

**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN ROOM
UXBRIDGE TOWN HALL
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MA**

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020 @ 6:30 P.M.

Present: Chair Brian Butler, Vice Chair Jeffrey Shaw, Clerk Brian Plasko, and remotely, Select Board Members Stephen Mandile and Susan Franz

Also present: Town Manager Steven Sette and remotely, Admin. Assistant Erin Lemoine, Town Moderator Ed Maharay, Treasurer/Collector Lisa Troast, and Town Clerk Kelly Cote

1) CALL TO ORDER & SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mr. Butler. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, § 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020, Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Uxbridge Board of Selectmen was conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public was permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. A reminder that persons who would like to view/listen to this meeting live may do so by watching the Government Channel @ www.uxbridgetv.org or on Uxbridge Community Television Channel 191. For those unable to watch it live, you may view the recording of the meeting on the Government Channel @ <http://archive.uxbridgetv.org>.

2) ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Butler offered a special Thank You for all the efforts those have made as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many difficult decisions have had to be made that may have inconvenienced town residents, but those choices made have always been made with the health and safety of the residents in mind. Thanked especially were: The Board of Health Drs. Black, Tapscott, and Lindenmeyer, with Chair Mike Morrisette and staff; The Council on Aging Lisa Bernard and her staff; the Town Public Safety First Responders; Chief Marc Montminy and the Police Department; Chief Dion and Fire and Ambulance; Dr. Frank Tiano and School Department staff, School Committee members and IT Director Patrick Mistler; Town Hall staff and Town Manager Steve Sette; and members of the Board of Selectmen.

a) Uxcellent News: Mr. Plasko offered congratulations and thanks to:

- Sgt. Morrisette, Uxbridge Police Department, who received his master's degree from Anna Maria College (MPA).
- Capt. Melissa Blodgett, Lt. Roger Lavalley, and Firefighter/EMT Michael Dion, for the recent delivery of the baby boy.
- Uxbridge High teacher engineered 3D face shields – Sharing with other teachers in MA to have more made and distributed across the state.
- Many people in the community, who have been very generous with food bank donations, as well as the Depot Café and Erica Chick for their donations. A list of needed items is posted on the COVID-19 Donate and Volunteer page.
- Members of the community, who have been helping with the Senior Center and their needs.
- The Hundredth Town Chorus Group, who donated 35 masks for the Meals on Wheels drivers

- Tufts University students Erik Stumpo and Haillie Crocket, who are helping the COVID-19 response with a communication plan and Uxbridge HELPS initiative.
- Uxbridge HELPS working group organized by the Uxbridge Board of Health to match the needs in the community to resources through a network of organizations in town during the COVID-19 crisis. More information to come on this effort.
- Koopmans, who donated 500 masks to the community.
- Representative Mike Soter, who donated 600 meals on Easter Sunday; with over 200 to Uxbridge, along with Lisa Bernard and her staff, who volunteered to deliver those meals, as well as Town Manager Steve Sette's daughter, and Board of Selectmen members Brian Butler and Jeff Shaw.
- Mr. Butler added a thank you to Mr. Plasko, who also volunteered for the Easter meal donation.

3) BUSINESS

a) Electrical Inspection Fee Increases (Building Inspector Larry Lench)

Mr. Lench was not present for the meeting; Mr. Sette provided the Board with an update on the proposed fee increases. The Board discussed.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved that the Board of Selectmen accept the electrical fee changes as suggested and presented. Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 4-1-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-no, Butler-yes.

b) Donations:

- (i) COA - Morrisette Oil Burner Service in Northbridge \$2,500
- (ii) Police - The New England District of the Nazarene Church \$1,000
- (iii) Police - Nand Corporation (doing business as Uxbridge Liquors) \$1,001

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen accept the donation from Morrisette Oil Burner Service in the amount of \$2,500 as presented, with thanks. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen accept the donation to the Police from the New England District of the Nazarene Church, with thanks. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen accept the donation to the Police from the Nand Corporation DBA Uxbridge Liquors, with thanks. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

c) Re-Establishment of Open Space Committee

Mr. Sette provided the Board with the details of the request and Mr. Butler read the mission of the committee.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved the Board of Selectmen re-establish the Open Space Committee. Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

d) Committee/Board Appointments

The Board was asked to appoint to the following open committee/boards:

- i) Open Space Committee: Jeffrey Brochu (expires 6/30/23), Bob Contursi (expires 6/30/23), Amanda Gallerani (expires 6/30/22), Russell Holden (expires 6/30/22), and Ryan Smith (expires 6/30/21)

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen appoint Jeffrey Brochu to the Open Space Committee with a term ending 6/30/23. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Mr. Shaw moved the Board of Selectmen appoint Bob Contursi to the Open Space Committee with a term ending 6/30/23. Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved the Board of Selectmen appoint Russell Holden to the Open Space Committee with a term ending 6/30/22. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved the Board of Selectmen appoint Amanda Gallerani to the Open Space Committee with a term ending 6/30/22. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Mr. Shaw moved the Board of Selectmen appoint Ryan Smith to the Open Space Committee with a term ending 6/30/21. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

- ii) Uxbridge High School Scholarship Fund Committee: John Wise (6/30/23), Frank Tiano (6/20/23), Genie Stack (6/30/22), and Jane Keegan (6/30/22)

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved the Board of Selectmen appoint John Wise to the Uxbridge High School Scholarship Fund Committee with a term ending 6/30/23. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved the Board of Selectmen appoint Dr. Frank Tiano to the Uxbridge High School Scholarship Fund Committee with a term ending 6/30/23. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved the Board of Selectmen appoint Genie Stack to the Uxbridge High School Scholarship Fund Committee with a term ending 6/30/22. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen appoint Jane Keegan to the Uxbridge High School Scholarship Fund Committee with a term ending 6/30/22. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

- e) PSC Stop Sign Recommendation Country Road at East Street

Mr. Sette updated Board members with the details. The Public Safety Committee evaluated and has approved this request. Board members discussed.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved the Board of Selectmen approve the stop sign request for Country Road at East Street, as presented. Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes.

- f) BOS Letter of support for well project at 56 Industrial Drive

Mr. Sette advised the property owner wants to convert the current manufacturing operation to two marijuana cultivation businesses with more than 25 employees each, thus creating a public water supply; he requested Board support with the Mass. DEP to establish the water supply. Board members discussed.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved the Board of Selectmen approve support the request to send a letter of support to the Mass. DEP in support of the public water supply effort at 56 Industrial Drive. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 4-0-1 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-abstain, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

- g) Spring Annual Town Meeting – New Date Recommendation

Mr. Sette advised due the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting stay-at-home order that the scheduled date for the Town Meeting be postponed out of an abundance of caution. Board members discussed with Mr. Maharay and Mr. Sette.

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved that pursuant to G.L. c. 39 § 9, due to the Governor's Declaration of Emergency to Respond to COVID-19, the Board of Selectmen votes to postpone Annual Town Meeting from May 12, 2020, at 7:00 PM to June 17, 2020, at 7:00 PM to be held at Valley Chapel. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

- h) Adopt M.G.L. Chapter 53; Sect. 10a regarding the extension of May 1, 2020, deadline for real and personal property taxes be moved to June 1, 2020

Lisa Troast, Treasurer/Collector, was present, provided the Board with details on this request and recommended this change. Ms. Troast also reminded the public of the ways in which to make payments that are all compliant with the current COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. The Board discussed with Ms. Troast and Mr. Sette.

MOTION: Mr. Shaw moved, pursuant to Chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020, Section 10, that the Board of Selectmen hereby vote and direct that the existing May 1, 2020, deadline for real property and personal property taxes be extended to June 1, 2020, and to advise the Uxbridge Tax Collector to take any and all actions as may be required to implement such extension. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

- i) Vote to reopen the Election Warrant to change time that polls will be open to 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Mr. Sette advised the Board that due to the pandemic and public health issue, Kelly Cote, Town Clerk, is requesting the Board shorten the voting hours. Ms. Cote was present remotely, provided more detail, and recommended keeping the existing date. Board members discussed possibly changing the date. The Board will meet on Wednesday, April 22, 2020, to obtain more input and discuss further.

4) TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

Mr. Sette provided an update on the regular calls with the Governor as well as Representative Soter and Senator Fattman. Mr. Sette shared PPE supply activities, testing activities, the new mask-wearing recommendation, local closures, and resident response. Board members assured the public that they are working with the Town's health and safety in mind.

5) MEMBER ISSUES & COMMENTS

Mr. Sette asked the Board if there were any future agenda items: Ms. Franz advised the MVP will have an update. Mr. Sette also provided an update on the budget and Finance Committee updates.

6) MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved that the Board of Selectmen approve the meeting minutes of March 23, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

7) ADJOURNMENT: NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: April 27, 2020 @ 6:30 PM

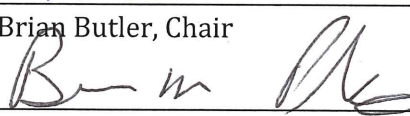
MOTION: Mr. Shaw moved that the Board of Selectmen adjourn its meeting of April 13, 2020, at 7:57 PM. Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Erin Lemoine.

April 13, 2020, minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:

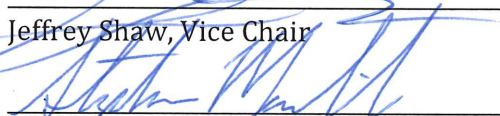


Brian Butler, Chair



Brian Plasko, Clerk

Susan Franz, Select Board Member



Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair



Stephen Mandile, Select Board Member

5/11/20

Date

