

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTS
September 18, 2013
Veterans Memorial Building, Room 220
900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054

CALL TO ORDER: Sel.Vecchi called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The following persons were present: Selectman Charles Vecchi, Vice Chairman Andrea Wagner, Clerk Christopher Smith, Town Administrator Charles Aspinwall and Operations Director Jennifer Cederberg.

TREASURER/COLLECTOR INTERVIEWS: Mr. Aspinwall introduced Jennifer Scannell. Ms. Scannell described her work history, most recently in the field of Real Estate. She stated that she moved to Millis a month ago and continues to hold her real estate license at Century 21 in Braintree which she said she would relinquish if she were chosen to be the next Treasurer/Collector. She was asked to describe her investment experience and she noted that she did not have any. She was then asked about how she manages conflict resolution. She responded by saying that it is important to walk customers through the process so that they have an understanding of how certain things are generated. Ms. Scannell stated that she is not overly concerned about the responsibilities of the job and that she is comfortable using excel. She stated that she could start immediately. Her long-term goal is to be the Town of Millis Treasurer/Collector. In college, she focused on general accounting. She has been exposed to difficult employees and has had to terminate employees in her previous positions.

Kathryn Thompson described her prior experience including reconciling accounts, working on a general ledger and systems implementation. She stated that she can work with difficult people and understands the basics of the Treasurer/Collector position. She has no issues with being bonded. Her management style is that she has an open door policy, she rolls up her sleeves and helps wherever it is needed, she is a good listener and a good judge of character. Ms. Thompson stated that she is comfortable with most of the job responsibilities though she does not have investment experience. She further stated that she does not have any concerns about taking a decrease in salary because it is a quality of life issue. She said that she feels she has contributions to make to the community and prefers bluntness in working with higher management positions. She did say it would be a challenge to manage a smaller team. She also said that she would welcome working in a smaller environment and felt that the work itself would be challenging. Ms. Thompson stated that she could start working relatively soon and that it was o.k. to contact her references.

The Board discussed the two candidates and the pros and cons of each. There were concerns voiced over Ms. Thompson making the transition to a much smaller environment and that she has a very distinct personality. It was noted that she was better prepared for the interview. The Board discussed the fact that Ms. LaPlant is concerned about hiring a candidate who would require a long amount of time to train. It was noted that both candidates could do the job so the question becomes who would make a better fit. Mr. Aspinwall went on to review the history of the position.

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, that we prioritize the candidates as follows: 1. Jennifer Scannell, 2. Kathryn Thompson; and direct the Town Administrator to negotiate a salary and ask if there are any issues which would prevent her from being bonded and to contact her references. The motion passed with Sel. Smith voting no.

ADJOURN: At 9:37 p.m.,

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Smith, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer G. Cederberg