

APPROVED
Town of Ridgefield
Board of Selectpersons Special Meeting Minutes
December 30, 2025 at 9:00 am
Town Hall – Large Conference Room, 400 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT
Please note – these minutes are not verbatim.

Present: Sean Connelly (teleconference), Maureen Kozlark, Barbara Manners (teleconference), Rudy Marconi, Geoffrey Morris

Absent: None.

Rudy Marconi called the meeting to order at 9:09 am after virtual platform issues could not be resolved, therefore they had a teleconference instead.

1. Public Safety Building Committee application review and narrow down to 15 interviews.
 - a. Each selectperson reviewed all applications submitted and came prepared to nominate 10 candidates each. They presented their lists at this meeting. Any nominees named by two or more than one selectperson will be moved forward to interviews with a goal. These are; Dunaway, Lecher, Brickley, Brackenwagen, Graves, Martinez, Murphy, Scalzo, Burton-Lopez, Carlson, Michael, Tyrell, Colin, Vahlsing, and Safir. The BOS also reviewed and confirmed party affiliation among the proposed interviewees; there are 3 Ds, 3 Rs, and 9 Us.

G. Morris moved to invite for interviews the following 15 candidates; Dunaway, Lecher, Brickley, Brackenwagen, Graves, Martinez, Murphy, Scalzo, Burton-Lopez, Carlson, Michael, Tyrell, Colin, Vahlsing, and Safir. M. Kozlark seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

- b. The BOS discussed the number of members to appoint to this committee. All agreed on a 7-member board but no more than 9.
 - c. There are several marketing experts who could be appointed to a Marketing Subcommittee.
 - d. Interviews will be in Executive Session.
 - e. The Police and Fire Facilities Committee appointments will be made at the January 21st BOS meeting.
 - f. The BOS will finalize the committee charge at the next BOS meeting.
2. Interview dates proposed are Saturdays, January 10, 10 am to 2pm, and January 17, 9am to 2pm. Each interview will have 30 minutes allotted plus 10 minutes for BOS review.

M. Kozlark motioned to schedule Executive Sessions for 7 interviews on Saturday, January 10, from 10am until 2pm, and 8 interviews on Saturday, January 17, from 9am until 2pm. G. Morris seconded. Motion carried 4-0 (Sean Connelly left the meeting at 10:40 am).

At 10:45 am the BOS meeting recessed shortly.

R. Marconi reconvened the BOS special meeting at 10:51 am.

G. Morris motioned to go into Executive Session inviting the two applicants for Firefighter, the Fire Chief, Rommie Duckworth, The Assistant Fire Chief, Tony Cerulli, and the HR Director, Laurie Fernandez. M. Kozlark seconded the motion. Motion passed 4 to 0. (Sean Connelly was no longer present due to illness, and B. Manners voted over the phone).

The Board came out of executive session and invited the public at 11:52 am.

B. Manners made the motion to appoint Ethan McAllister and Graham Morrow as Firefighters, pending their post-offer physicals, drugs screening and background checks. G. Morris seconded the motion. Motion passed 4 to 0.

M. Kozlark made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectperson's Special meeting at 11:55 am. G. Morris seconded the motion. Motion passed 4 to 0.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Fernandez