

TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
UXBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 01569

Chairman Chief William Kessler, Fire Dept.
Benn S. Sherman, Director DPW
Chief Jeffrey Lourie, Police Dept.
David Genereux, Town Manager
Kevin Carney, School Superintendent

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: November 15, 2017
MEETING LOCATION: Uxbridge Police Department, 275 Douglas Street

Received by
Uxbridge
Town Clerk

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Kessler	Uxbridge Fire Chief
Jeffrey A. Lourie	Uxbridge Chief of Police
Benn Sherman	Uxbridge DPW Director
David Colton	Uxbridge Interim Town Manager

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Tom Bellacqua	First Night Committee
Holly Gallerani	First Night Committee
Kristin Black	Board of Health
Peter Demers	Chairperson, Uxbridge Finance Committee

I. CALL TO ORDER

It being 10:36 am, the meeting being properly posted, duly called and a quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by William Kessler.

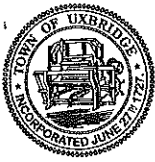
II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes:

August 16th minutes – Motion to approve by Chief Lourie, seconded by Director Sherman. Vote 3-0 with Town Manager Colton abstaining.
September 20th minutes – Motion to approve by Director Sherman, seconded by Chief Kessler. Vote 2-0 with Town Manager Colton and Chief Lourie abstaining.
October 18, 2017 minutes – Motion to approve by Chief Lourie, seconded by Director Sherman. Vote 3-0 with Town Manager Colton abstaining.

B. School Zone flashing light

1. Update on status – lights should be in within a week or so, and will be installed shortly after.
2. Fincom Chair Peter Demers spoke about committees working together and felt that the PSC put the FinCom in a bad spot by recommending the lights be funded by a reserve transfer request. He stated the lights have been a problem for years and did not meet the state standard for using a reserve fund transfer. Chief Kessler apologized that the PSC may have seemed to make that recommendation, however the PSC only recommended that the lights be fixed and the previous Town Manager David Genereux had said he had an option for funding. That option was not discussed in the meeting.
Chairman Demers also requested that PSC meetings be recorded. Chief Kessler explained that resources from the Cable department were not available, and that the committee



had spoken with Barry Giles and would try to arrange to have a simple camera in place to record future meetings.

C. Public Safety Committee Responsibilities

Chief Kessler stated that he would wait to address this item with the new Town Manager when appointed.

D. First Night December 2, 2017

Mr. Bellacqua stated his committee would prefer to line up on North Main Street, and that he felt it was a public safety concern lining up on Rivulet Street as emergency vehicles could not get thru. The PSC expressed concern that there may not be enough room on North Main Street to line up the parade and keep a lane open. It was agreed to revisit it for next year, and to hold a meeting prior to the parade to plan the traffic control for the night. The First Night Committee was told they would have to ensure a lane is left open on Rivulet Street.

E. Mass DOT hydroplaning issues Rt. 146 NB south of Lackey Dam Rd., exit 4.

Mass DOT has installed a couple of catch basins in that area. Chief Kessler reported the FD has not been up there during rain storms since then. There is hope that the issue has been addressed.

F. MASS DOT S. Main St. @ Rt. 146A

Director Sherman updated the PSC that Mass DOT is looking for specific accident detail for this area. Chief Lourie will have someone work on it, but stated it was a lot of effort to get the data with specificity to location.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of possible by-law to prevent door-to-door solicitors

Chief Lourie explained his concern that there is no way for the PD to prevent anyone from soliciting door to door. Solicitors are required to register with the PD, but even if the person has a criminal background, the police cannot stop the person from going door to door. Chief Lourie was recommending the Town adopt a By-Law prohibiting door-to-door solicitation. Chief Lourie made a motion to authorize the Chair to draft a letter to the Board of Selectmen detailing the concerns and recommending the Board pursue a By-Law to prohibit door-to-door solicitation or give the police the authority to refuse to allow individuals based on background checks. Director Sherman seconded the motion, vote was 4-0 in the affirmative.

B. Board of Health items

Health Agent Black asked what options were available for community notification of emergencies or other items. She was informed about the Code Red system and Facebook options other departments have been using. She also expressed concern about not having a more formal Emergency Management Department, Town Manager Colton to put this in the items to be addressed by the new Town Manager when appointed. Hoarding and addictions were also discussed, Chief Lourie explained that his department has been working with an agency out of Northbridge to assist those in need.



C. Veteran's Day parade and closing of North Main Street

Chief Lourie had received concerns from several participants in the parade as to why the road wasn't closed. The Committee discussed that the parade has followed the same route for many years, and it may be too expensive to properly close the road and staff detours. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee that the parade to honor and thank our Veterans should not be stopped, and that police motorcycles would continue to monitor the parade and traffic to move the northbound cars to the side and proceed at a slow speed. It should also be made clear to parade participants that there is limited width available (less than one full lane) and any participants who cannot operate in the limited width or did not feel comfortable walking in the parade could assemble at the Town Common for the ceremony at the end of the parade. Should the parade organizers choose to do something different that would be their decision.

D. This agenda item was a duplicate of item A.

E. Snow plowing of the sidewalk south of High Street.

This item was brought forward by Director Sherman as he had received a request to plow the sidewalk. He is concerned that it is not safe to plow that sidewalk with the equipment he has. The discussion turned towards a town wide sidewalk plowing plan. The Chair stated this was outside the scope of the agenda item and that an item would be placed on the next meeting agenda. The Committee suggested that Director Sherman explain to the resident that it was not safe for the DPW to plow that section of sidewalk and that we would be discussing a town wide plan at the next meeting.

IV. Adjournment

Motion by Chief Lourie, seconded by Benn Sherman to adjourn the meeting at 12:43 p.m. **Motion carried 4-0-0.**

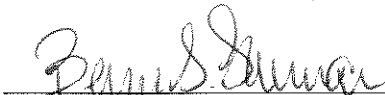
Minutes respectfully submitted by Bill Kessler.

Minutes approved by Public Safety Committee

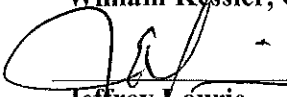
Date Approved: 12/20/2017



William Kessler, Chair



Benn Sherman



Jeffrey Lourie

David Colton

Kevin Carney