



EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Tuesday, June 8, 2021

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Executive Session - 10:30 am

Present: David Sheedy, Chairman; Peter Spagone Jr., Vice Chairman; Carole Julius, Clerk

Absent:

Others Present: James Purcell, Interim Town Administrator, Rebecca Johnson, Assistant to the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen, Timothy Harhen, Fire Chief

Chairman Sheedy announced the Selectmen were entering into Executive Session Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, § 21 (a)(2) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.

Mr. Sheedy made a motion to open Executive Session. Mr. Spagone Jr. seconded. Roll Call Vote: Aye, Mr. Spagone Jr: Aye, Ms. Julius: Aye, Mr. Sheedy: Aye. All were in favor, 3-0

Mr. Purcell stated the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Fire Union and Town Accountant position.

Mr. Purcell stated they are very close on a one-year extension with the Fire Union. Fire Chief, Timothy Harhen was present and stated he was satisfied with the terms. The potential terms of the one-year extension are a one year 2%, stipend increase of \$1,000.00 in exchange for a shift change requested by the Fire Chief. Chief Harhen stated the president of the Fire Union held a meeting with the bargaining committee and are also on board, a future meeting will be scheduled to ratify the one-year agreement. Mr. Purcell stated he would like the Fire Union extension added to the upcoming 6/15/2021 Board of Selectmen meeting agenda for ratification. Chief Harhen stated the \$1,000.00 stipend is an EMT stipend for paramedics in recognition for how the job has changed over the past three years.

Chief Harhen left the meeting.

Mr. Purcell began discussion on the Town Accountant position. Mr. Purcell stated, candidate, Melanie Dean met with the finance team, Town Accountant Phyllis Tirrell, Assessor, Paula Wolfe, Treasurer Collector, Melissa Morrissey and Business Administrator, John Shea for an interview and the team agreed she would be a good fit. Mr. Purcell stated that Ms. Dean has a very deep understanding and knowledge of Town business. Mr. Purcell stated that although she lacks operational experience, he believes Ms. Dean will catch on very quick and will only take weeks for her to feel fully comfortable.

The current Town Accountant will be retiring June 30, 2021 but will come on part time for the transition. Mr. Purcell mentioned, the idea of hiring outside help might be reassuring and helpful.

There was a brief discussion on salary.

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to authorize James Purcell to discuss contract parameters with Melanie Dean, seconded Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor, 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to authorize James Purcell to extend an offer of employment to Melanie Dean, seconded Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor, 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion for Jim Purcell to seek a third party for the Town Accountant transition , seconded Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor, 3-0

Mr. Spagone Jr. made a motion to adjourn from Executive Session and return to open session at 11:30 am, seconded Mr. Sheedy. All were in favor, 3-0

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

Carole Julius

Clerk

Board of Selectmen