



Town of Abington

OFFICE OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Minutes
Board of Selectmen
June 13, 2022
Cotter Room
6:30 p.m.

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

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #6 has been re-scheduled to June 27th due to the Center School Reuse consultant not being able to attend tonight's meeting.

Public Announcements:

Mr. Hagerty: Congratulated the Abington Class of 2022. The Abington High School Baseball Team won against Amesbury 12-3 yesterday, securing their spot in the MIAA final. The Green Wave will be facing off against the Manchester Essex Hornets on June 14th.

Mr. Chapin: Just a quick thank you to the Abington Celebrates Committee for this past weekend's Founder's Day events. The Committee's hard work doesn't go unnoticed and is appreciated by the people of the Town.

Mr. Bezanson: The HUG Foundation is holding its 10th Annual Celebrity Softball Tournament on June 18th with some of the former Bruns. It's free to watch and there are still some spots if anyone wants to join a team. It will go from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with an after-party at the Knights of Columbus.

The Town Clerk is sending out 2200 postcards to people who have not completed census forms. If they are not sent back, you will no longer be registered to vote per state law.

Public Comments: None

Action/Discussion Items:

1. Vote to approve minutes from May 23, 2022 – motion to approve made by Mr. Hagerty, seconded by Mr. Kolodziej, unanimous.
2. Annual appointments: (List attached) Motion by Mr. Kolodziej to reappoint all who requested appointment with the exception of the Strawberry Valley Golf Course Committee and Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Mr. Chapin, unanimous. Motion

by Mr. Chapin to appoint the incumbents, Mr. Kelleher and Mr. Nagle, to the Strawberry Valley Golf Course Committee, seconded by Mr. Hagerty, unanimous. Motion by Mr. Hagerty to reappoint Mr. Manning to the Zoning Board of Appeals as Alternate, seconded by Mr. Chapin, 3 aye, 1 nay (Mr. Bezanson).

3. Griffin Dairy Update: Carrie Bates, Chairman, gave a brief update on the Committee's activities, after thanking her committee members – Rich Hanna, Project Manager, Lurane Ryerson, Community Garden Manager, Jenny Brown, Marianne Pappaceno, Brian Sullivan and Terry Maze. She also thanked the Board of Selectmen for its help, as well as John Stone and the DPW, Fire, Police, various groups in town, and the various people who have given a lot of time – Tom Peck, Susan Weaver, Jack Kelleher, Bob and Rita Wing who have donated three picnic tables, the Rotary Club who has done work for them and placed the flagpole for them, and the Water Department.

They have completed the second and third walking trails. The Library has a story walk which has 18 sites along the trail. The Community Gardens had been thriving until last year, when the rain flooded so many of them, leaving a large part of the gardens unusable this year.

They have had a farmer who used the field behind the Community Gardens for several years. The Town Manager explained the process for the revocable license that would be necessary for the farmer going forward.

They hosted food trucks last year for a short time, but there wasn't enough parking. Rich Hanna came up with the idea of a movie night under the Griffin Dairy Committee and the Lions Club.

Abington Celebrates has planted two large Christmas trees that they would eventually like to be able to use for their December celebration at Island Grove. They will add two more this year.

They are looking into the possibility of opening up the old well on the Griffin property to see if it's viable for irrigation. They have some money through Community Preservation. They are also looking at replacing some of the fencing around the gardens.

Rich Hanna – movie nights have been successful. We will have food trucks for the September movie night, but for June, July and August the Lions will be opening the concession stand. The next movie will be the Lion King. He thanked Suzanne Djusberg at the Senior Center for the use of her blow-up screen, projector and remote speaker system. They got a donation of a remote speaker system also. July 16th is the next movie night. Toni Moquin will be putting out fliers a week or two before the movie. The Board thanked the Committee for all its hard work.

4. Police Chief DelPapa with operational update: Chief DelPapa introduced Harlow, the Department's newest member, who is a comfort dog. He is assigned to Officer Heal and will enhance the services provided to the community as far as potential health calls,

victims of domestic abuse and things of that nature. They were able to repurpose one of their spare cruisers with the help of John Jones, owner of Ace Auto Body of Stoughton. They were fortunate to obtain a canine insert at no cost from the Quincy Police. He thanked DeSac Disposal, the Coombs Foundation and Mary Barrett who were three of their highest funders of this program in helping to get this off the ground.

The new recruits are eight weeks into their Police Academy training with 16 weeks to go and doing very well. We expect them to graduate the first week in October, then a 12-14 week program finishing the first of the year. We have three new recruits starting in July at the Academy, and also took a lateral transfer recently, Officer Ryan Doherty who served previously in Abington for nine years before leaving for a brief period to go to Norwell. We are happy to welcome him back.

They had a couple of high-end arrests in May. Located a B & E suspect and recovered a plethora of evidence. An off-duty officer recognized drug activity that resulted in an arrest and took 18.5 grams of crack cocaine and 5 grams of fentanyl off the street. Two officers responded to D'Ann's Restaurant for a report of someone in cardiac arrest, and after using CPR and the defibrillator, he is in good condition and expected to make a full recovery.

Wanted to recognize the efforts of the officers who worked this year's Founder's Day and fireworks. It was a long day, and everything went off without a hitch.

There have been some issues over at Island Grove with large groups of unruly people after dark that required calling in mutual aid. He has talked with the Town Manager and Kelly Johnson from Park & Rec about closing Island Grove at sunset and feels that would be a step in the right direction.

The Chief recognized the collective efforts of the officers of the Abington Police Department who are working hard and putting in a lot of extra shifts. Felt morale has improved in the Department.

5. Annual Commercial Garage license renewals. Police Chief did not recommend renewing license at 43 Highland Road at this time. There are multiple businesses at that location, and there have been issues, but only one commercial garage at this time. Board would like Mr. D'Andrea to come to the next meeting on the 27th and bring a list of all the businesses that are in there and hours of operation.

Motion by Mr. Chapin to approve all the commercial garages for renewal pending receipt of completed paperwork, up-to-date tax payments and satisfactory inspections, with the exception of Champion Auto and L. A. Auto & Repair, seconded by Mr. Kolodziej, unanimous. Motion to approve L. A. Auto & Repair made by Mr. Kolodziej, seconded by Mr. Hagerty, 3 ayes, 1 abstention (Mr. Bezanson).

6. Review and vote on updated Selectmen Policies, Procedures & Regulations: Cleaned up repetitive language and pointed out changes. The Town Manager is working on the Financial Policies. There was a discussion on one of the proposed changes requiring appointments be made to residents of the town who are registered voters of the Town of Abington who are at least 18 years of age. There was a motion to remove the registered voter of the Town of Abington requirement, but it was not seconded. Motion to adopt the updated Selectmen Policies, Procedures & Regulations made by Mr. Kolodziej, seconded by Mr. Hagerty, 3 ayes, 1 nay (Mr. Chapin), unanimous, effective immediately.
7. Town Manager's Report:
 - We are approaching the final phases of the long-term capital improvement plan. Met with the Collins Center out of UMass Boston who is working on this plan for us. It is entirely funded with a grant from the Community Compact. We have approximately \$4 million dollars between two funds available to Abington - some of the money is being controlled by the county and some is a direct payment to the town from the federal government. We've been waiting for this capital improvement plan to come out to really decide what we needed to do with it. It is important that we allocate the funds and have a comprehensive spending plan within the next year and a half; the program has approximately two years left of shelf life and there is always the possibility that the federal government will claw back any not allocated funds as we near the end of the cycle. He is recommending the Chairman and Vice Chairman of this board to meet with him, the Chairman of the Finance Committee Matt Salah, Town Moderator Shawn Reilly, DPW Director John Stone and Finance Director Andrew Nocon, to get a working group together to look at this money and put together a list of what we think the best uses and the best strategy on how to use these monies, and then present that plan to the entire board for approval. Would like to have it wrapped up before the end of the year.
 - Waste hauling costs for the town are growing at an unsustainable rate, with the next few years likely to be even worse due to the increasing cost of fuel. The hauling contracts typically have a price hike that's linked to the consumer cost index. He is currently working on getting some grant money to hire a consultant to work with the town as a facilitator and assist us with exploring different options and how we can handle the waste management now, and in the future, so it'll be a multi-faceted approach. The consultant and he will conduct research on communities throughout the region, maybe the country to see what the best management practices are, what the most successful communities have initiated, and then we'll do a town-wide symposium like with the Center School project with a series of questionnaires and surveys, a zoom or hybrid meeting where we can get some feedback on what the town thinks. Then we'll make some recommendations on what we think might be the best fit for this community.
 - The posting for the building commissioner position will close on Friday and requested Chairman Bezanson to assist with the interview process, as well as the Fire Chief, Deputy Chief and Finance Director.
 - We launched a community notification system. The Code Red platform allows us to send texts, emails, landline phone calls, cell calls to anyone that is registered with the system.

The system allows us the ability to direct calls geographically, by group, it could be an emergency that is sent to the whole town. Urged everyone to go online to the town website, look for the Code Red symbol and click on it to register. Do this even if you've already registered for one of our other platforms. This will be the primary notification system. This is how we're going to reach out to you during emergencies, during road closures. There could be storm events when we just need to get information to you. We have the ability to do this in multiple languages and so far, we've selected Brazilian Portuguese. You will see this again on Facebook on our website so please sign up.

- Just a reminder that we have training coming up for board and committee members on Tuesday, June 21st at the Abington Senior Center starting at 6 pm. Topics that will be covered are open meeting law review, review of expectations of volunteer committee board members, how to conduct a meeting with civility and respect, de-escalation techniques for dealing with contentious meetings and a public records law review, as well as a discrimination and harassment overview. Everyone is invited and certainly all board and committee members are highly encouraged to attend this meeting.
- I've recently received a complaint from an individual who volunteered time to work at the town's compost site. The individual was under the impression that he was eligible for the senior work-off program and would receive a rebate on property taxes. Unfortunately, this individual did not seek prior permission and there seems to be some issues. We're currently reviewing the process, and I've asked the chairman to sit in with me and the department and staff members that administer this process. I'll have more to update the board in the future.
- There has been some selectmen training offered by the Massachusetts Selectmen Association, which is part of the MMA, Saturday, July 23rd, if anyone is interested; I will send you the link for that.
- There are some air conditioning issues at the Senior Center, which is probably a freon issue. We are on a list for a company to come out to get it resolved.
- Metro South Chamber of Commerce is promoting Restaurant Appreciation Week. We will post a few things on Facebook and our website to support it. Some of the local restaurants that are participating are the Abington Ale House, the Cellar, Cream, Giardino's, Lynch's Tavern, Mia Regazza, Pizzings, Lucy's. Encouraged everybody to go out and support our restaurants. We get meals tax from that.

Motion by Mr. Chapin to adjourn at 7:30 p.m., seconded by Mr. Hagerty, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy Hurst

2022 COMMERCIAL GARAGE RENEWALS

7/1/22-6/30/23

COMM. GARAGE	Owner	Address	Type	# for Repair	On lot after hrs.	Restrictions on Licenses
A/J Equipment Repair, Inc.	Andrew Winiewicz mailing address:	496 Centre Avenue	C-1/CG	5-10	5	5 sale
Abington Auto Mail LLC	Ricky Bernasconi	490 Centre Avenue	C-II/CG	25	4	
Abington Auto Repair Corp.	Carlos Costa	761 Bedford St.	CG	15		15 repair, 10 customer, 3 employee, total 33
Abington Auto Works	Jackson Botelho	347 Summer Street	CG			4 repair, 2 customer, 3 employee
Abington Automatic Trans.	William F. Rust	225 Brockton Avenue	CG	8-12	40	
Abington Citgo	Aziz Habr	1 Oak St.	CG			3 repair, 11 customer, 6 employee
Abington Sunoco	James Stone	164 North Avenue	C-II/CG	20	25	5 empl/cust., 4 sale, 20 repair
Auto Shine Auto Body Abington	Mark Bendlock	907 Bedford St.	C-II/CG			15 sale, total 45, including inside & out, nothing for sale out front
Auto Towne Rentals, Inc.	Warren L. Rich	310 Bedford Street	C-II/CG	6 inside		30 sale, 4 empl., 6 repair inside - total 40
Auto Towne Truck Sales	Robert W. Hayes	402 Brockton Ave.	C-II/CG	3		3 repair, 3 customer, 2 employee, 122 sale
Big Lee's Auto	Lee Goode	500 Brockton Ave.	CG			5 repair, 3 customer, 2 employee
Borderland Services	Michel Khoury	123 Centre Avenue	C-II/CG	5		19 sale, 4 cust.
Champion Auto Services	Henri Felix	171 N. Quincy St.	CG			3 repair, 6 customer, 2 employee
Collision Craftsmen	John Pycrz	43 Highland Road	C-II/CG	20	25	5 sale
Columbia Auto Collision, Inc.	Bruno Vieira	800 E Adams Street	CG			15 parking spaces outside
Crow Collision, Inc.	James P. Crowe	761 Bedford St.	CG	6	10	4 veh.out front, out back not to exceed 10.
D & S Auto Works	Dana Snowdale	411 Brockton Ave	C-II/CG	9	20-26	14 sale, 6 cust/empl.
Dalton's Garage	Laurence Dalton	730 Adams Street	CG			
Excel Auto Collision Services	Guilherme Matos	123 Centre Avenue	CG	15		33 cars total - 15 rep., 15 customer, 3 empl.
Extreme Auto & Marine Repair	Daniel Nagle	1420 Bedford St.	CG			6 rep, 3 cust., 3 empl. For total of 12 vehicles
L.A. Autobody & Repair, Inc.	Juliano Anjos	933 Brockton Avenue	C11/CG			18 sale, 1 empl., no parking on Robbins Ave.
Midway Auto LLC	Michael Deveney	415 Brockton Avenue	C-II/CG	25	5	limit of 250 cars
National Auto Center	Helder Pena	271 Washington Street	CG	4	2	6 repair, 2 cust., 2 empl. Spaces
Nick's Pit Stop	Keith Lascuola	1030 Bedford St.	C-11/CG			16 for sale
N. J. Motors LLC	Yaacoub N. Obeid	231 N. Quincy Street	CG	4	6	5 repair, 4 employee, 60 spaces on property
Platinum Auto Care	Shaun MacPherson	485 Centre Ave.	CG			10 cars for repair, 5 empl. Spaces, 5 customer
Rahn's Motorcycle Engineering	Rahn R. Pelrine	800 A Adams Street	C-II/CG	10	none	6 motorcycles
810 Auto Motors LLC	Claudio Netto	810 Brockton Avenue	C-II/CG			2 cars for repairs, 2 empl. Cars, 4 customer cars,
	Nathalia Alves, Mg.					15 for sale per 6/29/99 plan
Rte. 18 Autobody, Inc.	Edward J. Herman	325 Washington St.	C-II/CG	10	10	15 sale
Skillsings Auto Sales, Inc.	Taimur Shah	120 Plymouth St.	C-11/CG	5		29 sale, 2 cust., 5 rep., 1 resident, total 37

7/1/22-6/30/23

	CG	1	none	all kept inside after hours
South Shore Cycle Parts	CG	1		
Speedee Oil	CG			
Sullivan Tire	CG			30 spaces total
TC Auto Repair & Sales, Inc.	C-II/CG			12 sale, 2 empl, 5 inside, 5 outside for repair - total 24
Tom's Auto Repair	CG	4-6	4-6	
Universal Auto Body, Inc.	C-II/CG	10	10	24 sale
Whitman Bodyworks, Inc.	CG	10	all inside	limit of 15 inside, 10 outside

LIST OF BOARDS/COMMITTEES WITH VACANCIES

Current Members Requesting Reappointment

Other Applicants

Abington Affordable Housing Trust Committee - 1

Ken Coyle

Abington Cultural Council - 1

Anne Smith

Abington CAM Board of Directors - 1

Lisa Bezanson

Conservation Commission – 2 Voting Members

Dan Camerota – requesting to go from
Associate to voting member

Alex Leary

Council on Aging - 5

Marie Brown

Lurane Ryerson

Ann Welch

John Libby

Griffin Dairy Committee - 3

Theresa Maze

Richard Hanna

Marianne Pappaceno

Historical Commission - 1

Joseph Phan

Park & Rec - 3

William Cormier

Suzanne Djusberg

Registrar of Voters - 2

Paul Ferris

Marie Brown

South Shore Regional District – 1

Thomas Petruzelli

Strawberry Valley Golf Course Comm. – 2

- Paul Kelleher

Chris Nagle

Bob Gilcoine

Summer Concerts - 2

Peter McDonald

Nancy Reid

Veterans Memorial Trustees - 1

David Peterson, Jr.

Zoning Board of Appeals – 1 Alternate

Robert Manning

Patrick Purtell