

**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN ACTING AS  
WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES  
LOWER TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM  
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MA  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022 - 4:00 PM**

This meeting was held in-person & via Zoom.

**Present:** Chairman Brian Butler, Vice Chairman Jeffrey Shaw, Clerk Stephen Mandile, Members Peter DeMers and John Wise

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

- 1) CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Butler called the meeting to order as posted and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- 2) CITIZENS' FORUM – no one wished to speak
- 3) BUSINESS
  - a) Review & Discuss – Water & Sewer Regulations

Discussion occurred in the past with respect to the issue of having regulations in place regarding new versus old/existing development and connections to existing service being mandatory. DPW Director Benn Sherman was in person to present the background information regarding these regulations, including discussion with Town Counsel Liz Lydon. Town Counsel Liz Lydon was present via Zoom to answer questions and participate in the discussion.

i) Minimum Standards for Public Water System Construction and Related Rules & Regulations

Discussion ensued regarding the following: how many and where stubs should be located to properly extend Town water services; the responsibilities of any owners in need of services; the risks of working on private property with reason it's not in the best interest of the Town to do so, fees and penalties to be set for anyone that tampers with or interferes with the Town's water systems or supply, and, creation of a Water By-Law. Actions to occur: the Board of Selectmen acting as the Water & Sewer Commissioners are to set fees and penalties that are fair and equitable to the residents on the system regarding violations to the regulations.

ii) Minimum Standards for Sewer Construction and Related Regulations

Town Counsel Liz Lydon was asked to create an addendum to the existing Sewer By-Law to define the Board of Selectmen acting as the Water & Sewer Commissioners' requirements regarding these regulations. Discussion ensued regarding: abatements to water and sewer bills with agreement to not abate water bills; what could warrant a sewer abatement, how to do so, and the costs associated with such; the effect of an abatement on the other users on the system; and, whether all users on the system should be responsible for the hardship of one (1) homeowner.

**No votes made; discussion to continue at a future meeting of the Commissioners.**

b) Anticipated Water & Sewer Rate Hearing: Estimated for February 2023

- i) Discussion on capital needs and funding sources
- ii) Impacts to rates from capital needs

DPW Director Benn Sherman reviewed his ten (10) year outlook plan – also known as the Water & Sewer Project Status Tracking Sheet or, American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Summary and discussion ensued regarding those projects. Director Sherman stated need for consideration to be made regarding the funding of future items on the Capital Plan as ARPA funds are projected to end on a targeted date; research for alternate funding sources of those capital projects is already underway. Members John Wise and Stephen Mandile will work with DPW Director Benn Sherman and Town Manager Steve Sette in further discussion regarding the planning and development of these matters.

**No votes made; discussion to continue at a future meeting of the Commissioners.**

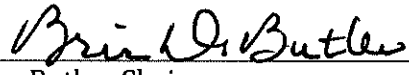
- 3) MEMBER ISSUES & COMMENTS – no member wished to speak or make comments
- 4) RECESS/ADJOURNMENT: NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN ACTING AS WATER & SEWER COMMISSIONERS MEETING: **TBA**

**MOTION:** Shaw

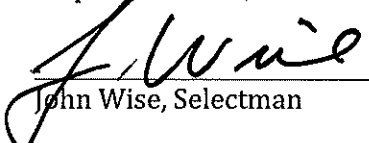
**SECOND:** Mandile

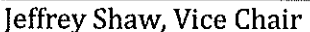
**VOTE:** to adjourn this December 12, 2022 meeting at 5:19 PM. All in favor. The motion carried 5-0-0. DeMers-AYE, Wise-AYE, Mandile-AYE, Shaw-AYE, Butler-AYE

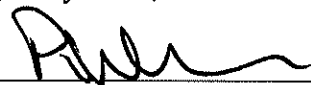
Minutes respectfully submitted by Alexandra Clauss  
December 12, 2022 minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen acting as the Water & Sewer Commissioners:


  
Brian Butler, Chair

  
Stephen Mandile, Clerk

  
John Wise, Selectman

  
Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair

  
Peter DeMers, Selectman

  
February 27, 2023.  
Date

*List of Documents and Other Exhibits Used:*

*Water & Sewer Regulations:*

*Minimum Standards for Public Water System Construction and Related Rules & Regulations*

*Minimum Standards for Sewer Construction and Related Regulations*

*Water & Sewer Project Status Tracking Sheet; aka: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Summary*

*DPW: Capital Plan – List of Capital Projects/Purchases by Division*