

Selectmen's Meeting
Minutes-Tuesday, May 31, 2016
Sunderland Town Office Bldg.

Attendees: Tom Fydenkevez, Scott Bergeron, David Pierce, Sherry Patch, Town Administrator
Guests: Brendan Lyons, Misty Lyons, Gary Briere, Stacy Myre, Ben Peters, John Futter, Andy Castillo (Recorder)
Behind the Camera: Chris Collins/FCAT

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM.

Police Chief Candidate Review and Next Steps

A special meeting of the Sunderland Board of Selectmen was convened to review and discuss the candidates for the position of Police Chief. The board discussed the candidate's qualifications and interviews.

MOTION FOR DISCUSSION: Mr. Pierce to enter into negotiations with Erik Demetropolis.
SECOND FOR DISCUSSION: Mr. Bergeron.

Discussion

Mr. Pierce stated that he felt the Chief Demetropolis had a very good grasp of the financial aspect in a smaller town and the creativity to approach it. He felt that both candidates can do the policing job. He also liked his community involvement. Mr. Pierce stated that the board has come to appreciate community outreach. Mr. Pierce stated that the more we can get police involved in the community the better. Mr. Bergeron stated that Chief Demetropolis used the word community more than any other candidate. Chief Harding's proximity to town (lives in town) and educational background and service is very admirable work. Mr. Bergeron stated the also leans toward Chief Demetropolis. Mr. Fydenkevez stated that Chief Harding's small town chief background stood out to him. However, Chief Harding is used to working with few full-time officers and several part-time officers. Mr. Fydenkevez stated that Chief Demetropolis is very politically active and that knowing elected officials is important. Mr. Fydenkevez stated that he doesn't think the board can go wrong with either choice. Mr. Bergeron stated that Mr. Fydenkevez's points are important, and that his only reservation with Chief Demetropolis is experience with a small town. Mr. Bergeron stated that Sunderland is a small town with big town problems.

VOTE

Mr. Pierce I

Mr. Bergeron: No

Mr. Fydenkevez: No

MOTION FAILED: 1 in favor (Pierce) 2 opposed (Bergeron and Fydenkevez)

MOTION: Mr. Bergeron to enter into negotiations with Chief Tom Harding for the position of police chief in Sunderland.

SECOND: Mr. Fydenkevez

The board took a brief recess.

Mr. Fydenkevez asked if there were any further questions or discussion.

Mr. Pierce stated that he is happy with his choice.

VOTED: 2-1 (Pierce opposed)

Next Steps

Mr. Bergeron recommended correspondence to the three candidates to advise them of the negotiation process. Ms. Patch will contact the candidates and coordinate negotiation meeting with Chief Harding. Mr. Bergeron was authorized to represent the board in negotiations.

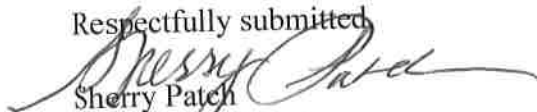
MOTION: Mr. Bergeron to adjourn.

SECOND: Mr. Pierce

VOTED: 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherry Patch
Town Administrator.