

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2021

## Virtual Meeting

Chair Maureen Dwinnell; Selectman Stephen A. Matellian; Selectman Brett A. Simas; Town Manager, Derek S. Brindisi; Executive Assistant, Sandra Hakala

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Dwinnell opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. and reviewed the agenda.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **GUEST PRESENTATIONS**

#### **ESGR Presentation - Earl Bonett**

Employer Support of The Guard and Reserve (ESGR) sponsors an awards program designed to recognize employers for employment policies and practices that are supportive of their employees' participation in the National Guard and Reserve.

The Above and Beyond Award is presented by ESGR State Committees to recognize employers at the local level who have gone above and beyond the legal requirements of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act by providing their Guard and Reserve employees additional, non-mandated benefits such as differential or full pay to offset lost wages, extended health benefits, and other similar benefits.

#### **Home Rule Petition – BoA**

The Board of Assessors are proposing [AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF UPTON TO ESTABLISH A MEANS TESTED SENIOR CITIZEN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION](#) to be included in the STM Warrant.

### **BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS (NO PUBLIC COMMENT)**

Motion to Approve Amendment to the [Senior & Veterans' Property Tax Work Off Abatement Policy](#)

The Board of Assessors are proposing the following amendment to the Senior & Veterans' Property Tax Work Off Abatement Policy:

Town of Upton employees are not eligible for this program. Town board/committee members may be eligible to participate if services performed are outside of their official capacity for their respective board, unless the tax abatement is applied to another qualifying senior who does not reside within the participating Board/Committee Member's household.

The board/committee member who chooses to donate their earned tax abatement to a qualifying senior must also meet the eligibility requirements as outlined within this policy.

**Motion #1:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to approve the proposed amendment as proposed by the BoA.

Second: Selectman Matellian, Unanimous, Chairman Dwinnell

[Discuss One Day Liquor License Application](#)

**Motion #2:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to approve the One Day Liquor License Application to Rushford & Sons at 154 West River Street on 10-30-2021 from 11am – 5pm.

Second: Selectman Matellian, Majority Action of the Board

[Discuss Request Use of the Light Tower](#)

**Motion #3:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to approve the use of the Town's light tower on October 30, 2021.

Second: Selectman Matellian, Majority Action of the Board

[Discuss and Approve Costs of North Street Engineering Services](#)

**Motion #4:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to expend up to \$10,000. on an engineering study or survey to decide design a 7-to-10-unit subdivision ANR.

Second: Selectman Matellian, Unanimous, Chairman Dwinnell

[Motion to Approve Minimum Bid for 0 Westboro Road](#)

**Motion #5:** Motion made by Selectman Simas to set the minimum bid for the Westboro Road and parcel at \$525,000 based on the design with the addition of 2 to 3 parking spaces added to the easement.

Second: Selectman Matellian, Unanimous, Chairman Dwinnell

[Warrant Review](#)

There are approximately 22 articles; free cash articles are just south of 2.3 million, 600K of which was previously appropriated at the ATM; 57k as placeholder to fund 3 CBA's.

**Town Manager's Report**

- Chief Bradley signed a 5-year contract Public Safety Director/Police Chief
- Planning Board is meeting with the CC Committee to approve construction.
- Mass DOT has certified town intersection with lights.
- P FAS 2 out of 3 samples have come back good waiting for 3<sup>rd</sup> result
- Letter sent to Mass DOT to extend work from Moore and Muradian

- Heritage Day is September 25.

**Executive Session**

M.G.L. c.214, S. 1B and MGL c. 4, S. 7, Clause 220 26c to discuss financial assistance to a resident in need.

**Adjourn Meeting**

**Motion #6:** At 9:57 PM Selectman Matellian made motion to adjourn.

Second: Selectman Simas, Unanimous, Chairman Dwinnell

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Hakala, Executive Assistant