

The Committee on Legislative Affairs & Elections met on Saturday, January 9, 2021 at 9am.

Members present were Councilor Anthony DiPierro, presiding, Councilors Richard Dell Isola, Rosa DiFlorio and Fred Capone.

The Committee considered an Order offered by Councilor Wayne Matewsky, as President: Executive Session pursuant to MGL 30A, s. 21 (a)(8) to consider or interview applicants for the appointment to the Assistant City Clerk position by a preliminary screening committee if the chair declares that an open meeting will have detrimental effect in obtaining qualified applicants.

Heather Smith; Buddha Maharjan; Janine Marie; Marikate Hurley; Michael Prudente ; John Bunszell; Ross Pietrantonio; Peter Napolitano; Krysta Cruz; Marta Sanchez; Melissa Aiello; Maribel Espada; Oswaldo Aldana; Karlos Kochantos; Colleen O'Neill; Richard Eliseo Jr.; Joanne Parriis Gregory and Hari Perisic – all candidates for the position of Assistant City Clerk were present. Also present was City Clerk Sergio Cornelio and Legislative Aide Michael Mangan.

Applicants Lorranye Dos Santos; Tim Desmond; Jeimy Rodriguez; Dipendra Prasad Subedi; Felicia Krentzman Valeri; Michel Denis and Dieuny Minos were invited but were not present.

Applicant Rosa Kassaye informed the Committee she would be present for her interview but did not appear.

Communications received from applicants Rhonisha Ridgeway, Rosanna Corrado, Nicholas Cerundolo and Anup Nepal that they would not be attending their scheduled interview process.

Chairman DiPierro provided the Committee with an overview of the interview process. Councilor Capone requested to go on record that he would have preferred that the Committee had met in advance before conducting interviews. The Committee voted 4-0 to go into Executive session at 9:05am for the purpose of interviewing each of the candidates.

The Committee interviewed each candidate that was present and reviewed their prior work history and discussed qualifications related to Assistant City Clerk position. Each candidate was allowed an opening remark then was asked some of the following questions in Executive session:

- What they perceived the job and responsibilities to be?
- Did they have Parliamentary Law knowledge?
- Did they have prior managerial experience?
- What was their knowledge of City Ordinances?
- If they understood the separation of the Executive and Legislative branches of government?
- If selected, how would they handle employee conflict situations?
- What were their strengths and weaknesses?
- If they could change something in their life what would it be?
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- If they had a criminal record that would prevent them from becoming a notary or Justice of the Peace which was a requirement for the job?

Mr. Cornelio provided each candidate with an overview of the duties of the Assistant Clerk and noted that they needed to become familiar with Federal, State and City Laws and regulations in addition to Parliamentary Law.

Interview process was closed and the Committee members provided a quick overview of each candidate's performance and response to the questions posed. After further review of each candidate's qualifications and performance during the interview, the Committee agreed that John Bunszell, Maribel Espada, Peter

Napolitano and Colleen O'Neill were the most qualified candidates and should be recommended to the City Council for its consideration. The Executive session concluded at 3:25pm and the Committee entered back into Open Session.

The Committee recommended that applications of John Bunszell, Maribel Espada, Peter Napolitano and Colleen O'Neill be presented to the full City Council for consideration for the Assistant City Clerk position and that each of these 4 candidates be allowed to speak no more than 5 minutes on their qualifications. The Committee recommended that the interview process of the candidates be sealed until such time that they no longer need to be sealed.

The Committee voted: To report back to the City Council with a recommendation that the John Bunszell, Maribel Espada, Peter Napolitano and Colleen O'Neill applications be presented to the full City Council for consideration for the Assistant City Clerk position and that each of these 4 candidates be allowed to speak no more than 5 minutes on their qualifications with a further recommendations that the interview process of the candidates be sealed until such time that they no longer need to be sealed..

The meeting adjourned at 3:33pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees