



Town of West Boylston
140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

Board of Selectmen/Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes

Date/ Time/ Location of Meeting
October 24, 2018; 6:00 p.m.;
Selectmen's Meeting Room, 140
Worcester Street

Members Present Christopher A. Rucho, Chairman Patrick J. Crowley, Vice Chair Barur R. Rajeshkumar, Clerk Siobhan M. Bohnson, Selectman John W. Hadley, Selectman

Members NOT Present

Invited Guests:

Mr. Rucho convened the workshop at 6:00 p.m. All members are present. The purpose of the workshop is to discuss next steps in hiring of the Building Commissioner.

Ms. Scheipers reports that we have three potential options and she would like the Board's feedback. Allan Fraser applied several months ago, failed the test he needed to take, retook the test and then passed. On November 7 he will have his local license approved and he has twelve months to achieve Building Commissioner status. He is a no nonsense type of person, uses a collaborative approach on enforcement and with contractors. The test he failed was the fire protection general. The second candidate is George Tignor, our current interim. He has all the necessary certifications and good experience. The only issue is he cannot work more than 960 hours a year. If he does then he is no longer qualified for retiree status. He is currently working less than 20 hours a week, has everything caught up and according to Sheryl he is getting more done than Bentley did in his 32 hours a week. She feels he efficiently uses his time. The only issue is he doesn't have the time to do the Facility Manager piece. The third candidate is Joe Atchue and he is the full-time inspector in Berlin at 40 hours a week and a part-time inspector in Acton at 30 hours a week. He is willing to leave Acton and take on West Boylston for 30 hours a week. Berlin allows him a flexible schedule. Three days a week he would work early in Berlin and late in West Boylston and then he would swap it around. Ms. Scheipers was impressed with him, he is a young man and her only concern is how long can a person work 70 hours a week. Mr. Rajeshkumar feels the problem with this is he recently read an article that people working full-time in one place and part-time in another place that he would be doing Berlin's work while in West Boylston. It was noted that he is also a call fire fighter, but has not been active in that role. Currently on certain weeks three days he starts early in Berlin, works a couple hours, and then goes to Acton and does inspections and then back to Berlin for night meetings. He would prefer to come to someplace closer than Acton as he lives in Northbridge.

Mr. Hadley does not think it would work with George because he doesn't do the Facilities Manager portion of the job. Ms. Scheipers noted that Joe does do Facilities Manager in Berlin as well. He thinks he can do Building Commissioner work and eight hours of Facility Manager. The 30 hours include Facilities Manager. She met with Joe and thinks he is really good and well spoken. Ms. Scheipers and Mr. Hadley met with Allen and it was before he didn't pass the fire portion of his test. The Board thought it was odd that he didn't pass that portion of the test as he worked for National Fire Protection Agency for 18 years. Sheryl reports that George is doing really good. He could work more than 18 hours a week if he requested a waiver from Perac. He is currently the back up in Sterling and Westminster, but does not work for Westminster during the winter.

Ms. Scheipers reports that George is willing and interested in working more than 18 hours a week, however, he doesn't have the Facilities Manager experience. She noted that he is able to work 15 hours a week for the remainder of the calendar year as he is way under his limit. Moving forward he would have restrictions. Mr. Rajeshkumar suggested keeping George and waiting for the Facilities Manager. Ms. Scheipers noted that the firm 4Leaf does have Facility Manager experience. She suggested having them do a full analysis of each building and it will buy us time. The jobs are currently being advertised as two separate positions. She also does not think we pay enough. Mr. Hadley feels that such a position should be paid \$90,000. He thinks it might be a good idea to hire somebody to go through all the buildings.

Ms. Scheipers noted that we currently have the Facilities Manager position posted as part-time position and have not received any responses. We are paying George \$50 an hour for office work and \$25 per inspection. The Board would like to interview both George and Joe. Mr. Rucho does not want to bring Joe here unless we know we would be willing to have him here for 30 hours and in another town for 40 hours. If it is 17 hours a week for the Facility Manager side of the job it only leaves 13 hours for building inspector. Ms. Scheipers noted that the Facilities Manager will help the Board on work that needs to be done. Mr. Rucho would like a price on what the buildings need. When push comes to shove, would he be able to do all the work in West Boylston and in Berlin. Ms. Scheipers feels we could use George as our local inspector.

Ms. Bohnson is interested in the hours he is willing to work here. Mr. Hadley pointed out that for construction he would need to be inspecting when it is light out. He would like to interview Joe to say how are you going to make this work. Ms. Scheipers noted that George is not interested in the Facilities Management part. She added that people are happy with George for commercial work. She also spoke with Steve Migridichian and he is fine with him. She feels we should also speak with people to see how he is doing with residential as well. Mr. Rucho does not feel there is any reason to interview George as he is already working for the town.

It was agreed to invite Joe in for an interview at 6:15 on November 1. If he cannot do that day we will offer 6:15 on November 7th. Mr. Rucho asked at the meeting, what will be the questions. Ms. Scheipers thinks it would be helpful for the Board to hear from him as he is very well spoken. She suggested asking him to tell us how you can make this work. We tell him a Facility Manager is very important to us can you do that and be the Building Commissioner in one week. Ms. Bohnson suggested asking them for examples on how he has done this and make it work. Ms. Scheipers noted that he does not have set hours in Berlin. Ms. Scheipers will ask him his minimum pay to get him here and are you willing to be interviewed in public. If he says he is not interested we will keep George and put him on salary. We could get local inspectors to help with other inspections. According to George the inspections do not count towards his retirement. Mr. Rucho recommends Ms. Scheipers speak to both about the rate of pay and expectations. We will tell Allan that we thank him for his application. We will ask him if he has an interest in being a back-up inspector.

Motion Mr. Crowley at 7:00 p.m. to adjourn, second by Mr. Bohnson, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy E. Lucier, Municipal Assistant

Approved: November 7, 2018

Christopher A. Rucho, Chairman

Patrick J. Crowley, Vice Chairman

Barur R. Rajeshkumar, Clerk

Siobhan M. Bohnson, Selectman

John W. Hadley, Selectman