

Truro Select Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 3, 2018
Truro Town Hall

Present: Chair Paul Wisotzky; Maureen Burgess, Jay Coburn, Robert Weinstein, Janet Worthington

Also Present: Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer

Chair Paul Wisotzky called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Chair Paul Wisotzky thanked the Search Committee and expressed appreciation to Craig Danziger, who has been Acting Chief of Police.

Deliberations on Police Chief Finalists

Jay Coburn shared his reflections on the four finalists for the Police Chief position, explaining that he favored a leader with a lot of different experiences to mentor the young force. The candidate that he favored the most was Captain Calise, who is an attorney as well a police officer.

Robert Weinstein said that the process, which had involved the public, had been sound. He had been impressed with Captain Calise, but he was also impressed with the local candidate Sergeant Schnitzer from the Eastham Police Department. He had wrestled with his decision, he said, but he had not yet come to a decision and would wait until he heard from his colleagues on the Board.

Maureen Burgess noted what had impressed her about each candidate as she reviewed what they could offer. She too wanted to hear from her colleagues before reaching a conclusion.

Janet Worthington said that Chief Lavoie and Chief Kleber, although highly qualified, were not right for Truro. She said she liked Captain Calise but questioned the commitment he was willing to make to the Town. Sergeant Schnitzer is a known quantity, she said. He embodies community policing and knows Truro and the Lower Cape. She endorsed him as the candidate that she chose.

Board members and Town Manager Rae Ann Palmer discussed Captain Calise's stated time commitment for the Town. He had indicated an interest in more than the three-year period.

Paul Wisotzky reviewed the finalists' qualities and experiences that had impressed him. He said Captain Calise's comments and concrete answers had resonated with him. Chair Wisotzky said Captain Calise's ideas on marijuana laws had been informed by research. Captain Calise had risen to the top of his list.

Rae Ann Palmer deferred any comments because she had not met with all of the finalists yesterday, but she said she will work with the person the Board chooses.

Robert Weinstein reviewed his list and the changes he'd made in the process. He had narrowed down his choices to Captain Calise and Sergeant Schnitzer. He wanted to choose someone who would work well with the Town Manager as well as the Police Department. He also considered the importance of setting a new direction for the Department.

Janet Worthington commented on Sergeant Schnitzer's work with the schools. She said that each candidate had asked her why there had not been an internal candidate. Even though Sergeant Schnitzer is not an internal candidate, she said, he is the local one.

Paul Wisotzky viewed the choice as between Captain Calise and Sergeant Schnitzer. He said he was swayed in Captain Calise's direction because of his experience. Janet Worthington spoke in favor of Sergeant Schnitzer.

Jay Coburn moved to begin negotiations with Captain Calise as Police Chief. Paul Wisotzky seconded. Further discussion ensued.

Maureen Burgess expressed one reservation she had about Sergeant Schnitzer about the jump to Chief. She said her top priority was now Captain Calise. Robert Weinstein asked for more discussion on a person with valuable experience but not familiarity with Barnstable County. Janet Worthington maintained that Sergeant Schnitzer is the candidate who knows the Cape area. Maureen Burgess said Captain Calise had broader experience even though he doesn't know the Cape. Jay Coburn weighed the two competing values of experience and local ties. The Town Manager outlined the next steps of negotiating the contract, acceptance, a full background check, and final offer with a contract.

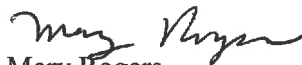
The motion to authorize the Chair to enter into negotiations with Captain Calise as Truro Police Chief carried 4-1.


Adjournment


Jay Coburn moved to adjourn. Maureen Burgess seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

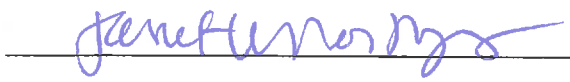
Respectfully submitted,



Mary Rogers,
Secretary


Paul Wisotzky, Chair


Maureen Burgess Vice-chair

Jay Coburn


Janet Worthington


Robert Weinstein, Clerk