



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CITY COUNCIL
JAKE WILSON
CITY COUNCILOR AT LARGE

9 May, 2024

City Council
City of Somerville
93 Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02143

Re: Police Chief Selection Committee update

Dear Honorable Colleagues:

Earlier today the Police Chief Selection Committee fulfilled our responsibilities with the completion of the public interviews of three finalists for the vacant Chief of Police position. The final decision on the appointment now sits with the Mayor, who also met privately with the three finalists this week.

All three finalist public interviews now are live on the City's GovTV YouTube channel for viewing, and there is a form for the public to share feedback with the Mayor as she weighs her hiring decision. **I urge my colleagues and the public to watch all three of these interview videos and to share your thoughts with the Mayor on this absolutely crucial appointment.**

I want to thank my colleagues on the committee – community members Kevin Dickinson, Denise Lauers, Paula Magnelli, and Lori Segall; Lieutenant Michael Capasso and Officer Christine Bork from our Police Department; and committee chair Anne Gill, Director of Human Resources – for their dedicated work on a very accelerated schedule that saw us move from receiving the candidate book from GovHR on March 27 to conducting finalist interviews just six weeks later.

I also want to thank City staff -- Amanda Nagim-Williams of Racial and Social Justice and Sara Balaguer of Human Resources -- for all their work to keep this process on track during a period of leadership change within RSJ.

By ordinance, the Mayor's Police Chief appointment will come before this council for confirmation. This council will be provided with a copy of the three- to five-year contract negotiated with the appointee, along with a report on candidates who applied and were deemed less qualified.