

TOWN OF UXBRIDGE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM  
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MASS  
MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018 – 6:30 PM

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Received by  
Uxbridge  
Town Clerk

Present: Chair/Justin Piccirillo, Vice Chair/Jeffrey Shaw, Selectmen Jim Hogan, Selectmen Jennifer Modica, Selectmen Peter Baghdasarian. Also present: Angie Ellison.

Meeting is recorded.

1. CALL TO ORDER

a. Announcements

- i. Volunteers needed: Affordable Housing Committee, Cable Advisory Committee, Cultural Council, Housing Authority, Library Trustees, Open Space Committee, Parade Committee, Town Common Committee, Capital Planning Committee, Conservation Commission, and Water/Sewer Advisory Committee
- b. **Spring Annual Town Meeting:** Reconvenes May 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm, Valley Chapel, 14 Hunter Road, Uxbridge
- c. **Local Election:** Polls open May 22<sup>nd</sup> at McCloskey Middle School, 62 Capron Street, Absentee ballot applications may be obtained at Town Clerk's Office or the website below, and must be returned by close of polls. [http://www.uxbridge-ma.gov/Pages/UxbridgeMA\\_Clerk/absapp.pfd](http://www.uxbridge-ma.gov/Pages/UxbridgeMA_Clerk/absapp.pfd)

The Chair thanked Mr. Baghdasarian for his time and service. Representative Kuros presented Mr. Baghdasarian with a citation for service to the community. The Board took a recess at 6:37 p.m. The Board reconvened at 6:45 p.m.

2. CITIZEN'S FORUM

The following citizens spoke:

- Patrick Hannon – Budget, DPW cleanup, Town Manager
- Ernie Esposito – thanked Peter for his service

3. TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

- a. Host Community Agreements for Caroline's Cannabis, Xiphias Wellness (*taken out of order after 4. Business H. Discuss, make recommendations, and/or take any actions relating to FY19 Budget and Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant Article #7*)

Establish a consistent standard community host community agreement, working with counsel on a standard agreement. Cultivation 1.25%, Retail Dispensing in Uxbridge 3%, Medical Dispensing 1.75%.

The Town Manager stated that the state's sample of the host community agreement incorporates a 50% resident hiring in that particular municipality. Xiphias has included this in their agreement.

Caroline from Caroline's Cannabis spoke about the host community impact fee of 3%.

**MOTION:** Mr. Hogan move that the Board confirm the community impact fee for Caroline's Cannabis at 3% of gross sales. Seconded by Mr. Piccirillo. The motion carried 3-2-0. (Ms. Modica and Mr. Baghdasarian opposed.)

- b. Letter of Non-Opposition request: Xiphias Wellness

The Board reviewed the letter of non-opposition. **MOTION:** Mr. Hogan move that the Board approve the letter of non-opposition for Xiphias Wellness, Inc. dated May 14, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0.

- c. Marijuana policy discussion

The Board review the original policy and discussed holding off on a new policy.

#### 4. BUSINESS

- a. Public Hearing: Abandonment Hearing for a portion of High Street to be discontinued *(taken out of order after 2. Citizens Forum)*

Town Meeting approved the Board with the authority to discontinue a portion of High Street. This proposal would abandon a section in the middle and Town Meeting also authorized the town to release a deed. In 1961, the Town Meeting also approved to discontinue this section of High Street.

**MOTION: Mr. Hogan move to close the public hearing. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

The Chair stated that Ciampanelli's attorney provided the Board with a draft findings and declaration. **MOTION: Mr. Hogan move to accept the findings and declaration of the Uxbridge Board of Selectmen as written. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

**MOTION: Mr. Hogan move to provide signature to release deed as written. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

- b. Public Hearing: Joint Pole Hearing 65 Hartford Ave. East *(taken after Business a. Public Hearing: Abandonment Hearing for a portion of High Street)*

Harry Romasco stated that the pole is for the Virginia Blanchard housing project. **MOTION: Mr. Hogan move to close the public hearing. Seconded by Ms. Modica. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

**MOTION: Mr. Hogan move that the Board approve the Hartford Ave. East Joint Pole 10-50. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

- c. Gift Acceptances:

- i. Pout Pond- Valley Chapel Church Donation of picnic tables *(taken after 4. B. Public Hearing)*

Cindy Scott, Pout Pond Recreation Committee & Andrew Gorman, Conservation present and spoke about the donation of two picnic tables from Valley Chapel. **MOTION: Mr. Hogan move that the Board accept the generous donation from Valley Chapel for the Pout Pond for picnic tables. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. The motion carried 5-0-0.** Ms. Scott thanked Pastor Josh and Valley Chapel for all they do for the community and outreach program.

- d. Request from Gibby's Garden, LLC for consideration: marijuana cultivation/manufacture. *Executive session may be called for this agenda item. (heard after 4. C. Gift Acceptances)*

*Kimberly Gibson*, Gibby's Garden is seeking consideration for a Host Community Agreement for their establishment at 660 Douglas Street. The establishment fulfills all the requirements recently passed for the Marijuana By-law, location is in Industrial B, Chief Burke has reviewed security, applying for a single license marijuana micro business for adult use and has completed the outreach community meeting, Chief Burke visited site and reviewed plans, made suggestions and confirmed that Gibby's Garden is ensuring a safe environment.

The Board discussed a community impact fee 1.25% of gross revenue for cultivation and wholesale. Ms. Modica noted that ultimately that number will come down to what the state will allow as the community has to show what the actual cost is for the community impact fee.

**MOTION: Mr. Hogan move that the Board authorize the Town Manager to enter a Host community agreement with Gibby's Garden for the location at 660 Douglas Street with a community impact fee of 1.25%. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 4-1-0 (Mr. Baghdasarian opposed).**

- e. Appointment to Cable Advisory Committee – Thomas McNulty (*heard after 4. D Request from Gibby's Garden*).

**MOTION:** Mr. Hogan move that the Board appoint Thomas McNulty to the Cable Advisory Committee. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. The motion carried 5-0-0.

- f. Appointment to Parade Committee – Thomas Taft

**MOTION:** Ms. Modica made a motion to appoint Thomas Taft to the Parade Committee. Seconded by Mr. Hogan. The motion carried 5-0-0.

- g. Request for speaker: Virginia Blanchard Housing groundbreaking – 10am, May 22  
Ms. Modica volunteered to speak.

- h. Discuss, make recommendations, and/or take any actions relating to FY19 Budget and Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant Article #7

Finance Committee called a quorum. Ms. Modica commented on McCloskey School and information/findings from the engineering firm from 2009. Ms. Modica stated that the \$6.2 million capital for McCloskey was part of the new high school project proposal and was ignored. The Board discussed closing the closing and the \$400K non reimbursement from MSBA. Mr. Demers commented that the non reimbursement should come out of the operating budget. The Town Manager provided an amended worksheet summary. The Town Manager advocates using stabilization as this is a one-time cost. Taking into account all of the articles that passed at Town Meeting, the ending balance in stabilization is close to \$3M. The Town Manager stated should the Town Meeting not reconsider taking from stabilization, Town Manager noted that as an alternative, \$150K (\$25K snow and ice \$125K highway) would come from Public Works, and \$142,043K from Uxbridge Schools. The budget was updated to include increased revenue output by \$90K new growth and local receipts by \$17K. New growth and receipts came from assessor and building inspector. Ms. Modica stated the School Committee discussed cuts at the last meeting and includes teachers, staff, and maintenance workers (proposed hires). Ms. Franz talked about the facilities upkeep. Mr. Demers talked about looking at reducing operational costs. Evelyn Marchard, Finance Committee was expecting cutting additional FTE's as part of the budget. Michael Potaski and Harry Romasco talked about the closing of the school in the 19<sup>th</sup> year, David Tapscott spoke about the increase of hours for the health agent, The Town Manager will move forward with the budget as presented. Michael Wilson, Finance Committee would support the Town Manager's presented budget. Ms. Modica asked if the School Department and DPW will get these monies returned to their budget next year. The Finance Committee made a motion to direct the Town Manager to pursue her recommendations at the Town Meeting to first going for stabilization reconsideration and if that fails, move forward with going with her recommendations set forth tonight - this motion failed. **MOTION:** Mr. Hogan move that the Board recommend that the Town Manager put forward the budget amendment as presented in the memo to first recommend a stabilization transfer and that fails, recommend the Town Manager recommended budget for FY20. Seconded by Ms. Modica. The motion carried 3-2-0. (Mr. Shaw and Mr. Baghdasarian opposed)

- i. Signatures: Mylar recording of Bentley Drive and Kieronski Court  
The Board signed the mylars
- j. Discussion relating to possible Fall Annual Meeting Warrant Articles
  - i. Personnel Bylaw
  - ii. Financial Reporting

The Board reviewed the Concord non-union Personnel Bylaw provided ahead of the meeting. The Board discussed hidden benefit costs associated with employees of the town when they retire or leave Uxbridge. The Board discussed contracts. A discussion ensued about a personnel bylaw vs personnel policy. The Board discussed the financial reporting goal and would like to know how much the town owes in order to plan for retirement and such and obtaining this information from accounting,

- iii. Opening/Closing of Warrant Articles - pass over
  - iv. Other offices – Selectmen – pass over
- k. Town Manager 90-day review, or any actions related thereto. ***Executive session may be called for this agenda item.***

The Chair asked the Board to provide a written review. The Chair will summarize all comments in time for tomorrow's meeting. Mr. Baghdasarian commented that we need to have a contract with the Town Manager that makes sense for the town of Uxbridge or the Board fire the Town Manager. The Board discussed the format of the 90 day review.

#### 5. MEMBER ISSUES

- Jim Hogan inquired about the Police Chief Update.

The Town Manager stated that the Police Chief search is in the essay process and Chief Burke has been included in the essay process. Mr. Shaw inquired about the essay process. The Town Manager stated that there are strategic planning and leadership questions. Accountant update: 5 candidates are coming in for interviews on Wednesday and hope to be in a position to finalize/offer the position to a candidate at the end of next week. Outside consultant with assist with interviews and consultant can assist with training the new accountant on any aspects of the position. Resident commented on the training aspect as that wasn't mentioned in the job posting.

- Ms. Modica mentioned that the Chair asked about CMRPC. The Chair would like to educate the public more on what CMRPC does.

#### 6. MINUTES

April 17, 2018

**MOTION** Mr. Hogan move to accept the meeting minutes of Tuesday, April 17, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. The motion carried 4-0-1 (Ms. Modica abstained).

April 19, 2018

**MOTION:** Ms. Modica made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 19, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Hogan. The motion carried 5-0-0.

April 23, 2018

**MOTION:** Ms. Modica made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 23, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Hogan. The motion carried 5-0-0.

April 26, 2018

**MOTION:** Ms. Modica made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 26, 2018. Seconded by Mr. Hogan. The motion carried 5-0-0.

May 6, 2018

**MOTION:** Mr. Hogan move to accept the meeting minutes of May 6, 2018 as written. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. The motion carried 4-0-1. (Ms. Modica abstained)

May 8, 2018


**MOTION:** Mr. Hogan move to accept the meeting minutes of May 8, 2018 as written. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. The motion carried 4-0-1 (Ms. Modica abstained)

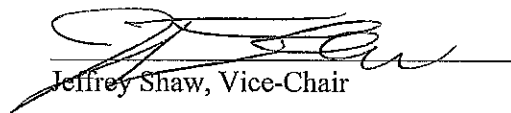
7. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Mr. Piccirillo made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0.

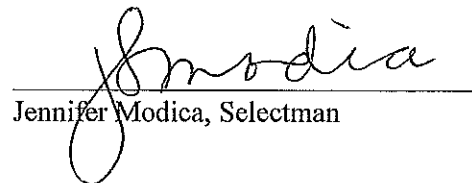
Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen Welch.

May 14, 2018 Minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:

  
Justin Piccirillo, Chair & Clerk

  
Jeffrey Shaw, Vice-Chair

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James Hogan, Selectman

  
Jennifer Modica, Selectman

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Peter Baghdasarian, Selectman

Date Approved: 5/22/2018