

MEETING MINUTES

Abington Board of Selectmen Meeting

SCRIBE	Richard LaFond
DATE AND TIME	April 22, 2019 6:30 p.m. Town Hall Cotter Room

PRESENT		
Bob Manning Jr, Chair	Tom Connolly	Ken Coyle
Tim Chapin (tardy)	Richard LaFond, Town Manager	
ABSENT		
Jim Connolly		
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE		
The Chairman requested all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance		

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS
Coyle announced the Rotary Club is distributing Colorado Spruce seeds to 5 th graders at Abington Schools, St. Bridget's and Whitman Schools. This has been a tradition for over 30 years. Rotary is also sponsoring a bowling night at Timber Lanes on May 4 at 6:00.
T. Connolly reminded the public of the election from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. this coming Saturday
Manning announced that Saturday April 27 is the MA State Parks Annual Stewardship day. Consequently an Ames Nowell clean-up will be held from 9:00 – 11:00. The public is encouraged to participate.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS
1. Approval of April 8, 2019 opens session minutes
Motion by Coyle to accept minutes with the addition of referencing the "Dog Park" in item #2 of the Town Manager's Report; Second by Tom Connolly: Unanimous 3-0 Vote (Chapin absent).
2. Approval of March 18, 2019 executive session minutes
Motion by Coyle of approve with addition of stating that Jim Connolly participated by telephone and to hold from release until all matters are resolved; Second by Tom Connolly; Unanimous 3-0 vote (Chapin Absent)
3. Approval of April 8, 2019 executive session minutes

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ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Motion by Coyle to approve and to hold from release until all matters are resolved; Second by Tom Connolly; Unanimous 3-0 vote (Chapin Absent)

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

6:45 – Public Hearing: Transfer of Commercial Garage License from Cedar Station & Service Station Inc. to Jackson Botelho dba Abington Auto Works at 225 Brockton Ave.

Coyle confirmed with applicant that the total # of cars was 9 and no cars for sale.

Motion by Coyle, Second by T. Connolly, Unanimous 3-0 vote (Chapin Absent) to close the public hearing.

Motion by Coyle, Second by T. Connolly, Unanimous 3-0 vote (Chapin Absent) to approve the transfer.

4. Review of STM Warrant:

Article 1 – Motion by Coyle; Second by T. Connolly; Unanimous 3-0 vote to recommend (Chapin Absent)

Article 2 - Motion by T. Connolly; Second by Coyle; Unanimous 3-0 vote to recommend (Chapin Absent)

Article 3 - Motion by Coyle; Second by T. Connolly; Unanimous 3-0 vote to recommend (Chapin Absent)

Article 4 – Hold

Article 5 – Motion by Manning to; Second by Coyle; Unanimous 3-0 vote to recommend (Chapin Absent)

Article 6 - - Motion by T. Connolly; Second by Coyle; Unanimous 3-0 vote to recommend (Chapin Absent)

Article 7 - - Motion by Coyle; Second by Manning; Unanimous 3-0 vote to recommend (Chapin Absent)

Article 9 - Motion by Coyle; Second by T. Connolly; Unanimous 3-0 vote to recommend (Chapin Absent)

Article 10 – Hold

Article 11 – Hold

5. Review of ATM Warrant:

Article 1 – No recommendation

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ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Article 2 – Motion by Coyle, Second by Chapin; Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend

Article 3 – Motion by Tom Connolly, Second by Coyle, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 4 – Motion by Coyle, Second by Chapin, 3-1 vote to recommend (T. Connolly opposed) Connolly stated his opposition to the Building Department fund stating that he believes the revenue should go into the general fund and all position in the department appear in the budget.

Article 5 – Hold pending completion of Collective Bargaining Agreements.

Article 6 – Motion by Coyle, Second by T. Connolly, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 7 – Motion by T. Connolly, Second by Coyle, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend. Coyle stated that he would like to see more investment in affordable housing with CPA Funds.

Article 8 – Motion by Coyle, Second by T. Connolly with addition of “up to” \$350,000.00, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 9 – Motion by Coyle, Second by Manning, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 10 – Motion by Coyle, Second by Chapin, 3-1 vote to recommend (T. Connolly opposed)

Article 11 – Motion by Coyle, Second by Chapin, to defer to recommendation of the Planning Board.

Article 12 - Motion by Coyle, Second by T. Connolly, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 13 - Motion by Coyle, Second by T. Connolly, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 14 - Motion by Coyle, Second by T. Connolly, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 15 – Hold pending explanation from Treasurer- Collector.

Article 16 – Hold pending explanation from Treasurer – Collector.

Article 17 - Motion by Coyle, Second by Chapin; Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 18 – Hold until recommendation of ZBA.

Article 19 - Motion by Coyle, Second by T. Connolly, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 20 – Motion by T. Connolly, Second by Manning, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 21 – Hold pending explanation from Cable Access Corp.

Article 22 – Motion by Coyle, Second by Manning, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

Article 23 – Motion by Chapin, Second by T. Connolly, Unanimous 4-0 vote to NOT recommend. Coyle discussed the eventual requirement by the state to ban plastic bags and that Abington business may be negatively impacted by unfair business conditions versus other communities if passed.

Article 24 - Motion by Coyle, Second by Chapin, Unanimous 4-0 vote to recommend.

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Manning reminded the Town Manager to include an article for \$5,000.00 to help offset public safety expenses for the 2020 St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Coyle requested that the subject of the two surplus schools be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

1. Mass DOT, the contractor and Fire Chief Nuttall have met to plan for measures to alleviate the problem of access to and from the station on Bedford Street due to the Rt. 18 construction. Both Mass DOT as well as the contractor will coordinate more closely with the department going forward to address this challenge.
2. Representatives from Mass DOT and contractor will be at the May 6 meeting of the Board to give the board and community an update on the project. A representative from Sen. Keenan's office will likely be attending too.
3. The FY 2020 budget recommendation is in the meeting packet and provides for a balanced budget. The Finance Committee will be considering their recommendation on this coming Wednesday night. A cover memo with highlights is included. In response to questions from Coyle, LaFond stated that the School Administration is supportive of the school department recommendation, the revenue projection is currently based upon the Governor's recommendation although the House budget would provide for approximately \$150,000 additional spending capacity due to additional revenue and lower assessments. Finally, the budget provides for one additional full time position in the DPW as well as a similar amount in the expense budget for contracted services.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MOTION

Motion by Manning, Second by J. Connolly, 4-0 Unanimous roll call vote to enter into Executive Session to conduct negotiations with non-union personnel (Town Manager) pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(2).

(Jim Connolly participating by speaker phone)

8:10 p.m.