

Town of Dudley

Board of Selectmen
Highway Commissioners
Cemetery Commissioners

May 10, 2019 @ 6:30pm
Dudley Municipal Complex
71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA
Veteran's Memorial Hall – Room 321a
Approved 5/20/2019

Some matters have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

Steven Sullivan opened the meeting at 6:35pm. In attendance were John Marsi and Paul Joseph. Kerry Cyganiewicz participated remotely under MGL Chapter 39 section 23D adopted 2/4/2013 and in accordance with 940 CMR 29.10(2). It was determined that the following factor made his physical attendance unreasonable – Geographic distance. Also in attendance was Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary. Greg Balukonis, Town Administrator, was absent.

2. Jonathan J. Ruda – Town Administrator - Contract

John Marsi opened the meeting by stating that he has a ratified employment contract for Jonathan Ruda. The contract was reviewed section by section with changes from Town Counsel. Paul Joseph stated that as the contract sits he will vote no and that changes should have occurred. The changes were discussed with the major issue being the salary. Mr. Joseph believes that the salary for Mr. Ruda, who has never held a Town Administrator's position, should be at the bottom of the range (\$110,000-\$150,000) and does not agree with the starting salary of \$112,500. He has no experience and has not earned the \$2,500. John Marsi stated that Mr. Ruda has market value and skills and deserves the amount in the contract. Steve Sullivan understands Mr. Joseph's concerns and that they removed some benefits that Mr. Balukonis, who has over 35 years in the field, from the contract. Kerry Cyganiewicz stated that Mr. Joseph has a couple of valid points but not enough to change the salary. John Marsi stated that he is the person we chose for the position and we should have faith in him. Steven Sullivan stated that he understands Mr. Joseph concerns and he is willing, as a gentlemen, to look forward with positive intent and that we should all walk out as friends. We are having one new member on the Board and we should have faith in our new Town Administrator. After discussion **Kerry Cyganiewicz motioned to sign the contract that Steven Sullivan and John Marsi negotiated with Mr. Ruda presented and reviewed by Town Counsel. John Marsi seconded.**

Roll Call Vote

John Marsi, Aye

Steven Sullivan, Aye

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

Paul Joseph, Nay

Jonathan Ruda entered the meeting at 7:05pm. He was informed that the Board approved the revised contract with a 3-1 vote. Mr. Ruda signed his contract. Paul Joseph stated that he voted nay due to simple language changes and that a Town Administrator with zero experience should be paid the lowest in the salary range and that he does not deserve the salary. In closing, Mr. Joseph stated that Mr. Ruda will have to prove that the Board made the right decision and will back him up if needed.

3. Adjournment:

Steven Sullivan motioned to adjourn at 7:16pm. Kerry Cyganiewicz seconded.

Roll Call Vote

John Marsi, Aye

Paul Joseph, Aye

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

Steven Sullivan, Aye

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary