

Select Board / School Committee Joint Meeting

Monday, August 27, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.

Longmeadow High School, Room A15, 535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, MA

Present:

Select Board: Chair Mark Gold, Marie Angelides, William Low, Richard Foster, and Thomas Lachiusa (arrived at 7:25 p.m.)

School Committee: Chair Beth Baron, Kerrin Morrin, Stephanie Jasmin, Ryan Kelly, Bronwyn Monahan, and Melanie Rothstein

Also Present: Supt. Marty O'Shea, Town Manager Stephen Crane, Administrative Assistant Debbie House
Interviewees: Heather Goldstein, Jeffrey Klotz, James Ryan, Jill Shaw, and Armand Wray

School Committee Chair Beth Baron called the School Committee meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Baron stated that the meeting was being recorded and aired live by LCTV, as well as being live streamed on longmeadow.org. It is a legal requirement for anyone else to disclose if they were recording the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Ms. Baron read the names of the applicants to be interviewed.

Select Board Chair Mark Gold called the Select Board joint meeting with the School Committee to order. Mr. Gold explained to the viewing audience the process of applicants picking a letter to determine interview order and board members picking a number to determine the board member questioning order. The purpose of this joint meeting is only to interview the candidates in accordance to the town bylaws. Both boards will reconvene on September 4th to vote. The candidates were all emailed the information on the interview process and voting procedure.

Each applicant selected, by drawing from a brown paper bag, a piece of paper on which was printed the letters A, B, C, D, and E representing one letter for each applicant. The applicants were interviewed in alphabetical order according to the letter they picked as follows:

- A - Ms. Jill Shaw
- B – Mr. Armand Wray
- C – Ms. Heather Goldstein
- D – Mr. James Ryan
- E – Mr. Jeffrey Klotz

Each member of the School Committee drew from the same paper bag a piece of paper on which was printed the number 3, 5, 7, 9, or 11. The Chair of the School Committee was assigned number 1. Each member of the Select Board drew from the paper bag a piece of paper on which was printed the number 4, 6, 8, or 10. The Chair of the Select Board was assigned number 2. These numbers, 1-11 represented the order in which School Committee members and Select Board members questioned the applicants.

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| 1 - Ms. Beth Baron | 2 - Mr. Mark Gold |
| 3 – Ms. Bronwyn Monahan | 4 – Mr. William Low |
| 5 – Mr. Ryan Kelly | 6 – Ms. Marie Angelides |
| 7 – Ms. Stephanie Jasmin | 8 – Mr. Richard Foster |
| 9 – Ms. Melanie Rothstein | 10 – Mr. Thomas Lachiusa |
| 11 – Ms. Kerrin Morrin | |

(These numbers also represent the REVERSE order in which School Committee and Select Board members will vote for their preferred applicant on Tuesday, September 4th.)

Each applicant was given up to three minutes to provide an introduction and/or presentation as to why he or she applied for the appointment. Each applicant was then questioned by each of the members of the combined School Committee and Select Board in numerical order. After each board member had an opportunity to ask one question (and any follow up question) of the applicant, a second round of questioning began, in the same order as the first. Questioning of the applicant continued in order until there were no further questions from the Board members.

- A. **Ms. Jill Shaw**, 6 Meadowbrook Road has been a resident for one year but her children have been attending Longmeadow schools for a while as her spouse is an employee of Longmeadow High School. Ms. Shaw's children have had a great academic experience and are involved in clubs, sport programs, and the community. Ms. Shaw is impressed with the school system and the community. She works as an Area Clinical Manager for the Department of Children and Families and has committed her life to working with children. Ms. Shaw has always worked with children and donates much of her time to teaching religious education, coaching youth and collegiate sports. Ms. Shaw is currently the head basketball coach for high school girls in another community. Ms. Shaw's position at the Department of Children and Families requires her to manage a multimillion-dollar budget; she is second in command for the second largest DCF office in the state and understands financial procedures, budgetary implications, and policy.
First round of questions: Mr. Lachiusa was not present
Second round: Ms. Angelides had no further questions
Third round: Ms. Baron, Ms. Monahan, Mr. Low, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Angelides, Ms. Jasmin, Mr. Foster, and Ms. Morrin had no further questions.
- B. **Mr. Armand Wray**, 19 Longfellow Drive has been a resident for 12 years and has three children in the school system. Before the family moved to town, the children attended Longmeadow schools under the School Choice program. Mr. Wray ran for School Committee twice and was voted in the second time. He served three years from 2008-2011. He was the Chair in 2010 when the Statement of Interest was approved for the high school. Mr. Wray is very familiar with budgeting, finance, and policy; he believes he has the experience and knows the time commitment that is required of a School Committee member. He was busy with his job in the past but now he has the time to commit to this.
First round of questions:
Second round: Mr. Low and Mr. Foster had no further questions
Third round: Mr. Gold, Ms. Monahan, Mr. Low, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Angelides, Mr. Foster, Mr. Lachiusa, and Ms. Morrin had no further questions.
- C. **Ms. Heather Goldstein**, 242 Pinewood Drive is a lifelong resident, living in town since she was three years old. She attended Blueberry Hill Elementary School, Williams Middle School, and graduated from Longmeadow High School. Ms. Goldstein bought her first home in town in 2011 and after having her two children, moved to her current home. Ms. Goldstein served three years on the JCC Board of Directors and on a security subcommittee. Her father served nine years on the Longmeadow School Committee. Ms. Goldstein is currently a third grade teacher in Connecticut and has been teaching for 15 years. She has worked in Stafford Springs and currently works in Suffield. She is very familiar with, and works with many early education programs, and programs for social and emotional learning. Over the summer she attended several workshops and has been on negotiation committees for teacher contracts.
First round of questions:
Second round: Mr. Low, Ms. Angelides, and Mr. Foster had no further questions.
Third round: Mr. Gold, Ms. Monahan, Mr. Low, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Angelides, Mr. Lachiusa, and Ms. Morrin had no further questions.
- D. **Mr. James Ryan**, 117 Crescent Road has been a resident for less than a year. Public service and a commitment to strengthening public education is a part of his life. Mr. Ryan served as a vice president for an international humanitarian nonprofit, and has been on various boards and counsels. He feels this is an excellent opportunity to continue to serve and apply his background in education and in public office

to help Longmeadow now and in the future. Mr. Ryan noted that when there are lean budget projections, it is critical to be innovative and identify means in which operations can be run more efficiently. Mr. Ryan is an educator in the Springfield School systems and is one of the founders of the Springfield Honors Academy where he teaches AP US History and AP World History. This academy was only made possible because the educators were given the structures and supports needed to be successful. The Springfield School Committee advocated for them and brought in the right staff. Mr. Ryan and his wife have not yet started their family, but plan to have their future children attend Longmeadow schools. By serving on the Longmeadow School Committee, Mr. Ryan believes he would be in a position to provide positive leadership and direction for Longmeadow schools in the short term and to provide the stewardship needed for continued success for years and generations to come.

First round of questions:

Second round:

Third round: Ms. Monahan, Mr. Low, Mr. Kelly, Ms. Angelides, Ms. Jasmin, Mr. Foster, Ms. Morrin had no further questions

Fourth round: Ms. Baron had one last question to ask.

- E. **Mr. Jeffrey Klotz**, 23 Fernleaf Avenue has been a resident for about 5 years. He is a CPA, MBA, a self-employed Realtor, and a past member and Chair of the Town's Audit Committee. He has two children who attend Blueberry Hill School and he is a stay at home Dad. Mr. Klotz is a member of the Blueberry Hill Parent Teacher Organization and a committee member for Blueberry's Got Talent. Mr. Klotz previously worked for 10 years for a company that had a \$330 million budget. He wants to contribute to the community and has plenty of time and wants to help.

First round of questions: Ms. Jasmin had no questions.

Second round: Ms. Baron, Mr. Gold, Ms. Monahan, Mr. Low, Ms. Angelides, Ms. Jasmin, Ms. Morrin had no further questions.

Mr. Gold noted several times during the meeting that the Select Board and School Committee will meet again jointly next Tuesday, September 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the high school meeting room A15 to appoint one of the applicants to fill the vacancy on the school committee. The voting will take place in the reverse order of questions asked. There will be a roll call vote for appointment.

The two Chairs thanked the candidates for interviewing.

Mr. Foster and Ms. Morrin made a motion to adjourn the joint meeting at 10:25 p.m. Mr. Lachiusa seconded the motion. The vote was 11 in favor and 0 opposed.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie House

Documents: Agenda – August 27, 2018
School Committee Vacancy Selection Procedure dated September 2011

Applications:

Heather Goldstein
Jeffrey Klotz
James Ryan
Jill Shaw
Armand Wray