



## Board of Selectmen

Date of Meeting: Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021  
Time: 6:30 PM – 6:37 PM  
Members Present: Chair Matt Mecum; Selectmen Jamie Underwood and Seth Ridinger;  
April Steward, Town Administrator; Attorney Corey Higgins, and Alison Mack, Administrative Assistant to the Board

The meeting commenced at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The meeting will be conducted by remote access and livestreamed from the *Zoom Application*.  
There will be no physical meeting location.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82706176364?pwd=RVIHaGNFN2FpdUp4ZW56a3E2MlVVdz09>

Meeting ID: 827 0617 6364

Passcode: 332281

One tap mobile

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### **Discussion on Police Chief Background Check:**

Matt explained that the way he understands it is that since John Annunziata is currently an employee on the Boylston Police Department, the Town does not need to do a background check. He stated that we also do not need to do the physical or psych evaluation since he has already been through those. If we were to do those, Corey suggested that there would be a perception that something was wrong. Jamie stated that he is fine with waiving the background and psych evaluation. Seth stated that he thinks it would be fine but asked if we should consider doing the

background check. Corey stated that John is already an employee so presumably it was already done when he was first hired. Corey stated that he previously asked April if there was a past practice regarding a promotional phase such as a Patrol Officer to a Sergeant and that's not the practice. He added that in other communities they do not tend to do these and requiring it here almost suggests that there is a lack of confidence in the employee. Seth asked if it would open up the Town to any type of liability by waiving this and Corey responded that he does not think so. Seth stated that he is okay with proceeding without having to do the psychological check and background check.

*Jamie Underwood made a motion to not move forward with a background check, psychological evaluation, and health exam as part of the background check for Sergeant Annunziata in anticipation of him becoming the next Police Chief of Boylston. Seth Ridinger seconded. Voted all in favor. Seth: Yes, Jamie: Yes, and Matt: Yes.*

At 6:37 PM, on a motion made by Seth Ridinger, the following roll call vote was recorded to go into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** (closed to the public) **Per MGL c.30A, §21(a) (3):** To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining – Boylston Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 5324, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares. The Board will not return to open session. Jamie Underwood seconded. Roll call vote: Matt: Yes, Jamie: Yes and Seth: Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Mack, Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

### **Meeting Materials**

Agenda

On File in The Board of Selectmen's Office