



REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK  
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**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
LOCATION: BOARD MEETING ROOM AND REMOTE  
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MA  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2020 6:30 P.M.**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Present:** Chair Brian Butler, Vice Chair Jeffrey Shaw, Clerk Brian Plasko, and Select Board Member Stephen Mandile. Also present: Town Manager Steven Sette and Kathy Tipping, Administrative Assistant. Attending via Zoom: Mark Montminy, Chief of Police, Kelly Cote, Town Clerk, Michelle Laramee, Town Accountant, Edward Maharay, Town Moderator, Dr. David Tapscott, Vice Chair/Medical Director Uxbridge Health Department; Steve Prior and Hillary Evers.

**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](http://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**

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

Mr. Butler announced opening for Cable Advisory Committee and read job description and directed residents to the Talent Bank Form, available on the Town website and if anyone is interested to complete the form and return to the Town Clerk's Office or Town Manager's Office.

**UXCELLENT NEWS (Brian Plasko)**

- Police Officer Recognition. Chief Montminy held live recognition ceremony on Zoom. Chief Montminy read a brief description of each officer's heroic actions and presented a medal to three officers. Mr. Butler thanked all the Officers for their heroic actions and congratulated all on behalf of the Board.
- Mr. Plasko thanked the Uxbridge Fire and Police Department for their assistance at a Fire on Whiting St. Families were displaced and the Progressive Club was opened up for residents to keep warm and fed.

- Mr. Plasko also thanked Justin Harshaw and Steve Bevilacqua for the millings for Senior Center Parking Lot.
- Ms. Cote thanked and congratulated the tremendous work of the Uxbridge Post Office during Election time.
- Mr. Mandile announced there were 230 Thanksgiving meals for seniors distributed over the holiday.

### **3. CITIZEN'S FORUM**

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

### **4. BUSINESS**

- a. Donations: Senior Center \$300 donation from Leonard & Marcia Metcalf in memory of "Lenny" and a \$400 donation from ERA Realty in Whitinsville for the Annual Thanksgiving Lunch distribution.

**MOTION:** Mr. Plasko motioned to accept the donation of \$300 from Leonard & Marcia in memory of "Lenny". Motion seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

**MOTION:** Mr. Mandile motioned to accept the donation of \$400 from ERA Realty in Whitinsville for the Annual Thanksgiving Lunch Distribution. Motion seconded by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

- b. Board/Committee Appointments: Constable – Hillary Evers

The Board introduced Ms. Hillary Evers on Zoom who has applied for the Constable position. Mr. Butler and the Board agreed Ms. Evers was highly qualified for the position and voted to appoint her as Constable for the Town of Uxbridge. Ms. Evers thanked the Board and is looking forward to working in Uxbridge.

**MOTION:** Mr. Plasko motioned to approve the appointment of Hillary Evers as a Constable. Motion seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES, Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

- c. Review and approve 2021 BOS Meeting Dates

The Board reviewed the distributed list of suggested BOS meeting dates for 2021. The dates were agreeable but would like to add the date to the list and the motion for the Fall Annual Town Meeting (FATM) which will be held on Tuesday, 10/26/21.

**MOTION:** Mr. Plasko motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the 2021 Meeting Schedule as presented with the addition of the Annual Fall Town Meeting Date. Seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES, Butler Yes. Motion passed 4-0.

d. Review and approve Board of Selectmen Annual Report

Annual report of activities during the year that is published and distributed to residents of town. Summary Report written by Brian Plasko, Clerk. Mr. Shaw indicated there were some Scribner errors to address – spelling, grammar issues. Agreeable to content. Mr. Butler will address with Brian regarding the structure and construction of content.

**MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the Board of Selectmen Annual Report with scriber errors corrected as written. Second by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES, Mandile YES, Shaw YES; butler YES. Motion passed 4-0. Mr. Butler will email corrections to Mr. Plasko to correct document.**

e. Discussion on Outdoor Town Meeting

Mr. Sette said Uxbridge has moved into the red category with regard to COVID-19 and as a result, there has been discussion whether or not to hold an indoor meeting. There is one more article that needs to be voted on for the Fall Town Meeting. The Town Meeting has to be closed. Alternative outdoor locations have been discussed. Many towns have held outdoor meetings. The McCloskey School Field is an alternative location to hold the meeting with a large tent with three sides and one open side for air ventilation; 3 heaters would also be brought in for comfort. The meeting could be done on Tuesday, 12/15/20 or at a date after that. Another potential date would be 12/19/20. Mr. Sette felt from a safety point of view it was the best way to go. CARES money would take care of expenses as it is Covid-19 related. Ms. Laramee stated the expense would be submitted through CARES money. CARES money is spent ahead of time and then a reimbursement request is submitted. Ms. Laramee also stated she requested extra funding for that account which goes through 12/31/20. Dr. Tapscott said the Board of Health stated the meeting should be outside. COVID numbers may increase after Thanksgiving travel. Mr. Butler added it's essential to have the meeting. He added the meeting must have no fewer than 50 residents in attendance and there would be social distancing, masks, and a large tent. If the meeting is not held, the aforementioned articles will go by wayside. Mr. Maharaj there is just one article to be discussed and he would be available on 12/15/20 (Tuesday) but possibly not on 12/19/20 (Saturday). A question from the chat was raised about conducting the meeting in the parking lot from cars. Ms. Cote added the voting clickers may not work properly in a car due to interference with radio frequency, along with the metal and glass in a car. She also mentioned the card method is just as difficult. Mr. Maharaj asked about audio-visual services being available in a tent. Mr. Sette stated that he would look into that and that would be arranged. All Board of Selectmen members recommended the 12/15/20 for the date of the meeting. Mr. Maharaj will meet with Mr. Sette to modify an announcement for 12/15/20 at 7:00 pm outside at McCloskey School, with an alternative date of 12/19/20 at 10:00 am on Saturday. Mr. Sette expects 6-8K for the cost for the meeting. Mr. Shaw added the money would be recouped. Mr. Maharaj also asked Dr. Tapscott if the letter went to AG to move meeting – the letter must be sent within 10 days. Dr. Tapscott mentioned he will do it within next 2 days.

**MOTION:** Mr. Shaw motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the requested request from the Town Manager to conduct an outdoor Town Meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion Passed 4-0.

5. **TOWN MANAGER UPDATE**

Mr. Sette mentioned the Tax Classification Public Hearing will be held on 12/7/2020 during the Board of Selectmen meeting. The meeting is to set the Tax Rate for the coming year. The valuations for all properties are on the town website. The final tax classification process is being done now by the Town Assessor and Financial Team and will be available prior to the meeting. Uxbridge is now designated in the 'red' category for Covid-19 cases resulting in the Town Hall to be closed to public. If anyone needs to do business with the town – please call the Town Hall and there is a voice mail menu listing all departments to connect to. For the safety of the public and employees, sanitizing of the building is done on a daily basis with spraying and wiping. Mr. Sette also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. There were no further questions from the Board.

6. **MEMBER ISSUES & COMMENTS**

- Mr. Mandile announced that here is a tremendous website with resources and information for parents, children and teens if needed during this difficult time – the National Child Traumatic Stress Network.
- Mr. Sette mentioned the date of the Fall Annual Town Meeting (FATM) will be 10/26/21.
- Mr. Butler added that he has received complaints from residents in town regarding debris and trash on West River Road. On Saturday, 11/28 there will be a clean-up day with a town truck, and volunteers are needed. The group will meet at the Pout Pond Parking Lot between 9:00 am-9:15 am. It is a community project that is greatly appreciated. He added that Berkowitz Recycling has volunteered to take the trash for gratis with no cost to town.

7. **MEETING MINUTES**

- Meeting minutes of November 9, 2020

**MOTION:** Mr. Mandile motioned that the Board of Selectmen accept the meeting minutes as crafted for November 9, 2020 meeting. Second by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

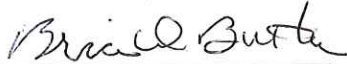
8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Next Regular Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled for MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Tipping.

November 23, 2020 minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:



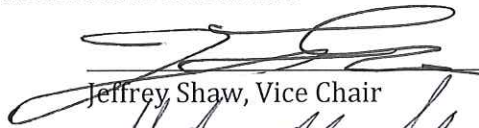
Brian Butler, Chair



Brian Plasko, Clerk

11/23/2020

Date



Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair



Stephen Mandile, Member