

**SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 2, 2019**

I. ROLL CALL

Town Council Members present:

Michael G. White, President
Mary E. Meagher, Vice President
Nancy A. Beye
William J. Piva, Jr.

Town Council Members absent:

Randall White

Also in attendance:

Andrew E. Nota, Town Administrator
Michael C. Gray, Public Works Director
Lisa W. Bryer, Town Planner
Andrew J. Wade, Parks and Recreation Director
Betsey Anderson, Senior Coordinator
Peter D. Ruggiero, Town Solicitor
Erin F. Liese, Town Clerk

II. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Council President White called the special meeting of the Jamestown Town Council to order at 1:04 p.m. in the Jamestown Town Hall, Rosamond A. Tefft Council Chambers at 93 Narragansett Avenue, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATOR, SOLICITOR,
COMMISSION/COMMITTEE COMMENTS & REPORTS**

- A) Town Administrator's Report: Andrew E. Nota
- 1) Informational discussion regarding the Town Administration, transition plan, timeline, process for interim appointment of Acting Town Administrator and future search process for full-time appointment. Discussion and possible votes and/or actions.

Council President White explained the purpose of today's meeting to hold an informational discussion regarding the Town Administration transition plan, timeline, process for interim appointment of Acting Town Administrator and future search process for full-time appointment.

Town Administrator Nota clarified today was not his last day and explained the communications with Council, Finance Director and Solicitor's Office during the hiring process with East Greenwich. He further advised that his last day will be August 30th.

Town Administrator Nota further explained the need for an Interim Administrator and he would place this item for possible consideration on the August 19th Agenda.

Town Administrator Nota also explained he will provide the Town Council with a summary of major initiatives by department. He assured the Council that they will be provided support by the professional staff during the transition.

Council President White stated it was difficult to keep a secret and congratulated Andy on the challenge in East Greenwich. He further announced in his ten years on the Council, he had never hired an Administrator and he will rely on members of the Council with experience.

Town Administrator Nota stated the Solicitor's office will provide guidance during the process. Council President White agreed and predicted that Town Solicitor Ruggiero's phone will be ringing.

Vice President Meagher also congratulated Town Administrator Nota, as it was not unexpected, as Andy is very good at his job. Jamestown will not suffer due to the professional staff employed with the Town. She also explained she had been part of the hiring of 5 of the 7 Administrators.

Councilman Piva also congratulated Town Administrator Nota, and stated this would be our loss and noted he also had difficulty with keeping the news a secret. He requested Town Administrator Nota explain his hiring process.

Town Administrator Nota advised on his hiring process and further explained how the process would look if it was done national, regional or statewide.

Councilor Beye stated she had spoken previously to Town Administrator Nota. She expressed that Andy had not always been her favorite person; however in her roll on the Council she began to appreciate and to be thankful for Andy's service and stated he will be missed. She also advised she had not been part of previous search committees, but as a business owner for over twenty-five years, she has done a lot of hiring and further explained those hires were kind and good, and if selected to serve on the committee, she would do that for Jamestown.

Council Vice President Meagher commented on previous search committees and advised against a committee of seven.

Discussion ensued on search committee models, makeup and scope of the search. It was noted a search committee would extend the process.

Town Administrator Nota stated he would expect a large pool of candidates, as Jamestown is an attractive community due to their sound finances.

Councilman Piva stated concern with hiring an Interim outside the staff. He further explained there is plenty of talent to hire within.

Vice President Meagher agreed and requested Town Administrator Nota forward the guidelines from the ICMA.

Town Solicitor Ruggiero proposed the Town Clerk provide minutes of the previous searches. The Council agreed they would like to receive that.

Town Administrator Nota emphasized his love for the community, and he and Michelle would remain active in Jamestown. He further explained he would have not considered the opportunity if he had to move from Jamestown.

Agnes Filkins of Bayberry Road, as a member of the School Committee, thanked Town Administrator Nota for his work on the school budget and he was always cooperative and was invaluable.

Town Administrator Nota thanked Mrs. Filkins for her kind words.

Dennis Webster of Mount Hope Avenue observed and commented on the longevity of the last four Administrators. The ones that came from Massachusetts lasted less than a year and the ones from Southern Rhode Island lasted longer and did a better job in his opinion. He further remarked it is something to consider with the process.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilor Piva with second by Vice President Meagher to adjourn the meeting. President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye.

The special meeting was adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

Attest:

Erin F. Liese, CMC, Town Clerk

Copies to: Town Council
 Town Administrator
 Town Solicitor
 Finance Director