

pos voted to release 4/8/19

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
EXECUTIVE SESSION - CONFIDENTIAL
MINUTES

Date: June 11, 2018
Time: 6:10pm
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

Present at the table were Vice-Chairman McGurn, Selectman Brazie. Chairman Turner arrived at 6:45pm.

Also present were Personnel Director Bill Tighe, Police Chief Erik Josephson, Full-time Police Officer Hans Carlson, Union representative Victor Santiago, Legal Counsel Jeremia Pollard.

The Board voted unanimously in roll call vote to go into executive session as allowed by MGL, Chapter 30A, Section 21, paragraph 1. The Board will not return to open session.

The Board discussed the complaint filed by Police chief Erik Josephson against Full-time Officer Hans Carlson. Chief Josephson alleged that Officer Carlson was recording people without their knowledge in violation of MGL Chapter 272, Section 99 of the Massachusetts Wire Tap Law. Chief Josephson also complained that Officer Carlson was aggressive, threatening, lying and being a bully. Officer Carlson subsequently filed a complaint against Chief Josephson alleging that the Chief was erratic, easily agitated, uncaring, and that he sent harsh emails to the officers. Officer Carlson also alleged that Chief Josephson put officers in danger, refused schedule changes and used defamatory and discriminating language. Chief Josephson has not been noticed on these complaints yet.

As there is no proof of the violation of the wire tap law the Board agreed it could not ^{take} action at this time on that charge, which is a criminal offense. If further investigation does substantiate the allegation the Board will consider further action.

Officer Carlson said that if he did record someone without their knowledge it was by accident. He contended that he has never shown any disrespect or disobedience towards the Chief but did acknowledge there is conflict.

Chief Josephson asked the Board to place Officer Carlson on suspension with pay as punishment for the other alleged infractions and noted that felt unable to work with Officer Carlson and did not want to be alone with Officer Carlson. The Board felt until had viewed video recordings in the Police Station of interactions between the two and between Chief Josephson and Officer Kemp there were no grounds for suspension. Ultimately it was agreed to change officer's shifts so that Chief Josephson and Officer Carlson did not share a shift or cross paths along until July 9th, at which time the Board will meet again. During this time frame the Board will investigate all allegations further.

Executive Session closed at 7:39. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

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