

**Uxbridge School Committee Meeting**

**January 18, 2023**

**6:30pm**

**Uxbridge High School Library and via Zoom**

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK  
2023 MAR 15 PM 5:11

<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
Patrick Tuer, Chair	X	
Christine Pezzullo, Vice Chair	X	
Barry Desruisseaux, Member	X	
Tiffany Bashaw, Member	X	
Jonathan Rota, Member	X (via Zoom)	
Lisa Mobley, Member	X (via Zoom)	
Bernie Audette, Member	X	

**1. Call to Order 6:33 pm by Chair Pat Tuer**

**2. Public Comment**

Motion to open the Uxbridge Public School's FY24 Budget Public Hearing by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Christine Pezzullo. Vote: 7-0 Approved. (BA-Y, LM-Y, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)

Chair Pat Tuer introduced Interim Superintendent Dr. Baldassarre, who thanked Business Manager Don Alcardi, Assistant Superintendent Dwyer, and the three Principals, among others, for their hard work in crafting the FY24 budget to date.

Dr. Baldassarre referenced the preliminary budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024) presented to the School Committee at their meeting on January 4, 2023, including knowns and acknowledgment of unknowns. The original draft of the budget called for a 5.5% request from the General Fund, but the latest iteration is down to a 3.5% request.

Dr. Baldassarre reminded attendees that some factors such as Chapter 70 funding and Circuit Breaker will be unknowns for longer than usual, due to the change in personnel in the Governor's office.

Copies of the preliminary budget are available to the public.

Next anticipated step is for the School Committee to vote on the budget at the February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Pat Tuer opened meeting to questions from School Committee members and members of the general public.

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**Motion to continue budget public hearing after Executive Session by Christine Pezzullo, seconded by Tiffany Bashaw. Vote: 7-0 Approved. (BA-Y, LM-Y, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)**

**3. Executive Session**

**Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining in preparation for negotiations with the UTA if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the School Committee's bargaining position, and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if any open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares by Bernie Audette, seconded by Barry Desruisseaux. Vote: 7-0 Approved. (BA-Y, LM-Y, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)**

**4. FY24 Budget Public Hearing**

**General session of the budget public hearing resumed at 7:06pm.**

**Motion to continue budget public hearing after employee recognition by Christine Pezzullo, seconded by Tiffany Bashaw. Vote: 7-0 Approved. (BA-Y, LM-Y, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)**

**5. Recognition**

**Dr. Baldassarre recognized and thanked Executive Assistant Barbara Emerick for her hard work and dedication to the success of the Uxbridge Public Schools.**

**Motion to resume budget public hearing by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Christine Pezzullo. Vote: 7-0 Approved. (BA-Y, LM-Y, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)**

**6. FY24 Budget Public Hearing**

**General session of the budget public hearing resumed at 8:25pm.**

**School Committee discussed leaving the public budget hearing "open" to allow the community to continue submitting questions or concerns about budget issues.**

**Motion to continue the budget public hearing to February 1, 2023 by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Bernie Audette. Vote: 7-0 Approved. (BA-Y, LM-Y, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)**

**7. Public Comment (Regular Session School Committee Meeting)**

**No public comment**

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**8. Superintendent Contract**

Motion to approve the contract between Uxbridge Public Schools and Dr. Michael Baldassarre for the role of Superintendent for a term of one year, with an additional three year option to be decided on by October 1, 2023, for the salary of \$167,000 for the first year, and a 3% increase for the first additional year by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Christine Pezzullo. Vote: 4-1-2 Approved. (BA-abstained, LM-abstained, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-N, PT-Y)

**9. Reorganization**

Motion to have Patrick Tuer remain Chair of the Uxbridge School Committee by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Christine Pezzullo. Vote: 7-0 Approved. (BA-Y, LM-Y, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)

Motion to have Christine Pezzullo remain Vice Chair of the Uxbridge School Committee by Patrick Tuer, seconded by Barry Desruisseaux. Vote: 7-0 Approved. (BA-Y, LM-Y, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)

**10. Academic Achievement and Engagement**

Presentation will be shared during February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**11. Lights Update**

Business Manager Mr. Aicardi provided update that the Request for Proposal (RFP) is almost complete, with a goal of bid opening on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Plan is to place supply order so most work can be done over the summer, with the end goal of lights being installed and operational by the beginning of SY23-24.

**12. Grants update**

Mr. Aicardi shared that the town has received a few grants that will be used toward facilities improvements at both Taft Early Learning Center and The Whitin School.

**13. Tech Job Descriptions (A)**

Motion to approve the two job descriptions for the Technology Department that were reviewed at the December 21, 2022 meeting by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Tiffany Bashaw. Vote: 5-0-2 Approved. (BA-abstained, LM-abstained, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)

**14. Natures Classroom- 7th grade Field Trip (A)**

Motion to approve the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Nature's Classroom trip, with the additional plan to provide scholarship opportunities for interested families by Bernie Audette, seconded by Christine Pezzullo. Vote: 6-1 Approved. (BA-Y, LM-N, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)

**15. School Committee Workshop**

MASC will be putting on a workshop for the School Committee on best practices, on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

**16. Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn by Barry Desruisseaux, seconded by Tiffany Bashaw. Vote: 7-0 Approved. (BA-Y, LM-Y, JR-Y, TB-Y, BD-Y, CP-Y, PT-Y)

Meeting adjourned at 9:12pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre Thomson

Recording Secretary

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Patrick Tuer

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Patrick Tuer, Chair

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CPezullo

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Christine Pezzullo, Vice Chair

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Barry Desruisseaux

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Barry Desruisseaux, Member

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Barry Desruisseaux

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Dr. Bernie Audette, Member

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Jonathan Rota

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Jonathon Rota, Member

DocuSigned by:

Tiffany Bashaw

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Tiffany Bashaw, Member

Dr. Lisa Mobley, Member

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