



**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING AGENDA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM & ZOOM
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MA
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2021 6:30 P.M.**

MEETING MINUTES

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK
2021 FEB 24 PM4:54

Present: Chair Brian Butler, Vice Chair Jeffrey Shaw, Clerk Brian Plasko, and Select Board Member Stephen Mandile. Also present: Town Manager Steven Sette, Benn Sherman, Director of Public Works, Chief Thomas Dion, Uxbridge Fire Chief, Steven Tancrell, Deputy Chief Uxbridge Fire Department, Dale Bangma, Peter Demers, James Smith, Manager TTK Real Estate, LLC, Peterson Pereira, Owner of Wild Fifty Sevens, Inc., Robert Contursi, Blackstone Greenway; Lee Adams, Blackstone Greenway, Robert Dandrade, Blackstone Greenway, Senator Richard Moore; Uxbridge TV and Kathy Tipping, Administrative Assistant.

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

<https://uxbridge.zoom.us/j/94335026100?pwd=c1ZWZUptbFcvSUQ3eWJtMDFQeWNwQT09>

Meeting ID: 943 3502 6100. Passcode: 622298. By phone, dial: 646-558-8656, Meeting ID: 943 3502 6100. Passcode: 622298. 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: Highlight: Cable Advisory Committee

Mr. Butler announced that the Cable Advisory Committee has one opening available. Mr. Butler read the job description for the Cable Advisory Committee position. He also added the Town Clerk's Office and Town Manager's Office have the Talent Bank Forms to apply for a position on a Committee or Board. The Talent Bank Forms are also available at the Town's website.

b) Mr. Butler announced the recent passing of Mr. Charles (Chuck) Lynch. Mr. Butler stated Mr. Lynch was an icon in the Uxbridge community. Mr. Lynch recently retired at age 82 and had previously owned a pharmacy on Mendon Street. Mr. Butler stated Mr. Lynch knew the value of work and had a great ethic by routinely giving back. Mr. Lynch had many friends and he will be sadly missed. The Board held a moment of silence for Mr. Lynch.

c) Uxcellent News

- Mr. Plasko gave a special thank you to the Uxbridge National Honor Society for the basket of snacks, drinks, protein bars, sanitizer, masks and tissues donated to the Uxbridge Police Department. The Police Department was very appreciative.
- Mr. Plasko thanked Mr. Hiren Patel, Owner of the Quaker Inn for recently assisting a resident in dire need of housing.

- Mr. Plasko announced that there are several openings available on Boards and Committees in the Town. Nomination packets are available at the Town Clerk's Office (Phone (508) 278-8600 Ext. 3). The completed Nomination papers are due back to the Town Clerk's Office by April 6, 2021 for the Town election. Mr. Plasko also reviewed the number of seats that are currently available on the Boards and Committees.

3) CITIZENS' FORUM

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

4) BUSINESS

a) PUBLIC HEARING (CONTINUED): License for Storage of Flammable and Combustible Liquids, Flammable Solids or Flammable Gases: Applicant Johnson Farm LLC, 619 Quaker Highway

MOTION: Mr. Butler motioned to re-open the Public Hearing for a License for Storage of Flammable and Combustible Liquids, Flammable Solids or Flammable Gases for Applicant Johnson Farm, LLC, 619 Quaker Highway. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

The Public Hearing was opened and continued.

Mr. Sette gave an update on the application for Johnson Farms, LLC. Mr. Sette stated the application has been fulfilled, with all of the requirements, with the exception of a small amount of taxes due. Mr. Powers was not in attendance at the meeting due to a family emergency. Mr. Sette suggested continuing the Hearing to February 22, 2021. Mr. Butler agreed and tabled the item to the next Board of Selectmen's meeting on February 22, 2021 to speak with Mr. Powers regarding the small tax issue that is outstanding.

Motion to Continue Hearing: Mr. Shaw motioned to continue the Public Hearing to February 22, 2021 for the License for Storage of Flammable and Combustible Liquids, Flammable Solids or Flammable Gases for Johnson Farm, LLC at 619 Quaker Highway. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

b) PUBLIC HEARING (CONTINUED): Request for Class III License Approval for Wild Fifty Sevens, Inc. 870 Quaker Highway.

MOTION TO OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Mr. Mandile moved that the Board of Selectmen open the Public Hearing for a Request for a Class III License Approval for Wild Fifty Sevens, Inc. 870 Quaker Highway. The motion seconded by Mr. Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

The Public Hearing was opened and continued.

Mr. Butler suggested continuing the hearing until the next Board of Selectmen on February 22, 2021- as stated at the previous Board meeting of January 25, 2021, there were concerns from the Board regarding the state of the business at 870 Quaker Highway. At that time, the Board agreed to allow Mr. Periera until February 15, 2021 to remove three vehicles from the property. Mr. Butler suggested continuing the hearing to February 22, 2021 in order to do a site visit to confirm compliance with the Board of Selectmen's request.

Mr. Pereira stated he is doing everything that was asked of him and has had some "set back with snow". Mr. Butler stated the Board would see him on February 15, 2021 and a decision on his application would be made at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting on February 22, 2021.

MOTION: Mr. Plasko motioned that the Board of Selectmen continue the Hearing for the Class III Application for next scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting on February 22, 2021. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mandile . Roll Call: Plasko Yes; Mandile YES; Shaw YES, Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0. The Public Hearing is continued until February 22, 2021 and a vote will then be taken on the Application.

c) **Request for Winter Maintenance Services**

- Tucker Hill Estates and Maslow's Way

Mr. Smith, Manager T.T.K. Real Estate, LLC was in attendance to re-request Winter Maintenance Services for Tucker Hill Estates and Maslow's Way. Mr. Smith is aware of the costs associated with Winter Maintenance from the DPW costs previously submitted to the Board. Mr. Smith confirmed he was aware of the charges. There were no further questions from the Board. Mr. Smith stated he has completed and submitted the signed Agreement forms.

MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve the Winter Maintenance request for Tucker Hill Estates and Maslow's Way. The motion was seconded by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw Yes, Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

d) **Backup Building Inspector Appointment: Dale Bangma**

The Building Official has requested that the Board of Selectmen appoint Dale Bangma, as the backup Building Inspector for the Town. Mr. Mark Kaferlein, the prior backup, has accepted a full-time job as the Inspector in another Town, and is no longer available to fill this roll. Mr. Sette stated the need for a backup for Larry Lench and added Dale has submitted a Talent Bank Form. Mr. Sette supports the appointment of Mr. Bangma to that position. A background check has been done and there are no issues. Mr. Bangma has Mr. Sette's endorsement as well as the Building Inspector's endorsement. There were no further questions from the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Shaw motioned that the Board of Selectmen appoint Dale Bangma as the backup Building Inspector for the Town of Uxbridge. Motion seconded by Mr. Mandile. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

e) **Blackstone Heritage Corridor-Bikeway and Easement**

Mr. Robert Contursi, Director, Initiative Co-Chair, and local resident, attended the BOS meeting to discuss the Blackstone River Greenway project and to enlist the BOS support for two Spring Town Meeting Warrant Articles. Four members of the group (Lee Dillard Adams, Director, Initiative Co-Chair, Senator Richard Moore, Chairman, BOD and Robert Dandrade, Director) attended the meeting to talk about the continuation of the Bikeway and discuss the progress on the project. The Board reviewed a presentation and the group is looking to place two articles on the Warrant for the Spring 2021 Town Meeting regarding easements and sewer easements. There are 18 parcels in total for the easements (7 Public and 11 Private (8 separate owners)). Mr. Contursi and the group provided the history and information on the project and a general map outline of the project and they are looking to move the project forward. The Board discussed and asked questions of the group and unanimously decided to gather more information and have a draft Warrant article vetted and written by Town Council. The Board agreed to continue this Item until the next Board Meeting on 2/22/21. The Board would be more comfortable seeing more information with regard to the specific placement of the

Greenway and easements and the maps for this project. Mr. Sette stated he will work with Town Counsel regarding drafting the article and Mr. Contursi also stated he would work with Mr. Sette. Mr. Contursi stated the warrant article(s) would not grant easements and permissions at this time; they would give authorize specific Town Officials to grant easement and permissions to BHC at a future date. Mr. Contursi added they are not sure, specifically, where the bike path will go currently, only generically. They also will not know until the easements are turned over to DCR and Conservation Commission. The group needs to have the easements in place-to move forward. The Board was excited to hear about a new Greenway. Mr. Butler stated the problem he sees with overly and accessing sewer pipes, etc. is - who is required to put path back in condition from a problem with a sewer line. Mr. Butler added he would like to see a stamped, pre-determined layout where the bikeway is going and the need to know where the path is going. He feels it should be vetted ahead of time to avoid any potential liabilities later on down the road. Mr. Contursi added the agreement to replace or repair the bikeway would have to worked out with Commonwealth and that they are currently just using the sewer easements as a guide for the bike path, they are following sewer infrastructure. Once everything is done will be turned over to DCR/DOT. Mr. Butler confirmed the item/vote would be held until the next Board Meeting on February 22, 2021. Mr. Contursi further explained the request for 2 separate Articles 1) to grant easement on a particular parcel and 2) to grant permission to ride on any easement on private land. He explained the Board of Selectmen would sponsor the two Warrant articles and be present to the Spring Town meeting to present to the Town. Mr. Butler added the Board supported the warrant and will need to make sure the language and protections are in place and vetted by council, including the Board of Selectmen, DPW, Engineer and satisfied all concerns of the Town and private easements concerns. Mr. Sette added he has been in touch with Town Council and the Attorney for the Blackstone River Greenway's Attorney is working with Town Council and agreed to craft the article to meet all concerns, both Attorneys will work out final agreements. Mr. Sette stated further that the group currently is looking for Board support. Mr. Sette will bring a draft Warrant Article for the next meeting for the Board's review and also have it reviewed by DPW for the next phase to put it on the Town Warrant for the Spring meeting in May. All board members unanimously agreed. Mr. Contursi agree to work with Mr. Sette as well.

5) TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

- Mr. Sette gave an update on upcoming COVID-19 vaccinations and the site chosen to hold the vaccinations. Mr. Sette asked the Health Agent for an update and she is available for a Board of Selectmen meeting. The Board of Health has partnered with several towns (Northbridge Mendon, Douglas, Hopedale and Millville). Uxbridge has been approved by State to hold Vaccination Clinics-we have a safe location, the proper equipment, signage and flow. A dry run was held recently at the McCloskey School. The current hold up is received the vaccine. The request for vaccines was not approved by the State last week. The Board of Health has re-applied for 400 vaccines and are expected to hear next week. The Town has also partnered with Hannaford to assist their vaccine clinic as they do not have the space for dosages in their location and agree to hold the Clinic at the McCloskey School gym. Hannaford will pick up cost and help with signage and limited staff. Currently we are waiting to hear from them. The McCloskey School currently has basketball games using the gym. Set up and take down for a Clinic is not easy. Mr. Sette will speak with the Recreation Commission, the School Superintendent, School Committee and Principal to see if there is a possibility of a 2-3 week "pause" in their game schedule. Mr. Sette is also checking with the High School, to see if there is a possibility of using the High School Gym and getting the appropriate approvals for its use. He added the vaccines are a priority and a collaborative effort.
- Mr. Sette also wanted to publicly thank Uxbridge's new business partners, Medline, a distributor of medical products, offered to graciously donate 5 thousand masks for use by our public safety, seniors and anyone who needs them. Mr. Sette graciously accepted and Fire Chief

Dion and Deputy Fire Chief Tancrell are coordinating to have them brought to us. Mr. Sette indicated masks are an important thing and thanked Medline for their generosity.

- Mr. Sette stated he has received the preliminary budgets from Department heads and will be moving forward with one on one meetings with Department Heads. Mr. Sette added his goal is to have the proposed FY 22 budget completed before the end of February to start the Public Hearing process with the Finance Committee. He added the turnaround may be quicker and a Managers message will go out with budget. He is hoping for a solid budget like last year. The Board thanked Mr. Sette and his staff, the Board of Health and Hannaford for their efforts to have a vaccination clinic in Town. Mr. Sette stated the Board of Health has done a tremendous job getting things ready for the Clinic, by way of supplies, refrigerated units to store the vaccines and planning. He added, we are ready to go as soon as the vaccine is received. Mr. Butler thanked Medline and Hannaford for giving back to the community and taking care of the elderly.

6) MEMBER ISSUES & COMMENTS

- Mr. Mandile stated the Opioid Task Force needs volunteers for shelters for the homeless in Milford. Because of a lack of volunteers, the Emergency Shelter will not be open. Anyone interested in applying to volunteer can contact 'Pathway to a Better Life' online and complete an application to apply to volunteer. They are also in need people for overnight shifts.

7) MEETING MINUTES: Monday, January 25, 2021

Mr. Butler requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes, as crafted, for the Board of Selectmen Meeting on January 25, 2021.

MOTION: Mr. Mandile motioned to approve the meeting minutes of January 25, 2021, as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Plasko. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES, Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

8) ADJOURNMENT:

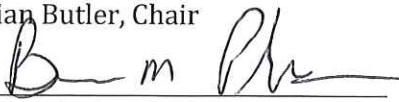
MOTION: Mr. Plasko motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shaw. Roll Call Vote: Plasko YES; Mandile YES; Shaw YES; Butler YES. Motion passed 4-0.

THE NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021

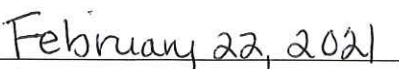
Minutes respectfully submitted by Kathleen Tipping
February 8, 2021 minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:




Brian Butler, Chair



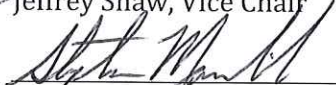
Brian Plasko, Clerk



Date



Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair



Stephen Mandile, Member