

## **SELECTBOARD'S SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2019**

**6:00 PM**

**TOWN HALL, 334 MAIN STREET**

### **PRESENT:**

**Selectboard:** S. Bannon, B. Cooke, E. Abrahams, D. Bailly, K. Burke

**Bernard Lynch** – Community Paradigm Associates

**Michael Wise** – Town Manager Screening Committee

**I. Call to Order:** S. Bannon called the meeting to order at 6:00PM

### **II. Presentation by Community Paradigm Associates, LLC of Town Manager Finalists Selected by the Town Manager Screening Committee.**

#### **Bernard Lynch – Community Paradigm Associates**

The process of defining applicants for the Town Manager position began a few months ago. A community forum was held in which citizens were invited to express what they would like to see in the new Town Manager in regard to desired skills, attributes, etc. The position was advertised with the Massachusetts Municipal Association, International City and County Managers Association, and circulated to database contacts who would be appropriate candidates. The posting was sent far and wide. 22 applications were received and reviewed with the Search Committee. Applicants were narrowed down to six candidates, five were interviewed, one withdrew. The Committee chose three of these five to bring before the Selectboard. All have had background checks, and references have been contacted.

**Michael Wise** – Recording Secretary, Town Manager Screening Committee

#### **Candidate Overview**

- 1. Jonathan Edwards:** Chair of Selectboard in Town of Hadley, active in Franklin County Government for many years.
- 2. Mark Pruhenski:** Administrator for the Town of Richmond, and former Health Agent for Great Barrington.
- 3. Kenneth Walto:** Town Manager for Town of Dalton, MA.

Mr. Wise notes that the candidates are recommended as a package and are not ranked in any way. It was a unanimous package.

### **III. Discussion of Next Steps in the Selection Process.**

#### **Bernard Lynch – Community Paradigm**

Interviews are scheduled for Tuesday March 26, and Wednesday March 27. The Board will ask questions as provided, and there will be time for the Community to meet and greet the candidates as well.

E. Abrahams asked if the interviews are open to the Public asking questions. Mr. Lynch suggests the public submit the questions in writing by Friday to be added to the list, rather than asking during the interviews. They could also ask questions during the meet and greet.

### **IV. Citizen Speak Time**

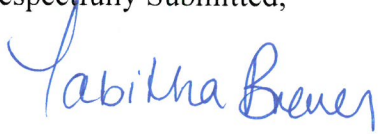
**Jenny Clark:** How will the human aspect be presented? A strict Q&A style interview seems cold. Mr. Lynch advised that the first question on the list addresses this as a “warm-up”.

Ms. Clark also brought up the Citizens’ Petition that aims to revoke the water bottle bylaw. S. Bannon advised that this can be discussed at the next Selectboard Meeting.

**Pedro Pachano, 5 Abby Hill:** Applied for The Economic Development Committee, has not yet heard anything. S. Bannon advised that the specific slots needing to be filled has been a challenge, and they are looking to have them all filled before declaring appointments.

**V. Adjournment.** On a motion by E. Abrahams, and Seconded by D. Bailly, the meeting adjourned at 6:21PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tabitha Brewer

Recording Secretary