

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES BOARD OF SELECTMEN



Monday, January 27, 2020

Executive Session - 5:15 pm

Present: William Dowling, Chairman, Carole Julius, Vice Chairman; David Sheedy, Clerk; Brian Noble, Town Administrator and Rebecca Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Absent:

Chairman Dowling announced the Selectmen were entering into Executive Session under MGL Chapter 30A, § 21 (a)(2) to conduct strategy session in preparation for negotiation with non-union personnel (Police Chief) if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining & litigating position of the public body as the chair so declares and not return to open session.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to move into Executive Session, Ms. Julius seconded. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Dowling: Aye, Ms. Julius: Aye, Mr. Sheedy: Aye, all were in favor, 3-0

Town Administrator, Mr. Noble stated the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the recent retirement announcement of Chief of Police, Scott Allen, and what the steps will be moving forward. Mr. Noble stated Chief Allen will be leaving in early March. Mr. Noble recommended; Per Massachusetts statute the Board appoint Deputy Chief Paul O'Brien as the acting Chief effective the day Chief Allen leaves. Under the statute the Deputy Chief can be the acting Police Chief for up to six months without adjustment in pay.

There was a discussion on how they believe the Deputy Chief will do a good job stepping into the Police Chief roll and they're looking forward to seeing him action. It was stated that the Police Chief position is Civil Service and the Deputy Chief position is non-Civil Service. Mr. Noble would like to meet with Town Council to discuss the Civil Service process and about the steps moving forward.

There was a discussion on how the next Police Chief should be picked. Mr. Dowling stated he believes the position of the next police chief is a decision for the Board to make. Mr. Sheedy stated, he believes in succession, that people earn their job and there is time to decide. Ms. Julius stated she would prefer not to pay for an assessment.

Mr. Sheedy stated how well liked the Deputy Chief is within the Department. The Selectmen look forward to seeing how he does step into the roll as Police Chief. Mr. Noble stated that this is not an automatic promotion.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to adjourn from Executive Session at 5:40 pm, seconded by Carole Julius. All were in favor, 3-0

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Dowling: Aye, Ms. Julius: Aye, Mr. Sheedy: Aye. All were in favor, 3-0

Board of Selectmen Clerk