



**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM & ZOOM
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MA
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021 6:30 P.M.**

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK
2021 FEB 11 PM 2:34

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, Michelle Laramée, Town Accountant, Benn Sherman, Director of Public Works, Ken O'Brien, Town Assessor, Tom D., David Moriarty, Uxbridge Unitarian Church, James Smith, T.T.K. Real Estate, LLC, Steven O'Connell, Project Manager, Uxbridge TV and Kathy Tipping, Administrative Assistant.

This meeting was held in-person with a Zoom option.

Zoom Meeting: <https://uxbridge.zoom.us/j/92430736496?pwd=bGRLQURXUWl4VXZlRkdoeE5aZ1BoZz09>
Meeting ID: 924 3073 6496. Passcode: 317577. By phone, dial: 646-558-8656, Meeting ID: 924 3073 6496, Passcode: 317577. Participants will be allowed to send a comment or question to the Chair via the chat function.

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 will be conducted live via remote participation to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided 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>.

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Butler called the Board of Selectmen meeting to order at 6:30 pm and a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

2) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Volunteers needed: Please see the Clerk's Office or Town Manager's office for a list of openings.
Committee/Board Highlight: By-Law Review Committee

Mr. Butler announced that the By-Law Review Committee has openings available. He stated the Town Clerk's Office and Town Manager's Office has a list of openings and the Talent Bank Forms to apply for a position on a Committee or Board. The Talent Bank Forms are also available to the Town's website. Mr. Butler read the job description for this week's highlight of the By-Law Review Committee.

b) Uxcellent News

- Mr. Plasko wanted to recognize the outstanding efforts of the Uxbridge Fire Department at a fire on Quaker Highway on 12/30/20 that displaced 4 Children and thank them for providing jackets and other needed supplies.
- Mr. Plasko also wanted to thank the Fire Department and the Firefighter's Association for delivering sand and salt to Uxbridge Seniors. Mr. Plasko also thanked Koopmans Lumber for supplying 100+ buckets of sand and salt.
- Mr. Plasko also wished Chairman Butler a Happy Birthday!
- The Board concurred that the Fire and Police Department are outstanding and incredible assets in the Town and thanked both Departments for all they do.

3) CITIZENS' FORUM

Mr. O'Connell raised his hand to address the Board. Mr. Butler stated he was on the agenda itself with the next item and he could address the Board at that time. There were no other hands raised or comments for the Citizen's Forum section.

4) BUSINESS

a) Request for Winter Maintenance Services (Continuation from 12/28/20 meeting)

- Rifleman Way and Brady Court
- Tucker Hill Estates

Continuation from last meeting. The Developer for the projects, Mr. Jim Smith was in attendance as well as Mr. Steve O'Connell, Project Manager. Mr. O'Connell addressed the Board with history and background of winter maintenance. He stated at the last meeting the possibility of providing services for a fee was mentioned and the Board asked Mr. Sherman to provide information, which he stated he has not received. Mr. O'Connell further stated the request remains in effect as the roads are substantially completed and deemed complete by the Planning Board and that the Street Acceptance policy was followed. He further mentioned that COVID caused process to come to a halt. Mr. O'Connell stated currently, a citizen's petition for submitting for Street acceptance would allow the item to be put on the warrant and that the new Street Acceptance policy will let the Board of Selectmen be involved to put the item on the warrant. He stated the Planning Board third party reviewer has signed off and it has been a frustrating process. Mr. Shaw stated the new policy will eliminate questions and concerns and vague guidelines, now that there is a defined timeline. He added it is the Board's responsibility to ensure that the roads are built to the satisfaction of the Town Engineering Department. He added most other communities that would not even offer this and it is not the Town's responsibility to take care of winter maintenance on a road that has not been accepted. Adding, going forward there will be less contentious issues with the adopted St. Acceptance policy. Mr. Smith addressed the Board to state that, if at end of day he would have to pay for town services, he was going to withdraw his request. Mr. Sherman addressed the board with his research on winter maintenance and breakdown of projected costs to obtain a rate for plowing snow. Mr. Sherman gave a summary of his research and explained his calculations to reach a per trip cost. Mr. Butler requested motion for accepting costs for a FY 2021 rate, as submitted by Benn Sherman, for this year only.

Motion: Mr. Shaw motioned to accept the documents for the costs for winter maintenance as submitted by Benn Sherman for a FY 2021 rate. Motion by seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw Yes, Butler Yes. Motion passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Butler asked if the petitioner would like to withdraw his request – Mr. Smith was no longer on the Zoom call. Mr. O'Brien did not want to speak for his client. Mr. O'Brien stated he had not seen the cost documents prior to tonight. He will present the information to his client and see what he would like to do. Mr. O'Brien would like to continue the request for Rifleman Way and Brady Court due to the short notice of the information and he would like time to review the information and make a decision. Mr. Butler stated he would table the item until the next Board of Selectmen meeting of January 25, 2021. Mr. Sette asked for clarification of the continuance – he confirmed that the item will be continued just for the decision on whether to provide winter maintenance and if the Board agrees to it – they do it at the rate adopted tonight.

b) Donations

Unibank Charitable Foundation donation of \$1,000 to the Senior Center. The Board voted this donation at its previous meeting; however, the donation was for the HISTORIC COMMISSION and in some confusion, the donation was accepted on behalf of the HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION. The Historic District Commission Chair, as well as the Historic Commission Chair have asked the Board of Selectmen re-vote the donation correctly.

Motion: Mr. Mandile motioned that the Board of Selectmen accept the generous donation of \$1,000 by the Unibank Charitable Foundation on behalf of the Historic Commission. Motion seconded by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES, Shaw YES, Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

Premier Real Estate Donation of \$1,050 to Senior Center

MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned that the Board of Selection accept the accept the generous donation of \$1,050 by Premier Real Estate on behalf of the Uxbridge Senior Center. Motion seconded by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

c) Fee Increase - Assessor's Office: Abutters list

Mr. Ken O'Brien is recommending that the Board consider an increase in the fee charge by the Assessor's Office to produce Abutter's lists for anyone looking to do a project where a hearing is needed for approval. Mr. O'Brien addressed the Board to request an increase in the fee to obtain an Abutters List from the Assessors Office. The fee is currently \$20 and is he requesting the fee be raised to \$25. The requested fee is comparable with other Towns and it covers the Town's cost of labor and materials to produce the list. The Board agreed that increasing the fee was a reasonable request.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko motioned to approve the request of the Assessors Office for an increase in the fee charged for an Abutter's list. Motion seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

d) Restoration of the Uxbridge Unitarian Church

The new owner of the Uxbridge Unitarian Church attended the Board of Selectmen meeting to discuss his plans to restore the Church and to give the Board of Selectmen and the residents on idea of what the building renovations will include. Mr. Dave Moriarty addressed the Board regarding the upcoming restoration of the interior and exterior of the Uxbridge Unitarian Church. He also gave a history of how and when the Unitarian Church began in Uxbridge and the Trust Fund that will be used as a resource for the renovations. The Board agreed that the Unitarian Church is a beautiful icon in the Town and they all agreed it is a very worthwhile project and they were excited to see its completion. Mr. Moriarty stated the exterior should be completed this year. The Board thanked Mr. Moriarty on behalf of the Town for coming in and for all he does and that the Unitarian Church is a historic site and a treasure in the Town.

e) 2021 License Renewal update

The Board reviewed a chart of the businesses that Licenses are being held due to unpaid taxes. Mr. Sette explained the information was up to date on the chart and all have been in contact with the Town Manager's office and/or the Treasurer's Office, with the exception of Gia's Restaurant. The Licenses are currently being held pending payments to the Treasurer's Office.

MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned that the Board of Selectmen update the Table under 4.(e) submitted for renewals of licenses pending resolution of all inspection, taxes due, and any other outstanding issues for all Alcohol, Auto Amusement, Entertainment, Common Victualler, Class I-III, and licenses with the stipulations that the Board receives notice at the first meeting in January that all are up-to-date or the license will not be issued. Motion seconded by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES, Mandile YES; Shaw Yes, Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Shaw noted that if there has been no response from Gia's Restaurant that the business should not be operating as of January 1, 2021. He added if a business does not respond, the only venue to take is to not issue a License-and without a License the business cannot be operating.

5) **TOWN MANAGER UPDATE**

- Mr. Sette wanted to recognize the Donation that was accepted from Premeer Real Estate and that it was made up by four different entities: Morgan Belanger from Uxbridge donated \$100; Matt McLaughlin from Northbridge donated \$100; Kathy Marshall from Douglas donated \$50. Mr. Sette thanked the donors for their generous donation.
- Mr. Sette announce that a new Facilities Manager, Mr. Chuck Entwistle, has been hired. Mr. Entwistle is a retired police officer and previous owner of a construction business. He has been working a little over a week and is becoming familiar with the Town's facilities and learning our systems. Mr. Sette stated all good things will be coming, going forward with maintenance of our facilities.
- Mr. Sette recognized and thanked Ms. Michelle Laramée, Town Accountant. Mr. Sette thanked her for working many weekends preparing budget documents. The documents are done and ready for Department Heads to begin the budget process discussion for FY22 and then begin discussions with the Finance Committee for the Spring Annual Town Meeting for May 11, 2021. The Capital Planning Committee will also have recommendations for the Town Meeting ready as well. There were no questions or concerns for Mr. Sette.

6) **MEMBER ISSUES & COMMENTS**

As a new year begins, Mr. Mandile wanted to thank all of the Town Staff, Employees and Volunteers of Committees and Boards for getting us through the year, not only through the year, but grown through it. He recognized all of the improvements constantly being made and making the Town better. He stated further he appreciates all the work done day in and day out by Town Hall, Public Safety and the School Department, and also thanked the families for sacrifices made during a year that made operating differently and thanked all for their dedication to Uxbridge. The Board agreed and reiterated their Thank you to all Town Employees. Mr. Butler stated we are very fortunate to have the people we do in Uxbridge. Mr. Plasko stated he is grateful for the Board for working together and for the employees in Town. There were no other comments or issues from the Board.

7) **MEETING MINUTES:** Monday, December 28, 2020.


MOTION: Mr. Plasko motioned to approve the meeting minutes of December 28, 2020, as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES, Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.


8) **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: Mr. Plasko motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.


THE NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: **MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021.**

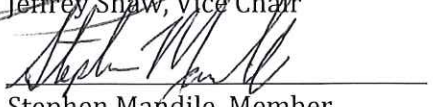
Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Tipping
January 11, 2021 minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:



Brian Butler, Chair


Brian Plasko, Clerk



Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair


Stephen Mandile, Member

January 15, 2012
Date