



# Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY  
ABINGTON, MA 02351

Board of Selectmen Minutes  
December 16, 2013  
6:30 p.m.  
Cotter Room

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

- **Pledge of Allegiance**

- **Public Announcements:**

Abington's Best was presented to Billy Davis and Norm Caseley with gratitude and appreciation for their volunteer service to the Community.

Commendation from Fire Chief for Firefighter Jarrod Driscoll and Captain David Farrell Chief Nuttall explained the events of the propane incident on Shaw Avenue, and the efforts of both made a tremendous difference and put off a major disaster. (memorandum attached)

**Action/Discussion items:**

1. Approval of Minutes –

M/Burbine to accept November 25, 2013 open session minutes

S/Donovan

Voted 5-0

M/Burbine to accept December 2, 2013 open session minutes

S/Coyle

Donovan abstain as was not present

Voted 4-0-1

2. Annual License Renewals –

M/Donovan to approve Borderland

S/Coyle

Burbine abstains

Voted 4-0-1

M/Donovan to approve Tastefully Done

S/Burbine

Coyle abstains

Voted 4-0-1

M/Donovan to approve Trucchi's

S/Dion

Coyle and Burbine abstain

Voted 3-0-2

M/Donovan to approve Bailey's Garage

S/Dion

Franey abstains

Voted 4-0-1

M/Burbine to approve Knights of Columbus

S/Dion

Donovan abstains

Voted 4-0-1

M/Donovan to approve all other license renewals as presented contingent upon taxes being paid and final inspections completed.

S/Coyle

Voted 5-0

3. Discussion on adoption of revisions to the Special Municipal Employee Police

M/Donovan to approve revisions as recommended

S/Burbine

Dion, no

Voted 4-1

4. Route 18 Widening Project update – Town Manager provided an update on the Route 18 Construction Project (Attached).

5. Discussion on recent history of certified tax rates – Selectman Dion provided an update on Abington Property Tax Information (Attached).

6. Town Manager Report –Town Manager provided a general update (attached).

7. Public Comment – None

#### Public Appointments:

6:35 p.m. – Yaser Saleh, transfer of a rooming license, 96 Railroad Street – Mr. Saleh addressed the Board. This is a transfer only, no other changes.

M/Donovan to approve transfer contingent upon approval of final inspections.

S/Burbine

Voted 5-0

The Board wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

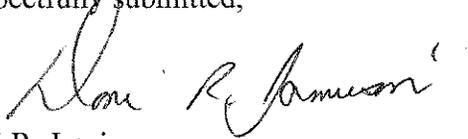
M/Burbine to adjourn

S/Dion

Voted 5-0

Meeting adjourned: 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dori R. Jamieson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dori R. Jamieson

Assistant Town Manager



# ABINGTON FIRE-RESCUE

&

## Emergency Services

1040 Bedford Street  
Abington, Massachusetts 02351



*Chief*

John M. Nuttall  
*Deputy Chief*  
Edward F. Belcher

911 Emergency  
(781)982-2114 General  
(781) 982-2104 Facsimile

Mr. Michael Franey, Chairman  
Abington Board of Selectmen  
500 Gliniewicz Way  
Abington, MA 02351

December 5, 2013

Dear Chairman Franey,

I would like the Board to be aware of the heroic acts performed by two members of the Abington Fire Department during the initial phases of a residential house fire that occurred on December 4, 2013, at 160 Shaw Avenue.

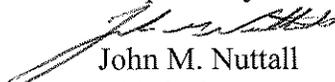
This was a house fire involving a large leaking and burning propane tank which was in the process of being filled from a propane delivery truck approximately 30 feet away from the building.

Firefighter Jarrod Driscoll, after hearing the report of a fire, was the first to arrive at the scene while off-duty. Without the protection of his firefighting clothing or a fire hose, Firefighter Driscoll proceeded past the burning propane tank into the house to ensure everyone was out.

Captain David Farrell, arriving in Abington Engine One, simultaneously ordered a second alarm for mutual aid assistance, and singlehandedly advanced a charged hose line directly to the burning tank, placing himself between the fire and the propane truck. This action, in my professional opinion, began to cool the burning propane tank and prevented a catastrophic explosion which would have compromised the entire propane delivery truck. This action also very likely saved the neighborhood, as well as the lives of the other firefighters working at the scene.

I am very proud of the actions of the entire Abington Fire Department, as well as the assistance received from the surrounding communities at this incident, however the efforts of Firefighter Jarrod Driscoll and Captain David Farrell went above and beyond our normal operational standards. Because of their bravery, I am nominating them for the Massachusetts Firefighter of the Year Award, as they meet the criteria for an emergency response involving hazardous materials.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John M. Nuttall  
Chief of Department



# Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY  
ABINGTON, MA 02351

To: Board of Selectmen  
From: Town Manager  
Date: December 13, 2013  
Subj: Route 18 Construction Project

The Chairman had asked for an update pertaining to the status of the above referenced project. Initially Mike discussed this with ConCom Chair Dennis Bergin who advised him that the MA DOT had the best information and would be most capable of providing information or even a presentation to the Board. Although the DOT is unable at this time to appear and present the status of the project we were forwarded a power point presentation updating the status. A handout copy of that presentation is attached.

Some slides that may be of particular interest to the general public include:

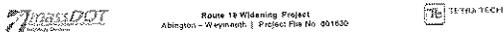
## **PAGE & SLIDE TITLE**

1. Route 18 Existing Issues/Project Goals
1. Proposed Project Construction
3. Stormwater System
5. Construction Cost & Schedule
5. Comments/Additional Information

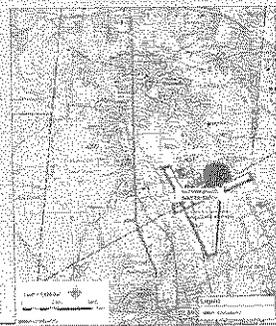
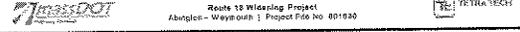
At some point having a DOT representative here to discuss this project with the Board may be helpful. As you can see on the slide entitled Comments/Additional information there is a link to the entire presentation on the DOT website. If so desired by the Board we can add this link to the town's website.

**Route 18 Widening Project**  
Abington – Weymouth | Project File No. 601630

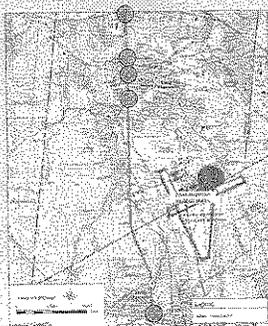
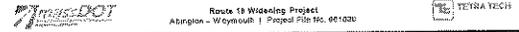
**Project Update**  
December 16, 2013



**Route 18 Project Limits**

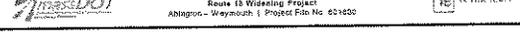



**Route 18 Completed Projects**

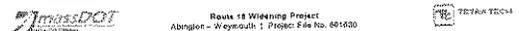
**Route 18 Existing Issues | Project Goals**

- Route 18 Congestion | Relieve Congestion
- Cut-Through Traffic on Local Streets | Reduce Cut-Throughs
- Intersection Safety and Sub-Optimal Operation | Improve Inter. Safety
- Deficient Pedestrian Accommodation | Improve Ped. Accom.
- Deficient Bicycle Accommodation | Improve Bike Accom.
- Structurally Obsolete Bridge over Commuter Rail | Replace Bridge
- Drainage | Reduce Flooding



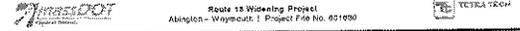
**Proposed Project Construction**

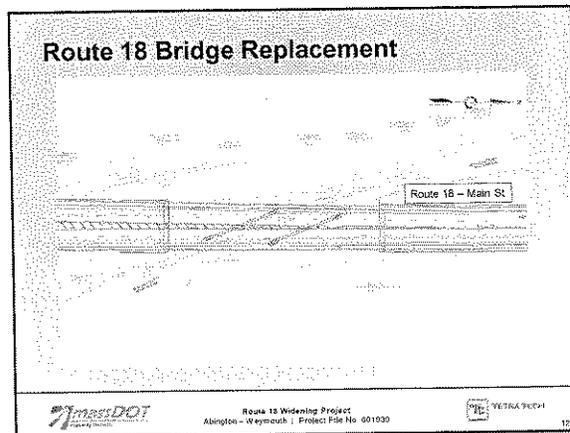
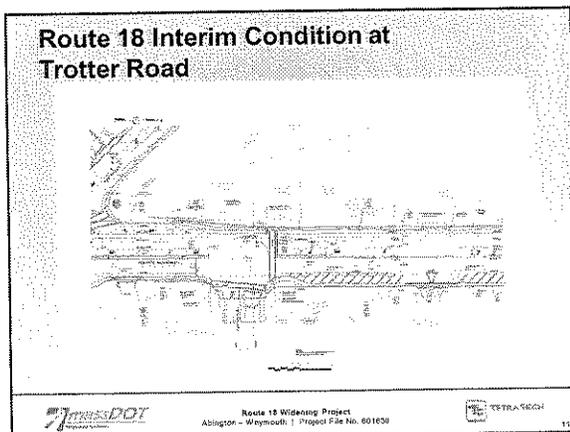
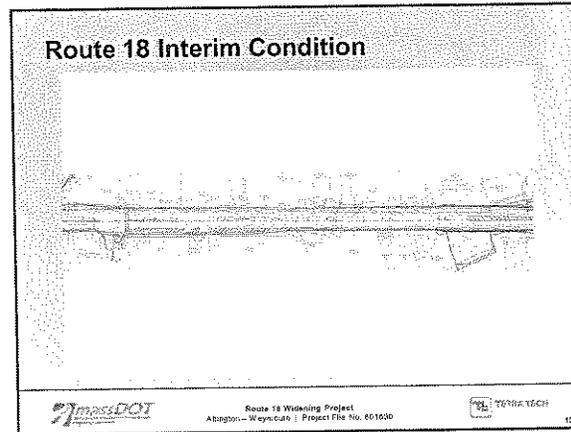
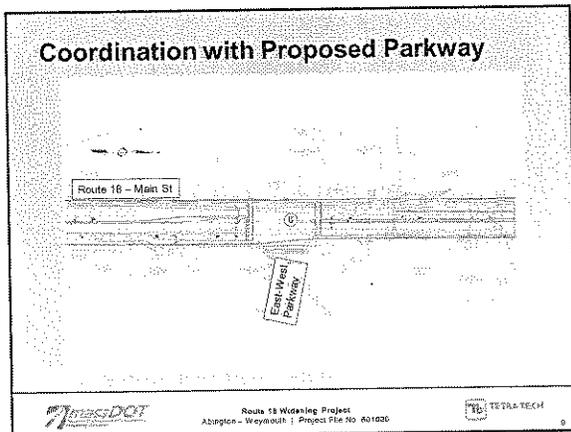
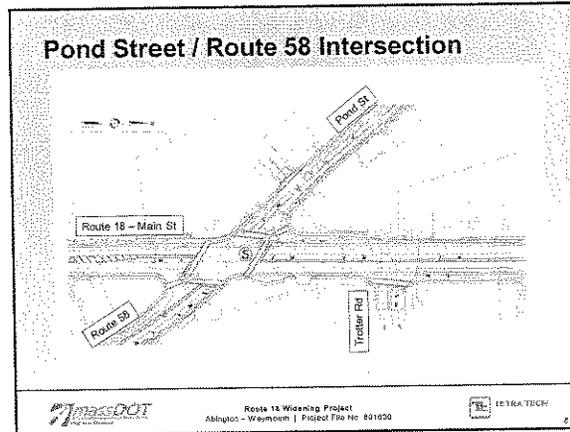
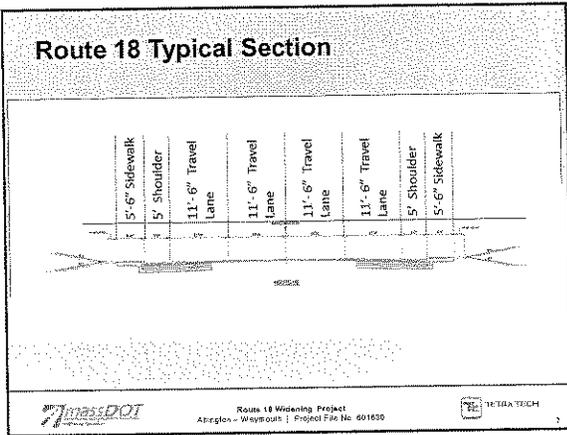
- Widen Route 18
  - (2) 11.5' Travel Lanes Each Direction
  - (1) 5.0' Shoulder Each Direction
  - (1) 5.5' Sidewalk Each Direction
- Reconstruct Signalized Intersections
  - Pond Street / Route 58
  - Shea Drive
- Replace Bridge over Commuter Rail



**Proposed Project Construction (cont.)**

- Retrofit Completed Intersections for Optimal Operation and Safety per Road Safety Audit
  - Randolph Street (Route 139)
  - Pond Street / Pleasant Street
  - West Street / Middle Street
- Stormwater Mitigation
- Wetland Mitigation





### Shea Drive / Route 18 Intersection

Route 18 - Main St  
Shea Dr

**MassDOT** Route 18 Widening Project  
Abington - Weymouth | Project File No. 601630

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### Utility Work

- Water Service Valves Reset – All Properties
- Hydrant Relocations
- Utility Poles Relocated to Back of Proposed Sidewalk
- Radio Operated Emergency Call Boxes Installed
- Gas Main Replaced – Specific Locations

**MassDOT** Route 18 Widening Project  
Abington - Weymouth | Project File No. 601630

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### Stormwater System

- New Catch Basins at the New Curb Lines
- Replacement of Drainage Trunk Lines
- Reconstruction of All Outlets
- Construction of Detention Basins

**MassDOT** Route 18 Widening Project  
Abington - Weymouth | Project File No. 601630

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### Wetland Impact

- Total Permanent BVW Impact
  - Weymouth +/- 6,000 sf
  - Abington +/- 5,500 sf
  - SWNAS +/- 450 sf
- Construct Low Retaining Walls to Reduce Impact

**MassDOT** Route 18 Widening Project  
Abington - Weymouth | Project File No. 601630

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### Wetland Mitigation

Permanent Wetland Impacts Project-Wide Are Mitigated at One Southfield Site

**MassDOT** Route 18 Widening Project  
Abington - Weymouth | Project File No. 601630

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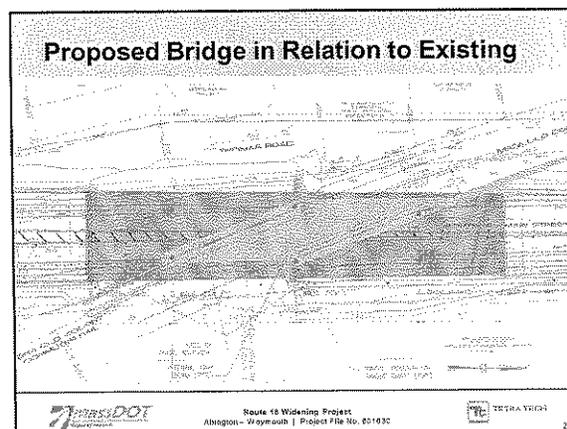
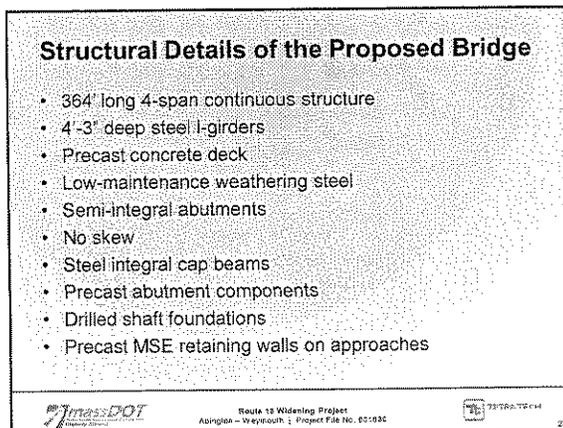
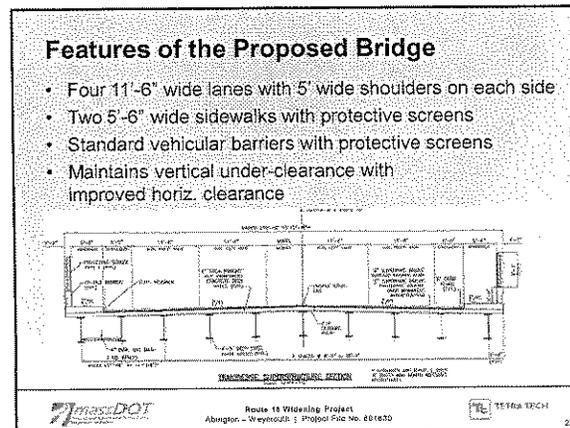
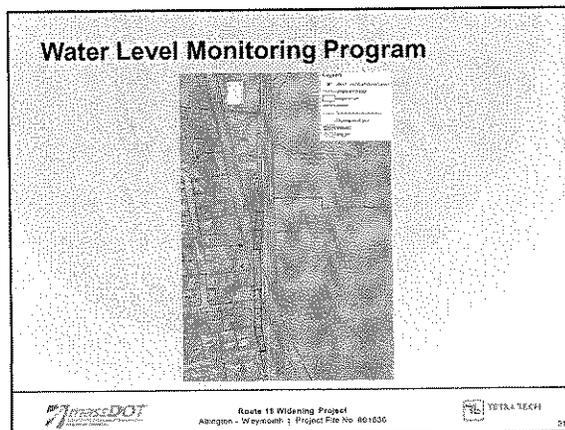
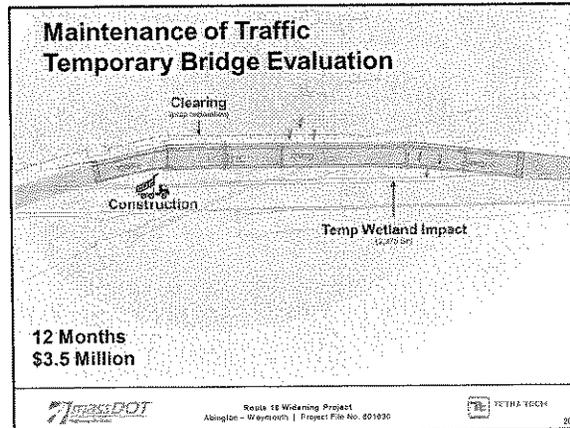
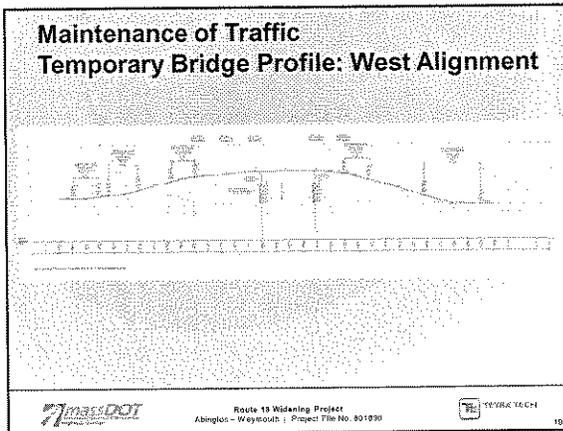
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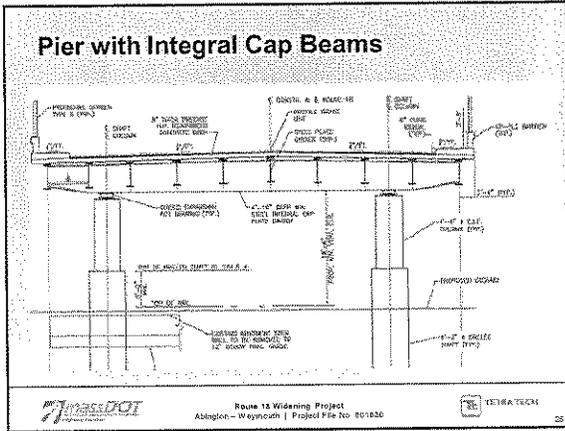
### Maintenance of Traffic Temporary Bridge Plan: West Alignment

**MassDOT** Route 18 Widening Project  
Abington - Weymouth | Project File No. 601630

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### Environmental Documentation & Permits

Agency/Act	Documentation/Requirement	Agency/Act	Status/Date
NEPA	Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)	FHWA	Issued September 15, 2005
NPDES	NPDES Construction General Permit	US EPA	To be filed by contractor
Section 404 of the Clean Water Act	Massachusetts Disposal Permit Category 2	US Army Corps of Engineers	To be filed in January 2014
Section 406 of the National Historic Preservation Act	Determination of No Effect	FHWA and NPS	Issued April 10, 2008 and April 22, 2008
NEPA	SEIR Secretary's Certificate	Energy & Environmental Affairs	Issued September 28, 2011
MA Wetlands Protection Act	Engineering Order of Conditions Weymouth & Abington	MassDEP	To be filed
MA Wetlands Protection Act	Variance (Combined) Weymouth & Abington	MassDEP	To be filed
Section 401 of the Clean Water Act	401 Water Quality Certificate Variance	MassDEP	To be filed
Article 91 of the MA Constitution	2014 Vote	State Legislature	To be filed
MA Endangered Species Act	Consultation under MESA	MassDEP	To be filed
MA Wetlands Protection Act	Order of Conditions Weymouth & Abington	Weymouth & Abington Conservation Commission	Issued December 4, 2012
MA Wetlands Protection Act	Order of Conditions	Weymouth Conservation Commission	Filed
Article 91 of the MA Constitution	Unanimous Vote	Weymouth Conservation Commission	To be filed
Article 91 of the MA Constitution	2014 Vote	Weymouth Town Council	To be filed

Route 18 Widening Project  
Abington - Weymouth | Project File No. 001830

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- ### Right of Way
- Identify & Measure Impacts from Construction – ROW Plans (UNDER REVIEW)
  - Property Ownership / Title Examination (WINTER 2014)
  - Appraisals (SPRING-SUMMER 2014)
  - Interviews (SUMMER 2014)
  - Payments Awarded (PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION)
- Route 18 Widening Project  
Abington - Weymouth | Project File No. 001830
- TETRA TECH

- ### Construction Cost & Schedule
- \$51.5 Million
  - 75% Design Submission – Completed
  - 100% Design Submission – Spring 2014
  - 2 ½ - 3 Year Construction Duration
- Route 18 Widening Project  
Abington - Weymouth | Project File No. 001830
- TETRA TECH

### Comments / Additional Information

**Donald Dailey**, Office of Government Affairs  
Massachusetts Department of Transportation  
Email: [Donald.Dailey@state.ma.us](mailto:Donald.Dailey@state.ma.us)  
Phone: 617.945.4272

**Project Website:**  
<http://www.mass.gov/massdot/Route18WideningProject>

Route 18 Widening Project  
Abington - Weymouth | Project File No. 001830

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# Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY  
ABINGTON, MA 02351

To: Board of Selectmen  
From: Town Manager  
Date: December 13, 2013  
Subj: Tax Rate Information Update

Mr. Dion has recommended that the Board provide some follow up analysis pertaining to the recent certification of the tax rate by the Department of Revenue and is prepared to present that attached information that he has compiled using data from our office and the Board of Assessors Office as a basis for discussion.

## Town of Abington – FY2014 Tax Rate Information Released

Abington FY2014 tax rate has been set at **\$17.19** by the Department of Revenue.

The FY2014 full and fair market assessment for the average single family homes is **\$281,145**, as compared to **\$287,438** during FY2013, reflecting a **-2.2%** decrease in the value for the average residential home on a year over year basis.

The owner of the average single family home can expect to pay an additional **+1.7%**, or **\$78.59**, in property taxes for FY2014 ending on June 30, 2014. Residents are reminded that this increase is based on the average property value of \$281,145 — each resident’s property tax situation will be different based on their home’s valuation.

Debt service for the Griffin Dairy Land purchase and Phase IV - Sewer Expansion project in the amount of \$614,000 were phased out during FY2013 resulting in the modest property tax increase this year.

The Assessors report that new growth of single family homes on a year over year basis continues to be slow. Only 11 new homes were added to Abington’s single family parcel base of 3,729 during the past year.

Property tax bills are anticipated to be mailed out no later than the week of December 23, 2013.

For more information contact the Selectman’s Office at 781-982-2100 or the Assessor’s Office at 781-982-2107.

(a) <sup>#1</sup>	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Fiscal Year	# of Single Family Parcels	Average Property Value – Single Family Homes	Increase/Decrease Property Values From Previous Year	Tax Rate	(c)*(e)/1000 Average Single Family Tax Bill	Increase/Decrease Tax Bill From Previous Year
FY2011	3,707	\$298,094	-	\$15.14	\$4,513	-
FY2012	3,723	\$299,480	+0.5%	\$15.36	\$4,593	+1.8%
FY2013	3,729	\$287,438	-4.0%	\$16.55	\$4,757	+3.6%
<b>FY2014</b>	<b>3,740</b>	<b>\$281,438</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>	<b>\$17.19</b>	<b>\$4,836</b>	<b>+1.7%</b>

Source <sup>#1</sup>: Abington Assessor’s Department, Department of Revenue, Property Tax Information page, [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov)



# Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY  
ABINGTON, MA 02351

TO: BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
FROM: TOWN MANAGER  
DATE: OCTOBER 18, 2013  
SUBJ: GENERAL UPDATE

***The following is meant to be a general update of activities of the Town Manager and staff. Should any member desire more information regarding any particular matter please contact me personally.***

1. Memorial Arch—With advice from town counsel as to the specific requirements of the law that this type of project must be bid under this procurement is in two parts: a masonry bid first (as this is the major portion of the project financially) and then a bid for the bronze work. The bid document has been issued, the mandatory site visit for possible bidders concluded, and the bids are due on December 13. Once again I must thank Doug Ullwick for his countless hours of volunteer efforts in working with us and the project manager from Daedelus to keep this moving.
2. Strawberry Valley Golf Course— The RFP for Operation and Management services has been issued and proposals are due by November 27.
3. N. Quincy Street/Chestnut Intersection - On November 7 the Road Safety Audit was conducted by the state DOT. The draft report was distributed by Old Colony Planning Council on November 14 (and forwarded via email to the Board of Selectmen). I am not going to list any specific recommendations that were included in the draft but we look forward to the final document in the near future.
4. Chestnut Street/Hancock Street Intersection—At the request of our public safety agencies Old Colony Planning Council has also conducted research and worked with DOT to schedule a Road Safety Audit in December regarding this intersection. We will likely seek to schedule the initial meeting (prior to the group site visit) at the Police Station Community Room. This will be an opportunity for interested town officials and citizens at large to participate in discussing any improvements to that intersection that are deemed necessary.
5. Financial— Budget requests are due by all departments by Thanksgiving. You can look forward in December to an agenda discussion regarding a 5 Year Revenue/Expenditure Forecasting tool. Prior to that time I will be working with our Financial team to brainstorm reasonable projection assumptions.
6. Public Works—We are collecting organizational models pertaining to a public works department. At this point we are considering that it would include the existing responsibilities of the Highway Dept., Park department (separating the Recreation piece) and possibly the Sewer Department. Jack Caine is in charge of the Highway Department during this interim period. As you are aware in 2014 there is a scheduled Charter review so we hope to be prepared with a reorganization plan at that time. At this point I would seek to maintain a Board of Sewer Commissioners that would continue to deal with policy, rates, etc. for the Sewer function. Whether that is maintained as an elected Board (which I would presume at this time) will be a question for all of us in time.
7. Peer Consulting Project—The state DHCD is currently processing the required contract with Abington for this program that will fund a small peer project to provide a strategy for us to pursue the goal of providing a more aesthetically pleasing commercial/business zone. I anticipate that this will include

recommendations for certain by-law and zoning by-law updates, relationships with the business community, etc. Further updates to come.

8. Goals & Objectives Attachment—Attached is a PDF of a spreadsheet document listing the Board's voted goals and objectives and general status updates on the same. Please feel free to provide feedback on the format if you so choose. I would hope to update this on some routine basis to help keep us all headed in the same direction. Obviously there is will continue to be overlap with this narrative update.
9. Starwood Legislation—Attached is a narrative prepared by Southfield's Fire Safety Consultant as it pertains to the draft legislation prepared by Starwood. The concerns of both the Abington and Rockland Fire Chiefs are discussed in this document.