

**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
LOCATION: BOARD MEETING ROOM AND REMOTE
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MA
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2020 6:30 P.M.**

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Chair Brian Butler, Vice Chair Jeffrey Shaw, Clerk Brian Plasko, Selectman Stephen Mandile. Also present: Town Manager Steven Sette, Michelle Laramée, Town Accountant, Benn Sherman, Director of Public Works, Kim Demers, Bryan Kindle; Benjamin Casper, Attorney Blake Mensing, Jane Jassmond, Robert DoRosario, Scott Buckeley, Ryan Cohen, Nicholas Saba, Atul Patel, Craig Willett and Kathy Tipping, Administrative Assistant.

1. CALL TO ORDER & SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. 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) Fall Annual Town Meeting: October 27, 2020 7:00 pm Valley Chapel.

Mr. Butler reminded the residents of Uxbridge that the Fall Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, 10/27/20, at the Valley Chapel in Uxbridge, and stated that as many residents that can be there is appreciated.

Volunteers Needed – See Town Clerk's Office or Town Manager's Office for list of openings.
Community Highlight – ByLaw Review Committee

Mr. Butler read the job description for the ByLaw Review Committee and announced that Talent Bank Forms are available online or at the Town Clerk's and the Town Manager's Office.

b) UXCELLENT NEWS (Brian Plasko)

- Bonnie's Blossoms, 89 Lackey Dam Rd. – Thank you

Mr. Plasko thanked Bonnie's Blossoms, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, for the beautiful Mum plants placed at Town Hall, the Police Department and the Senior Center.

Happy Birthday today to Deputy Fire Chief Steve Tancrell and Michelle Laramée!

3. CITIZEN'S FORUM

There were no questions or comments for Citizen's Forum.

4. BUSINESS

a. Discuss 2021 Licensing Renewal Fees

Mr. Sette gave an update with regard to COVID and renewing Licenses, typically renewed at this time of year. Some Cities and Towns are reducing or waiving fees. Businesses are still struggling or have not opened. Some restaurants are still doing take-out and are not in full operation. A spreadsheet on what various nearby towns are doing is included in the Board packet. The information tonight is just to have time to think about going forward - no decisions or votes needed tonight. Mr. Butler acknowledged the issue - and that the Board should carefully consider some form of reduction. Mr. Butler would like the item to be put on for discussion at the next Board meeting 11/9/20. Mr. Plasko stated the Town of Norwood was reducing to 50% and Mr. Sette added he would include that Town on the spreadsheet.

b. Review and approve Conservation Commission Fees

Mr. Sette stated it has been a while since the fees increased. There is work and activity to do these things, paperwork and submitting and advertising for public hearings. Mr. Shaw agreed with Mr. Sette. The process and fee request has been vetted through Conservation. Mr. Shaw stated the Conservation Committee had voted unanimously to put forth the fees. Mr. Sette added the item may be adopted tonight or hold it for further discussion. Mr. Shaw stated it is not unreasonable and is comparable to other communities, and lower than some.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko motioned to approve the changes in the Conservation Commission Fees as submitted. Motion seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES, Mandile YES; Shaw YES, Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

c. Marijuana Host Community Agreements

I.) Ideal Craft Cannabis, Inc.

Attorney Blake Mensing representing Ideal Craft Cannabis gave a presentation to the BOS and answered all questions from the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko motioned that the Board of Selectmen direct the Town Manager to enter into negotiations with Ideal Craft Cannabis Inc., on an HCA with the Town of Uxbridge. Motion seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Shaw YES; Mandile YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

II.) Top Shelf Cannaseurs

Attorney Blake Mensing also representing Top Shelf Cannaseurs gave a presentation to the BOS and answered all questions from the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned that the Board of Selectmen direct the Town Manager to enter into negotiations with Top Shelf Cannaseurs, on an HCA with the Town of Uxbridge. Motion seconded by Mr. Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

III.) Regenerative

Mr. Atul Patel present on the call, along with Mr. Craig Willet, one of the principals with the group, looking to open a cultivating business in Uxbridge; the Town already has a Host Agreement negotiated, but the location now has an official address change as 30 Noonan Way. Mr. Willet displayed his presentation and both Mr. Patel and Mr. Willett answered all questions from the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned that the Board of Selectman direct the Town Manager to enter into negotiations with Regenerative, on an HCA with the Town of Uxbridge. Motion seconded by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

d. Uxbridge Community Gardens/Uxbridge Youth Soccer League: request for well at Sutton Street

Ms. Kim Demers, Chair of USC, appeared in front of the Board of Selectmen along with Ben Casper and Bryan Kindle, President of UYSL, on the Zoom call. Mr. Butler thanked Ms. Demers and the UCG group for all their efforts and also thanked Mr. Kindle for all of the UYSL group efforts. The group is looking for approval from the Board of Selectmen to have a well installed at their common facility that will serve both groups. The groups answered all questions from the Board. The groups thanked Richardson Wells & Pumps who generously donated a Well & Pump System to the Soccer Field & Uxbridge Community Garden.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the request from the Uxbridge Community Gardens and the Uxbridge Youth Soccer League to install a well on Town property, as submitted. Motion seconded by Mr. Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

e. No Parking Signs: 146 A in the area of BJ's

The Public Safety Committee met last week and discussed trucks queueing up to enter into the BJ's Distribution Center and the concern near the Rte. 146 on/off ramp near the facility, the Committee decided to restrict parking on the southbound side of Quaker Highway and on both the north and southbound sides of the road near the Rte. 146 interchange. Mr. Sette explained the issue of trucks parked along Rte. 146. Chief Montminy also explained the issues at that location and displayed a photo of the area. Mr. Shaw asked if BJ's would pick up the expense for the signs, and have the Town install them. Mr. Sette and Chief Montminy answered all of the Board's questions.

MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the request from the Public Safety Committee to place No Parking Signs on Rte. 146A in the area of the BJ's Distribution Center, as submitted. Motion seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. The motion passed 4-0.

f. **Discuss October 27, 202 Fall Town Meeting Warrant Articles, make recommendations and/or take any action related thereto.**

Mr. Sette informed the Board how the Valley Chapel was set up for the Town Meeting and that the Room will be disinfected by the Fire Chief prior to the meeting. The chairs will be space 6 feet apart and there was a supply of hand sanitizers for all those attending. Masks were also to be worn. Mr. Sette stated with the Annual Town Meeting coming up tomorrow evening, the Board would need to decide who will be assigned to make the motions for Articles 1-11 and Article #16, at Town Meeting. Mr. Sette further explained that Articles #12-15 will be passed over and there will be a motion to move the Articles and continue the Town Meeting to November 18th, due to a billing issue with the Worcester Telegram & Gazette, regarding the legal publishing of these Articles. The Town Meeting on 10/27/20 will cover Articles #1-11 and #16 and then the Town Meeting will be continued until November 18th to hear Articles #12-15. Mr. Sette read the Articles and the Board decided among themselves which Selectmen will read the motions for the Articles.

5. **TOWN MANAGER UPDATE**

Mr. Sette stated the discussion on item 4f was also his Town Manager Update.

6. **MEMBER ISSUES & COMMENTS**

Mr. Mandile thanked Chief Montminy and the Blackstone Valley Opioid Task Force and the Tri-River Medical Center for recognizing and memorializing of those lost to Opioid overdose, as well as providing Narcan training. Thanks to all for putting this together.

7. **MEETING MINUTES**

- Meeting minutes of:
 - September 29, 2020
 - September 30, 2020
 - October 13, 2020
 - October 14, 2020
 - October 19, 2020

MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned to accept the meeting minutes of September 29, 2020 as crafted. Motion seconded by Mr. Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned to accept the meeting minutes of September 30, 2020 as crafted. Motion seconded by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned to accept the meeting minutes of October 13, 2020 as crafted. Motion seconded by Mr. Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned to accept the meeting minutes of October 14, 2020 as crafted. Motion seconded by Mr. Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned to accept the meeting minutes of October 19, 2020 as crafted. Motion seconded by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Mr. Plasko motioned to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Shaw YES; Mandile YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

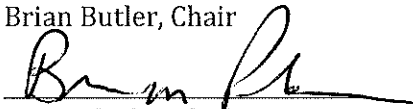
Next Regular Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled for MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Tipping.

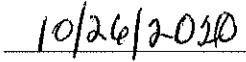
October 26, 2020 minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:



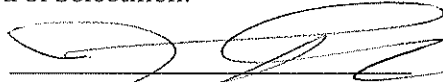
Brian Butler, Chair



Brian Plasko, Clerk



Date



Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair



Stephen Mandile, Member