



04 FEB 2021

Memorandum

From: Rich Rainer, Town Administrator
To: Portsmouth Town Council

SUBJ: REQUEST RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF FINANCE DIRECTOR

Honorable Council,

In accordance with the Portsmouth Town Charter, Art. III, Sect. 304C, I hereby submit my request for your ratification of the appointment of Ms. Lisa Lasky of Bristol, RI, as our Finance Director. I do so without reservation after having participated in a rigorous search process and extensive background investigation.

The former Finance Director, Ms. Lisa Mills, notified the Town in January 2021 of her intention to resign and accept a new position in her current field of municipal finance. With the announcement of her resignation, Human Resources began the selection process for the new Finance Director. Advertisements were placed with the International City/County Management Association, the RI League of Cities and Towns, the Government Finance Officers Association, Indeed.com, LinkedIn.com, and on the websites for Portsmouth and the State of Rhode Island.

We received 26 applications. Each candidate was screened for conformity to minimum qualifications. Three candidates were ultimately invited to interview. Each candidate would be a superb choice for Portsmouth, but ultimately I have decided to bring forward Ms. Lasky as my choice for Finance Director.

Lisa Lasky is an exceptional candidate. She is an accountant, has an active CPA license, is a member of the RI Society of CPAs, and holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Rhode Island. In addition to an impressive background in Tax and Audit accounting, she has successfully served as Chief Financial Officer in both the Corporate and Governmental realms. She is adept in financial management and analysis, budgeting, contract management, financial report writing, and strategic planning. She has most recently served as the Chief Financial Officer for the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation.

I am convinced Ms. Lasky possesses the educational background, professional experience, and moral integrity to successfully lead our Finance Department.

I respectfully ask for your concurrence.

Very respectfully,

Rich Rainer