



Office of the
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
272 Main Street, Townsend, Massachusetts 01469

Sue Lisio, Chairman

Cindy King, Vice-Chairman

Wayne Miller, Clerk

James M. Kreidler, Jr.,
Town Administrator

(978) 597-1701

MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 24, 2018 7:30P.M.
SELECTMEN'S CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL - 272 MAIN STREET, TOWNSEND, MA

- I. PRELIMINARIES - VOTES MAY BE TAKEN:
 - 1.1 SL called the meeting to order.
Roll call vote showed 3 members present: Chairman Sue Lisio (SL), Vice-Chairman Cindy King (CK) and Clerk Wayne Miller (WM).
 - 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.3 SL announced the meeting is being tape recorded. SL queried the audience members if anyone else would be taping.
 - 1.4 There were no Chairman's additions or deletions.
- II. APPOINTMENTS AND HEARINGS - VOTES MAY BE TAKEN:
 - 2.1 7:30P.M. Public Discussion in conjunction with Keith Turgeon of the Ashby Townsend Youth Baseball Association, RE: Craven Field.

The Board met with Mr. Turgeon of the Ashby Townsend Baseball Association.
The Board reviewed the memorandum submitted by Mr. Turgeon - (please see attached).

Dog issue - Mr. Kreidler read from the legal opinion into the record - (please see attached).

Mr. Turgeon stated the organization is interested in obtaining a license as outlined in Town Counsel's opinion. Mr. Turgeon has spoken with residents and changed the associations' requests. Mr. Turgeon read his memorandum into the record - (please see attached).

Mr. Craven inquired as to the removal of the trees and requested the town pay for the removal. Mr. Kreidler stated there would be a procurement process that would need to be done for the removal of the trees as it is town owned.

Three issues identified in the letter:

1. Dogs, clarification it is only in the fenced in area.
2. Tree Removal, TAYSA will pay for removal.
3. Willing to take full responsibility for all maintenance of the field and willing to schedule other events for residents with a signed agreement.

CK voiced concerned with the trees being a liability and issues with movie night being a different expectation than baseball games prior to evening.

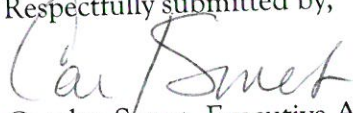
Neighbors voiced concerned with trespassing issues, security and property damage along with concerns about removing trees. Additional issues voiced by residents included: playground, residents use, expectations, scheduling of events, parking area and space for such. WM voiced concern with parking lot and clear cutting of any trees while pointing out the town does not currently spend any money to maintain any of the fields. The Board discussed different options for issuing a license to TAYBA and a scheduling calendar online for residents to view.

SL would like Mr. Turgeon to work out the issues directly with the abutters/residents. SL stated she would agree limited license for one year until all the issues can be worked out.

Mr. Kreidler will draft a license agreement for the Board to review and to work with setting up a meeting with Mr. Hanks and Mr. Turgeon to review and tag trees.

III. ADJOURNMENT:

Respectfully submitted by,


Carolyn Smart, Executive Assistant

Voted to approve the meeting minutes for the meeting of May 24, 2018, by the Board of Selectmen this 19 day of June, 2018.



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AGENDA
MAY 24, 2018 7:30P.M.
SELECTMEN'S CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL
272 MAIN STREET, TOWNSEND, MA

- I. PRELIMINARIES - VOTES MAY BE TAKEN:
 - 1.1 Call the meeting to order and roll call.
 - 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance
 - 1.3 Announce that the meeting is being tape recorded.
 - 1.4 Chairman's Additions or Deletions.
- II. APPOINTMENTS AND HEARINGS - VOTES MAY BE TAKEN:
 - 2.1 7:30P.M. Public Discussion in conjunction with Keith Turgeon of the Ashby Townsend Youth Baseball Association, RE: Craven Field.
- III. ADJOURNMENT:

Carolyn Smart

From: Keith Turgeon <keith.turgeon@taybs.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 12:19 PM
To: jkreidler@townsend.ma.us; csmart@townsend.ma.us; sml412@comcast.net; selectmancindyking@gmail.com; wayno231@msn.com; kymcraven@aol.com; rbailey@townsendpd.org; ehtownrec@yahoo.com; a18kennedy@hotmail.com
Subject: Craven Field Discussion Tonight
Attachments: TAYBS Craven Field Discussion.pdf

Hello Everyone,

In preparation for the Public Hearing tonight at 7:30pm for Craven Field, I have put together the attach document.

If anyone has any questions in advance of tonight, please do not hesitate to email or call me.

See you all tonight.

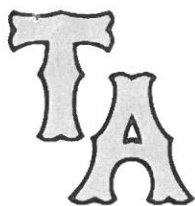
Thanks,
Keith

Keith Turgeon
League President
Townsend Ashby Youth Baseball & Softball
PO Box 443
Townsend, MA 01469, USA

Office: 508-281-6345 | Mobile: 978-729-3383
<http://www.taybs.org>



Virus-free. www.avg.com



TOWNSEND ASHBY YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL

CRAVEN FIELD DISCUSSION

As the League President of the Townsend Ashby Youth Baseball & Softball League (TAYBS), I want to thank you for providing this continued opportunity to speak with you on some items we would like the assistance of the town.

Since Mr. Craven gave the fields to the town in 1988 thousands of children have enjoyed playing on Craven Field with parents, family members and our community watching them. I know it was and remains his wish that the field be used for recreational purposes for our community members. TAYBS for the past 10 years has continued with that vision as had the Townsend Little League before it.

We have three issues we are asking of the town for assistance on:

1. As our town does not have a dog park, people look to find fenced in areas where they can let their dogs run free. Unfortunately, our ball fields are the only fenced in place in town that are the perfect size for people to use for their dogs. These dogs have caused significant damage to the fields themselves as well as use it as a public bathroom. We have put up several "no dogs allowed" signs, but to date this has not proved to be a successful deterrent. We have had people physically remove our signs and continue to use the field as a dog park and bathroom. It is important to note that we only want to keep the dogs off the fenced in field itself, and not the general property. We have no issues with people bringing their leashed dogs to games or using the other aspects of the property for recreational use.
2. The property has a significant number of very large trees on it. Because of these large trees, our field remains in the shade for a good portion of the day and as the sun goes behind the trees early in the evening causes visibility issues and our games tend to need to be called early for the safety of the kids. In addition to this, these are old trees, many of which continue to fall year after year. Our league willingly takes on the expensive burden of repairing the fences and field each year from the tree damage.
 - a. We have already received your permission to remove trees 20' from around the fenced in area, and we have been making progress with volunteers, but we are now to the point we need professional assistance to come in and clear the remaining trees out.

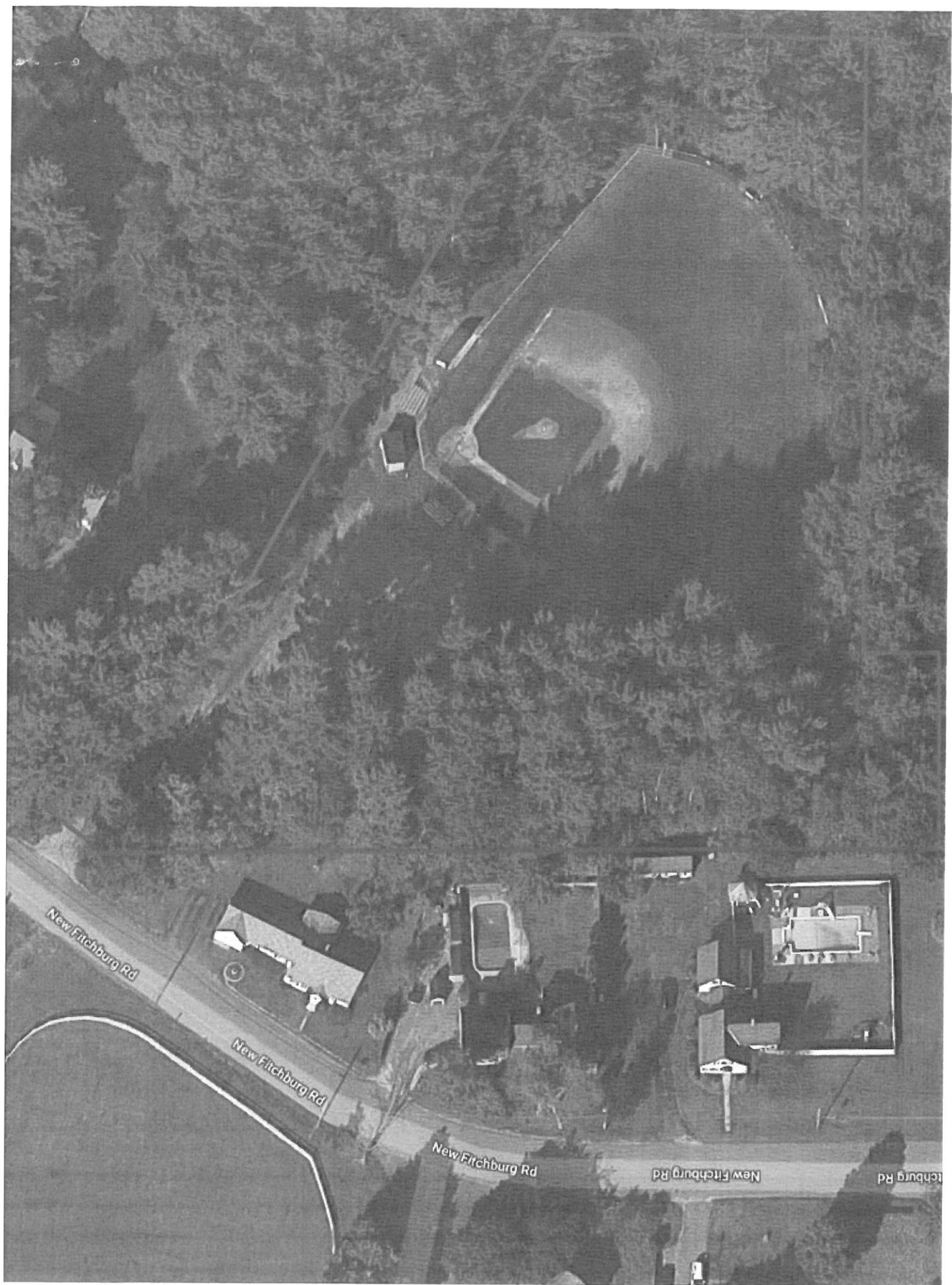
- b. We have found a company that is willing to completely clear the lot of trees (minus some buffer trees adjacent to the neighbor's properties) for a minimal cost. We are asking the town for permission to move forward with this amazing opportunity right away. TAYBS will take on 100% of the financial costs for the tree removal.
 - c. For the tree removal to move forward, we are asking the town to speak with the neighbors who have placed personal property and installed fencing on the property to have it removed as soon as possible.
 - d. By clearing these trees, this will allow us to expand our parking lot, which will help to alleviate the congestion of vehicles that run up and down New Fitchburg Rd during our events and further open the space for others to enjoy.
 - e. We have also found anonymous donors who, once the trees are removed, will be planting decorative, low growing trees and shrubs to help "beautify" the property.
3. As a private non-profit organization, we have taken on the full responsibility for the fields, including all maintenance, repairs and improvements. We have events at the field almost every day and handle all scheduling of events. We are asking the town that our organization be the governing organization for all scheduled events on the property. Our league has no intention of renting out the space for money, we are simply looking to handle scheduling others to use the space as our league schedule allows. We would be asking that anyone that schedules an event sign an agreement that simply confirms their commitment to leave the property in the same condition it was provided to them.

Our goal is to provide the best possible youth baseball and softball experience for the children of Townsend and Ashby. We plan to continue to make major improvements at all our fields as well as continue to provide new and unique experiences for our children. Recently we had a "Cub Scout Night" at our field, and this past Friday we held our first "Movie Night on Craven Field" where all our players and their families were able to come out with chairs and blankets and watch the movie, "The Sandlot", right on the infield.

We are very excited about the future of baseball and softball here in town, and we hope you are as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Keith Turgeon
TAYBS League President
keith.turgeon@taybs.org





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Thank you for your consideration.

Keith Turgeon
TAYBS League President
keith.turgeon@taybs.org



TAYBS Upcoming Projects

These projects are the different things that TAYBS would like to take on over the next couple of years. None of these are guaranteed to occur, but they are all on our radar.

Also, note that none of these projects are funded by the Town of Townsend or the Town of Ashby tax payers. Townsend Ashby Youth Baseball & Softball is a private non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that is completely self-funded by player registrations, fundraising, donations and our [generous sponsors](#).

- **Craven Field**

- Backstop & Gate Fencing Repairs - Completed September 2017
- Fence repairs from fallen tree damage - Completed March 2018
- New Storage Shed - Completed March 2018
- Mosquito & Tick Treatments - Completed May 2018
- New Ladder & New Wheel Barrel - Completed April 2018
- New Batter's Box Template - Completed April 2018
- New Field Rake - Completed May 2018
- New Refrigerator for Snack Shack - Completed May 2018
- New Movie Screen - Completed May 2018
- Irrigation System Repair - 5 of 6 zones repaired in May 2018 - Last zone [scheduled for August](#)
- New Pitching Rubber for 60 & 70's Pitchers Mounds - [Scheduled for June install](#)
- Batting Circle and Pitchers Mounds Protective Covers - [Scheduled for June Install](#)
- Tree Clearing - Phase 1 Completed April 2018 - Phase 2 Schedule ASAP
- New Field Lighting - Quoted \$145,000 - 160,000 - Not yet funded
- Parking Lot Improvements - Not yet funded
- Video Surveillance - Not yet funded
- Field Live Webcams - Not yet funded
- Internet Wireless Network - Not yet funded

- **Spaulding Fields**

- Common
 - New Storage Shed - Completed March 2018
 - New Field Liner - Completed March 2018
 - New Field Rake - Completed May 2018
 - New Snack Shack (New Building) - Estimated \$7,500 - [Planning in progress....](#)
 - Snack Shack (Appliances, Cabinets, Miscellaneous, Electrical Installation) - Estimated \$2,500 - [Planning in progress....](#)
 - New Hitting L-Screen - Not yet funded

- New Batting Cage - Estimated \$5,000 - Not yet funded
- New Irrigation System - Not yet funded
- Softball Field
 - Backstop Repair & Fence Extension - Completed March 2018
 - Move benches behind new Fence Extension - One side completed in April Second side scheduled for May
 - New Softball Field - Completed March 2018
 - New Softball Batter's Box & Pitchers Circle Templates - Completed April 2018
 - New Scoreboard - Quoted \$3,470 + Estimated \$5,000 Installation - Not yet funded
 - New Home and Away Bleachers - Not yet funded
 - New Dugouts - Estimated \$7,000 - Not yet funded
 - New Outfield Fence - Not yet funded
- Baseball Field
 - Outfield Fence Repairs, TAYBS & Sponsor Banners - Completed April 2018
 - Rebuild Infield Layout and Baselines, add new clay - Completed April 2018
 - Backstop and General Fence Repairs - Quoted \$3,286 - Not yet funded
 - New 119 Side Bleachers - Not yet funded
 - Exterior fencing and fence area improvements and cleanup - Not yet funded
 - Yellow Safety Cover installed on Fencing - Not yet funded
 - New Dugouts - Estimated \$7,000 - Not yet funded
 - New Scoreboard - Quoted \$3,470 + Estimated \$5,000 Installation - Not yet funded
- T-Ball Field 1
 - New T-Ball Field - Completed April 2018
 - Install new player benches - Not yet funded
- T-Ball Field 2
 - New T-Ball Field - Completed April 2018
 - Install new player benches - Not yet funded

Last updated 5/24/2018