



Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY
ABINGTON, MA 02351

Board of Selectmen

August 10, 2020

Cotter Room

6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Tim Chapin, Chair, Alex Bezanson, Jim Connolly, Kevin DiMarzio, Mike Kolodziej, Scott Lambiase, Town Manager

- Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- A moment of silence was held for Joseph J. Kelliher, Jr. (attached).
- Executive Session: Motion by A. Bezanson to go into Executive Session to conduct strategy session in preparation for negotiation with non-union personnel under MGL Ch. 30A, Sec. 21(a)2 and to reconvene in open session, seconded by J. Connolly. Roll call vote: M. Kolodziej, aye; K. DiMarzio, aye; J. Connolly, aye; A. Bezanson, aye; T. Chapin, aye.
- Public hearing:
7:15 p.m. Request for Wine & Malt Beverages with Cordials license at Double Horse Bistro, 800 Brockton Avenue. Trang Vu, Manager, explained they only serve food currently. Hours are 9 am-1pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday; Sunday 9am-4pm; Friday, Saturday 9 am-7pm. Hours would stay the same for now. A. Bezanson – they have great food, has no objections. There were no inspection issues.

Motion to close the hearing made by J. Connolly, seconded by A. Bezanson, unanimous. Motion to approve the license made by A. Bezanson, seconded by J. Connolly, unanimous.

1. Minutes – motion to approve July 27, 2020 made by J. Connolly, seconded by A. Bezanson, unanimous.
2. Request to appoint Steven Santeusano from alternate to delegate to Old Colony Planning Council. Request came from Mr. Santeusano and OCPC. Motion to approve made by K. DiMarzio, seconded by J. Connolly, unanimous.
3. Request to appoint Robert Toomey as MBTA Committee Representative. Motion to approve made by J. Connolly, seconded by A. Bezanson, unanimous.
4. Request to appoint Sam Malafronte as voting member to Conservation Commission. A. Bezanson – felt his resume fit with Commission with a degree in civil engineering. Motion to approve made by A. Bezanson, seconded by J. Connolly, unanimous.

5. Discussion on parking ticket fees. Plymouth County handles our parking tickets. Our fines haven't been updated since 1984; it was suggested that the board take a look at what other towns charge. Fees will be discussed at a future meeting.

6. Town Manager Report:

- Niles Street sidewalk complaint – there isn't money for repair now. Would like to set up something where money is set up to fund a repair program, but doesn't see a happy resolution to this complaint. There should be a mechanism in place when driveway went in with curb cuts. A. Bezanson – some towns require a bond if you cross sidewalk with heavy equipment. Town Manager will speak with Building Commissioner and John Stone.
- Town Hall – the building is fully operational. There is a drop box by the front door for payments. There are some offices that have an occasional person working from home, but the office remains open and operational. The Building Department is able to be out in the field more, and the Board of Health Agent is out all the time, never stops. It was suggested residents try to do things online to save a trip to Town Hall. J. Connolly – 200 absentee ballots have been sent in, and people have applied for 1699 mail-in ballots.
- Budget Numbers – Chapter 70 and unrestricted aid numbers were good on projections. There will need to be a Special Town Meeting to move that money, and open warrant for meeting on October 19th for housekeeping items not taken up at the Annual Town Meeting – street acceptances, zoning articles.

Motion to open the warrant for October 19, 2020 Special Town Meeting made by A. Bezanson, seconded by K. DiMarzio, unanimous.

- Abington is not getting sprayed for mosquitoes. Residents can request spraying of their property by calling Plymouth County Mosquito Control.
- Early voting hours – August 22nd – August 28th. September 1st is the State Primary.
Saturday, August 22 – 2pm-6pm
Sunday, August 23 – 2pm-6pm
Monday-Thursday, August 24-27 – 8:30am-4:30pm
Friday, August 28 – 8:30-12:30

Town Hall may have staggered working schedules with some people working from home to keep numbers down in the building.

- Paving project – The offices will be closed to the public on Tuesday. Employees will be working, but will be parking by the High School. A. Bezanson – wondered if all the granite curbing was going to be replaced. Town Manager will check with John Stone.

- Accolades for Police Department – A certificate of appreciation was received from the Government of Dubai for Chief Majenski for on-line Zoom training in community policing he provided.

A letter of thanks to recognize patrolmen was sent from Chief Majenski for their bravery and life-saving efforts in a motor vehicle rollover crash on July 2nd. Officers Feely, Canada, Gillan and Lynch went above and beyond their duties and worked together with the Fire Department using the Jaws of Life to free the accident victim from the vehicle.

Public Announcements:

M. Kolodziej – congratulated the High School Graduating Class of 2020. Graduation took place on August 8th. Wished them all the best of luck in their future endeavors. He commended John Stone, the DPW staff, and Park & Rec Commission and staff on their hard work in opening Island Grove for families to get a little normalcy during the pandemic. The last day it will be open is 8/12.

T. Chapin – thanked the School Committee and Superintendent on their hard work and efforts in coming up with a solution and trying to make the best decision for everyone in an impossible situation.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. made by A. Bezanson, seconded by J. Connolly, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy Hurst

Moment of Silence

Joseph "Jerry" Kelliher

Jerry Kelliher passed away on July 28th, leaving a large family behind. He was a life-long resident of Abington, graduated from Abington High School in 1959, served in the Navy, was an Abington Police officer, and owned and operated the Joseph J. Kelliher Co. for almost 50 years. Jerry was the past president of the Polish Club, member of the Knights of Columbus, the American Legion and valued member and past Chairman of the Abington Conservation Commission.

Jerry was never happier than when he was with his family or telling you about his kids and his grandkids. He referred to himself as the world's luckiest dad. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.