

RECEIVED

NOV 6 2020

12:00 PM

WESTFIELD CITY CLERK



**MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL AUDITOR SEARCH
COMMITTEE**
TELECONFERENCE
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 AT 1:00 PM

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the City of Westfield City Council Auditor Search Committee will be conducted via remote participation on Zoom.

Ralph Figy called to order the meeting at 1:00 PM.

The following committee members were present:

Chair, Ralph Figy, Westfield City Councilor, Ward 2
Matthew Barnes, Treasurer/Collector, City of Westfield
Robin Johnson, Assessor, City of Westfield
Bridget Matthews-Kane, Westfield City Councilor, Ward 3
Peter Miller, Community Development Director, City of Westfield
Tammy Tefft, Director of Purchasing, City of Westfield

MOTION TO RETURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ralph Figy made a request for a motion to return to executive session. Having the discussion in open session would have a detrimental effect on the public body's ability to attract qualified applicants for the position. Peter Miller made a motion to return to executive session. Bridget Matthews-Kane seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Robin Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Peter Miller seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Vote on the recommendation of candidates for the auditor's job.

The City of Westfield has two candidates. The committee needs to vote if each candidate has the requisite skills to be the city's auditor. The committee is not meant to recommend one candidate over another or rank the candidates, but rather forward to the city council two candidates who the committee believes are qualified do the job.

Peter Miller made a motion to make a recommendation of both candidates who were interviewed to the Westfield City Council for consideration. Bridget Matthews-Kane seconded it.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ralph Figy	yes
Matthew Barnes	yes
Robin Johnson	yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	yes
Peter Miller	yes
Tammy Tefft	yes

The motion passes 6-0.

Upon further discussion, Peter Miller commented that both candidates have the requisite capabilities to do the job. Both have different skill sets and different positives that they would bring to the position. However, there are some concerns with each of the candidates, but it is imperative at this juncture to send the candidates to the City Council. It will fall upon the City Council to either hire one of the candidates or continue the search.

Ralph Figy added that a new set of questions based on questions that were submitted by this committee were forwarded to legal and personnel so that when the candidates are interviewed by the council there will be a new list of interview questions that they can be asked.

Ralph Figy asked for a motion to adjourn executive session and return to open session. Peter Miller made a motion and Matthew Barnes seconded it. Motion passes unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Peter Miller made a motion to recommend to the full City Council the two candidates for consideration for the position of City Auditor. Robin Johnson seconded it.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ralph Figy	yes
Matthew Barnes	yes
Robin Johnson	yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	yes
Peter Miller	yes
Tammy Tefft	yes

The motion passes 6-0.

The Chair reiterated that legal and personnel are developing a new list of questions for the next round of interviews. There will be a special meeting of the Westfield City Council on September 10, 2020 to interview the two final candidates and make a selection if that is the will of the council.

The Chair thanked everyone on the committee for their time and effort. The process is now in the hands of the City Council.

Peter Miller made a motion to adjourn and Tammy Tefft seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Ralph Figy adjourned the meeting at 1:12.

Minutes submitted by: Bridget Matthews-Kane