

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
AUDITOR SELECTION COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
February 23, 2022 at 6PM**

Present: Michael Molisse-Chair
Kenneth DiFazio-Member
Greg Shanahan-Member
Pascale Burga-Member

Not Present: Christopher Heffernan-Member
Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor

Recording Secretary: Diane Hachey

Chair Molisse called the Auditor Selection Committee Meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Open Session:

Discussion of Process and Logistics

Chair Molisse announced that all members should have received a packet, with all applicants resumes received from the second advertisement of the Town Auditor position. He commended Diane Hachey for her efforts. Chair Molisse noted that Councilor Shanahan will ask the questions to the candidates that were formerly asked by Councilor Haugh.

He would like to narrow down the applicants to two to put forth to Town Council. Ted Langill suggested bringing someone on through either a recruiting firm or temporary agency. Another option is to recruit someone on a part time basis in order to meet some impending auditing deadlines. Chair Molisse noted that he reached out to former Auditor Swanson to see if he would return on a temporary basis to do some auditing work, but he declined due to health reasons.

Set Date for Next Meeting

The committee agreed to schedule the next meeting to interview candidates on Monday March 7, 2022 at 6PM.

Each member reviewed their top selections:
Councilor DiFazio selected candidates 2, 3, and 13

Councilor Shanahan selected candidates 2, 3 and 4

Councilor Burga noted the unfortunate lack of qualified candidates. She selected candidates 2, 3, 5 and 11

Chair Molisse noted his selections of candidates 2 and 3

It was noted that candidates 2 and 3 were unanimously selected by all committee members. Chair Molisse noted that candidate number 2 reached out to Diane Hachey requesting an update and appears to be very interested in the position. He has specified that he would require the top of the salary scale in order to make a move.

Councilor Burga is familiar with candidate number 3's background, and although they have a financial background, their work background and degree doesn't necessarily apply to auditing. They also do not have any municipal background. Councilor Burga noted that candidate number 5, although they possess a bachelors/masters degrees, does not have any municipal experience.

Councilor Shanahan feels that candidate number 4 is not too strong, and will defer to the committee. They have no auditing experience but do possess a financial background.

Councilor Burga asked what the resources are available for training for the new auditor. Chair Molisse noted that Richard Swanson won't be available to train the new candidate.

Councilor DiFazio noted that the committee may want to hire someone who can catch on quickly, not necessarily with all the experience the committee is seeking. He cited candidate 13 as an example. Councilor Burga said that they appear to be an international student who may need a sponsor to work here.

Chair Molisse summarized that it appears that the committee wants to interview candidates 2, 3, 4 and 5, but to ensure that we have sufficient candidates—use 11 and 13 as backups. Therefore the committee would have a minimum of 4 candidates to interview.

In the meantime, Diane Hachey will reach out to the Mass Society of CPA's and temporary/recruiter will be investigated. The possibility of part time will also be explored.

At 6:22 PM, with no further business to conduct, Councilor Burga motioned for adjournment, motion seconded by Councilor Shanahan. Voted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Hachey

Approved by Councilor Michael Molisse, Chair of Auditor Selection Committee
Voted unanimously on 4 April 2022