



# Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY  
ABINGTON, MA 02351

**Board of Selectmen Meeting  
June 29, 2015  
6:30 p.m.  
Cotter Room**

Members present: Mike Franey, Maureen Jansen, Andy Burbine, Ken Coyle, Alex Bezanson

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Moments of Silence were held for State Senator Tom Kennedy who recently passed away, and Mr. Peter Giannaras who was a teacher at the North School for 37 years, who recently passed away and both will be deeply missed by family and many friends.

- Public Announcements:

Selectman Bezanson announced that he and his wife spent time with third grade students on June 17<sup>th</sup> regarding Town Government, and received thank you letters.

Selectman Jansen announced that the Summer festivities are beginning at Island Grove and details may be viewed on the Town's website.

Chairman Franey announced that the Opiate and Heroin discussion was very well attended on June 23<sup>rd</sup> hosted by Selectman Bezanson.

- Action/Discussion items:

1. Approval of June 2, 2015 open session minutes  
M/Burbine to approve  
S/Jansen  
Voted 5-0  
Approval of June 2, 2015 executive session minutes  
M/Burbine to approve as amended  
S/Jansen  
Voted 5-0  
Approval of June 8, 2015 open session minutes  
M/Coyle to approve as amended  
S/Burbine  
Voted 5-0

Approval of June 16, 2015 open session minutes  
M/Coyle to approve as amended  
S/Burbine  
Jansen abstains  
Voted 4-0-1

2. Discussion on goals and objectives –

FY2016 Selectmen goals for the Town Manager recently submitted. Town Manager to incorporate new goals in existing spread sheet, and omit goals that have been accomplished. This will be discussed on the next agenda.

3. Appointment of voting members to the Zoning Board of Appeals –

This was passed over until we receive an opinion from Counsel as how to proceed. A meeting on July 7<sup>th</sup> will try to be arranged with Counsel and the Zoning Board.

4. Discussion on dogs at Island Grove – The Selectmen received a letter from a resident whose child was bitten at Island Grove. Much discussion took place. It was determined to increase signage at the Grove, check with the Board of Health if there is a health issue, and try to have the Animal Control Officer or an individual from the Senior Rebate Program on site at some times for enforcement.

5. Discussion on Housing Partnership Committee and the Cable Advisory Committee – The Housing Partnership was put in place in the late nineties to assist with affordable housing. More research is needed on the topic. The Cable Advisory Committee was formed to assist the licensing process. Currently, the Comcast license expires in 2019, and the Verizon license expires in 2023. It was decided not to abolish these committees but to advertise for them as needed.

6. Discussion on By-Law review – Per our Charter, the Bylaws are to be reviewed every five years.

M/Burbine to re-establish the bylaw review committee by advertising on the website and making appointments to the committee on July 27, 2015

S/Bezanson  
Voted 5-0

7. Town Manager Report (attached)

M/Jansen to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing the status of collective bargaining units: Fire, Police, Highway/Sewer, Clerical, Library, Manager's Union, and to discuss strategy and proposal from Kopelman & Paige pertaining to possible litigation, and not to reconvene to open session.

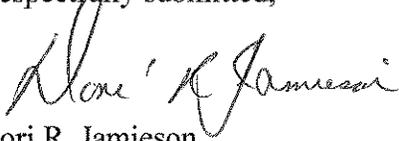
S/Bezanson

Bezanson, aye; Coyle, aye; Burbine, aye; Jansen, aye; Franey, aye

Voted 5-0

Meeting adjourned: 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dori R. Jamieson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Dori R. Jamieson

Assistant Town Manager



# Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY  
ABINGTON, MA 02351

TO: BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
FROM: TOWN MANAGER  
DATE: JUNE 24, 2015  
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. Treasurer/Collector – As you know Leo Provost is intending to retire in August. The position description has been updated and a job ad created for the various municipal posting outlets (MMA, Treasurer/Collector's association, Mass Finance Officers association etc.) In the meantime, beyond what help Leo is able/willing to provide on part-time basis, it is likely that the Town Accountant will be acting in an interim capacity (to ensure that we are not left without a statutory problem in terms of legal authority for payroll, etc.) and the Administrative Assistant in the Town Accountants Office will serve as Assistant Town Accountant to ensure that vouchers and payroll processes continue without any issues. This allows us to proceed without a stringent deadline that may negatively impact the decision-making process and doesn't require any compromise of the intent of the existing personnel by-law.
2. Animal Control – It appears that Whitman and Hanson are on board for a joint animal control program that would help us take advantage of the fact that Whitman has a shelter. As I have stated before, my interest is not to change the current set up for Abington but rather to try and maintain a level of spending in the future that is reasonably close to the current level. As you know Bob Hammond intends to retire the end of this fiscal year (but has assured me that he will stay on until we find a replacement) and sharing an ACO function will keep our cost close to the present (although I may need a little more money later in the year).
3. Griffins Dairy - I have been informed by Old Colony Planning Council that they are putting the final touches on their "internal draft" and that they expect to have a draft study for our review and comment sometime in early - mid July.