

Justin Paré, President
Keith Lapointe, Vice President
John Costello
Daniel Donovan
Mark Gould, Jr.



Kevin McCarthy
John Simmons
Andrea Slobogan
Laura Wagner

Town of North Attleborough
TOWN COUNCIL
43 South Washington Street, North Attleborough, MA 02760
Phone: (508) 699-0100 ext. 2555

1/7/2026 - Minutes

I. Pledge Of Allegiance

Members: Dan Donovan (Chair), John Simmons, Laura Wagner, Ryan Benharris,
John Donohue

Subcommittee Chair Donovan called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM and led the Subcommittee members and audience in the pledge of allegiance.

By-Law Sub-Committee Members Present: Members Absent:

Dan Donovan (Chair)

John Simmons

Laura Wagner

Ryan Benharris

John Donohue

Staff Present:

Town Manager (T.M) Michael Borg

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Residents Present:

None

Invited Guests:

None

Documents Reviewed:

1. **Measure 2026-041** - To create the Bylaw associated with the M.G.L. c. 59 §59A as Amended

2. **Measure 2026-042**- Approval to Accept the proposed amendments to §108-4 modernize the Town’s approach to backyard chicken keeping by recognizing the rights of residents to responsibly maintain chickens on their own property, while also establishing clear public-health protections to address concerns from neighbors—particularly those related to rodents. If accepted, this will also require an update of Ch.290 § 290-18.1 Use Schedule B 2 Agriculture (stock) to remove the prohibition and special permit requirements. **Continued to January 21, 2026**

II. Approval Of Minutes

- a. Approval of December 4, 2025 Bylaw Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes

Approval of the December 4, 2025 Bylaw Sub-Committee meeting minutes

Simmons moved to approve the minutes, 2nd by Benharris,

motion passed 5-0

- b. Measure 2026-042- Approval to Accept the proposed amendments to §108-4 modernize the Town’s approach to backyard chicken keeping by recognizing the rights of residents to responsibly maintain chickens on their own property, while also establishing clear public-health protections to address concerns from neighbors—particularly those related to rodents. If accepted, this will also require an update of Ch.290 § 290-18.1 Use Schedule B 2 Agriculture (stock) to remove the prohibition and special permit requirements. Continued to January 21, 2026

Measure 2026-042- Approval to Accept the proposed amendments to §108-4 modernize the Town’s approach to backyard chicken keeping by recognizing the rights of residents to responsibly maintain chickens on their own property, while also establishing clear public-health protections to address concerns from neighbors—particularly those related to rodents. If accepted, this will also require an update of Ch.290 § 290-18.1 Use Schedule B 2 Agriculture (stock) to remove the prohibition and special permit requirements.

> Continued to January 21, 2026

III. Resident And Community Comment

None at this time.

IV. Old Business

- a. Measure 2026-041- To create the Bylaw associated with the M.G.L. c. 59 §59A as Amended

Measure 2026-041 - To create the Bylaw associated with the M.G.L. c. 59 §59A as Amended [*Brownfield tax abatement*]

- T.M Borg:
 - Reviewed the proposed bylaw as described in the documents and the associated policy and application agreement
 - Noted that the application agreement will be available online.
- Simmons suggested an amendment to § 6 b(i)
 - **Current text: The Town Council shall review, deliberate and vote to approve, amend or deny the agreement.**
 - Suggested amendment: after the final word, "agreement," **add: pursuant to the Town Council rules and the assistance of the relevant subcommittees.**

> **Simmons moved to approved the amendment, 2nd by Benharris.**

Motion passed 5-0

- Benharris noted that this measure has been before Council and this subcommittee several times and there has been no public comment.

> **Simmons moved to send the measure to the full Council with a positive**

recommendation. 2nd by Benharris Motion passed, 5-0

V. New Business

- a. None at this time.

VI. Adjournment

Simmons moved to adjourn, 2nd by Benharris. Meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM

Respectfully submitted by Laura Wagner

