

MEETING MINUTES

Abington Board of Selectmen Meeting

SCRIBE	Richard J. LaFond, Town Manager
DATE AND TIME	Monday, March 25, 2019 Cotter Room at Abington Town Hall – 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT		
Bob Manning, Chair	Tom Connolly, Vice Chair	Ken Coyle
Tim Chapin	Richard LaFond, Town Manager	
ABSENT		
Jim Connolly		

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE		
Chairman opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and requested a moment of silence in memory of Jeanne Bombardia. Jeanne was a lifelong resident of Abington and was a teacher of early childhood education in Weymouth and Abington for 31 years.		

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS
- Tim Chapin announced that Prom Angels Foundation (serving the special needs and their caregivers) are hosting their annual fundraiser on April 20, 2019 from 6:30-11:00 p.m. at the Pembroke Country Club. The event will have live entertainment, raffles and live auction. Tickets are available through April 15. - Ken Coyle complimented the recent effort to utilize Facebook more effectively

PUBLIC COMMENT
The Chairman invited public comment. No comments

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS
6:35 – Reconvened public hearing: Class II and Commercial Garage license hearing at 225 Main Street.
LaFond stated that he and the Building Department inspected the site and confirmed that the unregistered vehicles were no longer there and that there were no bylaw violations.
Coyle confirmed that total number of cars on site between the Class II and Commercial Garage license was not to exceed 27. He asked Mr. Nassif if he had been selling cars in January and February. Nassif responded NO but that people had come to look at vehicles.
Motion by Tom Connolly, Second by Chapin to close public hearing. Unanimous Vote
Motion by Chapin, Second by Tom Connolly to grant the Commercial Garage License at 225 Brockton Ave. – Unanimous Vote.

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PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

Motion by Manning, Second by Tom Connolly to grant the Class II License at 225 Brockton Ave. – 2-2 vote with Chapin and Coyle in opposition. The motion failed.

Coyle cited concerns about operating without a license since at least January and Nassif's abusive treatment toward town staff. The Chairman asked the members if they wished to make any modifications to the original motion. There were no requests for modification to motion. Chapin also cited that Nassif was operating without a license since January 1 and also cited his previous violation of the bylaw with regard to unregistered vehicles. Nassif stated that he came to town hall three times and was told to clean up the property. Nassif stated that there was already a license at the site prior to his purchase. LaFond stated that a new owner does not inherit the existing license and must obtain his own prior to operating. Nassif stated that the Board had previously instructed him to move the vehicles. Coyle corrected him that the Board told him that if he did so that the Board may consider granting a license and further stated that he may have to wait until there is a full Board in order to come back for reconsideration. Nassif stated that he had been to town hall several times, invested much money and was never told that he was in violation. Manning instructed him that the vote failed and suggested that he meet with the Town Manager to begin process to reapply if he so desires.

6:45 – Public Hearing on the application of David Khuc for a Class II License at 15 Groveland Street. LaFond informed the Board that inspections were all in order. Coyle requested a copy of the site plan and asked Khuc if this was his first time operating a Class II. Khuc answered that it was. Khuc stated that the business will be owned operated by 5 partners.

During the public hearing Mike Fagan stated that he had sold the business to Mr. Khuc and his partners after spending 27 years in business. Coyle asked Fagan if he had ever had issues with any town inspection officers. Fagan replied that he had not and that everyone he dealt with was always professional

Motion by Coyle, Second by Chapin to grant the Class II License at 15 Groveland Street subject to the conditions within his applications. Unanimous Vote.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Approval of March 11, 2019 Open Session Minutes. **Motion by Coyle, Second by Manning to approve minutes with the inclusion of the members present. Unanimous Vote**

Approval of March 11, 2019 Executive Session Minutes. **Motion by Coyle, Second by Chapin to approve the minutes and to hold from release until all matters are resolved. Unanimous Vote.**

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ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Approval of March 18, 2019 Executive Session Minutes. **Motion by Chapin, Second by T. Connolly to approve and hold from release until all matters are resolved. Unanimous Vote.**

Selectmen/Town Manager Goals

Coyle suggested the following:

1. Keep public informed regarding the Rt. 18 expansion project;
2. Consider how to approach the upkeep of town roads in light of the inadequacy of Chapter 90 Funds;
3. Retention of Police Offers. Coyle noted that the town has made progress but other police issues need solution;
4. Deal with need for additional DPW staffing;
5. Maintain and improve use of Facebook and town website;
6. Ensure that Asst. Town Manager responsibilities are absorbed;
7. Maintain Griffins Dairy, Ames Nowel and Golf Course properties;
8. Move forward on the Fire Station building project;
9. Continue to monitor the status of Union Point;
10. Move forward with a decision as to disposition of the North and Centre Schools

Chapin suggested:

1. Pursue feasibility of little league fields at Griffins Dairy;
2. Inventory parks and recreation inventory and possible use of CPA funds to assist;
3. Police Retention;
4. Monitor feasibility of town operation of the golf course;
5. Update the Town Manager review format

Manning suggested:

1. Study options with regard to recycling in light of the current financial demand;
2. Revitalize the SAGE committee with an updated improvement goals;
3. Create pothole hotline of some sort to assist residence in reporting;
4. Seek to adopt a program for care and maintenance of fire hydrants;

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ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Connolly suggested:

1. Review the structure of health insurance with regard to employee contributions and co-pays;
2. Review the possibility of hiring a human resource officer in the future.

LaFond stated that he would compile the list of proposed goals and forward to the Board in advance of their next meeting

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

1. The MOA with Little League regarding field maintenance has been forwarded for execution to the Little League
2. The HVAC projects at the Library and Town began today utilizing funds from our initial Green Communities Grant of \$164,000.00
3. The engineering study for the entrance to the Millenium Memorial Complex will be underway with a short time

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Manning, Second by Coyle, to enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to negotiations with non-union personnel (Town Manager) pursuant to GL c. 30A, Section 21 (a)(2). And to conduct negotiations with non-union personnel (Town Manager) pursuant to GL c. 30A, Section 21 (a)(2). Unanimous Roll Call Vote.