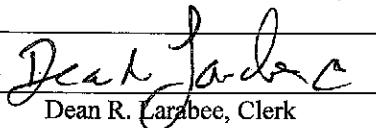


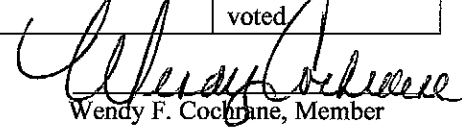
# MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 9/22/2022

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: George F. Miller, Chairman, Dean R. Larabee, Clerk, Wendy F. Cochrane, Member

TOPIC		ACTION
	Meeting Convened at 5:00 p.m. in the Moitoza – Pettey Hearing Room	
Personnel	<p>Board to have discussion on the Police Chief position, candidates, Assessment Center, and selection of finalists for interviews. Mr. Miller stated this job was posted on August 1, 2022, and applications were begin accepted until August 29, 2022. On August 16, 2022, Interim Town Administrator Kevin Partridge provided the Board a memo with some suggestions and information. In the memo, Mr. Partridge suggested an assessment company for the hiring of a new Police Chief, and has sought out proposals. Mr. Partridge in his memo suggested to hire John Parrow and Associates, as it was the least costly of the 3 proposals received. Mr. Miller noted 33 applications were received for this position, and the 4 people who were involved in reviewing the resumes were the current Police Chief Scott Labonte, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen George Miller, John Parrow, and Town Administrator Kevin Partridge. In a virtual meeting, they were asked to narrow down the ones they thought should move forward in the hiring process. It was recommended by the assessment company for them to choose 7 candidates. The choices were narrowed down to 9, and Mr. Miller listed off those candidates. The review group then agreed to move 5 candidates forward, which Mr. Miller listed off. After orientation on September 6, 2022, the assessment center was held with the top 4 candidates, as 1 had dropped out from the process. The Assessment center was held on September 9, 2022 from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Assessment team was comprised of 4 Police Chiefs; 3 retired and 1 current.</p> <p>Mr. Miller noted this meeting is not a public hearing, and that there was an Executive Session meeting that was erroneously posted, which is the reason for tonight's meeting. Mr. Miller stated he was impressed with the professionalism and knowledge within the assessment center. He also mentioned the Board has received and reviewed correspondence from the Patrolman's Union as well as an applicant. The Board voted to interview the 4 candidates who were invited to the assessment center as the top candidates for the Police Chief for the Town of Berkley.</p>	Larabee to motion to interview 4 candidates, Cochrane 2 <sup>nd</sup> , voted.
Meeting Mail	<p>Board to review letter from Detective Sgt. Arthur Newhook Jr. Mr. Miller stated the Board has reviewed it already, and asked Sgt. Newhook, who was present, if he would like it read into the record. Sgt. Newhook stated he felt that the assessment center was faulty. He explained according to Berkley's Personnel bylaws, if there is a qualified candidate within the town, there is no need to post outside of the town. Adam Costa of Town Counsel was present. He stated he doesn't see anything in the personnel bylaw that would divest the Board of Selectmen of the authority that it has to utilize its discretion with respect to appointments. Sgt. Newhook then handed Mr. Costa a reference to the bylaw he mentioned previously. After review of the document, Mr. Costa noted it does not match what he is looking at for the Town of Berkley Personnel bylaws. Mr. Miller clarified through Mr. Costa that the Board is able to move forward and interview the 4 candidates at the Board's discretion, to which Mr. Costa replied that they are able to. The Board voted to table the review of the letter from Detective Sgt. Arthur Newhook Jr. Mr. Partridge opined that the company hired to conduct the assessment center was professional and not flawed.</p>	Larabee to motion to table, Cochrane 2 <sup>nd</sup> , voted.
Adjournment	<p>The Board agreed to conduct interviews with the 4 candidate on Tuesday starting at 4:00 p.m., and Mr. Larabee suggested to call the candidates in alphabetical order. The Board voted to adjourn, and announced the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at 4pm.</p>	Cochrane to motion to adjourn, Larabee 2 <sup>nd</sup> , voted

  
George F. Miller, Chairman

  
Dean R. Larabee, Clerk

  
Wendy F. Cochrane, Member

  
Ashley Tigano, Administrative Assistant to the  
Town Administrator & Board of Selectmen