

**Minutes
Select Board
December 3, 2025
Cotter Room
10 a.m.**

Members Present: Roger Woods, Chairman, Suzanne Djusberg, Kevin Donovan, Paul Bunker, Nicole Emery, Scott Lambiase, Town Manager

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Woods welcomed newly elected member Nicole Emery to the Select Board.

1. **Notice of Vacancy in the Office of Town Manager.** Mr. Lambiase is leaving to go to Kingston as Town Administrator; Mr. Woods thanked him for his work in the Town of Abington and wished him well.
2. **Discussion and vote on the Appointment of Interim Town Manager and approval of Interim Employment Agreement.** Mr. Donovan looked into who would be available for the interim position and learned that Michael Maresco, formerly of Marshfield, would be available between now and when we appoint a permanent Town Manager. Counsel has drawn up an interim contract which is a scaled down version, which states he will start here on Monday, December 8th, serving part time 20 hours a week while Scott is still here, then go to full time once Scott leaves at the rate of \$91.11. Motion by Mr. Donovan to approve the employment agreement between Michael Maresco and the Town of Abington, for the salary at Scott's rate of \$91.11 for part time work and going into full time work, seconded by Mr. Bunker, unanimous. Michael Maresco was introduced, thanked the Board and is looking forward to his interim appointment and getting to know everyone and getting familiar with Abington.

3. Discussion and Votes on the Town Manager Search Committee Process including Dates and Advertisement for the Search Committee, Advertisement for Town Manager and Select Board Representation on the Committee. Mr.

Donovan – it didn't make sense to him that there isn't representation from the Select Board on this Committee. Pursuant to the Town Charter, the Select Board will appoint a seven member Town Manager Search Committee. The Committee shall consist of a member of the School Committee, a member of the Finance Committee and five residents. We will ratify the advertisement that was already in place. Persons interested should submit their applications through the town website on or before Monday, December 15th.

Appointments to the Search Committee will be made by the Select Board at a special Selectmen's meeting that will be called for Tuesday December 23rd. They will ratify the advertisement for the Town Manager vacancy. Applicants for Town Manager will have four weeks to submit their resumes until Monday, January 5, 2026. It is already on the MMA website. The first meeting of the Search Committee will be January 6th at 7 p.m. On January 6th, the Committee will meet for the purpose of organizing and deciding its future meeting dates and entering into executive session. The Committee will be charged with whittling down the applications and on how many of those they wish to interview. It is suggested that the Committee conveys its findings to the Board on or before January 26th. If they need more time, it can be requested.

The Governor will have filed House 1, and then we will know what the Local Aid number is. This is a difficult fiscal year. They are trying to ensure a proper transition with the dates they are proposing. Once we see the Local Aid numbers, we can see how to structure the overall operation of the Town's budget process

The override has already been structured and will be by department. By that time, we should have our free cash number. The Select Board will meet a week later around the first week in February to interview the finalists and hopes to make a final selection on who the next Town Manager will be and go forward in terms of the financial aspects of the town. There are quite a few other communities that are doing searches now also, and some of them pay a lot more money.

Motion by Mr. Donovan that the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Select Board serve on the Town Manager Search Committee which will leave three residents to appoint, as well a one from the School Committee, and one from the Finance

Committee to establish a seven member committee pursuant to the Charter that will be appointed at a special meeting of the Board of Selectmen on December 23rd. The Search Committee will convene the day after the applications are due on January 6 at 7PM for the purposes of organizing and designate the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to sit as the Chairman of the Search Committee for the purpose of organizing, calling the first meeting only and then the Committee can determine how it wishes to organize itself and then report back to the Board on or before January 26th if possible, and then meet the first week in February at a date convenient for all for the purpose of interviewing the finalists. The difference between the final report of the Search Committee and the Selectmen interviewing will be enough time to allow for a cursory review of the applicants before us so that we have an idea of what their backgrounds are and be able to vet them in some way. Motion seconded by Ms. Djusberg, unanimous.

It makes no sense to Mr. Donovan that the Select Board would not have representation. As far as the remaining people they are appointing, they are looking for people who have not been involved before and want to get younger people more involved in the community. He won't vote for an employee, someone who has or is serving in the community in a position for this important decision.

Attached is the Town Manager ad. Motion by Mr. Donovan to ratify, seconded by Ms. Djusberg, unanimous.

Pursuant to the Charter, The Town Manager shall be a person especially fitted by education which shall consist of at least a bachelor 's degree from an accredited degree granting college or university, and his/her professional experience shall include at least five years of full time compensated service in a managerial capacity in public or business administration.

The Town Manager shall not have served in an elected office in the town of Abington government for at least twenty-four months prior to his/her appointment.

The Town Manager need not be a resident of the town or of the Commonwealth but must be a United States citizen.

Shawn Reilly, Town Moderator – the Finance Committee has two vacancies. If anyone is interested, please contact him, or the Select Board.

Mr. Woods – wished Scott good luck in Kingston and thanked him for what he has done for the Town during his time here.

Motion by Mr. Donovan to adjourn at 10:23 a.m., seconded by Mr. Bunker, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hurst