

# Town of Sandisfield

Select Board  
March 18, 2022

Minutes for Select Board Work Session held on Friday, March 18, 2022 at 3:30p.m. at the Town Hall Annex, 66 Sandisfield Road, Sandisfield, MA

Members present: Alex Bowman, Steve Seddon, Jonathan Sylbert

## **1. Interview with Jonathan Sylbert**

Jonathan, who has worked in surrounding municipalities explains he does not think Sandisfield is in poor shape with their budget process, nor its spending. He believes the town needs some direction in the short-term and assistance with capital planning for the long-term.

Jonathan has originally offered three approaches to assisting the town and filling in as Interim Town Manager:

1. Get the town through its budget and warrant to Town Meeting.
2. Get the town through its budget and warrant to the end of the fiscal year.
3. Get the town through the fiscal year and help coordinate the hiring of a permanent Town Manager.

Jonathan goes on to explain that after the interim position ends, he may apply for the permanent Town Manager position. However, he would still require the town to go through the process of finding and interviewing other possible candidates. For the time being, Jonathan would put in as many hours as necessary. He would not ask to be compensated any more than what the previous Town Manager had been paid, but would prefer to go into Executive Session for contract negotiations to discuss this.

Steve suggests Jonathan work with Laura Lee Bertram in a joint role. It's proposed one could handle the putting the budget together, while the other take care of the backlog of Town Manager administrative duties. Jonathan makes it clear he is applying for the position of Interim Town Manager, not budget consultant.

Appointment of Jonathan as Interim Town Manager is on the agenda for Monday, March 21. Jonathan's first day would be Wednesday, 3/23. Jonathan requests he be supplied with the Town Manager job description, FY23 budget worksheet, budget request sheets and contract. He also requests an Executive Session be held for contract negotiations. However, Jonathan is willing to work temporarily without a contract.

Jonathan exits the meeting.

Steve summarizes that he would prefer Jonathan to take on the role of Interim Town Manager and focus on handling the budget, while Laura would handle administrative tasks, which she has already disclosed she is comfortable with. George Riley will no longer serve as Interim Town Manager beginning March 30.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15pm.

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Alex Bowman

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Steve Seddon