

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**Working Session**  
**Town Hall Conference Room**  
**Minutes of August 4, 2013**

Chairman Ken Vogel called the meeting to order at 12:00PM. Board members present in addition to Chairman Vogel, were Martha Morrison, Dick Gandt, Laura Powers and Eldon Goodhue. Of the Selectmen's staff, Board Secretary Donna Rich was in attendance. Other person present during all or part of the meeting was Fire Chief Ron Giovannacci. Because Selectman Goodhue would be leaving for an assessor's class for several days, this meeting was scheduled on Sunday to allow him to participate in this meeting's deliberations.

Announcement: Chairman Vogel announced that the Board would go into Executive Session at the end of regular session to discuss negotiating strategies for the Town Administrator Contract and would not return to Open Session.

Minutes:

Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept the Minutes of June 24, 2013 as written, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept the Executive Minutes of June 24, 2013 as written and to hold until all matters are resolved, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept the Minutes of July 8, 2013 as written, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted 5-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to accept the Executive Minutes of July 8, 2013 as written and to hold until all matters are resolved, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted 5-0.

Town Administrator Candidate Review:

Selectman Powers reported on her findings on candidate Kellie Hebert.

Selectman Goodhue made a motion to choose Sean Fitzgerald as Town Administrator; seconded by Selectman Gandt. After a lengthy discussion the motion was voted: 2-3, and the motion failed. Selectmen Powers, Morrison and Vogel opposed.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to choose Kellie Hebert as Town Administrator; seconded by Selectman Powers. After further discussion the motion was voted: 3-2 and the motion passed. Selectmen Gandt and Goodhue opposed.

Selectman Powers made a motion to allow the Board of Selectmen to enter into contract negotiations with Kellie Hebert as Town Administrator seconded by Selectman Morrison; so voted: 4-1. Selectman Gandt explained that he opposed the motion because the candidate does not have appropriate experience for the position of Town Administrator in Topsfield.

At 1:33 PM, Selectmen Morrison made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss negotiating strategies for the Town Administrator Contract; seconded by Selectman Powers. In a roll call vote, a yes vote was recorded for Chairman Vogel, Selectman Morrison, Selectman Gandt, Selectman Powers and Selectman Goodhue. The Board would not return to open session.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary  
Selectmen's Office

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Per the Open Meeting Law, the documents that were either distributed to the BOS before the meeting in a packet, or at the meeting were:

1. Agenda
2. Preliminary BOS Minutes – Regular Session 6/24/13, Executive Session 6/24/13, Regular Session 7/8/13, and Executive Session 7/8/13.

*Approved as amended at the August 19, 2013 Board of Selectmen's meeting.*

Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law,' G.L. 39, § 23B, the approval of these minutes by the Board constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and the actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Board as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.