

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
DISTRICT TWO SEARCH COMMITTEE  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
September 12, 2018, Wednesday**

Present: Michael Molisse, Chairman  
Arthur Mathews, Councilor  
Michael Smart, Councilor

Also Present: Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chairman Molisse called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

**Committee will reconvene in executive session to consider and interview applicants for District 2 Councilor vacancy-(qualifies under Exemption 8 of the Executive Session Guide)**

A Motion was made by Councilor Smart to enter into executive session to consider and interview applicants for candidates for the District 2 Councilor vacancy and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. A Roll Call vote was taken: Councilor Smart-YES, Vice Chair Mathews- YES, Chair Molisse- YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Each of the candidates was invited to make an opening statement and then presented with two questions by each of the committee members. Councilor Smart asked questions 1 and 3, Councilor Mathews asked questions 5 and 7 and the chair asked questions 12 and 15 from a prepared list.

**Candidate #2** was invited to the table and given an opportunity to present an opening statement. Candidate #2 was familiar with the streets and boundaries of District 2. Candidate #2 noted civic, legal and government experience. Candidate #2 noted the most important issues facing District 2 are the library construction and underrepresentation of the rapidly growing young first-time homeowner demographic. Candidate #2 suggested experience in drafting legislation at the state house would translate well. In closing remarks, candidate #2 thanked the committee for consideration. Candidate #2 approved disclosure of his/her name whether selected as a finalist, or not.

The committee then discussed Candidate #4's interview. Councilor Mathews noted Candidate #2's experience with local government as a legislative aide. Chair Molisse suggested Candidate #2's busy schedule may make it difficult to meet the meeting availability.

**Candidate #1** was invited to the table and given an opportunity to present an opening statement. Candidate #1 noted that a background in Scouting instilled a duty to country and community. The decision to seek the seat was a spontaneous one. Candidate #1

reviewed volunteer experiences with the Food Pantries in Weymouth and Boston. Candidate #1 noted he looked at the map to review the streets in District 2 but is not familiar with the specifics. Candidate #1 responded that the role of the Council is as a checks and balances (like Congress). Candidate #1 noted the most important issues facing District 2 are the landing construction and making it a lively commerce area. Candidate #1 noted that listening and the ability to work with diverse people are the most important qualifications in a candidate. Candidate #1 approved disclosure of his/her name whether selected as a finalist, or not.

The committee then discussed Candidate #1's interview. Councilor Mathews noted the candidate is personable, and while experience with BSA and community are important, the candidate did not display a strong understanding of the role of the Council and doesn't have the experience. Councilor Smart suggested they need someone who can step right in. The Landing has been a longstanding town issue but not by lack of town performance. There are also many other issues in the district. Candidate #1 lacks the experience and understanding of what the job entails. Councilor Mathews was concerned that Candidate #1 didn't know the district. Chair Molisse suggested Candidate #1 would be great in a smaller venue and more geared to a volunteer role in the town.

**Candidate #3** was invited to the table and given an opportunity to present an opening statement. Candidate #3 noted that the tragic death of a Weymouth police officer spurred the action. Candidate #3 reviewed experience over the last 30 years in youth sport programs, the charter and events committees. Candidate #3 noted a good knowledge of the streets and boundaries of the district. Candidate #3 noted the role of the Council is to move along measures for budget and ordinances and to review processes to better advise and support the Mayor. Candidate #3 noted the most important issues facing the district are growth, protecting open space, and with the overlay districts, to find a balance that works for the town. The opioid crisis is important and so is protecting real estate values. The Councilor would be representing the people of the district. Candidate #3 cited education in facilities management, utility work, urban planning, criminal law and building/ planning provide a well-rounded work and volunteer base. Candidate #3 approved disclosure of his/her name whether selected as a finalist, or not.

The committee then discussed Candidate #3's interview. Councilor Mathews noted that the candidate has the education and an extensive background to make a strong candidate. Candidate #3 is familiar with the district but not as knowledgeable as other candidates. As for the role, Candidate #3 didn't answer as well as others. Councilor Smart noted that Candidate #3 may not be as familiar with the boundaries as some, but has understanding of the role and understands the process and is one of the stronger candidates. The experience in facilities management and urban planning is key; a lot of what the Council does is building or construction related. Someone with this experience benefits the community. Chair Molisse noted that the candidate is very involved and visible in the town and is a viable candidate.

The committee discussed how to move names forward to the full town Council. Councilor Smart suggested they need to choose from the seven candidates the ones that

will fit best with the rest of the Council, and have an understanding of the Council process.

Councilor Mathews noted that the three candidates that stood out were, in no particular order, #4, #8 and #3. Chair Molisse suggested they then narrow down these to two candidates to recommend to the Council.

A Motion was made by Councilor Mathews to recommend candidates #4, #8, and #3 as the three finalists for consideration and was seconded by Councilor Smart. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Smart-YES, Vice Chair Mathews-YES, Chair Molisse-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A Motion was made by Councilor Smart to consider each candidate individually. Solicitor Callanan explained the ramification of the action.

A Motion was made by Councilor Smart to accept the procedure - to narrow to two candidates to put forward to the full Town Council for consideration and was seconded by Vice Chair Mathews. A roll call vote was taken. Councilor Smart-YES, Vice Chair Mathews-YES, Chair Molisse-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A Motion was made by Councilor Smart to recommend the two candidates with the highest majority vote be put forward to the Council for consideration and was seconded by Vice Chair Mathews. A roll call vote was taken. Councilor Smart-YES, Vice Chair Mathews-YES, Chair Molisse-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A Motion was made by Councilor Smart to put forward Candidate #4 as one of two finalists to recommend for consideration to the Council and was seconded by Vice Chair Mathews. A roll call vote was taken. Councilor Smart-YES, Vice Chair Mathews-YES, Chair Molisse-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A Motion was made by Councilor Smart to put forward Candidate #3 as a finalist to recommend for consideration to the full town council. He suggested the candidate has an understanding of the issues. Vice Chair Mathews suggested candidate #8 is one of the best candidates and who understands the role and has the background. Councilor Smart responded that his not supporting Candidate #8 and is not a reflection on the candidate. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Smart-YES, Vice Chair Mathews-NO, Chair Molisse-YES. Vote Passed, 2-1.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Mathews to put forward Candidate #8 as a finalist to the recommend for consideration by the full town council. There was no second.

A Motion was made by Councilor Smart to release the minutes from the two executive sessions of the District 2 Search Committee after the vote by the full Town Council and seconded by Vice Chair Mathews. A roll call vote was taken. Councilor Smart-YES, Vice Chair Mathews-YES, Chair Molisse-YES. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:54 PM, there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Councilor Smart to adjourn and was seconded by Vice Chair Mathews. A roll call vote was taken. Councilor Smart-YES, Vice Chair Mathews-YES, Chair Molisse-YES.  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.  
ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary.

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Approved by Michael Molisse, Chair, District 2 Search Committee

Voted Unanimously 10/15/18