

OCTOBER 17, 2011

PAULSBORO, N.J.

5:00 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING

Council Chamber:

Mayor Burzichelli presided at the Work Session Meeting of Council held on the above date and place.

Mayor Burzichelli read the opening statement regarding the Open Public Meetings Act.

Members present were: Haynes, Giovannitti, Hamilton, Kidd, Tedeski. Absent: Morina.

Chief Wachter asked for an Executive Session for the Mayor and Council to interview seven (7) candidates for two (2) Sergeants' positions as well as hiring of two (2) new Police Officers.

**R. #159.11: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF PAULSBORO, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.** Haynes moved and Giovannitti seconded to adopt R. #159.11. Roll call: Ayes: Haynes, Giovannitti, Hamilton, Kidd, Tedeski. Nays: None. **Motion carried.**

The items to be discussed is as follows:

1. Interviews for two (2) Sergeants' positions in the Paulsboro Police Department.
2. Hiring of two Police Officers.

Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to close the meeting to the public at 5:48 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

Mayor Burzichelli stated there are seven (7) candidates for two (2) Sergeants' positions. The seven (7) candidates are Officer Gary Kille, Officer David "Kai" Belbin, Officer Michael Minniti, Officer Nicole Thigpen, Officer Leonardo, Officer John Haas and Officer Kenneth Ridinger.

Each candidate will be offered an opening statement and a closing statement as well as asked the same questions. The following are the six (6) questions:

1. Explain to the Governing Body why they want to become a Sergeant in the Police Department?

2. What do they believe are the three (3) most important issues that the Police Department deals with on a daily basis that has the most impact on the quality of life of the residents?
3. As a Sergeant, how they would address the concerns that many of the Borough residents have expressed about the poor community relations and poor communications between the Police Department and the Borough residents?
4. What is their philosophy on the importance in addressing the backlog of municipal court warrants?
5. As a Sergeant, how will they motivate the officers so that they will reduce the amount of time that they spend in the station and increase the amount of time they spend on patrol?
6. Do they feel that it is important for the Officers be exposed to cultural diversity and sensitivity training and explain?

Administrator Salvatore stated grading is 0 to 20 and totaled by dividing from the total number of members present which is 6.

At this time, each candidate was interviewed by Mayor and Council. There wasn't any specific order to interview the candidates as names were drawn to determine the order. The first candidate is Officer Kille, the second candidate is Officer Belbin, the third candidate is Officer Minniti, the fourth candidate is Officer Thigpen, the fifth candidate is Officer Vasta, the sixth candidate is Officer Haas and the seventh candidate is Officer Ridinger. Each candidate was given the opportunity for an opening statement, a closing statement and each were given the same six (6) questions from above.

While the scores were being tallied by Administrator Salvatore, Mayor and Council discussed the hiring of two (2) new police officers.

Chief Wachter recommended hiring two (2) new officers conditionally until they receive and pass both Psychological and Physical examinations. The names he recommended are Sterling Johnson and Christopher Cartella

Administrator Salvatore stated the two (2) highest scores are Officer Kille and Officer Ridinger.

Haynes moved and Hamilton seconded to open the Executive Session meeting to the public at 7:15 p.m. All were in favor of the motion.

There weren't any further discussions for Executive Session.

This is a brief summary of the Executive Session at the Work Session Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Paulsboro held on October 17, 2011 and should not be considered a verbatim transcript of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kathy A. VanScoy, RMC/CMC  
Borough Clerk

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John J. Burzichelli, Mayor