



Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted during the State of Emergency and signed into law on June 16, 2021, this meeting was conducted via remote participation.

Select Board members present:

Stu Sklar, Alice von Loesecke, Kara Minar, Erin McBee, Rich Maiore

Town Department attendees:

Town Administrator Tim Bragan, Assistant Town Administrator/HR Director Marie Sobalvarro and Executive Assistant Julie Doucet

Additional participants:

Former Police Chief Ed Denmark

Finance Committee new member

Tim Bragan announced the moderator has appointed Christina Williams as the new associate member on the Finance Committee.

Minutes

By a roll call vote, McBee – aye, Minar – aye, Maiore – aye, von Loesecke – aye, Sklar – aye, the board voted unanimously to approve minutes of 8/31, as amended.

Police Chief hiring process

Stu Sklar invited former Chief Ed Denmark to offer his recommendations. Denmark has served on various hiring committees over the years and has a tremendous amount of experience in this area.

He offered the following as proper steps to take in this process:

- 1) Form an Adhoc Advisory Committee (stakeholders in town) to establish qualities the town seeks as a whole in a Police Chief (Town Dept Heads, School Dept, Police Union, Board of Health, Arm/Arm, Business owner, Commission on Disabilities)
- 2) Create a rubric of desired qualities
- 3) Vetting of applications for basic requirements (Town Administrator/HR Director/Formal Police Chief)
- 4) Once rubric is finalized; require written assignment to applicants with questions and a set deadline
- 5) Establish a Selection Committee to interview 5 to 6 candidates and then present 3 to 4 finalists to the Select Board.

HR Director Marie Sobalvarro reported twenty applications have been received.

By a roll call vote, Maiore – aye, von Loesecke – aye, McBee – aye, Minar – aye, Sklar – aye, the board voted unanimously to appoint Sergeant James Babu as acting chief until the town selects and employs a new one.

Alice von Loesecke announced members of the public should email Executive Assistant Julie Doucet with any input they may have on the hiring of the new Police Chief.

Changes to the Town Charter

Tim Bragan shared the steps involved with making changes to the Town Charter. He noted the process is involved and requires votes at two town meetings.

Hildreth House future use

Stu Sklar included this topic as a brief discussion item for this evening. He noted the Permanent Building Committee (PBC) is suggesting the Council on Aging move to Lancaster County Rd location. Sklar knows questions on what will happen with the Hildreth House are imminent. He offered the idea of using the location to accommodate the land use offices or other town offices noting now that the building has been upgraded to meet code requirements it could work. Sklar said this is simply his idea nothing that has been vetted with others but more of a starting point. The board members agreed this will need to be discussed. Alice von Loesecke mentioned the office space available at the old library for office space. She said it is important we also consider how many buildings we are maintaining.

Special Town Election warrant

Tim Bragan presented the ballot questions for the Tuesday, November 2nd town election. By a roll call vote, McBee – aye, von Loesecke – aye, Maiore – aye, Minar – aye, Sklar – aye, the board voted unanimously to approve the town election warrant.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57pm.