

Minutes
Board of Selectmen
February 12, 2024
Cotter Room
6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Kevin R. Donovan, Chair, Tim Chapin, Suzanne Djusberg, Kevin DiMarzio (via Zoom), Scott Lambiase, Town Manager

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Announcements:

- Mr. Donovan: Due to the storm, trash pick-up will be delayed by one day, and school will be closed tomorrow.
There is a vacancy on the Finance Committee. If anyone is interested, please contact Town Moderator Shawn Reilly at 781-878-2568.
We have received complaints about someone from Sun Run going around town harassing people. He is an employee of Sun Run but does not have a license from Abington and is in violation of the law. The Police Chief and Town Manager have been working on it. If someone comes to your door, ask to see their license. You have the right to call the Police Department.
 - Mr. Chapin: The Library is sponsoring an Abington Reads event to encourage the community to come together to read and discuss the same book. Author and public speaker Stephen Puleo is Abington Reads author this year. They will be reading “The Caning,” which dealt with the assault that drove America to the Civil War. This will take place on Thursday, March 14th at 7 p.m. in the Copeland Room.
1. **Approval of Minutes:** December 11, 2023 – motion by Mr Chapin to approve, seconded by Ms. Djusberg. Roll call vote: Mr. DiMarzio, abstain; Ms. Djusberg, yes; Mr. Chapin, yes; Mr. Donovan, yes. January 8, 2024 – motion by Ms. Djusberg to approve, seconded by Mr. Chapin. Roll call vote: Mr. DiMarzio, yes; Ms. Djusberg, yes; Mr. Chapin, yes; Mr. Donovan, yes.

2. **Request for appointment to Conservation Commission Associate Member – Joshua Swasey, Justin Van Nest.** The Board had no questions. Motion to appoint both applicants as associate members made by Mr. Chapin, seconded by Ms. Djusberg. Roll call vote: Mr. DiMarzio, yes; Ms. Djusberg, yes; Mr. Chapin, yes; Mr. Donovan, yes.
3. **Readopt the Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy.** This is part of the Green Community status. Motion by Ms. Djusberg to readopt, seconded by Mr. Chapin. Roll call vote: Mr. DiMarzio, yes; Ms. Djusberg, yes; Mr. Chapin, yes; Mr. Donovan, yes.

4. **Town Manager Report**

- The '25 budget is still at a deficit of \$1.2M. They have removed any requests for additional staffing or increased programs. They are working closely with the School Department and trimming where they can. Next week we will get better numbers on health insurance and fuel costs. We should have a better picture on the 26th of what we are faced with.
- Re complaints on the individual who works for SunRun, he has reached out to the HR Department at Corporate Head Quarters and requested they have him work in another municipality and haven't received more complaints. We have received help from several individuals in identifying him, and the Chief has been great on follow-up also.
- He is conducting research on a 14-acre plot of land the town owns by Walmart on Brockton Avenue. It was originally under the custody of the School Department and transferred to the Board of Selectmen in 2015. At Town Meeting in 2015 it was declared surplus and in 2018 Town Meeting it was voted to dispose of it. We should have the Affordable Housing Trust explore the use of this land for a mixture of affordable, senior and market rate housing. It is a multi generational housing approach where we provide some entry level housing, some senior living and some affordable housing components. He will look into it a little more with the Affordable Housing Trust and come up with a plan together. He will bring it back to the Board for approval before putting it out to bid.

6:40 p.m. Request for Rt 123 Auto Brokers' Class II license to increase from six to fourteen vehicles for sale, at 308 Brockton Avenue, Sofia Muniz-Leite, Manager. Motion to open the hearing made by Mr. Chapin, seconded by Ms. Djusberg. Roll call vote: Mr. DiMarzio, yes; Ms. Djusberg, yes; Mr. Chapin, yes; Mr. Donovan, yes. Police, Building, Treasurer and Health Departments have indicated

their approval. The applicant is requesting to go from six to fourteen vehicles for sale. Mr. Donovan visited the site, and everything seemed to be in order. There were no questions from the Board.

Motion by Mr. Chapin to close the hearing, seconded by Ms. Djusberg. Roll call vote: Mr. DiMarzio, yes; Ms. Djusberg, yes; Mr. Chapin, yes; Mr. Donovan, yes. Motion to approve made by Mr. Chapin, seconded by Ms. Djusberg. Roll call vote: Mr. DiMarzio, yes; Ms. Djusberg, yes; Mr. Chapin, yes; Mr. Donovan.

5. Motion by Mr. Chapin to enter into Executive Session in accordance with MGL c.30A, §21 to discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, which he did. The Board will not reconvene in open session.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hurst