

Minutes
September 23, 2024
Cotter Room
6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Kevin Donovan, Chairman, Suzanne Djusberg, Roger Woods, Paul Bunker, Amanda Zompetti

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Donovan welcomed Ms. Zompetti to the Board.

- The Early Voting schedule was announced from October 19-November 1, 2024:
Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Saturday, 10/19 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Saturday, 10/26 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Ballots will be mailed out the beginning of October to those who request them.
 - The Abington High Boosters will be conducting their yearly door-to-door fundraiser on October 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 - The 71st Tri-Town Veterans' Parade will be here in Abington for Abington, Rockland and Whitman at 10 a.m. at the Beaver Brook School.
 - Mr. Donovan recognized Caroline and Will Fielder who decided in lieu of birthday presents for their 8th birthday, they would like donations of food for the Senior Center, which they dropped off at the Center's grocery department. The Board thanked them for their generosity and wished them a happy birthday.
1. **Nancy Reid, Abington Summer Concerts Committee.** Nancy submitted her letter of resignation effective June 30, 2025, and gave a brief history of the Summer Concerts program over its 20 years. She thanked all the Town Departments that have supported the Summer Concerts over the years.

Mr. Donovan presented Nancy with an Abington's Best award for spearheading what turned out to be such an integral, enjoyable part of the summer for so many people and for all the effort and hard work she has put into it to bring it to fruition. Rep.

Alyson Sullivan-Almeida presented her with a citation from the House of Representatives for her over 20 years of service in town events.

6:35 p.m. Continued hearing, request for Commercial Garage License for Tire Tech Repair LLC, 201 North Quincy Street, Roberte Dessaps, Manager. Ms. Dessaps wants to install a shed to be able to fix tires. Bill Dessaps has nothing to do with this business. Mr. Dessaps opened up the fence close to the back exit wall so she could put up a shed, with the owner's permission. She is his sister and is leasing the property from him. He has a lease to own agreement. Mr. Donovan had a problem. The Police Chief's recommendation is not to approve this. There is a huge amount of vehicles up there, and he has to be brought into compliance before the Board grants any more business up there. There are several factors that need to be worked out before the Board can look on this favorably – Mr. Dessaps' own situation; the fact that it has to go to Planning Board for site plan review; and the number of vehicles that are up there whether they are his or someone else's. The Building Commissioner is working on this and is trying to figure out what is there. Mr. Woods suggested bringing in the owner if there are multiple businesses on the property.

Motion by Mr. Woods to close the hearing, seconded by Ms. Djusberg, unanimous. Motion by Mr. Donovan to deny the request for a commercial garage license at 201 North Quincy Street, seconded by Mr. Woods, unanimous.

2. **Meeting with Eugene Blanchard, President, Hillside Cemetery Association.** Mr. Blanchard passed out information on the Cemetery and gave a brief history. He is requesting the town to take it over. There are over thirty veterans buried there, and only three remaining people in the Association. Mr. Donovan explained it would require a Town Meeting vote; any vote the Board took would be to further the process to put an article on for Town Meeting. The town has custodianship to look after the veterans buried there. If Town Meeting took a vote in favor, one part of the statute would be to petition the supreme judicial court to deed the remaining rights over to the town. The deed could be worded in such a way that those who have proof of a deed there would still maintain ownership.

The first point would be if the Board approves, to move it forward to Town Meeting and the Finance Committee would review the intricacies of it, and the attorneys look at it, so any vote tonight would be to begin the process. Motion by Mr. Woods to start exploring the possibility of acquiring the Hillside Cemetery in a warrant article at Town Meeting, seconded by Mr. Bunker, unanimous.

3. **Bob Manning, Abington Celebrates Oktoberfest Weekend update.** Mr. Manning gave a brief outline of the events taking place on Oktoberfest Weekend on October 4, 5 & 6.
4. **Request for permission to hold the 44th Annual Abington St. Patrick's Day Parade on Sunday, March 16th at 1 p.m.** The Parade is always a wonderful event. Motion by Mr. Woods to approve, seconded by Ms. Zompetti, unanimous.
5. **Motion by Mr. Woods to approve the sale of \$2,685,000 4.75 percent General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (the "Notes") of the Town dated September 30, 2024, seconded by Mr. Bunker, 4 ayes, 1 abstention (Ms. Zompetti).**
6. Motion by Mr. Woods to **approve September 9, 2024, minutes**, seconded by Mr. Bunker, 4 ayes, 1 abstention (Ms. Zompetti).

Motion by Mr. Woods to adjourn at 6:52 p.m., seconded by Mr. Bunker, unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hurst