



TOWN OF UXBRIDGE  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
UXBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 01569

Chairman: Marc Montminy, Chief of Police  
Benn S. Sherman, Director DPW  
Frank Tiano, School Superintendent  
Angie Ellison, Town Manager  
Tom Dion, Interim Fire Chief

## MEETING MINUTES

**MEETING DATE:** March 19, 2019  
**MEETING LOCATION:** Uxbridge Police Department, 275 Douglas Street

MAY 20 '19 PM 1:11

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marc Montminy	Chief of Police
Benn Sherman	Director DPW
Frank Tiano	School Superintendent
Angie Ellison	Town Manager
Tom Dion	Interim Fire Chief

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jeanne Daley	Recording Secretary PSC
Peter Demers	Uxbridge Resident
Paul Morante	Uxbridge DPW Highway Supervisor

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

It being 9:00 am, the meeting being properly posted, duly called and a quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman, Marc Montminy.

**II. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Approval of Minutes:**

December 18, 2018, The Board reviewed the minutes.

**Motion made by Frank Tiano, seconded by Benn Sherman to approve the minutes.**

**Motion passed unanimously. Motion carried as followed: 5-0-0**

January 16, 2019 The Board reviewed the minutes.

**Motion made by Frank Tiano, seconded by Angie Ellison to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously. Motion carried as followed: 5-0-0**

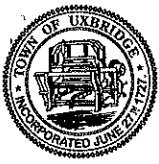
**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**Motion by Benn Sherman, seconded by Angie Ellison to move Article D from New Business out of order. Motion passed unanimously. Motion carried as follows: 5-0-0**

**D. Peter Demers – Discuss storms and trees:**

Peter Demers addressed the committee about dead trees in the community. During a weather event the Town's public resources are taxed dealing with tree down, tree limbs in the road, wires down, police details and road closures. He asked the committee if there should be a plan in place to mitigate resources. Branches and trees coming down present a safety factor to cars and pedestrians being struck. The question asked was the homeowner, town or power company responsible for these trees.

Benn Sherman explained to Mr. Demers that the power company does a lot for the DPW. The power company held a workshop symposium in Hopedale before winter. They explained to those in attendance that the trees are the Town's responsibilities, but, the power company takes care of them to keep their infrastructure going. Benn explained that there is no budget in DPW for trees. The last couple of years DPW targets \$15,000 to \$20,000 to tree work. Most of the tree work are



emergencies. The other element, that does not help the DPW is having a licensed arborist. Benn is not a licensed arborist so when he needs the assistance of an arborist he contacts Dave Donahue out of Northbridge. The electric company has done a lot for us when their wires are in jeopardy or there is a question of branches touching the wires. The bucket truck that DPW has only reaches 25-30 feet high. Bob's Tree Service took trees down on Monday on Blackstone Street and East Street. Today they are in the Oak St and Dunleavy St area. Tomorrow they will be on Buffum Road.

Benn explained to the committee that for FY 2020 he has an actual tree contract-and is looking to put together an IFB for tree work. He wants to be proactive.

Peter Demers said that they have to look at getting more money budgeted for tree work because the caterpillar damage from a few years back caused enormous damage. Benn he is getting calls on trees all the time and trees and accessibility are a concern. Peter Demers suggested as they see trees, they need to start marking them and those that are over wires and National Grid needs to be contacted.

## II. OLD BUSINESS

### B. Social Media Archive - Update

Chief Montminy discussed the novel approach to social media relative to Facebook, Twitter, etc and the obligation the town may have to archiving data. There's a dispute to shutting off public comments and turning off public response to comments. The town departments cannot prohibit people from responding to our posts, however, we can prohibit them from making individual comments. Town departments cannot disable comments to their posts. Angie Ellison said the Town needs a social media policy stating what is and is not allowed. Chief Montminy said the question is Do we have to archive? Yes. The other question to this is do we outsource or do it in-house. Benn said that if you do it in-house, you need to make sure the person has special skills and has coding experience. Angie said that Auburn and Framingham use the same company that Chief Montminy is referring to. Franklin has a social media department. It is a statutory requirement that we are required to archive. The company the Chief is inquiring into is \$1,200 a year. The departments that post everyday are the Police, Fire, School, Senior Center and Town Hall. Chief Montminy said People unfortunately, ask questions that should be called into the police department and we get a lot of questions generated from these. At this time there is no penalty for not archiving social media.

Chief said it is not Facebook's responsibility to keep all the information, it is the users' responsibility. Frank Tiano said we should have it but asked what if we do it every 5 years? Chief Montminy said the company runs it as a service and it is yearly. It is not necessarily that they turn it over to you every 5 years. Angie said \$1,200 is not expensive and it gives the town peace of mind. Chief Montminy said public media will continue to grow. Chief will pursue it and find out if others can find funding source.

**\*\* Motion made by Chief Montminy, seconded by Benn Sherman to recommend to the Town Manager to work with the School Superintendent, to find a funding source for Social Media Archive. All Approved, motion carried 5-0-0**

Chief Montminy to get exact cost for Town Manager and School Superintendent by the end of the day.



**C. Veterans Parkway – Parking Issue Update.**

It was brought to the attention of the Public Safety Committee that both complaints were from the same person and no other complaints have been received. After reviewing the parking issues and having discussions on it, the committee determined no need to do anything.

**D. Marijuana Facilities Opening – Update**

Chief updated the committee on the opening of Caroline's Cannabis. Everything went well. There were Officers' on detail from 8:30 am until 7 pm. By 10 am there were approximately 50 people in line and by opening time there were 100 – 150 people in line. There were no parking issues. They gave their opening speech by 11:00 am by the time the VIP's entered the building it began to rain. Many people decided not to stay due to the weather. On Saturday there were approximately 30 – 40 people in line. They had detail Officers' through Saturday and are closed on Monday and Tuesdays. Chief said that they could cancel details by Wednesday and overflow parking can also be cancelled.

Town Manager said 3% of revenues come to the town is the impact fee above and beyond taxes. Chief did scan the overflow parking lot and said 5-10% of the vehicles were from RI. 150 varied from elderly to exactly what you would expect. It was an interesting mix of people.

**E. RAVE 911 – Update**

School tested the old system – COPSINC – the system in place now. COPSINC was contacted and they were bought out by a few companies and they are doing fine. Asked for a salesman to contact Chief Montminy but no one has returned his call to date.

We were all on the impression IT and Board of Education was funding the cost. It is not in anyone's budget. We do not have RAVE in place and COPSINC has not been paid. A discussion was had with Patrick about RAVE. Issue is it relies on cellular signals and not PC. The school does not have great cellular connection and the fear is the teachers may not have a signal if needed. Simple solution would be to put all teachers on Network but the superintendent said that cannot happen. Chief will ask RAVE to come out to test at the High School.

**III NEW BUSINESS**

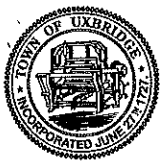
**A. Handicap parking spots in front of Town Hall – change to 15 minutes parking for Town Business.**

There are now handicap parking spaces in the parking lot and two in front of Town Hall. The parking spaces in front of Town Hall are no longer needed because of the ones in the parking lot. Who can change the handicap spots and is there a legal issue? The committee discussed this and the Board of Selectmen are the regulators of roads and road signage.

**\*\*Motion made by Chief Montminy, seconded by Frank Tiano, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen to change the two (2) handicap parking spots in front of Town Hall to 15 minutes for town business. All approved. Motion carried 5-0-0.**

**B. Move parking spaces in front of the Fire Station Entrance**

Acting Chief Tom Dion discussed the No parking in front of the Fire Station entrance with the Public Safety Committee. Before the new building went up, where the current parking lot is there is no parking spaces across the street. These were there so the fire apparatus could exit the fire station. The Town could add 3 parking spaces to that area removing the no parking. Across the



street from the new fire station, in front of the Senior Center, change those two (2) parking spaces to no parking.

**\*\* Angie Ellison amended the above motion:**

**\*\* Motion made by Angie Ellison, seconded by Marc Montminy. The Public Safety Committee recommends to the Board of Selectmen to change the 2 handicap parking spots in front of Town Hall to 15 minutes for Town Business. Move the no Parking to front of new fire station to assist with exiting. All approved. Motion carried 5-0-0.**

**C. Tristate Endurance Relay Run – Saturday, August 3, 2019**

This event is sponsored by the Greater Hartford Running Council. This off-road relay running will go through Uxbridge. There are a couple of points where they will be on the road. There will be staff and there are no issues. Just coming through town and they will contact Police when they come through.

**E Travis Do Rosario – 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration – July 6<sup>th</sup>, rain date July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Will be brought up at next meeting.

**F Community Yard Sale – Common Request**

Is this for profit or non- profit? What do they plan on putting up? Discussion was held on this and the Chief will contact her for further information and submit it to the Board of Selectmen.

**G Scoreboard at McCloskey**

Due to public safety hazard, high winds were causing the board to sway and a citizen was concerned it was going to come down. Police and DPW met and decided to remove the sign to prevent any injuries that could incur if the sign fell.

Benn said it was made safe. The electricity was disconnected and then it was removed. There was a placard on the scoreboard for the person who it was erected for. The placard was placed behind the school.

**H Tom Dion – Parking Lot U-Turns**

Ordered signs for the Fire Station Parking lot – No U-Turns and authorized entry only. This is to prevent motorists from turning around in the fire stations parking lot. Many motorists also park in the parking lot designated for fire personnel only. He also said that the parking lot needs to have parking space lines put in.

Frank Tiano also asked about signs. Taft School needs new “No Parking Fire Lane” signs. Tom said he ordered directly from the vendor and the Superintendent said he would also order from them.

**IV. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am

Motion – Tom Dion

Seconded – Benn Sherman

Motion carried 5-0-0

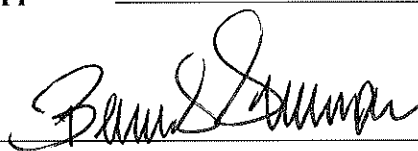


*Minutes respectfully submitted by Jeanne Daley.*

*Minutes approved by Public Safety Committee* **Date Approved:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Marc Montminy, Chair**



**Benn Sherman**

**Tom Dion**



**Frank Tiano**



**Angie Ellson**