

Planner and Conservation Agent Hiring Committee
Montague Public Safety Complex Community Room
180 Turnpike Road, Turners Falls, MA 01376 AND Recorded on ZOOM
Wednesday, October 26, 2022 4:00 pm

Members: Jen Audley (FRCOG), Mark Fairbrother (Conservation Com. Chair Enter 4:15pm), Erin MacLean (business owner), Francia Wisnewski (Finance Com. Chair); Bill Ketchen (Building Inspector), Suzanne LoManto (Asst.Planner/RiverCulture), Walter Ramsey (Asst. Town Admin), Ron Sicard (Planning Board Chair). Steve Ellis, Town Administrator. (Leave 5:15pm)

Absent: None.

Jen called meeting to order at 4:00.

Minutes of October 5, 2022 approved with minor spelling corrections:
6 (AYE)-0 (NAY)-1 (Abstain-LoManto).

Steve Ellis: Pool of applicants somewhat disappointing, as planners are in demand regionally because municipal operations have changed state-wide.

Motion by Suzanne LoManto to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing candidates. 2nd by Francia Wisnewski. VOTE: Audley (AYE), Ketchen (AYE), LoManto (AYE), MacLean (AYE), Ramsey (AYE), Sicard (AYE), Wisnewski (AYE). 7-0

Recording of public session stopped. (4:10)

ZOOM Recording of public session resumed. (4:50)

Scheduling preliminary interviews:

November 7, 1-4 PM, November 8, 4-7 PM. Selectboard office will coordinate scheduling the candidates.

Discussion of the questions to ask candidates and which member of the hiring committee will ask what questions.

The suggestion is made to ask the candidates for work samples by November 1 or 2 for review by committee with the goals to see what they choose (what they think is important to us) and how they present information. Interviews will be 60 minutes each, largely Q+A format.

Steve suggested having fewer questions of more important quality to promote better discussion with the candidates.

Jen and Suzanne presented a list of questions based in part on previous thoughts from committee members. Some committee members requested to ask particular questions. Jen will open and close each interview.

Next meeting: Interviews to be scheduled for November 7 and 8 as noted above.

Motion to adjourn at @ 5:50 by MF, second by SL, 8-0. MOTION PASSES.