



# Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY  
ABINGTON, MA 02351

Board of Selectmen Meeting  
April 16, 2013  
5:00 p.m.  
Cotter Room

## OPEN SESSION

Members present: Mike Franey, Kevin Donovan, Ken Coyle, Tom Dion

- Pledge of Allegiance
  - Moment of Silence for those who lost their lives in the tragic bombings on April 15, 2013 at the Boston Marathon.
1. M/Donovan to enter into executive session under exemption 2 to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel – Town Manager position and to reconvene in open session.

S/Dion

Dion, aye; Coyle, aye; Donovan, aye; Franey, aye

Voted 4-0

## OPEN SESSION

2. Discussion and vote on Town Manager Contract with Richard LaFond –  
Selectman Dion began by saying that he voted for Mr. LaFond as our next Town Manager. Selectman Dion stated that Mr. LaFond has his full support and feels he will be a good fit for Abington. Selectman Dion, however, stated that he cannot vote to offer Mr. LaFond a total compensation package that he valued at \$154,412.00.

Selectman Dion feels that 1. A compensation package of this size is out of line for a Town the size of Abington; 2. This compensation package when compared to what other South Shore communities are paying is out of range; 3. The town is facing a 1.6 million dollar operating deficit which is no time to be offering a compensation package of this magnitude; 4. In a time when the rank and file employees are getting 1.5% increases, if anything and many taxpayers are struggling to pay their property taxes, management level raises in the 20% range are out of line; and 5. Future town-wide revenue growth, by Selectman Dion's account, does not support the big build up in the Town's cost structure and cannot be sustained over the long run.

Selectman Dion apologized to Mr. LaFond, who was present, for not being able to support his total compensation package and told him that it was not personal. Selectman Dion reaffirmed to Mr. LaFond that he looked forward to working with him.

Selectman Franey stated that Mr. LaFond rose to the top and was willing to compensate for a professional manager.

The Search Committee had done its job and presented the Board with four great applicants. The Board had an opportunity to ask questions about salary during the interview process and did not.

Selectman Coyle is in favor of Mr. LaFond and cannot compare the contract to the prior Town Manager, as it was a low salary and had not been compensated in three years.

Selectman Donovan feels it is a fair contract.

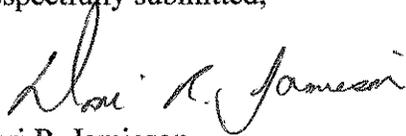
M/Donovan to approve the agreement between the Town of Abington and Rick LaFond entered into this day effective May 6, 2013.

S/Franey  
Dion, no  
Voted 3-1

M/Donovan to adjourn  
S/Dion  
Voted 4-0

Meeting adjourned: 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dori R. Jamieson  
Assistant Town Manager