

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Minutes of the Meeting

November 3, 2014

Chairman Marchese called the meeting to Order at 8:00 pm

1. Councillor McMenimen moved that a roll call be taken to record the attendance for the meeting. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. The Clerk called the roll – all Councillors were present.
2. Councillor McMenimen moved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on October 20, 2014. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
3. A resolution was submitted by Councillor Fowler concerning the Superintendent of Buildings position. Councillor Fowler moved to hear from an off-committee member Personnel Director, Kristen Murphy. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor Fowler asked questions concerning the posting of the position, the length of time for a temporary appointment and the need to resolve the vacancy. Councillor Romard asked questions about the number of applicants and the reasons no one has been selected. Ms. Murphy stated she would provide a list with the explanation. Councillor Romard also asked questions about the salary and if it was competitive. Ms. Murphy stated she would provide a comparison of the salary for the position with other communities. Councillor Logan asked that it be provided in an EXCEL format. Councillor Logan also asked questions about the City's ability to attract candidates due to qualifications and vacation policy. Councillor Stanley asked questions about the City's ability to attract candidates because of the work environment and the City should explore the reasons why. Councillors O'Brien, LeBlanc and President Waddick asked questions about the advertisement process, the use of executive search firms and allowing internal candidates to obtain the proper certification within a specific time frame after being hired. Councillor Fowler moved to table the matter. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
4. A resolution was submitted by Councillor Rourke concerning the creation of a task force to explore a technology system that the Councillors and Clerks of the Committees could use to electronically input and track the Council and Committees' activity. Councillor Rourke explained what he felt was the appropriate manner to undertake and implement the project. Councillor Rourke moved that a request be sent to the Mayor to allow the Purchasing Agent and IT Director to be available to the task force for assistance. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. Councillor McMenimen asked questions about the purchase of computer tablets to be purchased with the funds that were approved in June 2014. Councillors Rourke and Darcy assured the Committee that the software to be purchased would be compatible with the various hardware devices that are in use. Councillor Rourke moved approval of the resolution including a report to be submitted by the task force. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.

5. President Waddick moved to take the matter of the lease of 14 Church Street (10/14/2014) from the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President Waddick moved to hear from an off-committee member Police Chief Keith MacPherson. The motion was adopted on a voice vote. President Waddick asked questions of the Chief about the use of 14 Church Street and 25 Lexington Street as potential sites for a temporary police station during the renovation project of the current station. President Waddick stated that an RFP for the lease of 14 Church Street be delayed until the temporary police station site is determined. Councillors Stanley and Romard asked questions about the Fernald as a potential site and the cost/length of time for 14 Church Street as a temporary facility. President Waddick moved to place the matter back on the table. The motion was adopted on a voice vote.
6. A motion by President Waddick to adjourn was adopted by a voice vote and the Chair declared the Committee adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Paul G. Centofanti – Clerk to the Committee of the Whole