

RECEIVED

MAY - 6 2016

WESTFIELD CITY CLERK

Personnel Action Committee
Minutes for 04/28/16 meeting
Starting Time 5:50 p.m.

Committee Members—Ralph Figy (present), William Onyski (present), Cindy Harris, Chair (present).

Agenda Item #1

The appointment of William P. Gonet, 29 Cardinal Lane, as a member of the Airport Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of February 2018, replacing Robert Goyette, Jr.

Voted 3-0 to recommend that appointment.

Discussion:

Mr. Gonet is the Vice President, Sales and Marketing, Barnes Aerospace. He has approximately 30 years in the aircraft industry in various capacities from Technical Support to negotiating major agreements with General Electric, Rolls Royce, and international airlines. He has extensive knowledge and passion for the Aerospace Industry. Barnes Group Inc. has 11 facilities in the U.S. and Singapore. He is highly recommended by Ward 5 Councilor Robert Paul. Also, he is a pilot.

Agenda Item #2

The appointment of Shanna R. Reed to the position of 1st Assistant City Solicitor for a term of three years.

Voted 3-0 to recommend that appointment.

Discussion:

Atty. Reed has served as an Assistant City Solicitor since 2010 and has been involved in all aspects of municipal law. City Solicitor Susan Phillips states “she is well qualified to assume the administrative responsibilities of the 1st Assistant position in the law department.” Atty. Reed has attended numerous trainings in Municipal Law which has enabled her to stay current with the ever changing rules and regulations pertinent to her in performing her job with proficiency. She is considered a valuable asset to the City. Councilor Figy, the Chairperson of L&O, states that she is a valuable asset to the L&O Committee.

Agenda Item #3

The appointment of Carissa M. Lisee, 78 Austin Street, Chicopee, for the superintendent of Building for a term of three years.

Voted 3-0 to recommend that appointment.

Discussion:

Ms. Lisee has been the Building Commissioner and Zoning Enforcement Officer in the Town of Granby since August 2015. Previous to that she was employed for 11 years with the City of Chicopee as the Construction Inspector, Local Building Inspector, and Assistant Building

Commissioner. She obtained the Building Commissioner certification by successfully passing the Technology and Legal Management exams as required by the Massachusetts Board of Building Regulations and Standards. Also is certified as a Building Official through the International Code Council. She looks forward to ensuring the safety of the buildings and structures within the City.

The process to hire a Superintendent of Buildings started with interviews with City Solicitor Phillips, City Director of Personnel Decker, and Deputy Building Commissioner for the City of Springfield Mark Hebert who was helping our City. Six candidates were interviewed, with two finalists. Mayor Sullivan met with those two and chose Ms. Lisee to fill the position. Ms. Lisee comes highly recommended by all the other municipalities where she has been employed, including by Mayor Kos of Chicopee, according to City Solicitor Phillips. Mayor Onyski states he too has heard positive reviews of her.

Agenda Item #4

The appointment of Thomas H. Pereira, 150 Hillside Road, as a member of the Board of Public Works for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2018.

Voted 3-0 to recommend that appointment.

Discussion:

Since 1999, Mr. Pereira has been involved in education and competitive coaching. As a teacher at schools including Springfield Public Schools, Frontier Regional School and Valley West School in Chicopee, he was involved in various subjects including English, Social Studies, and Science. He taught many different grades, also taught students with special needs. He has soccer coaching experience at the high school and college levels, and since 2011 has been a coach at FC Stars involved with 3 travel teams. He has a B.S. degree in Regional Planning from Westfield State University.

Agenda Item #5

The appointment of Jack Labbe, 103 Woodcliff Drive, as a Westfield Technical Academy representative of the Youth Commission, for a term to expire the first Monday 2017, filling a vacancy.

Voted 3-0 to recommend that appointment.

Discussion:

Nearing the end of his first year at Westfield Technical Academy, he is pursuing the aviation program. He has been involved, in Youth Hockey for 10 years. He has volunteered for the annual Fire and Ice Tournament for Youth Hockey, helping to welcome outside teams to the rink and providing support to our teams during the event. He skates for the St. Mary's Hockey team. He is interested in the opportunity to help improve and promote programs and services for Westfield's youth.

Agenda Item #6

The appointment of Eleanor Meyer, 54 Llewellyn Drive, as a member of the Off-Street Parking Commission for a term to expire the first Monday of February, 2018.

Voted 3-0 to recommend that appointment.

Discussion:

Ms. Meyer is interested in the accessibility of parking in the downtown area. She is the Lead Teacher for the preschool program at Roots Learning Center, a current Board member at Amelia Park Children's Museum, a clerk for the board for Westfield Foundation for Education, a co-organizer of the Arts Festival for Westfield into the Arts, a radio co-host on WSKB community radio and was co-president for Juniper Park Elementary School PTC. She is pursuing a degree in Early Education at Westfield State University.

Agenda Item #7

The appointment of Katherine Zavras-Bentrewicz, 95 Llewellyn Drive, as a member of the Cultural Council, replacing a vacancy.

Voted 3-0 to recommend that appointment.

Discussion:

Mr. Bentrewicz is on the Board, since it began, of Westfield Foundation for Education, a co-organizer of the Arts Festival for Westfield into the Arts, a radio co-host on WSKB Community radio, an active member of Volunteers in Public Schools, and was co-president for Juniper Park Elementary School PTC, a Board member on Westfield on Weekends and has taught preschool at Saint George Cathedral in Springfield for 3 years. She states she is interested in seeing our City grow and thrive, culturally and economically.

Adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Submitted by Cindy Harris, Chair 05/06/16.