



# Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY  
ABINGTON, MA 02351

## **Board of Selectmen Meeting**

**July 27, 2015**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Cotter Room**

- **Pledge of Allegiance**

- **Moment of Silence**

A moment of Silence was held for Frank Curran. Frank worked for the Abington Police Department where he retired after 30 years of service. Frank will be deeply missed by his family and many friends

6:00 p.m. – Joint meeting with the Zoning Board of Appeals and Ilana Quirk, Kopelman & Paige regarding the appointment process. Attorney Quirk gave reviewed the ZBA appointment process with the both Boards. Attorney Quirk determined how the votes were cast. The Board of Selectmen asked the Zoning Board of Appeals to determine if they wanted to make different appointments if they were not comfortable with the appointments recently made of the full voting members vs. the alternate members.

6:30 p.m. – *State Senator John Keenan* – *Senator Keenan updated the Board with regard to the DPW Charter Change Special Legislation. Senator stated it has come out of municipalities, is now with the House Committee, will be going to the steering and policy this week, then the house floor then the Senate. The Senator has provided the legislation to Senate Counsel to flag any possible issues. The Senator does not foresee any, and it may likely be voted on before recess, July 31, 2015.*

- **Public Announcements:**

Selectman Bezanson congratulated Chief Majenski for a tremendous honor that he has been voted in as President of the Massachusetts Chief's Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge 14. This order of Police is the world's largest organization of sworn law enforcement officers, with more than 325,000 members in more than 2,100 lodges.

Selectman Coyle announced that the Library is offering many programs for families, such as movie night. Please access the library website for details.

Selectman Burbine announced that the Abington Police Department is recognizing retired Police Chief, Richard Franey for the 2015 National Night Out award on August 4, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. inside the Brockton Rox stadium for his community oriented philosophy of policing, which continues to be the model today.

**Public Appointments:**

6:35 p.m. – Commercial Garage License Application, Miranda’s Auto Body, 123 Centre Avenue  
M/Coyle to open the hearing

S/Burbine

Voted 5-0

M/Coyle to continue the hearing to August 17, 2015 at 6:35 p.m. to allow proper notification to abutters.

S/Burbine

Voted 5-0

6:45 p.m. – Abington Citgo, 115 Brockton Avenue – request for 24 hour operation – Attorney George Whiting requests a 24 hour operation for applicant Mr. Zahid Durani. The current hours are 6am to 11pm for the gas station, and 8 am to 8 pm for the car wash. Attorney Whiting states he has completed all that was asked of him from a prior hearing. Abutter, Stan Kogut, 27 Rockland Street, is opposed to the increase as he has complaints of noise and lighting. Mr. Millett, owner of Hawkeye Fence is in favor of the 24 hour gas station, and the car wash to be open until 9:00 p.m.

M/Burbine to continue until the August 17, 2015 meeting, as Attorney Whiting has just provided a lot of written information, and to also include minutes of past meetings that have occurred.

S/Bezanson

Voted 5-0

6:55 p.m. – Class II application, Abington Auto Repairs, 347 Summer Street – Michael Yazbeck addressed the Board for a Class II application for the same hours and number of cars as the previous license. Taxes are up to date, inspections are complete, and he has received the necessary zoning relief.

M/Burbine to approve the Class II application

S/Burbine

Voted 5-0

**Action/Discussion items:**

1. Approval of June 29, 2015 open and executive session minutes  
M/Jansen to approve both sets of minutes  
S/Bezanson  
Voted 5-0
  
2. Appointments to By-Law Review Committee –  
Jack Buckley, 333 Colonel Hunt Drive  
Andrew Levrault, 227 Presidential Drive  
M/Burbine to appoint Mr. Buckley and Mr. Levrault, and continue to advertise for a 3<sup>rd</sup> appointment on the August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting  
S/Jansen  
Voted 5-0
  
3. Discussion on the condition of West Abington Hall, 79 Chestnut Street – Mr. Cessarini addressed the Board as he had submitted a letter with concerns (attached). It was determined that nothing can be done with regard to the hall until we receive a report from our insurance carrier as to the condition of the Hall. There are concerns of mold, leaking roof, and water in the basement. Mr. Cessarini will be notified once we receive the insurance report.
  
4. Discussion on proposed Island Grove Park Supplemental Dog Regulations – (attached)  
M/Coyle to restrict dogs at all times from the area to the right of the dirt road which encompasses the pool and play area. Dogs may be on leashes to the left of the dirt road of Island Grove. Leash law is strictly enforced for that area.  
S/Burbine  
Voted 5-0
  
5. Update on Abington being included as a surrounding community in the application from the Casino developer. – Town Manager referred to the email he sent today stating that several months ago we sent a letter to the developer and MGC seeking to be included in the application as a “surrounding community, and that at the August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting the Board may wish to designate a member to work with the Town Manager, Town Counsel, and selected staff as a form of a negotiating team as the process moves forward.
  
6. Discussion on goals and objectives (attached)  
M/Burbine to adopt goals and objectives  
S/Jansen  
Voted 5-0

7. Discussion on forming Surplus Land Committee – Selectman Coyle stated this should be formed as there will be vacant buildings once the new school is completed.
8. Determination that a fill permit does not apply to a municipal building project –

Mary Mahoney, Owner's Project Manager, requested a waiver to the current fill permit bylaw.

M/Andy to waive the current fill permit bylaw with regard to this specific school project.

S/Jansen

Voted 5-0

9. Town Manager Report – Town Manager stated that we are interviewing for a regional Animal Control Officer, the Treasurer/Collector's last day will be August 7<sup>th</sup>, the Town Accountant will fill in as an interim, John Hornstra has mowed Griffin's Dairy at no charge, and OCPC stated that we will have the draft report of Griffin's Dairy by the end of July.

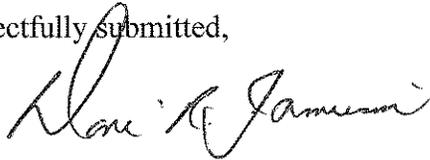
M/Burbine to adjourn

S/Jansen

Voted 5-0

Meeting adjourned: 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dori R. Jamieson

Assistant Town Manager

**To:** Abington Board of Selectmen  
**From:** John Cesarini  
**Date:** July 9, 2015  
**Subject:** Appearance before the Board of Selectmen

RECEIVED  
JUL 9 - 2015  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF ABINGTON

Dear Chairman and Board Members,

I am writing to request an appearance before the Board of Selectman. There have been numerous concerns and unanswered questions regarding the Scout Hall on 79 Chestnut St, a town owned building that has been used since the 90's by scouting and non – scouting organizations alike. This past winter, it being an unusually harsh one, caused possible damage to the building. As a result, the fire system inside falsely went off. The Abington Fire Department responded and deemed the building unsafe to use during the winter months.

After this incident occurred I began communication with our Town Manager, Richard Lafond, about reopening the hall for the spring or summer. To my understanding, there has yet to be an insurance claim processed by the town for the building. To my understanding, there is no finite person who has the power to turn the electricity, water and gas back on to the hall. Both of these issues have caused a standstill.

Inaction has left two Cub Scout Packs, two Girl Scouts Troops, a Venturing Crew, and a home schooling group displaced. Each of these organizations had a dependency on this hall because of its location and flexibility. While these groups have found other locations to meet, it has hurt their programs.

Within each of these organizations are certified and skilled volunteers from many trades. These individuals have kept the hall maintained and made repairs to the building and grounds since their first use of the building. There is an understanding steps need to be taken by the town in regards to insurance issues and proper repairs before use will be permitted. There is also disgruntlement by leaders, volunteers and parents that the process has reached over six months with no foreseeable end.

Anyone who has ever seen a child in a youth program knows the positive reinforcement it brings to their life. As leaders, we want the best for our children and the fellow children of the town. We are asking for the utilities to be turned back on at the Scout Hall on 79 Chestnut St. so we may make necessary repairs, like we have done in the past, and provide our children a safe environment to grow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Cesarini', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

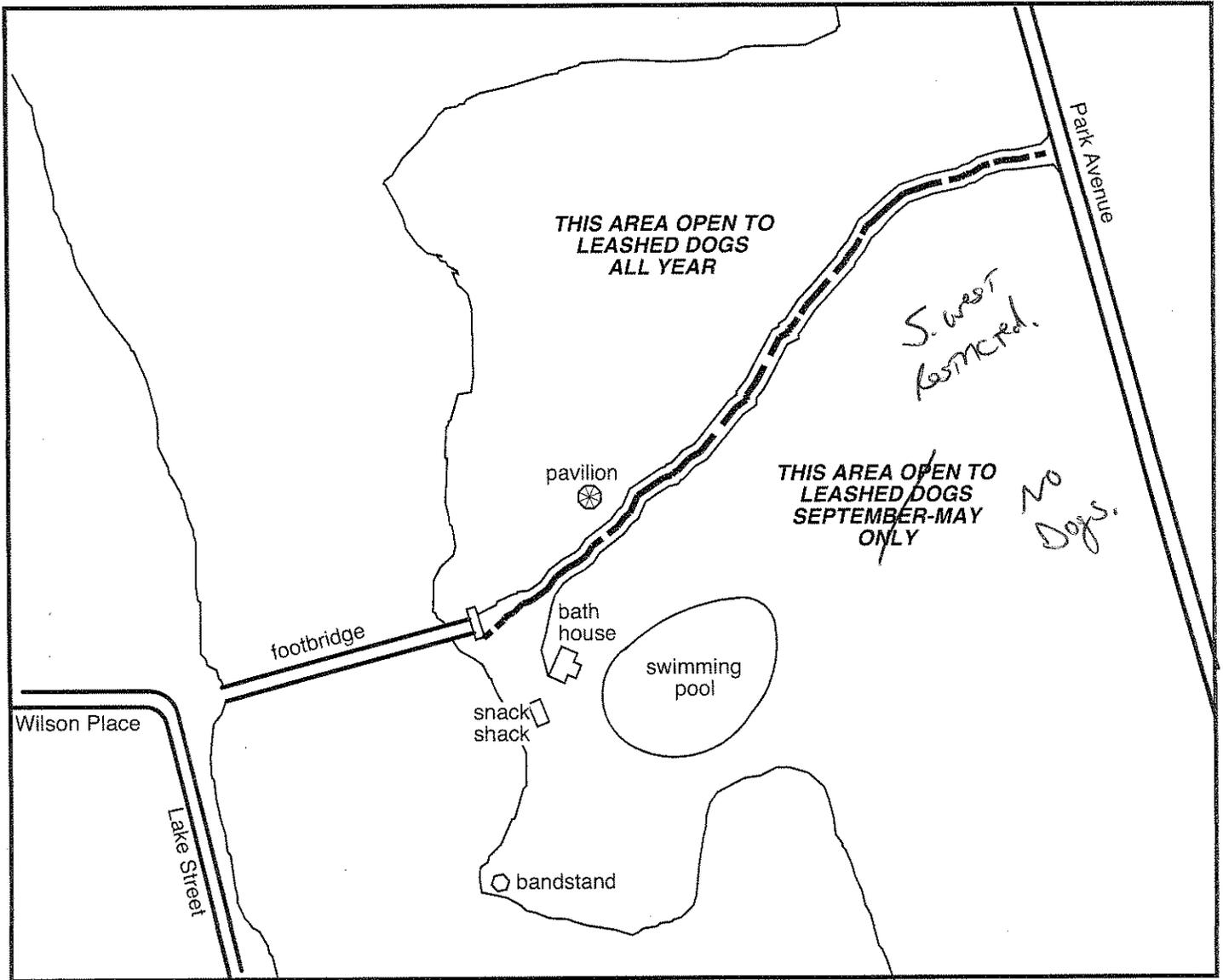
John Cesarini

Chairman – Abington Commission on Disabilities

Vice Chairman – Abington Knights of Columbus Executive Board

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# Island Grove Park Supplemental Dog Regulations



1. Dogs shall be leashed at all times in the Park. No exceptions.
2. Dog walkers shall collect and dispose of the dog's waste products off site in a legal manner.
3. Fines for violating these rules in Island Grove Park shall be increased to \_\_\_\_\_
4. The Animal Control Officer will visit the park at random times to enforce these regulations

## FY 2016 Goals and Objectives

- 1 Complete transition to a Department of Public Works
- 2 Facilitate plan for use/reuse of Griffins Dairy Property.
- 3 Pursue updates and improvements to website.
- 4 Complete outstanding Labor Agreements
- 5 Update personnel regulations in light of new Personnel By-law
- 6 Business: Revive Abington Business Association; assist property owners in filling vacant commercial/business space.
- 7 Plan for increasing Police Department staffing
- 8 Explore secondary access to school complex
- 9 Maintain communication with public as to the impact of the Rt. 18 expansion project.
- 10 Work with Southfield Developer to plan for property tax enhancement and/or recreational uses within Abington portion of the development.
- 11 Deal with existing structural budget gap including historically inadequate snow and ice budget.
- 12 Create prioritized road infrastructure plan.
- 13 Complete the ongoing review of existing Board of Selectmen's Policies with emphasis on fiscal and investment policies.
- 14 Continue to review revenue enhancement opportunities to develop a fiscally sustainable staffing structure.
- 15 Plan for disposition of surplus town property (North & Center Schools)
- 16 Enhance aesthetics of main thoroughfares (sidewalk repair; weed/grass control.
- 17 Other Misc. Tasks: Procurement Independent Audit

**The above goals are in addition to day to day administrative requirements of the Town Manager's Office - many of which are out of our control for various reasons.**