



Town of Abington

OFFICE OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY
ABINGTON, MA 02351
(781) 982-2100
FAX (781) 982-2138

Minutes Board of Selectmen August 24, 2009 Cotter Room 6:30 p.m.

Members: Tom Corbett, Rich Cunningham, Jerry Corcoran, Chris Aiello, Andy Burbine

6:45 p.m. SAGE Committee – M/Jamieson gave an update on the Committee. It has met four times and applied for a grant. Contacted vendor re cartridges and toner, which would be less expensive and recyclable. Helping with a recycling program through the town through the Board of Health, putting in recycling bins in all the town buildings and will keep track of how it's doing. They are having a farmer's market with Abington home grown vegetables on Sept. 12th, to be held at Police Station with the Board's permission, from 10-3.

M/Aiello to approve farmer's market on 9/12 at Police Station

S/Burbine

Voted: 5-0

Appointment to Search Committee

Nine applications received. Requirements for search committee discussed. Finance Committee will select their representative at their next meeting on 9/2. M/Corcoran – the person selected should not have any specific priorities, wondered if interested parties should come to the next meeting on 9/14.

M/Burbine to go forward

S/Aiello

Voted 3 to 2 to go forward

Final vote:

M/Aiello to select Ann Welch

S/Burbine

Voted 5-0

Setting of Special Town Meeting/open and closing of warrant - STM scheduled on October 26, 2009. Warrant will be opened tonight and closed at next meeting in two weeks. Department heads will be notified. M/Jamieson will research funding source for Town Manager Search Committee.

M/Burbine to schedule STM on October 26, 2009 and approve dates for opening and closing warrant

S/Corcoran

Voted 5-0

Minutes – August 10, 2009
M/Aiello to approve
S/Corcoran
Voted 5-0

Approval of Boosters door-to-door drive on Sunday, October 18, 2009
This is an annual request, from 12 noon-3p.m. Police and Highway Departments don't have concerns.
M/Cunningham to approve
S/Aiello
Voted 5-0

Town Manager Report –
Renewal contract for cable – contract has been forwarded and will come before Board on September 14, 2009 for questions and vote. Chairman of Cable Advisory Committee will be there for any questions.

Jean Kelley – there are three light poles she has issues with - two poles are to be redirected. Should be resolved by next meeting.

M/Corbett brought up regionalization meetings and supplying food for meetings, asking for petty cash for this purpose. M/Jamieson – we don't have funding source for that now. Board was not in favor with money so tight.

Discussion on interim town manager - M/Jamieson went over duties of town manager and asst. town manager, which are the same, but the town manager has the power and ability to make decisions that the assistant does not. That authority is necessary to go forward. Currently there is one full and one part time person in the office. An interim appointment should be made with a transition team until a new town manager comes in. Employees that are in place could be asked to do extra work. Does not want to put herself at risk without the appointment. This could be accomplished with the current funding, with current town manager on vacation and furlough through October 6, 2009.

M/Lawton, COA - supported the appointment of M/Jamieson, which she thought was crucial to a seamless transition. M/Sulmonte – the Board needs to deal with this tonight to make authority clear.

Board had questions for Atty. Fair, Kopelman & Paige. The Board has the authority to appoint in the town manager's absence. For a temporary candidate there were no specifications.

The question of M/Jamieson's contract was discussed re salary to be received assuming the town manager's position while interim. Board was concerned that two salaries for the same position would be paid through October 6th. Contract calls for town manager's salary if M/Jamieson fills the position.

M/Maze, Finance Committee Chair – this isn't a unique contract item. Police and fire get the same policy. When M/Jamieson interim previously she got the town manager's rate of pay.

M/Sulmonte – brought up transition in School Department, which was costly and School Committee supported this. This would be approximately \$4,600; consider this as what is required for seamless transition. Board - money is an issue, but there are also other considerations. Is there a plan for transition? M/Jamieson – she hasn't been appointed yet. Board would like an outline. M/Jamieson - would be working with financial team – Deputy Assessor, Treasurer Collector, Town Accountant. She would speak to financial and administrative team. She would delegate to other departments, would want additional hours administratively. They should be compensated. Would be looking to bring back FOG.

M/Lawton – department heads need a leader now.

Motion to go into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. for the purpose of contract negotiation and collective bargaining, and to return to open session. Roll call vote Corbett, Cunningham, Corcoran, Aiello, Burbine, unanimous.

Open session resumed at 10:20 p.m. with the Board offering M/Jamieson the position of Interim Town Manager, with an increase of \$12,000, to \$96,626.86, rather than the current salary of Town Manager Warren, which was accepted. Atty. Fair, Kopelman and Paige, will draft the modification to the contract.

M/Corcoran to adjourn at 10:30 p.m.
S/Aiello
Voted 5-0

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy Hurst