

A special meeting of the Town Council held on Thursday, April 24, 2008 for the Town at Town Council Chambers and was called to order at 7:07 PM. Council President Budway presiding.

After pledging allegiance to the flag of our country, Town Clerk Long called the roll:

Councilman Collins-present	Councilman Salisbury - present
Councilwoman Knowlton-present	Councilman D'Agostino - present
Councilman Winfield - present	Council Vice-President Farrar - present
Council President Budway – present	

Council President Budway explained that the Council had formed a selection committee for the interviews for the Director of Public Works position. He said that the committee is comprised of two Council members, Councilmen D'Agostino and Collins, and one member of the general public, Mr. Gene Allen.

Mr. Gene Allen addressed the Council with the Committees recommendations (copy of Committee report herewithin).

Council President Budway said that he thought that the Committee did an excellent job with their selection process.

Councilman Winfield said that he reviewed the resumes and realized that the Committee had a lot of work to do with 22 applicants, and he wanted to thank them.

Councilman Salisbury said the he agrees with Councilmen Winfield and Budway in regards to the hard work the Committee did. He also said that he felt Mr. Bernardo was an excellent candidate, but doubts he will take the job for the salary that is being offered. He also said that maybe we are looking too hard for qualifications and knowledge of a highway department. He said that in a small Town like Scituate, the most important thing is to be able to deal with people and other skills can be learned.

Council Vice-President Farrar said that he agrees with Councilman Salisbury's statement. He also feels that the Town does not need another person with an engineering degree. He said that the Town already has Mr. Provonsil. He asked the Committee to give him the names of the top four candidates.

Council President Budway said that all applicants can be considered.

Councilman D'Agostino said that the number two candidate, Mr. Miller, has already accepted another job.

Councilman Winfield said that he feels that the Committee did a lot of hard work, and the Council should go along with their recommendations.

Council President Budway said that he feels that the number four person, Mr. Tucker, would be the best candidate and that they should support him. He said that Mr. Bernardo is the most qualified candidate, but since we already have a PE as an employee, we really don't need another one. He feels that it would be a slap in the face to Mr. Provonsil to hire another PE that will make more money than he does. He also said that with the change over in the Town, Mr. Tucker would bring stability and continuity to the position. He said that he already knows the people in Town, the dynamics, familiar with the Union environment, and all of the EMA functions. He said that it is very important to look within the Town for qualified and capable employees.

Council President Budway said that his recommendation to the Council is to appoint Mr. Tucker.

Council Vice-President Farrar said that if one of the supervisors in the Public Works Department wanted the job they would have been considered, but no one applied for it. He said that Mr. Iverson ran the department for 15 years without having a PE degree. He said that he is very concerned with the EMA side and he knows that Mr. Tucker will do a great job. Council Vice-President Farrar said that he strongly recommends Mr. Tucker.

Councilman Salisbury said with all due respect, why have a committee if you are not going to listen to their recommendations?

Council President Budway said that the original idea was not to exclude any candidate from consideration of the full Council.

Motion made by Council Vice-President Farrar, seconded by Council President Budway to appoint Mr. Richard Tucker, Director of Public Works, voted as follows:

Councilman Collins-aye	Councilman Winfield-nay
Councilman Salisbury-nay	Councilwoman Knowlton-nay
Councilman D'Agostino-nay	Council Vice-President Farrar-aye
Council President Budway-aye	

Motion fails with three affirmative and four negative votes.

Councilman Salisbury said that he feels that this should go back to the Committee and have them broaden the field.

Councilwoman Knowlton said that she feels that the whole process should be started again.

Councilman Collins feels that the position should be reposted and a new Committee be appointed with a clearer direction.

Councilwoman Knowlton said that Mr. Tucker has done a good job with his EMA responsibilities.

Councilman Winfield said that not all of the Council members were in favor of adding the EMA duties to the Director of Public Works job description.

Council Vice-President Farrar said that the Council did vote to approve the new job description.

Council President Budway said that he agrees with Council Vice-President Farrar that the Council did vote to approve the new job description.

Motion made by Councilman D'Agostino, seconded by Councilman Collins and voted by roll call to adjourn to closed session at 7:43 PM, pursuant to R.I.G.L. 42-46-5 (A) 2- Litigation update on PWSB Negotiations and Collective Bargaining/Labor relations and pertaining to litigation, strategy, options and substantive legal issues at 7:43 PM and to allow Ted Richard (only the first closed session), Ted Przybyla, David D'Agostino, Peggy Long and the seven Council members to attend.

Open session reconvened at 8:35 PM.

Motion made by Councilman D'Agostino, seconded by Councilman Collins and voted by consent agreement to allow Council President Budway to sign an affidavit stating that due to a mistake, Mr. Iverson did not contribute to the Municipal Retirement System during his ten years on the Town Council.

Motion made by Council Collins, seconded by Councilman D'Agostino and voted by consent agreement to adjourn at 8:36 PM and to keep the minutes of the meetings previously closed to the public; closed pursuant to RIGL 42-46-4 and 42-46-5 and to allow the Town Clerk 14 days to prepare the minutes of the meeting. For complete discussion, refer to audiotape.

Attest:

Margaret M. Long, Town Clerk