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**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM  
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MASS  
MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2018 – 6:30PM**

Meeting is recorded.

Present: Justin Piccirillo/Chair, Susan Franz/Vice, Brian Plasko/Clerk, Jennifer Modica/Selectmen, Jeffrey Shaw/Selectmen. Also present: Angeline Ellison/Town Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER 6:30 p.m.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Thank you to DB Landscaping – flower beds at the town hall
- b) Volunteers are needed for many positions during this time of year, please see the Town Clerk for open positions.
- c) July 7<sup>th</sup> Fireworks at McCloskey School 5:00-9:00 p.m.
- d) Peter Baghdasarian read and confirmed the accuracy of the May 22, 2018 meeting minutes.

3. CITIZENS' FORUM

The following citizen's spoke:

- a) Resident - posting of June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- b) Jennifer Modica – as former School Committee Member regarding McCloskey report.
- c) Heidi Happy – McCloskey report and resignation from School Committee.
- d) Fred Gibson – marijuana license.
- e) Travis Ann Do Rosario – Dog park update.

4. BUSINESS

- a. Public Hearing: Request for Joint owned pole – Hollis Street

The Board reviewed the materials presented from National Grid. **MOTION: Ms. Franz move to close the public hearing on the joint pole on Hollis Street. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

**MOTION: Ms. Modica move for permission to install two poles along Hollis Street to feed new and future lots along road poles 9 & 10. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

- b. Change of Manager (Alcohol License) Serendipity, 515 Douglas Street

Ms. Ellison made the Board aware that the town is holding onto the license until the ABCC completes their review. Tracey Sharkey present on behalf of Serendipity stated that the ABCC should be notifying the town manager's office tomorrow.

- c. As Commissioners of the Water and Sewer Enterprises

- i. NPDES Permit MA012440 Renewal Application Review and Submittal

Benn Sherman provided the Board the set of documents prior to the meeting. Permit expires May 31, 2019. Required to start process well in advance, permit to be submitted in December. **MOTION: Ms. Modica made a motion to have the Chair approve the**

application for the NPDES renewal application. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0.

- ii. Request for discussion on East Street Water service to new construction  
Bruce Taylor, developer of project on East Street present. Project started 15 years ago, 4 houses were built and project had extensive delays. Since then, water moratorium has been put in place. Mr. Sherman stated that there is inadequate water pressure during certain times of the day. The town would need developers help assisting with funding. Peter DeMers spoke about low water pressure and asked Board not to lift water moratorium. Joe Marchand asked to look at capital instead of enterprise for some upcoming projects that we may have.

d. Interim borrowing proposal (bond for Water Treatment Facility project)

Water treatment project into one year of construction. Debt was scheduled to come on line in 2020 when construction is complete. Trust has notified town that the trust would be closing this year. Debt would hit in calendar year 2019. First payment which would be fees in January 2019 with first debt payment in July 2019. This debt has been accounted for in the budget. We have spent \$8.5M of the \$42.8M. The Board had a discussion on deferring \$32.8M. **MOTION Ms. Franz, based on the commentary, move to passover on the deferment of \$10M relative to the wastewater treatment facility. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0**

Mr. Marchand stated that there have been change orders during the water treatment building committee meeting. Used 69% of the contingency of \$1.7M for the plant. Mr. Marchand also noted that the pumping station hit rock and they expect to see a change order. Mr. Sherman provided the Board with an update on the Wastewater treatment and pumping station. Mr. Sherman stated the building committee authorizes all change orders and holds monthly meetings. Difficult to get hands around the numbers and the committee is managing the contingency. Mr. Sherman reassured the Board and invited the Board to attend meetings.

e. Appointments:

- i. Council on Aging
  - i. Jean McElreath
  - ii. Marie Potter
  - iii. Edwina Porter
  - iv. Sally Anne Selvidge
  - v. Catherine Thornton
- ii. Historic Cemetery Committee
  - i. Beth Butler
  - ii. Sheryl Romasco
- iii. Historical District Commission
  - i. Rachel Palin
- iv. Historical Commission
  - i. Faye McCloskey
  - ii. Michael Potaski
- v. Recycling and Sustainability Committee
  - i. Linda Corona

- ii. Orlando Corona
- iii. Joyce Butzer
- iv. Brian Plasko (alternate)
- v. Deanna Savage (alternate)

The Chair noted that there was a general posting of committee appointments. Travis Ann Do Rosario stated some of the postings were listed but not the Historic District Commission. There was discussion on alternates of the Historic District Commission. The Chair recommended the Board passover on the committee appointments. Ms. Modica noted that the Recycling and Sustainability Committee was originally voted as a temporary committee. Ms. Rômasco voiced her concern about not appointing the members since the appointments end on June 30<sup>th</sup>. **MOTION: Ms. Franz made a motion to continue until July 9<sup>th</sup> all appointments by the Board of Selectmen as they are.** Discussion. Ms. Franz withdrew her motion. **MOTION: Mr. Shaw made a motion that the Board appoint all members of the Council of Aging that have submitted talent bank forms before us, Historic Cemetery Committee that have submitted talent bank forms before us, Historic District Commission that have submitted talent bank forms before us, Historic Commission that have submitted talent bank forms before us and the Recycling and Sustainability Committee that have submitted talent bank forms before us.** Discussion. Mr. Shaw amended his motion to exclude the Historic District Commission. Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 4-0-1. (Mr. Plasko abstained)

**MOTION: The Chair made a motion to appoint Rachel Palin to the Historic District Commission. Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 3-2-0 (Ms. Modica and Mr. Shaw opposed)**

f. Update from Historic Cemetery Committee – Maintenance costs

Sheryl Romasco updated the Board on the maintenance of the cemeteries in town. The Committee receives no money from town budget. There are 36 cemeteries in town. Town needs to make plans sometime in next 5 years to make sure that cemeteries are maintained.

g. Review Open Meeting complaint from Angeline Ellison , or any actions related thereto

The Chair reviewed the process in which to respond to the complaint relative to a meeting held in Executive Session May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Chair read the complaint. The Board discussed asking for an extension to allow new counsel to weigh-in on the complaint. **MOTION: Ms. Franz move to request an extension of the response to the division of open government because of the change of counsel to be submitted before the 30 days end.** Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 4-0-1. (Ms. Modica abstained).

**MOTION: The Chair move that Mr. Shaw draft a response on behalf of the Board to be reviewed by town counsel before submitting.** Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 4-0-1. (Ms. Modica abstained)

h. Settlement negotiations of Town Manager Employment Agreement

The Chair stated in the complaint, the Board voted to terminate the Town Manager's contract. The Board discussed Town Counsel reaching out to the Town Manager's counsel. **MOTION: Mr. Shaw made a motion that the Board utilize town counsel to enter into discussions with Ms. Ellison and her counsel to discuss settlement negotiations.** Seconded by Mr. Piccirillo. Discussion. Attorney Robert

Hennigan, attorney for Town Manager inquired about a hearing. **The motion carried 2-1-1 (Ms. Franz and Mr. Plasko abstained, Ms. Modica opposed).**

- i. Discussion relating to Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

*Ms. Modica departed at 8:32 p.m.*

Ms. Franz updated the Board on CEDS which is a 5-year comprehensive economic development plan done on a regional basis - 40 town effort for all southern Worcester County. *Mr. Piccirillo briefly stepped out of the meeting at 8:33 p.m.* The Worcester Chamber has a grant that supports this effort. This is an important federal grant where other grants come from this. Ms. Franz highlighted the report.

- j. Discussion relating to Fall Annual Town Meeting warrant articles

3-4 meetings before warrant closes. Ms. Franz suggested the Board increase the number of businesses in each of the marijuana categories, especially on the cultivation side. **MOTION: Mr. Shaw move to have Ms. Franz work on the wording for the article. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

## 5. TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

- a. Employee Search update/on-boarding process

Lisa Bernard, COA Director, first day July 9<sup>th</sup>. Jason Caravaggio, Town Accountant/Budget Director will also be arriving on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Police Chief Search Committee met tonight and hope to have that wrapped up by next week. The Committee is down to 4 candidates and should forward 2-3 candidates to the Town Manager. The Town Manager discussed an onboarding process for new staff.

- b. Update on invitation to bid – Consultation McCloskey building

Ms. Ellison provided the Board with a letter on the McCloskey consultation bid. The accessed value of the building is \$16M. The Board had a discussion. The Board was looking for options/suggestions as to how the building could be repurposed. Christian Carrier commented on the zoning. Mr. Shaw would like to look at the report from the original request. The Town Manager will work on getting the report to the Board.

The Town Manager updated the Board on the municipal aggregate. The Chair asked for updates throughout the process and requested that we get out as much information as possible to the community. Northbridge residents are saving 7-10%. **MOTION: Mr. Plasko move to have the Town Manager engage the process of municipal electricity aggregation on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

The Town Manager noted that with the resignation of a School Committee member, based upon the charter, we are waiting for written notice from the School Board as the opening is a joint appointment. The Chair made an announcement there is a vacancy on the school committee and if anyone is interested in applying, see the Town Clerk for a Talent Bank Form.

## 6. EXECUTIVE SESSION (taken out of order after 8. MINUTES)

- a) To consider litigation strategy relative to the following litigating matter: Uxbridge Pro Storage v. Solar Roof Systems. *The Town of Uxbridge is not party to this litigation, but it's potential is demonstrably likely. Open meeting discussion on this matter may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the Town.*
- b) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-personnel or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel – Town Manager

The Chair would like to passover Executive Session 6 (b).

**MOTION:** Mr. Shaw made a motion to enter into Executive Session to consider litigation strategy relative to the following litigation matter: *Uxbridge Pro Storage v. Solar Roof Systems. The Town of Uxbridge is not party to this litigation, but it's potential is demonstrably likely. Open meeting discussion on this matter may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the Town with no business to follow.* Mr. Piccirillo, as Chairman, *The Town of Uxbridge is not party to this litigation, but it's potential is demonstrably likely. Open meeting discussion on this matter may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the Town.* Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried by roll call vote. Franz Yes, Plasko Yes, Shaw Yes, Piccirillo Yes. The motion carried by roll call vote 4-0-0.

7. MEMBER ISSUES

No member issues

8. MINUTES (taken out of order after 5. Town Manager Update b.)

Executive Session Meeting Minutes June 11, 2018

The Town Manager noted that on the 2nd page, language should be pulled out as it relates to personnel issues. Minutes passed over to have town counsel review.

Executive Session Meeting Minutes May 22, 2018

**MOTION:** The Chair made a motion to approve the May 22, 2018 minutes as written. *The Town Manager would like it noted that she believes that one of the motions is not accurate from this meeting.* Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 2-0-2 (Ms. Franz and Mr. Plasko abstained)

Executive Session Meeting Minutes June 11, 2018

The Town Manager would like it noted that on the component piece each of these were different entries, so each should be with different minutes. The paragraph, as it relates to a personnel issue, should not be included in the minutes. Minutes passed over to have town counsel review. **MOTION:** Mr. Piccirillo made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of June 11, 2018 minus the two exhibits attached to the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 4-0-0.

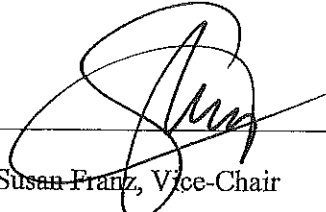
9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS, which may lawfully come before the Board

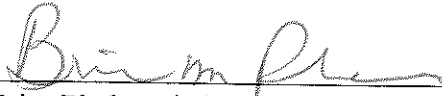
10. ADJOURNMENT: NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: 7/9/18

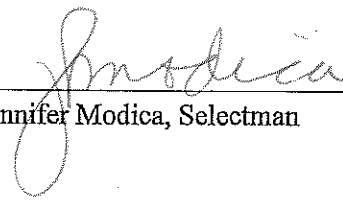
Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen Welch.

June 25, 2018 Minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:

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Justin Piccirillo, Chair

  
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Susan Franz, Vice-Chair

  
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Brian Plasko, Clerk

  
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Jennifer Modica, Selectman

  
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Jeff Shaw, Selectman

Date Approved: 13 Aug 2018