# TOWN MANAGER SCREENING COMMITTEE MEETING

November 21, 2023

Chairperson Robert Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Room 9 of the Town Hall. Present members were Michael A. Caira, Michael L. Champoux, Jonathan R. Eaton, Sean Hennigan, Paul J. Ruggiero and Bryan T. Perry. John F. Doherty, III and Raymond N. Lepore were excused. Chair Peterson noted that the meeting was being recorded for posting on WCTV and the Town's website and for the recording secretary.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Peterson asked those present to rise and he led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Jonathan Eaton, seconded by Mr. Sean Hennigan and by the affirmative vote of all with Mr. Bryan Perry abstaining, it was,

VOTED: That the Committee approve the minutes of their meeting held September 21, 2023, and that all actions taken are hereby ratified and confirmed.

# MEETING WITH COMMUNITY PARADIGM ASSOCIATES, LLC

Founder and managing principal Mr. Bernie Lynch and senior associate Ms. Julie Jacobson were present to discuss the proposal and the timeline and laying out the next steps. Mr. Lynch mentioned they would like to meet Select Board one on one and would also like to talk to department heads. Mr. Lynch suggested to have a feedback survey for department heads and Wilmington town residents.

Chair Peterson opened to committee members for discussions. Mr. Ruggiero discussed long range plan for school prospects. Chair Peterson commented that currently the Select Board and School Committee have some difference of opinions so the one who will be appointed as Town Manager will have to find common ground. Mr. Caira mentioned that stability is the highest selling point as Wilmington has had only four Town Managers since 1968. Mr. Perry brought forward the very healthy financial condition of the town and discussed various ongoing and upcoming capital projects of the town. Mr. Caira stated he would like a Town Manager who can make decisions and is confident in their decision without having a committee to make decisions. Mr. Eaton mentioned additional projects for consideration such as the construction of a new fire station, new trash contract, MBTA zoning, Olin Chemical Site and 333 Andover Street land. Mr. Champoux mentioned he is looking for a person who has command and a strong personality and who can bring in the experience of economic development. Chair Peterson said that it is important for the person to know where we were, where we are and where we need to go. He is looking for a strong leader. Mr. Caira added that he would like to see someone who will be involved in the community and is ready to show up at the events.

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Further discussions were held to understand the importance of grants and green energy. A brief discussion regarding salary range was held. Community Paradigm Associates will work with IT Director John O'Neil to get the community survey out.

### COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is determined as December 21, 2023, at 7:00 PM.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Mr. Jonathan Eaton, seconded by Bryan Perry and by the affirmative vote of all, it was,

VOTED: That the Town Manager Screening Committee adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Surbhi Patel, Recording Secretary