



**TOWN OF HOLLISTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**703 Washington Street
Holliston, MA 01746**

508-429-0608

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 18, 2017
7:00P.M.**

ATTENDEES: Board of Selectmen, Vice-Chairman; Kevin Conley, Jay Marsden, Clerk.

Also Present: Jeff Ritter, Town Administrator; Police Lt. David Gatchell; Finance Committee Chairman Ken Szajda.

At 7:00p.m. K. Conley called the meeting to order. J. Marsden made a motion for the Board to enter into Executive Session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21A (4), to discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices.

Second, K. Conley.

Roll Call: Marsden – Yes; Conley – Yes.

Discussion: K. Conley welcomed Lt. Gatchell to the meeting and asked him to explain his request.

Lt. Gatchell stated this meeting was scheduled before the start of Police Union negotiations. Lt. Gatchell recommended the Board consider hiring a second School Resources Officer and a new patrol officer. He said this approach is consistent with the Department's Five (5) Year Plan and there would be a cost savings. There are more demands for service, with a 23% increase in calls from 2013 this action could help to reduce overtime, help the court officer and improve overall morale.

The Town has an aging department and three (3) officers could retire tomorrow. He recommended promoting one of the current dispatchers and send him to the academy for training

There is a Department of Justice Grant that would cover up to 75% of the School Resource Officer's salary for up to three (3) years.

As part of this discussion, it is important to understand how the Board would like to proceed in hiring the next Police Chief either it will be an internal or external hire.

Page Two
Executive Session Meeting Minutes
1/18/17

K. Conley asked about the current budget and the impact on the budget if the Board were to decide to hire two (2) new officers how would that be paid for. Lt. Gatchell said there would be a budget savings given the anticipated reduction in the Police Chief's salary line item. But in general we are on target for this Fiscal Year.

K. Conley said it was a good idea to add another SRO at the Middle School.

J. Marsden said there appears to be three options a.) don't do anything; b.) if we hire a new police officer they would have to be academy trained will take about eight (8) months; c.) how the Board addresses the Chief's position will impact this decision are we going to build the budget around what the current Chief is earning?

Lt. Gatchell said there could very well be one retirement next year.

J. Marsden said he would build the budget assuming someone would be going to the academy to be trained during next fiscal year.

J. Marsden made a motion to exit Executive Session at 7:35p.m. Second, K. Conley

Roll Call: Marsden – Yes; Conley – Yes

Respectfully submitted,



J. Jeffrey Ritter
Town Administrator

approved
9-17-18