

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833
Ph. (978) 352-5755 * Fax (978) 352-5727
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Memorial Town Hall
Third Floor Meeting Room
6/22/09
6:30 PM

Selectmen Present: Philip Trapani, Chairman; Evan O'Reilly; Stephen Smith, Clerk

Others Present: Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Gary Fowler; C. David Surface

Call to Order

Mr. Trapani called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

Interim Town Administrator Finalist Interviews

Mr. Trapani stated that they will interview three candidates this evening.

Anthony J. Troiano

Mr. Troiano gave some background history on himself.

Mr. Trapani asked what the key issues that he sees for Georgetown are. Mr. Troiano answered with information from the EDC meeting last week, strategic plan, and talked about how changes can happen. Mr. Trapani asked what he brings that is unique. Mr. Troiano stated he has had a lot of experience in Strategic plan in Burlington and Hopkinton. He stated that he is familiar with town council that the town uses. He stated that he knows town issues, procurement, unions, etc.

Mr. Smith asked his approach to communicating to the BoS and Departments. Mr. Troiano stated that he meets with department heads, and is accessible. He stated that he knows what committees are meeting and what events are happening in Town and attends many. Mr. Smith asked what attracted him to Georgetown. Mr. Troiano stated that he wants to want to work for a town and them to want to work with him. He liked that there was a strategic plan, and a master plan.

Mr. O'Reilly asked how you communicate with BoS. Mr. Troiano stated a Chairman is the major contact and it is up to the board to decide how information will flow. Mr. O'Reilly asked how you separate policy with BoS and FinCom. Mr. Troiano talked about process of BoS in charge of Budget and Town Accountant is a major part of the budget process.

Mr. Trapani asked his top Achievements. He stated that one was the town council procurement in the last town, developed a financial team, budget schedule, warrant development, developed a human resources director, and worked with developer on a large project.

Mr. Trapani stated that the other Selectmen will review the interview this week and next Monday vote on a candidate. He stated that the rest of week they would check references and have contract negotiations.

Mr. Troiano asked if the interim position would be possible to go into the full time position. Mr. Trapani stated that the interim can apply for the TA position. Mr. Troiano gave a letter to the Board on his car accident.

Paul G. Boushell

Mr. Boushell stated they have a nice town. He gave some background information. He stated that he is unique in that he started out behind a trash truck, with an injury came behind the desk. He stated that the staff is their best asset. He stated that he attended the EDC meeting and that it is an exciting time in Georgetown with the new 5 member board, and EDC plan. He stated that the Town financially is in good shape.

Mr. Smith asked about communication with board & departments. Mr. Boushell stated that he wants to help meet goals; if you want someone to babysit he is not your guy. He stated that the TA needs to be seen at evening meetings and that his door is open just bring coffee. Mr. Smith asked why Georgetown interests him. Mr. Boushell stated that it reminds him of town he worked in before, Tyngsboro. He stated that the town is moving forward and not sitting on laurels. He stated that he wants to be a part of the process.

Mr. O'Reilly asked about how he would deliver information to the board on a day to day basis. Mr. Boushell stated he would catch up with the Chair or Vice Chair daily. He stated that the goal is for members to not be surprised at Dunkin Donuts on an issue. Mr. O'Reilly asked how he would handle no Finance Director. Mr. Boushell stated that the BoS sets policy and does need to be agreed upon by FinCom. He stated that discussion should not be done on TM floor discussion should be done ahead of time. He stated that you must talk with everybody.

Mr. Smith asked about Fiscal experience. Mr. Boushell stated that he has been in towns with similar situations and he is familiar in working on budget with Town Accountant and Treasurer.

Mr. Trapani asked about unique assets as a consultant. Mr. Boushell stated that working with his peers gave him experience but he would like to be part of community. Mr. Trapani asked about highlights successful and unsuccessful. Mr. Boushell stated that in a town tried to professionalize all departments. He stated that he worked on a lot of procurement projects. Mr. Trapani asked about differences between an elected and appointed position. He Boushell explained differences of positions. Mr. Trapani asked about a filling a long time position. Mr. Boushell stated he wants to be part of a town. He explained his relationship with Kevin Pecos a former TA in Easton. Mr. Trapani asked what would peers say about him and can he contact them. Mr. Boushell stated that he could contact his peers and that he would provide references. Mr. Boushell stated that Georgetown is the quintessential New England town.

Michael Farrell

Mr. Trapani asked for some background information. Mr. Farrell stated that he has been in the municipal management for 20 years, and last five years in interim positions. He stated all towns have the same issues as you are dealing with people. Mr. Trapani asked about critical issues in Georgetown. Mr. Farrell stated that they have done their best in controlling spending, and the issue is revenue. He stated that they need to grow the

revenue side and that they cannot plan on funds from the State and the town needs to work for its self. He stated that he read the town's master plan and with the rural location and residents move here for quality of life. He stated that they need business in Town and need to grow. He stated that they need infrastructure work, water and sewage are issues. He stated that matching proper growth with status of living standards and getting the right kind of Economic Development. Mr. Trapani asked what his past experiences will bring to the Town. Mr. Farrell stated that it is not often that the TA gets involved in Economic Development. He stated he has done this and he can be creative. He stated that he has been involved with a tax program and he explained, EDC in Historic Preservation, was involved in Main Street Program.

Mr. Smith asked about communication to BoS and boards. Mr. Farrell stated that communication is key and no one person has the answers. He stated that collaboration is key but communication is important. He stated that email is a good way to get in touch with him. Mr. Smith asked what attracts him to Georgetown. Mr. Farrell stated a great reputation as a livable community. He stated that most of his experience has been in medium sized towns and bonus to be a position of finance director. He stated that he likes a challenge and Georgetown fits that challenge and is close to home and current assignment is ending.

Mr. O'Reilly asked about dept service and how he looks at fiscal work with FinCom and BoS. Mr. Farrell stated that he has always had a town accountant and they have always been the budget officer. He enjoys budget numbers and spreadsheets and has worked with different boards, FinComs, etc.

Mr. Trapani asked about some not successful experiences. Mr. Farrell stated that he calls them learning experiences. He stated that early in career he was in a rush. He stated that he has learned patience with a purpose. Mr. Trapani asked prospective between an Elected and Appointed official. Mr. Farrell explained differences. Mr. Trapani stated that he would ask for references and asked what his past staff would say about him and could they contact them. Mr. Farrell stated that he would be okay with contacting anyone. He stated that he is easy to get along with and does not always say yes, and has an open door policy. Mr. Trapani stated that this is a not a caretaker position and if it would be possible for him to move into a permanent position. Mr. Farrell stated that before becoming a consultant in the trenches for 15 years. He stated towns hire him to come in to fix things and in this economy things are slow. He stated that he would like one more challenging position.

Mr. O'Reilly moved to adjourn. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved July 13, 2009.