

**Minutes
Select Board
Monday, June 8, 2026
Cotter Room
6:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Paul Bunker, Chairman, Nicole Emery, Ken Coyle, Daniel Eddy, William Cormier, Michael Maresco, Town Manager

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements:

- Ken – saw something on Facebook – peer leaders are wanted for the DARE camp. You can contact the Police Department SRO's at abingtonpolice.org, Officers White or Morgan. It must be grade ten or above.
- Update on Founders' Day Weekend – Michele Coyle, Chairman, Abington Celebrates wanted to thank everyone who helped make the weekend so successful. She outlined the events and extended the committees gratitude to the Abington Police, Fire, DPW and School Departments. She also thanked the sponsors, volunteers, committee members and the many residents who came out to celebrate. Emily Christian put together a short video recap of the weekend, which was fabulous. Ken Coyle thanked everyone who participated and came out. The fireworks were fantastic. Bill Cormier – it was one of the best events he's seen public safety wise and DPW, well planned and executed.

Items:

1. **Vote on Minutes: May 4, 2026, May 11, 2026, May 18, 2026.** Motion by Mr. Cormier to approve 5/11 and 5/18 as written, with 5/4, Item 2 amended to read "Mr. Bunker is working to put together a committee of 6 or 7 Select Board/School Committee members **from surrounding towns** to share information and collaborate on ways to improve cooperation from the state," seconded by Ms. Emery, unanimous.
2. **Vote and Order the Taking of Gordon Circle.** Liz Shea, Town Planner, this was voted at Town Meeting and is a "housekeeping" item. The order needs to be signed, and Ms. Shea will get the items required to Town Counsel, and it will be recorded. It was taken over by eminent domain. The neighbors are in favor. Mr. Coyle made the motion to adopt the Order of Taking, seconded by Ms. Emery, unanimous.

3. **Request to transfer a common victualer license from Wesley Zeng dba Ya's Sushi & Ramen, to Sumalee Jaiprasert, Kaida Group LLC dba Ya's Sushi & Ramen, 800 Brockton Avenue #5, Abington.** She has worked in the restaurant business for 15 years, but this is the first restaurant of her own. They will serve sushi, ramen and Thai food. They are planning to open the end of June. Motion by Mr. Cormier to approve, seconded by Mr. Eddy, unanimous.
4. **Update on Pool and Summer Camp Opening with Kelly Johnson.** The "pool" is actually a manmade swimming pool with about 850,000 gallons. The DPW guys drain it and put new sand down. They are in the process of refilling now. It will be chlorinated only the 8 weeks they are open. Please don't swim in it outside of those 8 weeks. They will start training shortly and are lucky to have such a great relationship with Abington Fire and Police who help them with training the staff and the lifeguards. It opens on June 20th and they will have their opening celebration from 11 to 1 that day. It's free swimming that entire day and it will have games, free popsicles and music those first few hours. It has historically rained every opening day. They have their Eager Beaver program which opens that following Monday, June 22.

They are locked into 150 kids per week primarily because if there was an emergency the buildings they have down there are not big enough to fit anymore than that. Back in 2016, there was a total of 450 kids for the 8 weeks. As of today, they are at 1,070 kids with a waiting list of 417. It's affordable day care for the summer. It's an old fashioned camp; they're outside all day long. There are no electronics, they swim twice a day. It's something the kids love and look forward to each summer. She wishes they could accommodate more of the kids coming into the town.

Other than Eager Beaver and Island Grove, they have all kinds of programs. They have art camp, every kind of sport camp, they brought back golf which is already full with a waiting list. If anybody has anything they would like to see, a new program, they would love to hear it. A building with space is what they would need to be able to increase their numbers. They do family memberships and day passes, and 62 plus is free. For residents it is \$100 for a family of five; for non-residents it is \$165 for a family of five. Day passes for residents are \$5 per person, \$50 per person for non-residents. Day passes since COVID have been increasing. You can purchase them at abingtonrec.com or you can buy them right at the snack shack. Ms. Emery – would love to see it expanded. Her kids love it. Kelly – registration opened at 8 a.m. and by 8:45 a.m. she had people on the wait list. A lot of their staff have been coming back for years and do a great job. Mr. Coyle thanked Kelly who also does a great job. John Stone takes the water samples. The water is tested every single week by a lab and sent off to DCR. There is protocol in place if the water quality wasn't up to the standards it should be.

Mr. Coyle asked if they were looking for donations of any kind. Kelly – buckets and shovels, U.S. Coast Guard certified life vests, art supplies, gimp, all kinds of balls, and they could be dropped off at her office at 350 Summer Street. Mr. Cormier appreciated all the effort Kelly puts into this.

5. **Vote to accept donation from South Shore Health to the Council on Aging.** Motion by Ms. Emery to accept the donation, seconded by Mr. Eddy, unanimous.
6. **Recognition of local businesses donating services to Veterans Services and donation of Lincoln Town car to deserving recipient.** Abington Sunoco has generously donated free maintenance and service to the vehicle over the last two years, and we want to thank them for all that they do. This vehicle has been taking our veterans and their spouses to and from doctor's appointments. The vehicle continued to have on-going wiring issues and Simon's Automotive Service Center in Abington stepped in and completed approximately \$800 of specialized electrical work at no cost to the town.

Veterans Services is also giving away a free car, 1997 Lincoln Town Car, approximately 82,000 miles, and Abington Sunoco provided free maintenance and a full inspection, and Sure Shine Auto detailed the vehicle at no cost. They are accepting names and a short description explaining the need through letters, email, or social media messages, as we work to identify a deserving recipient. The Veterans Advisory Council will select the person who will get the vehicle.

7. **Vote to establish a Veterans Transportation Gift Fund pursuant to MGL c44 §53A.** This would allow the Town Accountant to set up a gift account for any proceeds that are received into that account. Motion by Mr. Eddy to establish a Veterans Transportation Gift Fund pursuant to MGL c44 Sec53A, seconded by Mr. Cormier.
8. **Vote to approve Town Manager Michael Maresco as Acting Treasurer/Collector until a new Treasurer/Collector is hired.** Town Manager is working with the Assistant Treasurer to keep things running, and she's doing a great job. Payroll is being met, vendors are getting paid. Reconciliations are being done, working with the banks, getting the tax bills ready to go out. All the necessary functions are being done. We will be going out to market on the note for the Water Department and one of the requirements is you have to have a Treasurer, an Acting, or an Interim. If not, it would have to be postponed. There are about 6 or 7 other towns looking for Treasurers, but he would like to have someone in place by the end of August.

Mr. Coyle expressed concerns about taking on too much. Mr. Maresco – one of his strengths is to know your weakness. He has a business background and has his MPA, and this is a team effort. Andrew is stepping up as an accountant. The Town Manager went through the

MA Treasurer Collectors Association to try to get a retired person to do it, and there is no one available. They tried to hire a consultant, and they couldn't get anyone. The next alternative was to step up himself. Sharon runs the day-to-day operations, Julie does the Payroll, Jim is down there working with the customers, and there is a person that is working their tax money off that's down there handling the counter also.

He wants to get this fixed as fast as possible. Reconciliations were really behind, and they closed '24 books finally. One of his goals is to get all the books closed and get on a normal cycle. One of the things in the Management Report was that the reconciliations weren't being done in '25. That can sometimes be a red flag, but there was no nefarious activity or missing money. For whatever reason, the Treasurer was not able to do the reconciliations. He and Andrew have a plan going forward with Sharon. The new fiscal year starts on July 1st, and on August 15th that is when they should be reconciled for the month of July. The standard is two weeks after the close of the month. All they are doing is checking what the bank was transferred from the bank to your ledger, from your ledger to the bank. That prevents problems from happening. When we get the new Treasurer, we're going to clean up everything so we can close out '25, and we are mandated by the Commonwealth to have an audit done. We just signed a contract with CBIZ to do the audit. If we have everything done within ten days, hopefully they will have the audit done by November at the earliest.

This is absorbed into his duties. We are a team. He is directing. He gave thanks to Jolanta for giving two of her staff people, Jodie and Michelle, who have been doing a phenomenal job of channeling all the calls and any problems that have to be investigated go to him. Then they are parceled out to the appropriate people to be able to do the investigations, pool inspections, and make sure that issues are taken care of. PN-5 collaboratively hires Alisco to do the big annual checkups on our restaurants. The smaller ones are managed in-house. He has one individual to work on Fridays, Dan Kelley, who works for the Town of Whitman, and we have a contract with him. We will be able to start interviews by the end of the month for candidates with Katie, Carol, Nick and himself.

Motion by Mr. Eddy to approve Mr. Maresco as Acting Treasurer/Collector until a new Treasurer/Collector is hired, seconded by Mr. Cormier, unanimous.

9. Town Manager's Update:

- Continuing to work with the Board of Health, Ad for the Health Agent is out, MMA, town website, and MASS HEALTH OFFICERS SITE.
- Hired temporary Health Agent Dan Kelly to work on Fridays to handle a number of BOH questions, inspections, etc.
- Continuing to work with PN-5 regarding Board of Health issues through the Joint Service Agreement.

- Working with Elliot Tree Service to grind up two years' work of Christmas trees as the compost site.
- Hosted monthly Department Head Meeting, discussion on results of the override, year-end closeouts, update to webpages, summer dress code, department update and upcoming events.
- Finalized trash contract with Legal Counsel for All State Waste. All State Waste is reviewing and eager to get started.
- All State Waste has taken over the preparation of the Trash and Recycling Brochure working with Jodie Hurst.
- Meeting with Police Chief and Labor Counsel to discuss a couple of issues with the contract.
- Attending the Conservation Commission Meeting regarding the landfill.
- Meet with Chief Glynn regarding Fire Sunday that will take place on July 14th Flag Day at the COA.
- Town Manager's Corner highlighted Abington Celebrates Founders Day Weekend with Michele Coyle. The event was a huge success!
- Continue to provide tours to developers interested in the two schools that we have issued an RFP.
- Participated in the Building Committees meeting to approve change orders to the project and review the overall budget. The project is in much better financial position with the passage of the article to cover the cost of the large amounts of contaminated and unsuitable soil.
- Meeting with Dan Kelly to get him started on processing BOH complaints, action items, investigations etc. Wayne will create an email address for him to communicate with Abington residents and business.
- Meeting with Adam, our Veterans' Agent, to discuss the process of moving some records to the Dyer Museum.
- Dealt with a personnel issue that has been resolved after an investigation and interviews with staff.
- I have been meeting with members of the Conservation Commission to discuss some issues and concerns.
- Meeting with Legal Counsel on previously approved 40B LIP project at 161 North Quincy Street. Abington Sewer Commission has approved the sewer hookup at their meeting on August 4, 2025. Water will be through Brockton. Counsel is working on the Municipal Agreement. We are over 10%
- Working on Chapter 90 Contract with the Commonwealth, Town and the DPW.

There are five candidates for the Water Commission. Mr. Maresco will check to see if this can go on next meeting.

Mr. Coyle – question on COA van. It needs some repairs, and it would have to be insured. Abington Summer Concerts wanted it for transporting people. It would have to be a town employee to drive it. Mr. Maresco will look into repair issues, and where it could be stored and get back to the Board at the next meeting on June 22nd.

Mr. Coyle – would like to see a Trash Advisory Committee Group formed. Mr. Maresco – it would have to be an appointed committee, with minutes taken. Will be put on the next agenda so parameters can be set.

Motion by Ms. Emery to adjourn at 7:10 p.m., seconded by Mr. Cormier, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hurst