

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY  
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 20, 2019**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Mayor Saxton called the May 20, 2019, Town Council Special Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

Councilmembers Don Boteler, Sue Callaway, Jerry Masiello, Jimmy Oliver, Carol Stevenson, and Mayor Tim Saxton; Town Manager Maureen Hartman; the Town's Public Safety Consultant Chief Mike Carroll; and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith.

Excused Absence: Councilmember Frank Weisgerber

**MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Councilmember Oliver, seconded by Councilmember Masiello, to go into executive session for purposes of discussing an individual citizen's qualifications to hold a job or pursue training. Discussion of candidates for position of Police Chief and potential terms of employment contract. 29 Del. C. §10004(b) (1). Motion unanimously carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 1:02 p.m. Council went into executive session for purposes of discussing an individual citizen's qualifications to hold a job or pursue training. The Town Solicitor participated by telephone. Discussion of candidates for position of Police Chief and potential terms of employment contract. 29 Del. C. §10004(b) (1).

**MOTION TO RECONVENE**

At 2:30 p.m. motion by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Masiello, to reconvene the May 20, 2019, Town Council Special Meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE TO EXTEND OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT TO CANDIDATE FOR CHIEF OF POLICE, PENDING EXECUTION OF EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

Mayor Saxton said the Town has undergone extensive evaluation of the Chief of Police applicants (about 50 applications received). The Town's Public Safety Consultant Chief Carroll has done a superb job on evaluating and vetting all applicants. The first set of interviews were conducted by the Town's Public Safety Consultant Chief Mike Carrol, the Town of Ocean View's Chief of Police Kenneth McLaughlin, and the Town of Fenwick Island's Chief of Police William Boyden. They narrowed down the ten highly qualified applicants (all Delaware certified officers) to four. The final set of interviews were conducted by Mayor Saxton, the Town Manager, and Councilmember Masiello. The final interview committee was unanimous on the rank order of who to hire. There have been extensive background checks on the individual that will be nominated, and he has passed those background checks.

Pursuant to the Town of South Bethany Charter, Mayor Saxton appointed Jason Lovins as the Chief of Police of South Bethany subject to ratification by Town Council, and agreement on contractual terms and execution of a contract. Motion by Councilmember Masiello, seconded by Councilmember Oliver, to ratify the appointment of Jason Lovins as the Chief of Police of South Bethany. Mayor Saxton asked for discussion by members of the Council. There was no discussion. Motion unanimously carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from the public.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilmember Boteler, seconded by Councilmember Callaway, to adjourn the May 20, 2019, Town Council Special Meeting at 2:35 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

phs:2019 05 20 Special Meeting Minutes Approved 6 14 19