

# BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

April 27, 2021

Virtual Meeting

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

## **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

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 concerning imposition on strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, meetings in the Town of Upton are being conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order.

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As a preliminary matter, this is Brett Simas – Chair, Board of Selectmen. Permit me to confirm that all members and persons anticipated on the agenda are present and can hear me.

- Members, when I call your name, please respond in the affirmative. *Stephen Matellian, aye, Maureen Dwinnell, aye,*
- Staff, when I call your name, please respond in the affirmative. Derek Brindisi, Town Manager aye, *State each staff members' name.*
- Anticipated Speakers on the Agenda, please respond in the affirmative. *None*

## **Public Comment**

None

## **Guest Presentations**

### ***MURSD School Committee- Phil DeZutter***

Mr. De Zutter gave a PowerPoint presentation on the MURSD Budget Basics. Much of the increased funding is due to changes Massachusetts is now requiring Mendon and Upton to follow regarding their minimum local contribution (MLC), which is calculated based on a state formula known as Target Share. The equation takes property value, taxes, and mean income into consideration, before state aid is figured, which averages about 41 percent. Typically, a local contribution increases is about \$600,000 or \$700,000. This is meant to cover 50 percent of the town's levy limit, plus new growth. Coupled with minimum increases in state aid, this boost is needed to keep the schools operating at current levels. Upton holds 55.64 percent of the MLC,

Mendon the other 44.36 percent. The Target Share determines a community's MLC on an annual basis. In FY22, Mendon's MLC is set to decrease by \$2,419 (-.13 percent), while Upton's is set to increase by \$361,501 (+8.06 percent).

#### **Board Discussion Items (no public comment)**

##### **Memorial Day Discussion- VFW**

Russ Wood was in attendance to impart the plans for the VFW for Memorial Day. They have voted not to have a parade and will have abbreviated services at the at the three cemeteries and have a service on the common. Mr. Wood encouraged the Board of Selectmen to attend.

##### **Discussion to Amend Rushford & Sons Expanded Licensed Premise to During Regular Business Hours**

At their meeting on March 30, it was voted: *to expand the licensed premise on Saturday's 11AM-8PM and Sunday's 11AM-5PM and Pursuant to the Governor's Covid-19 Order No. 35 approval was granted for a temporary alteration of licensed premise to add 2500 sf outdoor paved lot. On-premises consumption must provide seated food service with the sale of alcohol. The food must be prepared on-site and under a retail food permit issued by a local licensing authority pursuant to 105 CMR 590.00. The amended license as a result of this order shall automatically revert back to its status prior to the approval of the change for expansion when the Governor's Order is rescinded.*

The licensee is now requesting that the temporary expansion include during all regular business hours.

**Motion #1:** Motion made by Selectman Dwinnell to amend the temporary expanded licensed premise to match the hours which alcoholic beverages may be sold.

Second: Selectman Matellian, Unanimous: Chairman Simas  
Brett Simas, aye, Maureen Dwinnell, aye, Steve Matellian, aye

The Board requested clarity from the ABCC if licensed establishments are required to be open for operation during all the days/hours approved by the LLA and stated on their license or can the licensee modify the hours as needed within the parameter of hours approved.

##### **Accept Resignation – Building Committee**

**Motion #2** Motion made by Selectman Dwinnell to accept the resignation of Jay Rodrigues from the Building Committee.

Second: Selectman Matellian, Unanimous: Chairman Simas  
Brett Simas, aye, Maureen Dwinnell, aye, Steve Matellian, aye

##### **Consider appointment – Building Committee**

Tabled

##### **Motion to Award BoS Scholarships**

86 Tabled

87  
88 **Motion to Approve Common Vic for Kelly Farm**

89 **Motion #3:** Motion made by Selectman Matellian to issue a Common Vic to Kelly's Farm  
90 contingent upon all requirements are met.

91  
92 Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous: Chairman Simas  
93 Brett Simas, aye, Maureen Dwinnell, aye, Steve Matellian, aye

94  
95 **Discuss Milford Chamber of Commerce 5K Application**

96 **Motion #4:** Motion made by Selectman Dwinnell to approve the July 31 Milford Area Chamber  
97 of Commerce 5K Road Race.

98  
99 Second: Selectman Matellian, Unanimous: Chairman Simas  
100 Brett Simas, aye, Maureen Dwinnell, aye, Steve Matellian, aye

101  
102 **Discussion Beautification Funding Request-Men's Club**

103 **Motion #5:** Motion made by Selectman Matellian expend \$2500 to support beautification and  
104 planting efforts around the town of Upton by the Men's Club.

105  
106 Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous: Chairman Simas  
107 Brett Simas, aye, Maureen Dwinnell, aye, Steve Matellian, aye

108  
109 **Discuss Mosquito Flier Funding Request-Sustainable Upton Group**

110 **Motion #6:** Motion made by Selectman Dwinnell to expend \$585.00 from the William Trust  
111 Fund for printing and distribution services for their mosquito flyer.

112  
113 Second: Selectman Matellian, Unanimous: Chairman Simas  
114 Brett Simas, aye, Maureen Dwinnell, aye, Steve Matellian, aye

115  
116 **Town Manager Report/Updates**

- 117  
118
  - The reset of the server crashed the email server, the Town was without e-mail for the  
119 better part of Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, most of Saturday.
  - Lights at the corner of High Street and Westboro Road have been activated not  
120 operational
  - 25k grant earmarked for public safety

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123  
124 **Closing Comments/Unanticipated Discussion Items (Board Members)**

125  
126 **Adjourn Meeting**

127  
128 **Motion #7:** At 8:44 pm Selectman Matellian made motion to adjourn.

130 Second: Selectman Dwinnell, Unanimous: Chairman Simas  
131  
132 Respectfully submitted,  
133  
134 Sandra Hakala  
135 Executive Assistant