exercise right of First Refusal for purchase of Land: Lot 6, 1012 Hathaway Lane & Lot 7, 1012 Hathaway Lane  
This matter was on a previous Selectmen's agenda, but the Board did not have a recommendation of the Planning Board. The Planning Board has since met and has made a recommendation which was included in the Board's packet. Additionally, the Conservation Commission updated its recommendation. The Board discussed the value to the Town of acquiring this land. In dealing with the MVP study, the property may be useful. It does have some environmental value. Mr. and Mrs. Hathaway spoke. Ultimately, the Board decided that it was unlikely that Town Meeting would be willing to fund it. **Motion by Susan Franz seconded by Jeff Shaw. Move that the Board of Selectmen do not exercise the right of first refusal for purchase of Land: Lot 6, 1012 Hathaway Lane & Lot 7, 1012 Hathaway Lane. Voted 5/0/0.**
- g) Street Name: Subdivision on 762 Quaker Highway  
The Board reviewed the paperwork. **Motion by Brian Plasko, seconded by Susan Franz. Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to accept the street name Albert E. Jones Way for the new street in the River Park industrial park at 762 Quaker Highway. Vote 5/0/0.**
- h) Street Closure: August 31 10am-2pm: Cornerstone Church  
The Public Safety Committee has reviewed and recommended the approval of the closure of Court Street for that event, and that must be done by the Board of Selectmen in their role as road commissioners.  
**Motion by Jeff Shaw seconded by Brian Plasko. Move that the Board of Selectmen approve the closure of Court Street on August 31, 2019 from 10AM until 2PM for a family fun day on the Common, by Cornerstone Church. Voted: 5/0/0.**
- i) Warrant for Fall Annual Town Meeting is open, and closes on Friday, August 23 at 5:00 PM; consideration of Articles  
The draft warrant is all of the articles that the Interim Town Manager is aware of that may be submitted. The articles for the budget and capital are general and will accommodate any needed action within those articles. The following Monday, the Board will approve and sign the warrant in the order determined by the Board. All articles must be included as submitted. No additional articles or changes to submitted articles, may be made.

The Board discussed the draft warrant, and agreed to increase the retail Marijuana maximum to 6, and on a separate article to eliminate the maximum on the growing/manufacturing.

6. TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

- The Town was made aware late last week that Fire-Fighter/EMT Abraham Rodas was arrested and arraigned on 3 serious charges involving assault. Mr. Rodas was placed on paid administrative leave by acting Fire Chief Tom Dion. The Town is conducting an investigation and based on that investigation will determine what, if any, additional actions should be taken in this matter. These charges are serious, particularly considering that this community depends on Fire-fighter/EMT's to serve some of the most vulnerable of our citizens. Mr. Rodas's alleged actions do not reflect the values of the Uxbridge Fire Department or the employees or community of Uxbridge.
- Michelle Laramie started work today as our new Town Accountant.
- The Superior Court has once again issued a favorable decision in the long-running disputes over soil importation operations in Town. In this matter, the Court upheld its prior injunction prohibiting soil operations at the South Street facility until all necessary permits have been obtained. At present, the site requires permits from the Board of Health and Planning Board and fails to comply with Zoning. Furthermore, the Mass Department of Environmental Protection has revoked all approvals. In ruling in the Town's favor, the Court stated: "the Town has a legitimate right to protect its citizenry from potential environmental contamination".
- Koopmans Lumber is celebrating its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary from August 8 to 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The Senior Center was awarded a grant for a sponsored fundraising walk with MCOA which will be scheduled for September 7, 10am-12PM. See the website for details.
- Beginning July 1, 2019, hazardous items can be brought to New England Disposal Technologies (NEDT) at the Sutton location, 83 Gilmore Dr. Sutton, MA at no charge (up to \$50.00 per residence). See the Town web site for further information.
- Town Manager Search process status report from Bernie Lynch at Community Paradigm Associates LLC.

7. MEMBER ISSUES none

8. MEETING MINUTES


April 10, 2019: Motion by Susan Franz seconded by Jeff Shaw. Move that the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of April 10, 2019. Voted 5/0/0.

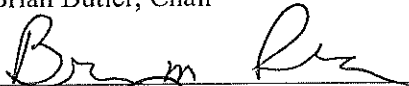
May 6, 2019: Motion by Susan Franz seconded by Jeff Shaw. Move that the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of May 6, 2019. Voted 5/0/0.

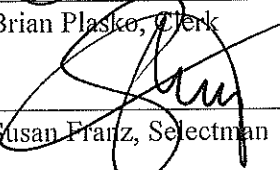
9. ADJOURNMENT: NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING is August 26:  
Motion by Brian Plasko seconded by Jeff Shaw that the Board adjourn at 10:24PM. Voted 5-0-0.

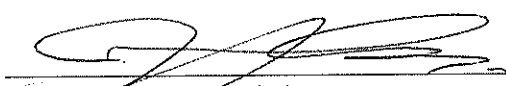
Minutes respectfully submitted by Peter Hechenbleikner.

August 12, 2019 Minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:

  
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Brian Butler, Chair

  
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Brian Plasko, Clerk

  
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Susan Franz, Selectman

  
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Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair

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Stephen Mandile, Selectman

9-9-19  
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Date