First of many, many for resident correspondence file

Chip Block Vice Mayor, Jupiter Inlet Colony 917-923-0056

From: Chip Block
Sent: Thursday, May 25, 2023 5:07 PM
To: bill muir
Cc: Doney Bill
Subject: Re: Selection Process for New Chief of Police

Bill, I hope you and Grace are having a great time!

With all respect, I'm very, very busy with all this.

I will say that, legally, we have to limit extensive background checks. We are going to hire a respected professional investigative service to perform this at the appropriate time.

I appreciate your interest in the process, but hope you have faith in us to do this properly, legally and scrupulously.

Bon voyage!

Chip

Chip Block Vice Mayor, Jupiter Inlet Colony 917-923-0056

On May 25, 2023, at 4:49 PM, bill muir < bill_muir@bellsouth.net> wrote:

Hi Chip, Greetings from the English Channel,

Needless to say, we are very far from home now but are trying to keep up with the Chief of Police hiring process, as well as the other happenings going on. Since we are on an extended cruise we don't have the robust internet system and subsequent email and Zoom system availability. I have however endeavored to keep up. I've read the resident and committee updates on the town website. I was disconcerted when I saw two emails on the resident correspondence part of the Chief selection site that were dealing with the unsubstantiated reports on the Jim Matthew's investigation that was instituted after his firing. It appeared there was an attempt made to imply the reason for the firing was what was contained in the emails when, detailed in the emails, the stated timeline of the discovery of those items now being investigated were only "discovered" after the firing. I found it interesting that our current Deputy Chief took it upon himself to have the two emails posted where residents' comments were being posted. It was also curious that a person could tell our Town Clerk to take that action who I don't believe would be in her chain of command. And, yet, it was posted, something that should have been kept inside the JICPD as they work their investigation. That is rather interesting police work. I would have thought a reputable police officer would have insisted on such information not being released (with a "no comment") until such time as the investigation was complete.

I also found it interesting that the Deputy Chief included in the first email he posted that his job title is "Chief of Police." Even though our mayor denied that he was hired to become the new chief, after John's retirement, That title use would seem to refute the mayor's answer to the question he was asked, during the Commisioners meeting last month, of whether he hired the Deputy Chief with the intention of him becoming the new Chief of Police. Suspicions confirmed! And since these two emails were posted, it opens up the question of how this individual was hired to a non existing position and from what part of the budget was his salary to be paid? Not a very good showing demonstrated by someone expecting to become the new chief to have had these two emails posted. I don't know who is responsible for the Deputy Chief to have the two emails posted to the residents' section of the Committee's Chief selection site but, if the Deputy Chief took this upon himself, it demonstrates lack of good judgement.

What does demonstrate good judgement was the person who had both of the items removed from the site. Of course, by this time, most have become aware of their accusations and the attempt made to sway people's opinions of an opponent. An interesting tactic. That was part of the rationale to not have the Deputy Chief named as the Interim Chief and him having these posted surely demonstrates, once again, the lack of character previously demonstrated in his other work place. Well done having them removed, but a bit late since they should never have been there to begin with!

While we are away I would much rather be concerned about the planned sites of our trip, but, we must still continue to worry about a place we love and had been proud to call home. Hopefully, by the end of this process, we will have our pride reinforced and glad to be living in "the Colony."

On a separate note, I read your game plan for the remaining parts of this process. It would appear the initial screen interviews and subsequent recommendations of a narrowed down group will not include/provide enough time for a thorough background check as stated in your course of action. The time before the live, public interviews, also does not seem to leave much time for such a thorough background check, to include social media, previous job recommendations, etc., etc. Will you be able to extend out the time frame you've currently laid out so as to insure the complete vetting that seems to have been missed in the recent hiring?

I appreciate the tremendous workload to accomplish this process you all have taken on and thank you for all your efforts.

Very respectfully,

Bill Muir 38 Ocean Drive