

**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MA
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2021 6:30 P.M.**

TOWN CLERK
2022 JAN 12 PM 4:46

This meeting was held in-person & via Zoom.

Present: Chairman Brian Butler, Vice Chairman Jeffrey Shaw, Member Peter DeMers
Present via Zoom/ Telephone: Member John Wise **Not Present:** Clerk Stephen Mandile
Also Present: Town Manager Steve Sette, Administrative Assistant Alexandra Clauss

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

2) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Volunteers needed: Cultural Council
- b) Uxcellent News: Wise, regarding:
 - Spartan Pride: Uxbridge High School Field Hockey and Boys Cross Country;
 - Whitinsville Christian School: Girls Cross Country;
 - BVT Football Semi Finals, Final Game at Fenway: Wednesday, 11/24/2021 at 4 PM, Channel 5;
 - Congratulations to the Uxbridge Seniors!

3) CITIZENS' FORUM – no one wished to speak

4) BUSINESS

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: to move item 4b) to the top of Business. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.

DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

- a) Cobbler's Knoll/Turner Farm Rd. – discussion

This road has become a focal discussion point between many individuals, residents, the planning office, Town Manager, and Public Works Director; Town Counsel was present to advise the Board on options available to them.

Extensive discussion ensued among the Board and Department Heads regarding this development and roadway. Barry Desruisseaux, Planning Board Chair, regarding complications with Cobbler's Knoll – bond expired on roadway and development; Jack Hunter, Interim Planner, regarding winter maintenance being main concern of residents; Benn Sherman, DPW, regarding DPW plow trucks, winter maintenance 2021, and review of previously established pricing.

Andrew Morris, 17 Turner Farm Road, regarding safety concerns of developer pulling out, the current state of development and roadway, and incoming New England weather conditions.

Eric Burgess, 41 Turner Farm Road, regarding major safety concerns along the roadway, such as filled detention ponds, swales, construction vehicles and supplies stored in and along roadway, and impact of this on child safety.

DeMers regarding neighborhood seeking legal counsel as a group; Shaw regarding safety concerns being more urgent than just an unfinished road, and clarification on Builder/ Developer relationship for Cobbler's Knoll lots.

James Spicer, 49 Turner Farm Road, regarding safety concerns, impact on children, and winter weather services; further regarding Builder/Developer accountability and representing Uxbridge well as an up and coming Town.

MOTION: Shaw

SECOND: DeMers

VOTE: to accept the request from the residents to provide winter maintenance on Turner Farm Road this winter at the rate set forward by the DPW. The motion passes 3-0-1.

DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES, Wise-ABSTAIN

After much deliberation, the Board of Selectmen decided with Town Counsel to have an Executive Session to further discuss strategy and litigation on this development and roadway – Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 5:30 PM.

b) **PUBLIC HEARING:** FY 2022 Tax Classification – discussion, approval

The Board of Selectmen heard from Assessor Ken O'Brien regarding the current Town valuation, new growth and breakdown by property class in order to determine if the Town should keep a single tax rate or consider a split tax rate, and then set that rate. Discussion ensued and the Board voted the following five (5) Motions into place.

1) **Residential Factor**

MOTION: DeMers **SECOND:** Shaw
VOTE: to adopt a Residential Factor of 1.0. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.
DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

2) **Open Space Discount**

MOTION: DeMers **SECOND:** Shaw
VOTE: for No Open Space Discount. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.
DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

3) **Residential Exemption**

MOTION: DeMers **SECOND:** Shaw
VOTE: for No Residential Exemption. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.
DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

4) **Small Commercial Exemption**

MOTION: DeMers **SECOND:** Shaw
VOTE: for No Small Commercial Exemption. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.
DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

5) **Principle Assessor Authorization**

MOTION: DeMers **SECOND:** Shaw
VOTE: to authorize the Principle Assessor to electronically sign and submit the LA-5 to the DOR. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.
DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

c) **Opt-In Town-Wide Trash/Recycling Service:** Board of Health – discussion

Erin Hightower, Board of Health Director, and Irene Congdon, Central Mass Municipal Recycling Assistance Coordinator, discussed options with the Board regarding an opt-in program for Town-Wide Trash and Recycling. Discussion ensued on reinstating a temporary Recycling and Solid Waste Committee to complete a new Trash & Recycling Survey/Study; Board of Health to appear in front of the Board again around January 2022. **VOTE: none.**

d) **Licensing:** V&D LLC, dba Honey Farms Mobil, 1 North Main Street, Uxbridge: change of manager – approval

This license was recently approved but returned with no action by the ABCC due to an issue with the residency of the previous listed manager. The owner made a change of name on the license and the Board voted in that new manager. Mark Wickstrom – Attorney for V&D LLC, dba Honey Farms Mobil, Vrushank Patel – new LLC Manager; and, Niraj Patel, on-site Manager, all present for deliberation and vote.

MOTION: Shaw **SECOND:** DeMers
VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen accept Vrushank Patel as the new manager for Honey Farms Mobil, 1 North Main Street, Uxbridge, MA. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.
DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

e) **New Street Name Request:** Sherman Way – discussion

The Public Safety Committee has approved the new street name request of Sherman Way. This street meets the Board of Selectmen policy for street naming and is named for an Uxbridge Veteran currently on the Wall of Honor. After discussion ensued, the Board decided to move this Vote to the next regularly scheduled meeting after Planning Board approval for this roadway has been confirmed. **VOTE: none.**

- f) No Parking Sign Request: North Main Street – approval

The Public Safety Committee asked the Board of Selectmen to approve the placing of “No Parking” signs on North Main Street near Court Street after a review of parking in the area. Sette provided the Board with background information.

MOTION: Shaw

SECOND: DeMers

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen approve the No Parking sign request for the North Main Street as suggested by the Public Safety Committee. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.

DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

- g) First Holiday Night Parade Road Closing – vote

During their October 26, 2021 meeting, the Public Safety Committee supported the December 4th First Holiday Night parade road closing; the Chief of Police and Public Safety Committee have asked the Board of Selectmen to approve this road closing. Sette provided the Board with the road closure information as detailed by the Chief of Police.

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: for the First Night Holiday Street Closures as recommended by the Public Safety Committee. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.

DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

- h) Town Manager Goals & Objectives – review, approval

The Board of Selectmen and Town Manager met in Executive Sessions over a period of three (3) Saturday mornings to work on and develop goals for the Town Manager; those goals were officially presented after input from the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen. DeMers regarding the key goals being: written, specific, trackable, evaluated, and rewarded – ultimately, completing these types of goals will be beneficial for the residents of Town. Discussion ensued on each of the Smart Goals presented with background explanations provided by DeMers.

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: to accept the four (4) Smart Goals as presented. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.

DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

5) TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

- a) Meeting with Superintendent/ Budget Sub. Committee review
- b) Interim Town Accountant, incoming next week
- c) Treasurer/ Collector, interviews next week
- d) Meeting with DOT on Big Y project

6) MEMBER ISSUES & COMMENTS – no member wished to speak

7) MEETING MINUTES

October 14, 2021 Minutes

VOTE: none. Review & Vote at next regularly scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting: Monday, December 6, 2021.

November 8, 2021 Minutes

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: to accept the meeting minutes of November 8, 2021. The motion carried 3-0-1.

DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-ABSTAIN

November 9, 2021 Minutes

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: to accept the meeting minutes of Tuesday, November 9, 2021. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.
DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES

8) **ADJOURNMENT:** NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: **MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2021**

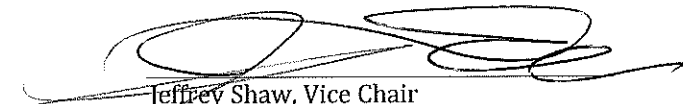

MOTION: Shaw

SECOND: DeMers

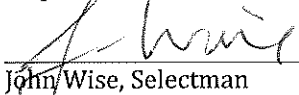
VOTE: to adjourn this November 22, 2021 meeting at 9:48 PM. All in favor. The motion carried 4-0-0.
DeMers-YES, Shaw-YES, Wise-YES, Butler-YES


Minutes respectfully submitted by Alexandra Clauss
November 22, 2021 minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:


Brian Butler, Chair


Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair

Peter DeMers, Selectman

Stephen Mandile, Clerk


John Wise, Selectman


12/20/2021
Date

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used:

Agenda Notes

Tax Classification Hearing Packet – Fiscal Year 2022

Cobbler's Knoll/Turner Farm Road, background information

Municipal Trash & Recycling, PowerPoint Presentation

ABCC Licensing Packet: V&D LLC, dba Honey Farms Mobil

New Street Name Request Packet

No Parking Sign Request Memorandum

First Holiday Night Parade Road Closing Memorandum

Town Manager Goals & Objectives Packet

Minutes Dated: October 14, 2021, November 8, 2021, November 9, 2021