

Select Board Special Meeting

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Virtual Meeting Broadcast on Comcast Channel 22 Verizon Channel 45

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Annie Gilbert called the Select Board Meeting of Wednesday, March 17, 2021 to order at 7:00 P.M. Other Members in attendance: Laura Gregory, Chris Huntress, and Alex Vispoli.

Others in Attendance: Town Manager Andrew Flanagan, Assistant Town Manager Patrick Lawlor, Town Clerk Austin Simko, and Town Counsel Tom Urbelis.

II. Opening Ceremonies

A. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting began with a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Regular Business

A. Select Board Policy Guidelines (2nd reading)

Section 1.3 Vacancies on the Board. When a vacancy occurs in the office of Select Board members, the remaining Select Board members may, at any time prior to the next Town Election at which a candidate for the vacated office may legally be placed on the ballot, appoint a qualified person to serve as a Select Board member until such election, at which election voters shall elect a Select Board member to serve for the unexpired portion, if any, of the original term.

Austin Simko spoke about the amendment to the Select Board Guidelines Section 1.3 (Vacancies to the Board) and his meeting with Laura Gregory and Tom Urbelis to see if they could further define and clarify the intent of "Town Election" as referenced in the policy; however, they could not find a better solution.

This policy says the members 'may' appoint a 5th member and does not lock a future board into this amendment. This wording would give a future board the same options this Board has, which could include not appointing someone.

Alex Vispoli moved that the Select Board adopt the changes as printed and discussed on Vacancies to the Board Section 1.3. Laura Gregory seconded the motion. Roll call: L. Gregory-Y, C. Huntress-Y, A. Vispoli-Y, A. Gilbert-Y. Motion passes 4-0.

B. Post Interview and Selection Process

After the all of the interviews are completed, the Board will meet to deliberate and select a member to fill the remaining term of Dan Koh's position on Friday, March 19th at 8:00 A.M. Each Board member should forward to the Chair their first four choices which should not be ranked. Once the Chair has everyone's submissions, she will email the list to all of the Board members. The Select Board will vote to formalize the selection on Wednesday, March 24th. The Board is very fortunate to have so many qualified people interested in this position.

Laura Gregory moved that the Board vote to agree to the process as outlined by the Chair and the interviewing for the ultimate replacement for Dan Koh on the Select Board. The motion was seconded by Chris Huntress.

Roll call: L. Gregory-Y, C. Huntress-Y, A. Vispoli-Y, A. Gilbert-Y.

Motion passes 4-0.

Andrew Flanagan, Tom Urbelis, and Austin Simko left the meeting at this time.

C. Select Board Candidate Interviews

The Board conducted interviews of the following candidates who submitted applications for the vacancy. Each candidate gave an opening statement explaining why they would like to serve and what relevant experience they would bring to the board, after which current board members were offered time to ask follow-up questions.

- James Barenboim
- Ted Teichert
- Paul Colby-Clements
- Richard Howe
- Debra Rahim Silberstein
- Sishan Wang

Interviews with the following candidates will take place at a meeting of the Select Board on Thursday, March 18th beginning at 5:00 P.M.

- Zachery Bergeron
- Paul Salafia
- Carlene Bell-Flanagan
- Jose Albuquerque
- Tracey Gauthier-Peters
- Bonnie Zahorik

IV. Adjourn

At 8:37 P.M. Alex Vispoli moved to adjourn the Select Board Meeting of Wednesday, March 17, 2021. Motion seconded by Chris Huntress. Roll call: A. Vispoli-Y, L. Gregory-Y, C. Huntress-Y, A. Gilbert-Y. Motion passes 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Dee DeLorenzo

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Recording Secretary