



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

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2020 @ 6:30 PM

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

Also present: Town Manager Steven Sette and remotely, Admin. Assistant Erin Lemoine, Finance Committee Chair Peter DeMers and Members Patrick Hannon, Eric Chamberland, and Russell Tahmoush; Town Moderator Ed Maharay, DPW Director Benn Sherman, Police Chief Marc Montminy, Town Accountant Michelle Laramee, and Board of Health Vice Chair Dr. David Tapscott

## 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

- a) Mr. Butler noted considering the length of the agenda, no specific board/committee was highlighted. Please see the Clerk's Office or Town Manager's office for a list of openings.
- b) Uxcellent News:
  Mr. Plasko thanked the Mandile family for bringing coffee to the Police Department. Mr. Plasko also acknowledged the Uxbridge High School Senior Class, naming each student.

#### 3) **BUSINESS**

#### a) Town Manager Budget Overview

Mr. Sette stated that on February 28<sup>th</sup> he submitted the working budget to the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee. He presented details on how the budget was constructed, decisions made, and other changes that have occurred since submittal.

Mr. Butler reminded everyone that this was not a Public Hearing and as such, only general questions would be addressed. The Public Hearing schedule is available on the Town's website. Finance Committee Chair Peter DeMers announced that Public Hearings will begin next week, and 6 weeks are scheduled. The Board of Selectmen, Michelle Laramee, and Finance Committee members discussed.

#### b) MVP Grant Update

Ms. Franz provided Board members with a presentation on program status and those present discussed (link: <a href="https://www.uxbridge-ma.gov/town-manager/news/municipal-vulnerability-program-april-27-2020-update">https://www.uxbridge-ma.gov/town-manager/news/municipal-vulnerability-program-april-27-2020-update</a>).

c) Donations: Fire Department received a \$500 donation from the Uxbridge Church of the Nazarene

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen accept the donation of \$500.00 from the Uxbridge Church of the Nazarene, on behalf of the Uxbridge Fire Department, with thanks. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

d) Review of Mathew Trust and Goldthwaite Trust to support the needs of Town residents

Ms. Franz offered that a review of these funds was warranted as a result of the current COVID-19 crisis. She provided details on both funds and stated she had discussions with Chief Montminy, the Board of Health and Senior Center Director regarding their needs and shared results with the Board.

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen delegate expenditures of \$500.00 or less to Chief Montminy from the Goldthwaite Fund, with a report to the Town Manager. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen establish a Senior Nutrition Program using funds from the Goldthwaite Fund and the Mathew Fund under the direction of the Council on Aging, the Health Department and the Emergency Management Director, with a monthly amount of up to \$2,500.00, amended to include the possibility that Board of Health and Senior Center Director investigate local restaurant vouchers to be available as part of this fund. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

Ms. Franz advised that the Mathew Trust Fund requires Board of Health approval, and the Board agreed that Mr. Butler would sponsor and draft a letter from the Board in support of this initiative.

e) Water/Sewer Rate Discussion (Board acting as Water and Sewer Commissioner)

Mr. Sherman provided an overview and, together with the rate consultant, Mike Schrader from Tighe & Bond, made a presentation covering the history and proposed 2020 rates. Discussion was held with Mr. Sherman, Mr. Schrader, Board and Finance Committee members present. Further discussion will take place.

f) Spring Road Construction Update

Mr. Sherman updated the Board on DPW projects for FY2020 and FY2021.

#### 4) TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

Mr. Sette advised that he would be posting the proposed budget to the Town's website for public review.

#### 5) <u>CITIZEN'S FORUM</u>

No questions were submitted.

# 6) MEMBER ISSUES & COMMENTS

Mr. Plasko reminded everyone with regard to applying for an Absentee Ballot on the Town's website. Mr. Mandile added his thanks to Kelly Cote for making the video on the website and everyone involved in promoting the absentee ballots as well as all staff and board/committee members during this crisis. Mr. Butler echoed those sentiments.

## 7) MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen approve the meeting minutes of April 22, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Mandile. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

8) ADJOURNMENT: NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: May 11, 2020 @ 6:30 PM

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen adjourn its meeting of April 27, 2020, at 9:09 PM. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Erin Lemoine.

April 27, 2020, minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:

Brian Butler, Chair

Brian Plasko, Clerk

Stephen Mandile, Select Board Member

Susan Franz, Select Board Member

Date