



**Board of Selectmen
Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Meeting Room**

**Special Meeting Minutes
Saturday, July 22, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.**

Present: Selectman Alan G. Whitney, Selectman John E. Carroll, Selectman Michael P. Fountain, Selectman Tracy R. Opalinski, Town Manager Stuart Beckley, Stanley Ciukaj, Ware Community TV

Absent: Selectman Nancy J. Talbot (recused)

Meeting Opened – At 9:00 a.m., Selectman Whitney chaired the meeting and opened the discussion.

Deliberation/Selection of Police Chief

Selectman Fountain stated his choice for Police Chief was Shawn Crevier, as having the best experience. Selectman Fountain noted his disagreement with candidate John Pajak as an out-of-town person and “the boss’ decision is always right.”

Selectman Carroll stated his choice for Police Chief was John Pajak, although Mr. Pajak was not in favor of accreditation due to costs. Selectman Carroll stated that Mr. Pajak would bring the benefits of an exposure to many different agencies and forms of police work to the Ware Police Department. Selectman Carroll noted that all candidates had good points and any of the three would make a good Police Chief.

Selectman Opalinski noted her election showed a trust by the residents of Ware, and she did her own extensive research. Selectman Opalinski stated that Ware is a mill town with a large opioid problem, and Mr. Pajak’s environmental work cannot be compared to local issues. Selectman Opalinski noted that her research proved that Ware has a great department with dedicated people, policies and procedures.

Selectman Opalinski moved to appoint Shawn Crevier as Police Chief of Ware.

Selectman Whitney noted his ranking of the candidates was Shawn Crevier and John Pajak in a tie, and then Christopher Adams. Selectman Whitney noted his choice was Shawn Crevier for Police Chief.

Selectman Carroll noted this was obviously a 3-1 vote, but he would like the vote to be unanimous, and would support the majority choice.

Selectman Fountain seconded the motion to appoint Shawn Crevier as Police Chief of Ware.

Town Manager: *Stuart Beckley*
sbeckley@townofware.com

Mr. Beckley requested that “contingent upon a background check and negotiated contract” be added to the motion.

Selectman Opalinski amended her motion to appoint Shawn Crevier as Police Chief of Ware, contingent upon a background check and negotiated contract, including FBI training, and that the Town Manager contact MMA for up-to-date civil service contract language, and including backfill of positions.

Selectmen Whitney, Carroll and Fountain noted that this meeting was only to appoint the Police Chief.

Selectman Opalinski amended her motion to appoint Shawn Crevier as Police Chief of Ware, contingent upon a background check, negotiated contract, and physical examination; Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No.

Mr. Beckley noted that the background check should be done by July 25, and ready by July 28, 2017.

Selectman Opalinski requested further discussion of the police department positions be placed on the August 8, 2017 agenda.

At 9:12 a.m., Selectman Opalinski moved to Adjourn; Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion to Adjourn passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No.

Attest: 
Mary L. Midura, Executive Assistant