



**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
LOCATION: REMOTE MEETING
UXBRIDGE, MA**

MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020 @ 6:30 PM

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK
2020 JUN 1 PM 12:43

Present: Chair Brian Butler, Vice Chair Jeffrey Shaw, Clerk Brian Plasko, and Select Board Members Susan Franz and Stephen Mandile.

Also present: Town Manager Steven Sette, Admin. Assistant Erin Lemoine, Town Clerk Kelly Cote, Council on Aging Director Lisa Bernard, DPW Director Benn Sherman, Town Accountant Michelle Laramee, and Treasurer/Collector Lisa Troast

1) CALL TO ORDER & SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mr. Butler. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, § 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020, Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Uxbridge Board of Selectmen was conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public was permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. A reminder that persons who would like to view/listen to this meeting live may do so by watching the Government Channel @ www.uxbridgetv.org or on Uxbridge Community Television Channel 191. For those unable to watch it live, you may view the recording of the meeting on the Government Channel @ <http://archive.uxbridgetv.org>.

2) ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) **Volunteers needed:** Bylaw Review Committee. Please see the Clerk's Office or Town Manager's office for a list of openings.

b) Uxcellent News:

- Thank You to Senior Center – Mr. Plasko read a letter sent to the Senior Center by David Vassar.
- Chamber of Commerce's Restaurant Challenge – Mr. Plasko also shared The Medford Chamber of Commerce challenged its members to purchase gift cards from local restaurants and other businesses and donate them to local Senior Centers. The Blackstone Valley Chamber has accepted the challenge from Medford; Dave Muradian and Jeannie Hebert will collect gift cards to help local seniors and support local restaurants. Contact the Camber at 508-234-9090 if you have questions.

3) BUSINESS

a) Dog Park Committee

The Board of Selectmen had placed this item on the agenda in anticipation of the Dog Park opening in the near future; the coronavirus pandemic has altered the schedule for the opening of the park and as a result there are no new updates at this time.

b) Review of May 19th Election

The Board of Selectmen had set this agenda item as a final check-in prior to the scheduled May 19th election date to have discussion on where the Commonwealth is with regard to the pandemic, current in-place orders from the Governor's office, and the resulting Town preparations. Kelly Cote was present and provided an update on preparations. Board members discussed. Ms. Franz expressed her concern for poll workers.

c) Goldthwaite Fund Distribution and Senior Food Program Update

Council on Aging Director Lisa Bernard was present and first shared that Shirley Shultzberg, the mother of one of her staff, had passed away. A moment of silence was observed. Ms. Bernard then provided an update to the board. Board members offered their assistance in her efforts.

The Board of Selectmen then moved the Citizens' Forum agenda item prior to item 4)d).

d) Water/Sewer Rate Discussion (Board acting as Water and Sewer Commissioners) - Approve Water and Sewer Rates and Set Public Hearing Date

DPW Director Benn Sherman and the Town's consultant, Mike Schrader from Tighe & Bond, were present, provided more information, and answered questions made by Board members. A lengthy discussion was held. Given the current economic state because of the pandemic, the Board discussed and will review in one quarter. The Town Manager will reschedule the next review for August 10th and August 24th for any vote.

e) Discuss Rifleman Way & Brady Court: Layout Hearing Date

Mr. Butler passed on this agenda item and will discuss with the Town Manager to request more information.

f) Discuss, Approve, and Vote: May 26th BOS Meeting date change

Mr. Sette advised a conflict exists with the BOS May 26th meeting, as there is also a Finance Committee Public Hearing scheduled. The BOS consider moving to Wednesday, May 27th.

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the next Uxbridge Board of Selectmen Meeting be moved to Wednesday, May 27th. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

g) Donations:

- Uxbridge HELPS Fund - Vote to Accept \$1,000 Donation from the Valley Chapel
- Uxbridge HELPS Fund - Vote to Accept \$800 Donation from Cornerstone Church

MOTION: Mr. Plasko moved that the Board of Selectmen accept the donation of \$1,000.00 from the Valley Chapel, on behalf of the Uxbridge HELPS Fund, with gratitude. Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Mr. Shaw moved that the Board of Selectmen accept the donation of \$800.00

from the Cornerstone Church, on behalf of the Uxbridge HELPS Fund, with thanks. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Plasko-yes, Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

4) TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

- a) Forensic Audit Update – Mr. Sette advised a town resident requested an update on this. The work is still in process. The Town is waiting to hear from the auditors. Town Accountant, Michelle Laramee, was present and provided a status update.
- b) New Legislation Pending for Town Meeting Quorums – Mr. Sette advised there was a bill submitted by both House and Senate that would allow a quorum to be reduced to between 10-25%. The bill still has not been signed by the Governor.
- c) New State Guidance for Non-essential Retail Remote Operators – Mr. Sette provided an update on this item. More information was released, and Michael Gallerani and his team disseminated to the Town businesses. Mr. Gallerani provided the update in a Question-and-Answer format. Mr. Sette advised the information is posted to the Town web site. Ms. Franz mentioned the new information announced by the Governor today. Mr. Sette shared plans are in progress to open Town Hall.
- d) Update on MVP Grant Period Extensions to FY2021 – Ms. Franz provided an update on the extensions.

5) CITIZEN'S FORUM (moved to between agenda items 4)c) and 4)d))

- Ms. Erin Sylvester asked why the water rates are being raised. She expressed concern over the quality of the water.
- Mr. Sean Matthews commented his concern over the flat rate changing.

6) MEMBER ISSUES & COMMENTS

- Mr. Mandile congratulated Uxbridge High School Principal, Michael Reubin, for being named Principal of the Year in Massachusetts. Board members also congratulated Mr. Reubin.
- Mr. Plasko shared that last weekend some of the Town employees held a birthday celebration parade for Ellen Mayo. He thanked those employees and he offered a Happy Birthday to her. Additionally, Mr. Plasko congratulated the Town's newest sergeant, Sgt. Stratton.
- Mr. Butler shared an announcement made by the July 4th Committee that due to the pandemic, the July 4th celebration will be canceled this year.

7) MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Shaw moved the Board of Selectmen approve the amended meeting minutes of April 13, 2020. Seconded by Ms. Franz. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Ms. Franz moved the Board of Selectmen approve the amended meeting minutes of April 27, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Mandile. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

MOTION: Mr. Mandile moved the Board of Selectmen approve the Joint Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee meeting minutes of May 5, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The


motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

8) ADJOURNMENT: NEXT REGULAR BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING: May 27, 2020 @ 6:30 PM

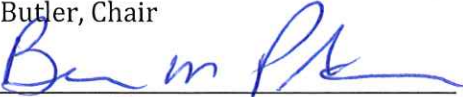
MOTION: Mr. Shaw moved the Board of Selectmen adjourn its meeting of May 11, 2020, at 9:03 PM. Seconded by Mr. Plasko. The motion carried 5-0-0 via roll-call vote: Franz-yes, Mandile-yes, Plasko-yes, Shaw-yes, Butler-yes.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Erin Lemoine.

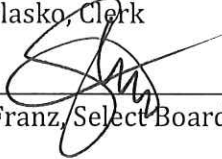
May 11, 2020, minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:




Brian Butler, Chair



Brian Plasko, Clerk



Susan Franz, Select Board Member



Jeffrey Shaw, Vice Chair



Stephen Mandile, Select Board Member

5/27/20

Date