



SPECIAL MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

TELEPHONE CONFERENCE
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 AT 5:30 PM

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20, 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 City of Westfield **CITY COUNCIL** will be conducted via remote participation. Specific information can be found on the City of Westfield website at www.cityofwestfield.org. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so by tuning into Channel 15 or online at westfieldtv.org. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but 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 City's website an audio recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

The meeting was called to order by President Bean at 5:30 PM.

The City Clerk called the roll. Councilors Allie and Morganelli were absent.

Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action of the Whole, offered a motion, which was duly seconded to accept the job description of the Director of Public Works, as originally submitted. Councilor Flaherty offered an amendment to the motion, which was duly seconded, as follows: Under Education and Experience to read as follows:

Bachelor's Degree in Civil, Environmental, or Chemical Engineering required.
Additional education in Business Management or Public Administration preferred.
Five (5) years or more as a Department Head, Executive Director, or similar executive role in a Water or Wastewater public utility required. Ten (10) years' experience as a supervisor or manager of municipal employees required. Experience with Public Works preferred.

President Bean informed the Council that the only options available to the Council is to vote no on the job description as originally submitted and submit the amendment as a recommendation. The Council cannot amend the job description. Councilor Adams informed the Council that he likes adding the 10 years' experience, but he would also like to see a requirement to be an engineer. Councilor Beltrandi questioned if he was looking for a P.E. (Public Engineer) or a C.E. (Civil Engineer). Councilor Adams informed the Council that he is looking for someone that is licensed to be able to control the water and wastewater. Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that there are licenses needed relative to the State that are required relative to water and that if the qualifications are too stringent, no one will apply for the money that is being offered. Councilor Figy questioned if the description could say a license relative to water or the ability to obtain a license. Councilor Beltrandi expressed his concern that that is a slippery slope. Councilor Flaherty informed the Council that the Chief Executive doesn't have to be licensed as long as someone in the department is licensed such as currently Mr. Billips does not have the licenses but Mr. Woody Darling has the necessary State licenses for the department. Councilor Onyski expressed his opinion that the person should have an engineering degree and there should be something that requires having a state

license. Councilor Burns informed the Council that the job description as originally submitted should be denied and that the Council should meet with the Commissioners of DPW and Water to review the suggestions of the Council. President Bean informed the Council that if the Council wants changes they will have to deny it, but there is a time issue to get this done so there may not be enough time to meet with the Commissioners, but that the Council can submit their recommended amendments to them. Councilor Sullivan questioned if the Commissioners have seen the job description as originally submitted and have they approved of it. Councilor Harris informed the Council that the DPW Commission and the Water Commission met in August and approved the job description which is the same job description from 2016. Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that there needs to be a determination of whether it should be a P.E. or C.E. requirement. Councilor Flaherty questioned if the job description should say required or preferred for the P.E. or C.E. Councilor Bean informed the Council that preferred is fine. Councilor Harris questioned Councilor Beltrandi if he is comfortable with that requirement since he is a professional contractor and Councilor Burns as a former Water Commissioner. Councilor Beltrandi expressed his concern if it is too stringent whether or not anyone will apply, but agreed the person should be a P.E. or C.E.. President Bean suggested that the job description say "preferred" PE or CE. President Bean informed the Council that the amendments/ edits would be sent to the Commissioners as suggestions, but the Commissioners do not have to accept the edits. He suggested that if the motion is worded correctly, the job description would not have to come back to the Council if the edits, as recommended by the Council, are included in the job description. Councilor Sullivan informed the Council that the motion would have to be clear that if edits are accepted it does not have to come back to Council. Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that he believes the edited version would have to come back to Council for approval. President Bean informed the Council that if the Law Department says it cannot be done by accepting it if the edits are included, then there will be another special meeting to accept the edited version, so as not to have to wait for two weeks before the next regular Council meeting. Councilor Harris informed the Council that the next regular meeting of the Council is October 1st, 2020 which is next week, not two weeks from tonight's meeting. Councilor Flaherty read the final amendments/ edits as follows:

Bachelor's Degree in Civil, Environmental, or Chemical Engineering required. MA State License as P.E. or C.E. preferred. Additional education in Business Management or Public Administration preferred. Five (5) years or more as a Department Head, Executive Director, or similar executive role in a Water or Wastewater public utility required. Ten (10) years' experience as a supervisor or manager of municipal employees required. Experience with Public Works preferred.

Councilor Harris again questioned Councilor Beltrandi if he was comfortable with the edits. Councilor Beltrandi informed the Council that he is comfortable with the edits. President Bean informed the Council there is a motion on the floor to be voted on at this time. Councilor Harris repeated the motion as follows:

Upon motion of Councilor Harris, for the Personnel Action of the Whole, it was VOTED: That the job description of the Director of Public Works, as originally submitted, be ACCEPTED.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

James Adams	No
Dan Allie	Absent
Brent Bean II	No
John Beltrandi III	No
Michael Burns	No
Ralph Figy	No
Dave Flaherty	No
Cindy Harris	No
Bridget Matthews-Kane	No
Kristen Mello	No
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Absent
William Onyski	No
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	No

The President declared the motion LOST.

Upon motion of Councilor Flaherty, it was

VOTED: That the following amendments/edits to the job description for the Director of Public Works be sent to the Mayor, Personnel, and the Water and DPW Commissioners and be requested to be included in the job description.

Bachelor's Degree in Civil, Environmental, or Chemical Engineering required. MA State License as P.E. or C.E. preferred. Additional education in Business Management or Public Administration preferred. Five (5) years or more as a Department Head, Executive Director, or similar executive role in a Water or Wastewater public utility required. Ten (10) years' experience as a supervisor or manager of municipal employees required. Experience with Public Works preferred.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Absent
Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Absent
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes

The President declared the motion PASSED.

At 5:57 PM, and upon motion of Councilor Harris, it was

VOTED: To ADJOURN.

The vote on the foregoing was as follows:

James Adams	Yes
Dan Allie	Absent
Brent Bean II	Yes
John Beltrandi III	Yes
Michael Burns	Yes
Ralph Figy	Yes
Dave Flaherty	Yes
Cindy Harris	Yes
Bridget Matthews-Kane	Yes
Kristen Mello	Yes
Nicholas Morganelli, Jr.	Absent
William Onyski	Yes
Richard Sullivan, Jr.	Yes

A true record, Attest:

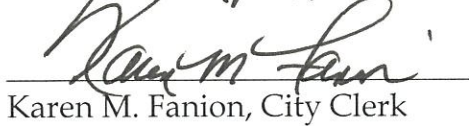


Karen M. Fanion
City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

Presented to the Mayor

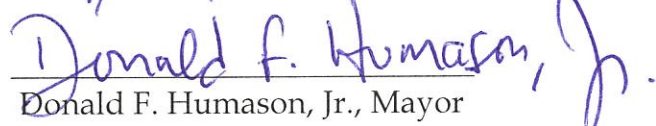
Approved by the Mayor

For approval Sept. 25 2020



Karen M. Fanion, City Clerk

9/25/2020 2020



Donald F. Humason, Jr., Mayor