

TOWN OF UXBRIDGE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM 21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MA WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2022 5:30 P.M.

This meeting was held in-person & via Zoom.

RECT) UND TOWN CLERY 2022 AM 14 PK12125

Present: Chairman Brian Butler, Vice Chairman Jeffrey Shaw, Members John Wise and Peter

DeMers Present via Zoom: Clerk Stephen Mandile

Also Present: Town Manager Steve Sette, Administrative Assistant Alexandra Clauss

1) <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>- Butler called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Volunteers needed: a welcome to everyone to get involved in Town Politics!
- b) Uxcellent News: Wise regarding
 - i. Senior Center Volunteer Luncheon: BOS recognition to Catherine Thornton; and, special Thanks to Sally for individual take home cakes
 - ii. Opening Day Baseball/Softball Parade Proceedings on Sunday, April 24th
- iii. Treasurer/ Collector Discussions: bringing in \$168,000 via the Tax Lien Sale
- iv. Uxbridge Scholarships Offered all due April 28, 2022
- v. Pout Pond Sand Castle Building Season Opening
- vi. Sette regarding Memorial Day Parade end of May!

3) BUSINESS

Due to start time of the meeting versus scheduled Public Hearing time, items were taken out of order for the evening to review any business items open for discussion outside of Public Hearing.

a) Licensing Fee Approval: Storage of Flammable, Combustible & Explosive Materials License

This fee was reviewed and established because of the time necessary to prepare documents for approval; Town Manager Sette provided background information. Discussion ensued regarding this license and the storage of such materials. Deputy Fire Chief, Steve Tancrell clarified that the license is to the land and not the individual, and therefore transferrable in the future.

MOTION: Shaw **SECOND:** Wise

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen approve the fee change to \$25 for the Approval of the Storage of Flammable, Combustible and Explosive Materials Licenses. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Shaw-YES, Mandile-YES, Butler-YES

b) Spring Annual Town Meeting: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 @ 7pm – Warrant Articles, Make Recommendations and/or Take any Action Related thereto

Butler and Sette reviewed background on and intent of this business item; only Articles not necessary for Public Hearing discussion will be reviewed during this time.

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: for favorable action on Article 1, All in favor, The motion carried 5-0-0.

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

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: for favorable action on Article 2. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0.

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

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Wise

VOTE: for favorable action on Article 6. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0.

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

MOTION: Wise

SECOND: Mandile

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend favorable action on Article 4. All in favor.

The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

MOTION: Shaw

SECOND: Wise

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend favorable action on Article 5. All in favor.

The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Wise

VOTE: for favorable action on Article 7. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0.

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

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: for favorable action on Article 8. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0.

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

MOTION: Mandile

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen vote for favorable action on Article 9. All in favor. The

motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

MOTION: Wise

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend favorable action on Article 10. All in favor.

The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

MOTION: Mandile

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend favorable action on Article 11. All in favor.

The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

MOTION: Shaw

SECOND: Wise

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend favorable action on Article 12. All in favor.

The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

MOTION: Shaw

SECOND: Mandile

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend favorable action on Article 13. All in favor.

The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

MOTION: Wise

SECOND: Mandile

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recess for fifteen (15) minutes until 6:30 PM. All in favor.

The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

MOTION: Wise **SECOND:** Shaw

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen reconvene from their fifteen (15) minute recess. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0. *DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Shaw-YES, Mandile-YES, Butler-YES*

c) <u>Public Hearing:</u> License for Storage of Flammable, Combustible & Explosive Materials: Regenerative LLC, 30 Noonan Way (formerly 1035 Quaker Highway)

MOTION: Wise

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: to open the Public Hearing for the License for Storage of Flammable, Combustible and Explosive Materials for Regenerative LLC. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0.

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

Town Manager Sette gave background information on the applicant and intent of license. Deputy Fire Chief present via Zoom and stated no issues for this location or applicant.

MOTION: Wise

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: to close the Public Hearing. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0.

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

MOTION: Wise

SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen approve the license for the Storage of Flammable, Combustible and Explosive Materials for Regenerative LLC at 30 Noonan Way. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

d) Public Hearing: Review Proposed Amendments to the Uxbridge Charter

MOTION: Wise

SECOND: Mandile

VOTE: to open the Public Hearing to Review the Proposed Amendments to the Uxbridge Town Charter. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0.

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

Discussion ensued among the Board regarding the Charter Review Committee and the process of changing the proposed amendments. In general, the Board agreed with proposed changes but disliked the presentation process as a whole; it was stated that the Spring Annual Town Meeting was supposed to be financially focused. As a result, no action and unfavorable votes were recorded in reference to these Charter Amendments; similarly, Member Wise voted in opposition to these proposed Articles for the same reason – or, other listed reason(s) per Article.

e) Spring Annual Town Meeting: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 @ 7pm – Warrant Articles, Make Recommendations and/or Take any Action Related thereto

MOTION: Mandile

SECOND: Wise

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen take no action on Article 14. The motion carried 3-2-0.

DeMers-NO*, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-NO*, Butler-YES

*Members stated: agree with changes, not presentation or follow-up process

MOTION: Shaw

SECOND: Mandile

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend favorable action on Article 15. The motion carried 4-1-0. *DeMers-YES, Wise-NO, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES*

MOTION: Mandile SECOND: DeMers

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen take favorable action on Article 16. The motion carried 4-1-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-NO, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

Town Manager Sette provided the Board with background information on forensic audits and the budgeting completed yearly for a four (4) year revolving audit. Brief discussion ensued among the Board on budgeting and audits, with mention of the Policy put in place on such.

MOTION: DeMers SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: for unfavorable action on Article 17. The motion carried 4-1-0.

DeMers-YES, Wise-NO, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

Discussion ensued on the Merit Principle and what the merit criteria might be; further discussed: experience versus licensure, level of criteria, and definition of merit.

MOTION: DeMers SECOND: Mandile

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend unfavorable action on Article 18. The motion carried 4-1-0. *DeMers-YES, Wise-NO, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES*

MOTION: Mandile **SECOND:** DeMers

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend favorable action on Article 19. The motion carried 4-1-0. *DeMers-YES, Wise-NO, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES*

MOTION: Shaw SECOND: DeMers

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend unfavorable action on Article 20. The motion carried 4-1-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-NO, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

MOTION: Shaw **SECOND:** Mandile

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen close the Public Hearing. All in favor. The motion carried **5-0-0.** *DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES*

MOTION: Shaw **SECOND:** Mandile

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen recommend favorable action on Article 21. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

Board Member Wise led discussion with reservation to support this Article because of the limited parameters of only allowing one (1) more Marijuana Establishment. The Board agreed the market should dictate the necessity of any number increases needed; therefore, there should be no limit or restrictions on allowing or welcoming new business in Uxbridge. Further, it was stated that if there needs to be a limit, much simpler language should be utilized; and further, that no comparison should be made between alcohol and marijuana licensing.

MOTION: Mandile SECOND: Shaw

VOTE: that the Board of Selectmen take unfavorable action on Article 22. The motion carried **4-1-0**. DeMers-YES, Wise-NO, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES

After discussion ensued and the initial vote failed, the Board made the following Vote regarding Article 23. Member Shaw stated the benefits of having this lease agreement managed as open space and Member DeMers supported this statement as many citizens utilize the trails mentioned.

MOTION: DeMers

SECOND: Mandile

VOTE: for unfavorable action on Article 23. The motion carried 3-2-0.

DeMers- YES, Wise- NO, Mandile-YES, Shaw-NO, Butler-YES

Discussion ensued on the reason and necessity of an underride ballot with support of it being too early to consider. Excess levy was stated as being similar to an open line of credit and as such, is beneficial to have to utilize as needed, as well as showing financial strength; further, excess levy does not change the tax rate and there is no penalty for excess levy. It was noted how infrequently underride ballots are used –with the main use of making a political statement.

MOTION: Wise

SECOND: Mandile

VOTE: that the Board recommends unfavorable action on Article 24. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0. *DeMers-YES, Wise-YES, Mandile-YES, Shaw-YES, Butler-YES*

4) MEMBER ISSUES & COMMENTS

- a) Mandile regarding the last article Article 24: although early, it was great to have this discussion! Thanks for all efforts made by the Town Manager, Steve Sette, as well as the current and previous Town Accountants and Treasurer/ Collectors for achieving the current financial stability seen
- 5) ADJOURNMENT: NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: TUES., APRIL 26, 2022.

MOTION: Shaw

SECOND: Wise

VOTE: to adjourn this April 20, 2022 meeting at 8:00 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 April 20, 2022 minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:

Brian Batler Chair

Stephen Mandile, Clerk

joha Wise, Selectman

Date

Joffsey Shaw, Vice Chair

Peter DeMers, Selectman

List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used:

Agenda Packet Flammable, Combustible & Explosive Materials License Packet Licensing Fee Approval Correspondence Proposed Amendments to the Uxbridge Charter Packet Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant