

**TOWN OF RYE - SELECT BOARD
MEETING
Friday, September 2, 2022 – 8:00 a.m.
Rye Town Hall**

Present: *Chair Phil Winslow; Vice-Chair Tom King; and Selectman Bill Epperson*

Others Present on behalf of the Town: *Interim Town Administrator Kevin Walsh*

I. Call to Order

Chair Winslow called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

II. Non-Public Session (1) per RSA 91-A:3, II, (b) Hiring

At 8:00 a.m., Tom King made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II (b) Hiring. Seconded by Bill Epperson. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Epperson – Yes, King - Yes.

At 9:14 a.m., Bill Epperson made a motion to come out of Non-Public Session. Seconded by Tom King. Roll Call: Winslow – Yes, Epperson – Yes, King - Yes.

III. Reconvene Public Meeting

Chair Winslow reconvened the public meeting at 9:18 a.m.

IV. Hiring of New Town Administrator

Chair Winslow made the following announcement:

We are pleased to announce that today we hired Matt Scruton as our new Town Administrator. Matt is currently the Town Administrator for Greenland, has an MBA from the University of New Hampshire and has previously been a Selectman, NH State Representative, held management positions with Novocure, and the University System of NH as a Research and Information Technologist and as an auditor.

A special thanks to Chief Walsh for taking the role of Interim Town Administrator for the last several months while we worked with Municipal Resources to find a new Town Administrator. Kevin and Becky Bergeron have provided a great job of leadership during this period.

We will have a meeting of the Department Heads to formally introduce Matt immediately following his 30 day notice period with Greenland.

Please join us in welcoming Matt and in thanking Kevin and Becky for their help.

Rye Select Board
Philip D. Winslow, Chairman
Thomas King, Vice-Chairman
William Epperson, Selectman

The Select Board signed the contract for the hiring of Matt Scruton as the new Town Administrator.

V. Other Business

The Select Board reviewed the application from Steven Borne for electioneering at the transfer station between the dates of September 10th to the 13th.

The Board did not have any issues with the request and signed the application.

VI. Public Comment

Referring to the Town Administrator hiring process, **Steven Borne, 431 Wallis Road**, stated that he would have like there to have been more public discussion with the public about the direction of the Town and what is needed. Is the town management structured in the best way to handle the amplified challenges facing Rye? Mr. Borne commented that Mr. Scruton's qualifications sound impressive. Maybe he has the capability of doing more than what past town administrators have done. Perhaps a full-time town administrator will be able to do more things; such as, project manage the new master plan.

Selectman Epperson noted that Mr. Scruton has a lot of experience and the Select Board has confidence that he will lead effectively.

Chair Winslow noted that the Board contracted Municipal Resources to help with the hiring process. There were sixteen applicants for this position and four people were interviewed through three cycles of interviews. It was a tough decision. The Select Board is looking forward to having Mr. Scruton full-time to help deliver quality services to the residents in town, at the lowest possible cost, and maintain focus on the more significant things that will be faced in the future. Some of those things are the Route 1 sewer line, water sources, water treatment plant support for the Rye Water District, roads and bridges, sea-level rise issues, the TAP Grant for the center of town, town hall annex, digitization and processes in town, and Parson's Creek.

Adjournment

Motion by Bill Epperson to adjourn at 9:28 a.m. Seconded by Tom King. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger