

**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
JOINT MEETING WITH CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE  
LOWER TOWN HALL  
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MA  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021 6:30 P.M.**

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK  
2021 DEC 8 PM 1:45

This meeting was held in-person & via Zoom.

**Present:** Chairman Brian Butler, Vice Chairman Jeffrey Shaw, BOS Member John Wise

**Present via Zoom:** Clerk Stephen Mandile and BOS Member Peter DeMers

**Also Present:** Town Manager Steve Sette, Administrative Assistant Ellen Welch

1) ROLL CALL TO ORDER – Butler called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.  
*DeMers-HERE, Wise-HERE, Shaw-HERE, Mandile-HERE, Butler-HERE*

2) BUSINESS

a) October 26 & 27, 2021 Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Eli Laverdiere, Planning Board, was present and submitted time stamped paperwork from the Clerk's Office to the Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, and Chair of the Charter Review Committee.

**i. ARTICLE 17: AMEND THE HOME RULE CHARTER**

Ray Talke, Charter Review Committee Clerk, was present and reviewed proposed amendments with the Board of Selectmen. The Board reviewed, discussed, and provided a check +/- on each of the proposed changes to signify the Board agreed with and approved said Motion/Article – (✓+), or was against it – (✓-). *\*BOS to consider breakouts:* The Board thought certain parts of the proposed change as worthwhile, while others had stipulations.

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**Motion:** that the Town petition the General Court to approve a Special Act amending the Uxbridge Town Charter as found in the document attached to the Uxbridge Town Meeting warrant. To see if the town will vote to petition the General Court to enact a Special Act to adopt amendments to the Uxbridge Home Rule Charter as approved by town meeting.

**Commentary:** ✓ +

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**Motion:** that references to the phrase "board of selectmen" in the charter be changed to the words "select board" and all references to the word, "selectman" be changed to the words, "member of the select board". Plural versions of these phrases shall likewise be changed.

To see if the town will vote to accept the change from the term "board of selectmen" to "select board" and to change the term "selectmen" to "member of the select board" in the charter.

**Commentary:** ✓ +

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**Motion:** that references to the word "officer" in the charter be changed to the word "official". To see if the town will vote to accept the change from the term "officer" to "official" in the charter.

**Commentary:** ✓ +

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**Motion:** that all punctuation, grammar and syntax changes made to the charter be accepted as amended. This includes capitalization according to the Chicago Manual of Style, adding algebraic numbers after spelled out numbers and addition of words to clarify the language in the charter.

To see if the town will vote to accept global stylistic changes to the Town Charter as written.

**Commentary:** ✓ +

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### Charter Article 1 – Incorporation; Title; Powers

**Motion:** that charter Article 1 be accepted as amended.

To see if the town will accept changes to Article 1 in the charter by deleting the text shown with a strikethrough and inserting the underlined text in the document attached to the warrant.

**Commentary:** ✓ +

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### Charter Article 2 – Legislative Branch

**Motion:** I move that charter Article 2 be accepted as amended.

To see if the town will accept changes to Article 2 in the charter by deleting the text shown with a strikethrough and inserting the underlined text in the document attached to the warrant.

**Commentary:** ✓ -                      **All opposed.**                      **The motion carried unanimously.**  
*Wise – Negative, Shaw – Negative, DeMers – Negative, Mandile – Negative, Butler – Negative*

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### Charter Article 3 – Elected Officials

**Motion:** that charter Article 3 be accepted as amended, including the following language in Section 5(a):  
Remove:

(a) Composition, Term of Office - There shall be an Uxbridge housing authority which shall consist of five members serving for terms of five years each so arranged that the term of one member shall expire each year. Four of these members shall be elected by the voters and the fifth member may be appointed as provided in the General Laws.

Replace with:

(a) Composition, Term of Office - There shall be an Uxbridge housing authority which shall consist of five (5) members serving for terms of five (5) years each so arranged that the term of one member shall expire each year. Three (3) of these members shall be elected by the voters. The fourth (4th) member shall be appointed by the Massachusetts department of housing and community development as provided in the General Laws and the fifth (5th) member shall be a tenant of a property administered by the Uxbridge housing authority, appointed by the select board as provided in the General Laws.

To see if the town will accept changes to Article 3 in the charter by deleting the text shown with a strikethrough and inserting the underlined text in the document attached to the warrant, as well as amending language related to the Uxbridge housing authority now required by statute.

More in depth discussion ensued on the Board of Public Works with reference to the Charter Review Committee meeting date of November 16, 2020. Harry Romasco was present and commented on portions of this discussion.

**Commentary:** ✓ -                      **All opposed.**                      **The motion carried unanimously.**  
*Wise – Negative, Shaw – Negative, DeMers – Negative, Mandile – Negative, Butler – Negative*

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### Charter Article 4 – Town Manager

**Motion:** that charter Article 4 be accepted as amended.

To see if the town will accept changes to Article 4 in the charter by deleting the text shown with a strikethrough and inserting the underlined text in the document attached to the warrant.

**Commentary:** ✓ - \*                      **All opposed.**                      **The motion carried unanimously.**  
*Wise – Negative, Shaw – Negative, DeMers – Negative, Mandile – Negative, Butler – Negative*

**\*BOS to consider breakouts**

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### Charter Article 5 – Administrative Organization

**Motion:** that charter Article 5 be accepted as amended.

To see if the town will accept changes to Article 5 in the charter by deleting the text shown with a strikethrough and inserting the underlined text in the document attached to the warrant.

**Commentary:** ✓ +

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### Charter Article 6 – Finance and Fiscal Procedures

**Motion:** that charter Article 6 be accepted as amended.

To see if the town will accept changes to Article 6 in the charter by deleting the text shown with a strikethrough and inserting the underlined text in the document attached to the warrant.

**Commentary:** ✓ - \*

**All opposed.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

*Wise – Negative, Shaw – Negative, DeMers – Negative, Mandile – Negative, Butler – Negative*

*\*BOS to consider breakouts*

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### Charter Article 7 – General Provisions

**Motion:** that charter Article 7 be accepted as amended.

To see if the town will accept changes to Article 7 in the charter by deleting the text shown with a strikethrough and inserting the underlined text in the document attached to the warrant.

More in depth discussion ensued on Charter Article 7 – General Provisions, specifically Censure. Harry Romasco was present to clarify comments on portions of this Article discussion.

**Commentary:** ✓ -

**All opposed.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

*Wise – Negative, Shaw – Negative, DeMers – Negative, Mandile – Negative, Butler – Negative*

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### 3) ADJOURNMENT: NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021

**MOTION:** Wise

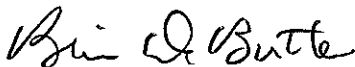
**SECOND:** Mandile

**VOTE:** to adjourn this October 14, 2021 meeting at 9:03 PM. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0.

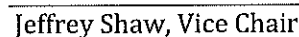
*DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES*

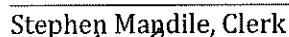
Minutes respectfully submitted by Alexandra Clauss

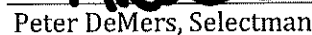
October 14, 2021 minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:

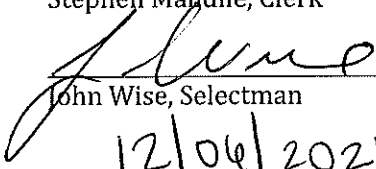


Brian Butler, Chair

  
Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair

  
Stephen Mandile, Clerk

  
Peter DeMers, Selectman

  
John Wise, Selectman

Date

12/06/2021

*List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used:*

*Agenda Notes*

*2021 Fall Town Meeting Articles and motions, draft dated: 10/11/2021*

*Uxbridge Home Rule Charter*

*Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant, dated 10/13/2021*