

**ACUSHNET BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, August 6, 2019**

**I. CONSENT AGENDA**

Selectman Desroches motioned to approve the Consent Agenda including the minutes of the Executive Session Board of Selectmen's Meeting of April 8, 2019 as presented, Selectman Gaspar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

**II. MEETING MAIL**

**1. LETTER FROM BARBARA MELLO REGARDING TUESDAY OPENING HOURS**

The Board thanked Ms. Mello for her letter and it will be taken under advisement.

**III. APPOINTMENTS**

**1. KEVIN PAICOS TO DISCUSS OPTIONS FOR TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH & SUCCESSION PLAN**

Mr. Paicos explained the process that the Town could use going forward to replace our Town Administrator. Mr. Paicos also offered his service to the Town as a backup in the interim-TA stage. He laid out a plan of action for the screening committee search. Mr. Paicos is willing to do the recruitment along with the search committee, he would set his price in the 5,000-6,000 range. Mr. Paicos also let the board know that all names would be confidential until a pool of finalists are put forward. He believes that the Board would be far better served by letting the screening committee do the leg work once they read the resumes and make their scoring. The Board spoke about an interim TA and suggested filling the role with the Director of Finance or Fire Chief. No vote was taken. There was talk of entering into an open meeting on Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> and then to enter into executive session to decide the interim TA and enter into negotiations for an interim contract with the appropriate candidate.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. COMPARISON COMMUNITIES DISCUSSION**

The Board at previous meetings spoke about looking at comparison communities when looking at salaries and areas that the Town can compare too. Selectman Desroches motioned to approve the communities which would be used going forward when comparing rates and services, the communities are: Blackstone, Carver, Dighton, Douglas, Fairhaven, Freetown, Halifax, Hanson & Lakeville, Selectman Gaspar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

2. INTERIM POLICE CHIEF CONTRACT APPROVAL

The Police Chief has given his notice to retire at a previous meeting giving the Selectmen notice so the Board would begin the hiring process. The Town has gone through the motions and is awaiting the assessment center date and then it needs to go to HRD for the scores and list. In the meantime if there has not been a chief appointed or trained the current chief has expressed interest in performing the duties of an interim chief. This would include training of the new chief.

Selectman Gaspar motioned to approve the contract appointing Michael Alves as interim Police Chief as of November 3, 2019 to serve until such time as a permanent chief can be appointed. Selectman Desroches seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

3. FIRE DEPARTMENT/EMS CONTRACT APPROVAL AND SIGNING

This agenda item was tabled due to lack of agreement at this time.

4. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER PERSONNEL AGREEMENT APPROVAL

The Animal Control Officers Personnel Services Contract has been in discussion, Ms. Tomlinson has previously asked for the Board to take into consideration what her job entails and to look at other communities to determine her grade and wage scale. The Board has done their study and Selectman Gaspar motioned to approve the Animal Control Officer Personnel Agreement with a Grade of 7 and Step 9 at \$22.47 per hour based on a 40 hour work week, Selectman Desroches seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. EXEMPTION TO NEPOTISM POLICY FOR PART-TIME VAN DRIVER FOR THE COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging Director is in need of a part-time van driver and had a hard time finding one. There is a candidate that would be a good fit but his wife also works at the COA, Ms. Sylvia wondered if the Board could exempt the van driver from the Nepotism Policy, so she could make the hire.

Selectman Desroches motioned to approve exempting the part-time van driver (Mr. Roger Fortin) from the nepotism policy as established in the Employee Handbook, Appendix H consistent with M.G.L. Ch. 268A, Selectman Gaspar seconded and all were in favor. Motion Passes.

## VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was accepted under G.L. 30A, § 21 (a)(2) to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiation with non-union personnel (Interim Town Administrator Contract) if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining & litigating position of the public body as the chair so declares and not to return to public session.

Roll call vote: Selectman Gaspar, Selectman Desroches and Chairman Cabral are all a yes vote.

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Roger A. Cabral

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Kevin Gaspar, Sr.

  
David Desroches, Member