

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
SPECIAL MEETING  
CITY HALL AUDITORIUM / ZOOM  
July 26, 2021**

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A **SPECIAL MEETING** of the Board of Public Safety was held in the City Hall auditorium on Monday, July 26, 2021. Attendance was in-person and by Zoom. The meeting was attended in-person by Mayor Elinor Carbone, Personnel Director Jaime LaMere, Deputy Fire Chief David Tripp, and Board of Public Safety Commissioners Douglas Benedetto, Glenn McLeod, Joseph McElroy, and Gregg Cogswell. Commissioners Dustin Bingham and Darlene Battle participated by Zoom.

Mayor Carbone called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ACCEPTANCE OF FIRE CHIEF'S RESIGNATION**

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to accept the resignation of Peter Towey as Chief of the City of Torrington Fire Department. Commissioner Cogswell thanked Chief Towey for his service to the City.

**DISCUSSION**

Mayor Carbone explained that, pursuant to the Deputy Chief's contract, DC Tripp will be expected to step in as Interim Fire Chief when Chief Towey's resignation goes into effect on August 15, 2021, until a permanent replacement is selected. Personnel Director Atty. LaMere provided some parameters for posting the job opening and soliciting applications. Mayor Carbone described the processes that were used to fill the most recent Police and Fire Chief vacancies and she requested the Board's feedback regarding how to proceed with hiring the next Fire Chief. Commissioner McLeod expressed support for appointing the entire Board of Public Safety as the search committee and Commissioners McElroy and Battle agreed. Commissioner Benedetto requested the opportunity to review applications before a small number of finalists are selected and he requested clarification regarding the criteria that will be included in the job posting. Mayor Carbone read aloud the job posting from 2018, when Chief Towey was hired, and suggested utilizing the same criteria. Commissioner Bingham requested clarification regarding the requirement for administrative supervisory experience and DC Tripp explained the type of work that would be considered administrative and supervisory. The Board also discussed a possible residency requirement and agreed that the job posting should not include a requirement to live within a specified distance of the City, as not to exclude potential candidates.


**EXECUTIVE SESSION TABLED**

On a motion by Commissioner Cogswell, seconded by Commissioner Benedetto, the Board voted unanimously to table the executive session, pursuant to C.G.S. §1-200(6)(A), to discuss Fire Department personnel.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Commissioner Benedetto, seconded by Commissioner McLeod, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:50 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Jonathan R. Draper, Asst. City Clerk*

ATTEST:   
CAROL L. ANDERSON, MMC  
CITY CLERK