



**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMENS MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING ROOM
21 S. MAIN STREET, UXBRIDGE, MA
MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2017 – 6:30PM**

**Received by
Uxbridge
Town Clerk**

Video of meeting discussions are available at www.uxbridgetv.org or by request at the Cable Access department.

Present: Chair / Clerk Justin Piccirillo, Vice-Chair Jeff Shaw, Selectman Peter Baghdasarian, and Jennifer Modica. Also present: Town Manager David Genereux. Not present: Selectman Jim Hogan.

I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Announcements:

Mr. Piccirillo made a request for volunteers interested in serving on a Water and Sewer Advisory Committee. And made a request for citizens and voters to provide feedback and opinions to the Town Manager and the Board about how the two positions are doing with their job for the town:

Their email and phone numbers (not provided at the meeting) are listed below:

*Town Manager: David Genereux
dgenereux@uxbridge-ma.gov
508-278-8600 ext. 2002*

*Board of Selectmen Chair, Justin Piccirillo
jpiccirillo@uxbridge-ma.gov
774-287-3891*

Mrs. Modica made an announcement regarding the upcoming fireworks occurring at the McCloskey Middle School field on July 8th.

Police Chief Lourie announced a Youth Citizen's Police Academy being held in the 2nd week of July. Anyone interested can call Officer Dan Deveau or Chief Lourie. Their email addresses (not provided at the meeting) are listed below:

*Police Chief Lourie
jlourie@uxbridge-ma.gov*

*Officer Deveau
ddeveau@uxbridge-ma.gov*

Chief Lourie also announced the 14th Annual memorial motorcycle ride Honoring Chet Dzivasen on July 8th, with proceeds providing financial support to families of children and adults fighting cancer.

2. Citizen's Forum:

No citizen wished to speak.

II. MEMBER ISSUES

A number of member issues were brought forth by Mrs. Modica:

- A request that the Board put to writing a formal charge for the Water and Sewer

Advisory Committee.

- Mrs. Modica wished to thank the Boy Scouts for their work regarding an installation of park benches at the Senior Center.

- Asked that volunteers who were painting fences on Town owned property come before the Board of Selectmen to request approval before conducting work

Discussion was held between Mr. Baghdasarian and Mr. Piccirillo regarding the positioning of Member Issues within the meeting agenda.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss participation in ClearGov website

The Board conversed on the topic and with various forums to obtain the data available in the public domain, it was determined that the Town should not engage in ClearGov at this time. No vote was held, but the Town Manager suggested he would e-mail the ClearGov website administrators and suggest that if costs were reduced, the Town could re-examine participation at a later date.

2. Review / approve Town Counsel Request for Proposal (RFP)

Mr. Genereux presented a draft RFP. Mr. Baghdasarian offered a spelling correction and wanted a shorter format. Mr. Genereux offered that the RFP does not allow for retainer fees to be assessed – that Counsel fees would be assessed only on an hourly basis.

Mrs. Modica moved to approve the RFP as written – seconded by Mr. Shaw.

Motion carried 4-0-0.

3. Formulate clear process for Town Counsel Communications

Mr. Piccirillo asked the Board to expound on the process for engaging Town Counsel, including the ways in which other bodies in Town Government would engage Town Counsel. Discussion was held on the topic.

There was an open question as to whom within the BOS should be charged with initiating discussions with Town Counsel; Mrs. Modica had the suggestion to look at selectmen policies in other towns. Mr. Piccirillo agreed to look into the matter further and re-open the discussion with the Board at a later date.

Mr. Genereux offered that a meeting with Special Counsel Talerma would be held the following morning with respect to legal issues outstanding to permitting boards. Mr. Piccirillo and Mrs. Modica requested to be included in the call.

4. Municipal and/or school building strategy discussion – costs relative to long term housing of School Administration and Independence Project.

Mr. Piccirillo informed the BOS of discussions between the Chair and members of the School Administration, School Committee, Firestation Building Committee, and Planning Board member, Mr. Desruisseaux, relative to costs for housing these needs; indicating that there may be significant long term costs which can be offset by avoiding

long term leases; or the purchase, or construction of new buildings. Mrs. Modica felt that the decision making responsibility fell upon the school committee. Mr. Piccirillo agreed but wanted to work with the School Committee to minimize costs. The item was discussed further, but ultimately tabled for future discussion.

5. Appointments

- i. Letter from Ms. Romasco, Uxbridge Historic Cemetery Committee (UHCC)
A letter was received from Ms. Romasco which illustrated a concern regarding a recent informal policy change on recurring appointments to multi-member bodies. The policy change required appointees to resubmit a talent bank form. Some members of the UHCC have been active for the last 20 years without having to resubmit the form. The BOS agreed that the Town Manager and the BOS should take a more active role in communicating with existing members to understand their reappointment.
- ii. Review Volunteer Acknowledgement Form
A draft form for new appointments was considered by the Board. The Board did not come to consensus on the value of the form as written. The Town Manager agreed to send out appointment letters without the acknowledgement form.
- iii. Discussion of Town liability for removals and suspensions; possible future actions
Carrying over from the previous agenda item, further discussion was held about a potential amendment to the Charter; to clarify examples of just cause. The Town Manager and BOS members held discussion on the topic.
- iv. Appointment – Historic Cemetery Committee – Sheryl Romasco
Mr. Baghdasarian moved to appoint Sheryl Romasco for a 1 year term to the Historic Cemetery Committee – seconded by Mrs. Modica. Motion carried 2-1-1; no: Mr. Shaw (he felt that Ms. Romasco should be required to submit a talent bank form); abstained: Mrs. Modica.
- v. Appointment – Cultural Council – Cameron Haiger
Mr. Baghdasarian moved to appoint Cameron Haiger to the Cultural Council – seconded by Mrs. Modica. Motion carried 4-0-0
- vi. Appointment – Recreation Commission – Tim Devlin
Mr. Baghdasarian moved to appoint Tim Devlin to the Recreation Commission. Mrs. Modica requested a future agenda item that the Board review the fee structures and expenditures of the recreation commission – motion then seconded by Mrs. Modica. Motion carried 4-0-0.

- vii. Appointment – Recreation Commission – Lyndon Washington
Mr. Baghdasarian moved to appoint Lyndon Washington to the Recreation Commission – seconded by Mrs. Modica. Motion carried 4-0-0.
 - viii. Appointment – Recreation Commission – Mark Kaferlein
Mr. Baghdasarian moved to appoint Mark Kaferlein to the Recreation Commission – seconded by Mr. Shaw. Motion carried 4-0-0.
 - ix. Appointment – Auditor – Melanson & Heath, Andover, MA
Mr. Genereux explained the BOS role in engaging the auditors so the Town Report may be generated. Melanson & Heath have audited the Town records since 2009. **Mr. Baghdasarian moved to appoint Melanson & Heath as Auditor – seconded by Mr. Shaw. Motion carried 4-0-0.**
6. BOS members provide Town Manager written annual review
Mr. Piccirillo informed the public that prior to the start of the meeting, Mrs. Modica provided copies of a document entitled “BOS and TM Goals for FY 2017/18”, indicating that the BOS had approved the goals in late August 2016. Mrs. Modica also pointed out the verbiage in the TM contract specifying the timing around performance evaluations: 12 months after the Board voted and presented goals to the manager; and that the Town Manager should be provided a written statement of the performance evaluation by the Board Chair. Mr. Piccirillo agreed to look into the timing and reconvene at the appropriate time.

Mr. Genereux felt that there was a lack of clarity from the BOS in terms of the division of roles and responsibility between the Town Manager and the BOS and was looking for specific metrics for success. A discussion ensued.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion to determine and set FY18 Board of Selectmen goals and objectives / TM goals and objectives
 - *Mr. Piccirillo read through the list of goals provided by Mrs. Modica entitled “BOS and TM Goals for FY 2017/18” (note: this list is provided in the BOS minutes from 8/22/16)*
 - *Mrs. Modica requested to work more broadly on reducing fees*
 - *Mr. Piccirillo read through and a general discussion was provided for a list of potential goals generated at the 6/21/17 meeting (note: this list is provided in the BOS minutes from 6/21/17)*
 - *Discussion was held around how to create transparency in the Town Manager’s office*
 - *Mr. Baghdasarian felt that the items relating to long term planning and understanding costs were a symptom of the Town’s inability restrain costs – particularly around salaries and staff. Police Chief Laurie spoke about the difficulties in trying to restrain costs but still providing services that the town needs.*

2. Discussion relating to FY18 Budget amendments from Spring Annual Town Meeting 2017:

The following points were discussed:

- Mrs. Modica expressed displeasure as to the actions taken at Town Meeting by Mr. Piccirillo and Mr. Piccirillo provided feedback as to the reasons why such actions were taken, and expressed a desire to work with the Town Manager and the Board to move on from such issues.

V. MINUTES

1. Mr. Piccirillo explained two corrections to the minutes from 5/8/17 (that a presentation and discussion relating to the Uxbridge Dog Park would be corrected to reflect that potential Town revenues from a solar project at the site would not be appropriated to the Park; and to correct the vote tally from 4-1 to 3-2; Mr. Baghdasarian and Mr. Piccirillo abstaining. **Mrs. Modica moved to accept the amended minutes from 5/8/17 – seconded by Mr. Shaw. Motion carried 4-0-0.**

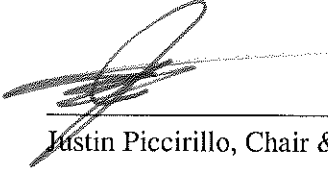
2. Mrs. Modica offered two corrections for the minutes from 6/12/17 (Mrs. Modica departed the meeting at 9:00 PM; a citizen had been incorrectly identified – Mr. Norman Silbor). Mr. Genereux identified that under OLD BUSINESS; the first motion to set the importation fee structure did not carry 2-2 (it was listed as having carried). A vote tally shown as 3-0 under further discussion of soil importation fees also left out Mr. Baghdasarian’s abstention vote. The vote tally was amended 3-0-1. **Mr. Shaw moved to accept the minutes from 6/12/17 as amended – seconded by Mrs. Modica. Motion carried 4-0-0.**

A RECESS OF 5 MINUTES WAS TAKEN FOLLOWING DISCUSSION OF MINUTES AND PRIOR TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Piccirillo asked for a roll-call vote to enter executive session to discuss matters related to a settlement agreement in the case of Foss v. Town of Uxbridge – an adverse possession claim – docket #2014-02218; with no business to follow. Baghdasarian – AYE; Shaw – AYE; Modica – AYE; Piccirillo – AYE.

Minutes approved by the Board of Selectmen:



Justin Piccirillo, Chair & Clerk

Jeff Shaw, Vice-Chair

Peter Baghdasarian, Selectman

Jennifer Modica, Selectman