

# Select Board Special Meeting

Friday, March 19, 2021

Virtual Meeting Broadcast on Comcast Channel 22 Verizon Channel 45

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## I. Call to Order

Chairperson Annie Gilbert called the Select Board Meeting of March 19, 2021 to order at 8:04 A.M. Other Members in attendance: Laura Gregory, Chris Huntress, Alex Vispoli.

**Others in Attendance:** Town Manager Andrew Flanagan, Deputy Town Manager Mike Lindstrom, Assistant Town Manager Patrick Lawlor, Town Clerk Austin Simko, and Town Counsel Tom Urbelis.

## II. Opening Ceremonies

### A. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting began with a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

## III. Regular Business

### A. Select Board Vacancy:

Board to deliberate and identify a candidate to be presented for appointment on March 24<sup>th</sup> 2021 for a term through March 22, 2022.

On behalf of the Select Board, Annie Gilbert thanked all 12 of the applicants for putting themselves forward, submitting their applications, and going through the interview process. Many of the people who applied have been very involved in the Andover Community, former members of the Select Board, and have overlapped in their relationships, being on committees, boards, etc. It will be a difficult choice.

Each Board member has submitted an unranked list to the Chair of the applicants they would like to move forward for discussion. The lists were compiled by the Chair and sent to the Board. The following candidates moved forward (in alpha order).

Zack Bergeron  
Carleen Bell Flanagan  
Paula Colby-Clements  
Dick Howe  
Paul Salafia  
Deb Silberstein  
Ted Teichert  
Bonnie Zahourik

Among the eight applicants listed, some appeared on more than two of the lists: Everyone else appeared on either two of their lists or one of their lists. Paula Colby-Clements appeared on three of the lists, and Dick Howe on all four lists.

Members of the Board shared their thoughts on what skillsets and experiences will be most helpful to the Board.

Overlapping points: relative experience, objectivity, ability to work with the Board, community outreach person, consensus builder, communication skills, understanding of Diversity and the path the Board has taken and understanding the sustainability path. Although the Board has have received a number of emails suggesting they appoint someone who fills Dan's constituency for diversity and sustainability, these are items to consider but are not the only things that Dan stood for.

The selected person should be somebody that can step in and be hands-on from day one for the one-year position and as fluent as possible in the issues we are facing with an important Town Meeting coming up soon. The Board has set a trajectory of the goals, and during this person's time on the Board, they will be participating in goal-setting for 2022. The composite of the person should be somebody who has demonstrated that they have the ability to do the community outreach. It is important the person moved forward has a strong voice and is not afraid to offer a second look or a different opinion. The person should have knowledge of the Pension Obligation Plan and Integrated Finance Plan. Both candidates are very capable and strong.

Paula Colby-Clements: Paula is particularly strong because she has already been out in the community, not only as Chair of the WESP School Building Project but also as a member of the Town Governance Committee engaging in forums. She is knowledgeable of the IFP, and also as a former member of the School Committee. Paula is a strong voice in the community and has a depth of experience in a lot of different issues. The Select Board has not presented the WESP warrant article to the community yet which is at a critical point, they are concerns about pulling her out of the process.

Dick Howe: Dick is a highly-qualified candidate who has been looking at budget obligation bonds since 2007. He is very knowledgeable about the IFP, open space housing, and served on the Finance Committee for several years, in addition to participating on several different town committees. His professional experience is impressive as is his communication style. The Board was very impressed with his interview and he checked many of the boxes on what they are looking for in the position.

All members of the Select Board agreed that Dick Howe would be their choice to fill the remaining term of Dan Koh's seat. The Board will appoint Mr. Howe at their meeting on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

**IV. Adjournment**

At. 8:45 A.M. Alex Vispoli moved to adjourn the meeting of Friday, March 19, 2021. Chris Huntress seconded the motion. Roll call: L. Gregory-Y, A. Vispoli-Y, C. Huntress-Y, L. Gregory-Y. Motion passes 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dee DeLorenzo*

Dee DeLorenzo  
Recording Secretary

*Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, 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 Select Board will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the meeting may do so in the following manner: Andover TV COMCAST CHANNEL 22 AND VERIZON CHANNEL 45. To ask a question on particular agenda items during the regular meeting can do so by calling 311 from their landline or cell phone within the geographical boundaries of Andover or by calling 978-623-8311 from anywhere or by emailing [manager@andoverma.gov](mailto:manager@andoverma.gov).*

*Residents are encouraged to email their questions ahead of the meeting, however, staff will be available to present the Board with questions received during the meeting. Please include your name and address with your question.*

*Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.*