



Town of Abington

OFFICE OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY
ABINGTON, MA 02351

(781) 982-2100

FAX (781) 982-2138

Minutes

Board of Selectmen

October 6, 2020

Cotter Room

6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Tim Chapin, Chairman, Alex Bezanson, Jim Connolly, Kevin DiMarzio, Mike Kolodziej, Scott Lambiase, Town Manager, Sue Moquin, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Chapin remembered Deirdre Zaccardi and her family in a moment of silence.

Public Announcements:

Mr. Connolly gave the absentee and early voting details.

Mr. Bezanson read a letter from Henry DiCarlo, Board of Library Trustees, in appreciation of all the help and guidance Marty Golightly has given the Library during the pandemic (letter attached). Mr. Bezanson has also had restaurant owners call him to let him know what a help Marty has been to them during the pandemic.

Mr. Chapin congratulated Mr. Lambiase on obtaining his degree.

1. Minutes – motion by Mr. Bezanson to approve September 28, 2020, seconded by Mr. Kolodziej, unanimous.
2. CARES ACT Funding update – Mrs. Moquin - \$2.75M was originally allocated to Abington. We submitted \$579,448 on 7/14/20 and \$921,000 on 10/3/20. There is an anticipated remainder of \$775,000 by December 30, 2020. The final submission is October 30, 2020 for anticipated expenses through December 30, 2020.
Town Manager – we are looking into permit tracking software which may be reimbursed under the CARES ACT.

Public hearings:

6:40 p.m. Request to transfer commercial garage license at 800 Adams Street from Robert Scales to John Pyrcz dba Collision Craftsmen. Motion to open the hearing made by Mr. Bezanson, seconded by Mr. Kolodziej, unanimous. Mr. Pyrcz purchased the business. Will have the same hours, closed Sundays. No comments from the public. Motion by Mr. Kolodziej to close the hearing, seconded by Mr. Bezanson, unanimous. Motion by Mr. Bezanson to approve the transfer, seconded by Mr. Connolly, unanimous.

6:45 p.m. Request to transfer commercial garage license for two repair bays at 120 Plymouth

Street from Skillings Auto Sales to Adam Davenport dba Adam's Automotive. Motion by Mr. Bezanson to open the hearing, seconded by Mr. DiMarzio, unanimous. Mr. Davenport is leasing two bays for general auto repair. There was discussion on whether it would be transfer or new license. The original license would need to be amended to one bay. It was suggested to continue the hearing and ask the current licensee to attend. Motion by Mr. Bezanson to continue to November 9th, seconded by Mr. Connolly, unanimous.

6:50 p.m. Adopt the Order of Layout of Belcher Street and Cook Way as a public way. Motion by Mr. Connolly to open, seconded by Mr. Bezanson, unanimous. Wayne Smith, Chairman of the Planning Board – Planning Board vote was unanimous. Board of Selectmen needs to make a recommendation to the Town. If the Town approves it by a 2/3 vote at Town Meeting, within 120 days the papers have to be filed with the Registry of Deeds. Motion by Mr. Bezanson to adopt the order of layout of Belcher Street and Cook Way, seconded by Mr. Connolly, unanimous (attached).

7:00 p.m. Adopt the Order of Layout of Crabtree Lane as a public way, from its intersection with the accepted portion of Crabtree Lane to Shaw Avenue. Motion to open made by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. DiMarzio, unanimous. Wayne Smith, Planning Board – subdivision has more than one street on it. This is just the Crabtree Lane portion from Sta 0+00 to Sta 12+00. Planning Board voted unanimously in favor. This includes emergency section, listed in the layout as "emergency use only". Town Manager – adopting the layout doesn't change anything on the plan. We don't have the ability to change anything on that plan. It would have to be an action of the Planning Board.

Brian Eklund, 78 Crabtree Lane – lives next to the emergency access. There is a temporary chain to stop traffic from going up and down. Is there a plan for something on a more permanent basis, or do they have to go to the Planning Board for a more permanent solution for it? Town Manager – this is just for roadway layout. In the future if Town Meeting accepts it and all the easements go through, the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Town Manager, DPW will get together and probably talk to some of the neighbors and them involved with whatever a permanent solution would be. Right now, the town doesn't own the property.

Rick Collins, 74 Orange Street, and member of the Planning Board. They heard from residents that a "no trespassing" sign had been put up there because it is still privately owned. After the town takes possession, can people walk through or ride their bikes? Town Manager – the town didn't put signs up. Once the town owns it, they can walk through, just can't drive through. It would be use for emergency vehicles for Police and Fire. Motion by Mr. Connolly to adopt the order of layout for Crabtree Lane, seconded by Mr. Kolodziej, 4 ayes, 1 abstention (Mr. Bezanson) (attached).

3. MRI Study implementation update from Deputy Chief Chris Cutter. He has been given the authority to get started looking into the issues addressed in the study. One of his goals is to improve communication. The Deputy Chief reviewed the report he submitted. Mr. DiMarzio asked who was picked for training. That will be looked at after January 1st. They may form a committee. Sometimes it is given out due to interest. Mr. Chapin – asked if, as changes have

been implemented, he had noticed any changes in morale. Deputy Chief thought so. Someone had mentioned to him that they had needed the monthly staff meetings. He is excited about the opportunity to restructure the department. His goal is the January-February time frame to restructure similar to what the MRI Study had suggested. His management style is different than the Chief's – a little less centralized, more participation with the rest of the department. Mr. DiMarzio – asked if they had looked into national accreditation. Yes. It is more than a year out. Mass. Accreditation is every three years, which is up in February. Mr. Bezanson asked how many officers were out and what were we budgeted for. Deputy Chief – we are budgeted for 30, 4 are enrolled in the academy. There is one open position, but they are in the process of filling it. One officer out for military leave for 3 years just got back. The department should be at full staff soon. The high point of staffing was at 31. Mr. Connolly was impressed by Deputy Chief Cutter's enthusiasm and dedication.

A traffic complaint report was submitted and reviewed.

4. Patrick Kearney – Adams Street zoning complaint. Mr. Kearney gave a brief review of his complaint against Robert Sullivan, 662 Adams Street. Both properties are residential, but zoned Industrial. Complaint was originally filed July 3rd. Trees were taken down and excavation was done at 662 Adams Street. Mr. Sullivan offered to excavate Mr. Kearney's property rather than put in retaining wall. Mr. Sullivan owns snowplows and wanted to bring them there to work on. Trenches were dug along property line. There was a fence issue. Mr. Sullivan was told he needed a building permit and to file with the Planning Board. Mr. Kearney filed complaint with Selectmen's office, Mr. Lambiase, Zoning Enforcement and Planning Board. He has looked into Zoning Bylaws and listed what he felt were violations – 175-47 (driveway); 175-72 (change of use); 175-77; 175-78 (certificate of occupancy); 175-50 (10' buffer strip on driveways); 175-67 (site features); no dumpster on site. He moved in, cut trees and is running a business. He doesn't have a certificate of occupancy, building permit or the approval of the Planning Board. There was a cease and desist from the Planning Board for fill brought in.

Town Manager – The Building Commissioner and Zoning Enforcement Officer have communicated with Mr. Sullivan frequently and issued fines. Was under the impression there was a cease and desist from the Building Commissioner for using the property without a certificate of occupancy. Town Manager would like to work with the Planning Board and Building Commissioner and put this in the hands of Town Counsel.

Mr. Kearney – Mr. Sullivan has become combative towards him and his family. Wayne Smith, Planning Board – Mr. Sullivan was on the October 5th agenda, continued to November 2nd for update. Has hired engineer and lawyer. Planning Board had responded to complaints, and Mr. Smith had gone out. Hardy Engineering is trying to determine what has been brought in. He won't have a site plan until December. Mr. Kearney was concerned there wasn't a 20' buffer strip between properties – a matter of safety.

Motion by Mr. Bezanson to authorize Town Manager to discuss with Town Counsel and Zoning Enforcement a possible resolution and cease and desist if needed at 662 Adams Street, seconded by Mr. Connolly, unanimous.

5. Review Warrant articles and vote recommendations for Special Town Meeting. Town Moderator Shawn Reilly explained the protocol for the STM.

The Board reviewed the Warrant articles. Motion by Mr. Bezanson to pass over #6 and #11, and to take no action on #27, approving the rest, seconded by Mr. Connolly, unanimous. Articles 18 & 19 were approved by a 4 aye, 1 abstention vote.

6. Discuss Selectmen liaison for Capital Improvement Committee – Committee to be formed to develop five-year plan, to meet during the day, to be discussed at first November meeting.
7. Town Manager Report:
Mr. Bezanson had asked Town Manager to look into how the Town could help restaurants, maybe give a break on liquor license renewals, not liquor stores. Town Manager looked into it, and it would be approximately \$25,000 to waive fees this year. Town Accountant thought this would have a minimal effect on the budget. Discussion will be placed on the next agenda.

VSO – has met with 4-5 candidates and will get small committee to make selection. We will have a full time VSO for Abington. Tom McCarthy has done a fabulous job and is retiring.

We have had interviews for Sealer of Weights and Measures.

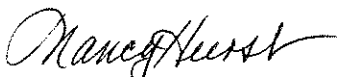
Town Manager commended Town Clerk Leanne Adams on receiving a grant of \$6,300 for planning a safe election.

Town Manager read a letter from the Town Clerk disputing Michael Nashawaty's implications at the previous meeting that he was given incorrect information from the Town Clerk's Office about filing a petition for the warrant and the necessary signatures required, which was why he was requesting the warrant to be re-opened.

The drive-up window in the Treasurer's Office will be available as of October 19th.

Motion to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. made by Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Bezanson, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy Hurst

October 5, 2020

Mr. Chris Schultz, Chair
Abington Board of Health
500 Gliniewicz Way
Abington, MA 02351

Dear Chris,

The members of the Board of Library Trustees and Library Director Deborah Grimmer want you, and the other members of the Board of Health, to know that we very much appreciate the knowledge and expertise of Public Health Director, Marty Golightly. Marty's help has been invaluable as we navigate the uncharted territory of providing library services under COVID-19 protocols. His calm demeanor, steady manner, kindness, and concern for both library borrowers and our staff have helped us to minimize public health risks and still achieve our primary mission of providing physical borrowing of books, and limited computer access for our residents.

The Abington Public Library is ahead of the curve in providing open browsing for our patrons; we were one of only about twenty public libraries in the state who were open for browsing in July and August. Many patrons, especially senior citizens, have mentioned how important being able to browse the shelves and select books to borrow is to their mental health. We are grateful for Marty's assistance, which helps us meet the needs of our residents.

With kind regards,

Henry DiCarlo
Chair, Board of Library Trustees.

cc: Mr. Marty Golightly, Public Health Director;
Mr. Tim Chapin, Chair, Board of Selectmen
Mr. Scott Lambiase, Town Manager

Selectmen Adopt Order of Layout and File Layout with Town Clerk

TOWN OF ABINGTON

ORDER OF LAYOUT OF CRABTREE LANE

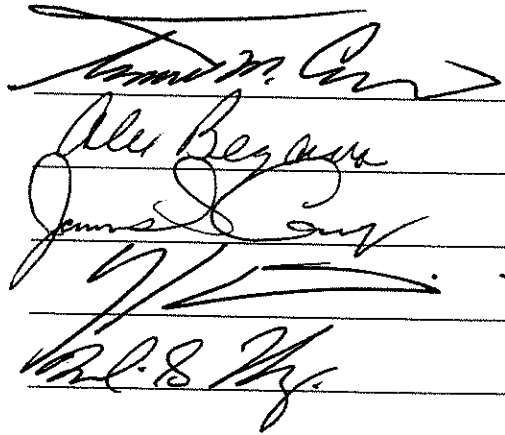
Whereas the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Abington, acting pursuant to G.L. c. 82, §§21-24, having deemed that common convenience and necessity require the acceptance of Crabtree Lane as a town way, hereby lays out as a public way Crabtree Lane, from its intersection with the accepted portion of Crabtree Lane to Shaw Avenue, all as shown on the plan referenced below, and

Whereas the boundaries of the layout of Crabtree Lane are shown on a plan entitled "Roadway Acceptance Plan Crabtree Lane Sta 0+00 to Sta 12+00", dated July 30, 2020, revised through August 20, 2020, prepared by SITEC, Inc., which plan was referred to the Planning Board and which plan is hereby adopted as a part of this order, and all land lying within the layout of the Crabtree Lane is hereby laid out as a public way.

The aforementioned plan is hereby forwarded to the Town Clerk for filing and the foregoing layout is hereby reported to the Town for acceptance.

Adopted: October 7, 2020.

TOWN OF ABINGTON,
By its Board of Selectmen



Filed in the office of the

Town Clerk, Deanne M. Adams 2020.

Town Clerk, Attest

October 7, 2020

Selectmen Adopt Order of Layout and File Layout with Town Clerk

TOWN OF ABINGTON

ORDER OF LAYOUT OF BELCHER STREET AND COOK WAY

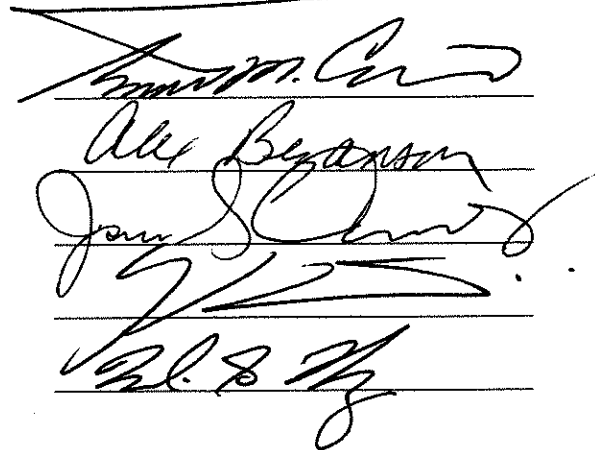
Whereas the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Abington, acting pursuant to G.L. c. 82, §§21-24, having deemed that common convenience and necessity require the acceptance of Belcher Street and Cook Way as town ways, hereby lays out the Belcher Street and Cook Way as public ways, all as shown on the plan referenced below, and

Whereas the boundaries of the layout of Belcher Street and Cook Way are shown on a plan entitled "Roadway Acceptance 'Layout Plan'", dated February 13, 2020, prepared Silva Engineering Associates, Inc., which plan was referred to the Planning Board and which plan is hereby adopted as a part of this order, and all land lying within the layout of the Belcher Street and Cook Way are hereby laid out as public ways.

The aforementioned plan is hereby forwarded to the Town Clerk for filing and the foregoing layout is hereby reported to the Town for acceptance.

Adopted: October 7, 2020.

TOWN OF ABINGTON,
By its Board of Selectmen



Filed in the office of the

Town Clerk, Joseph M. Adams 2020.
Town Clerk, Attest October 7, 2020