

Director of Public Works Hiring Committee

Special Meeting Minutes: October 21, 2024

Members in Attendance: E. Couture, E. Nunes, J. D'Angelo, A. Stirna

Members Absent: R. Darin

Visitors: W. Adametz, E. Blewitt

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.
2. E. Couture started the meeting by updating the committee on the reasons given by the candidate on declining the position.

W. Adametz provided more information on the general job market for similar positions, noting that multiple towns in CT are looking for Director level positions. Additionally, he noted that this is not just a state issue but rather a generational issue.

W. Adametz spoke to the general conditions of public works and how the department changed over his tenure, including the reduction in staff and how that led to prioritization of resources.

W. Adametz spoke to how the distinction between "white collar vs blue collar" plays into public works and how the implementation of a full director would likely necessitate other staffing changes. Given the size of public works the question was raised whether an intermediate measure was necessary.

Emphasis was also placed on the idea that any candidate should lean more toward public works experience as opposed to engineering, if only because of the specialized nature of engineering and the existing engineering retainer.

The committee discussed options for filling the role temporarily and whether to pursue hiring a headhunter to find a candidate. It was decided to continue the discussion at another meeting.

3. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm.