



Adams Town Administrator chosen for top seat in Norwood

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The Board of Selectmen has announced a successor for General Manager John Carroll, who is retiring after 39 years of service to Norwood.

Tony Mazzucco, the Town Administrator for Adams since 2015, was offered the position at the Selectmen meeting this past Tuesday Nov. 7, by a unanimous vote. The board had decided to announce its decision on Tuesday after holding interviews with the three finalists the prior Saturday, Nov. 4.

Selectman Tom Maloney said Mazzucco possessed the maturity and talent for the role, and hopes that he remains in Norwood for a long time. Fellow board member Helen Donohue agreed, and wanted to impress the importance of remaining in Norwood for a long time.

“This is one of the most important choices I have ever made,” said Chairman Bill Plasko. “I came to the same decision and will cast the vote and make it unanimous to appoint Mazzucco.”

The finalist interviews

In the last portion of the process—which saw 28 initial applicants—selectmen interviewed the three finalists for the position. These three finalists were Mazzucco, Jack Hathaway, and William Chenard. Hathaway is the town administrator for Norfolk, and Chenard is the deputy town administrator of Natick.

During the finalist interviews, the candidates were asked similar questions, ranging from how they would integrate into a town that has predominantly functioned under one general manager for years, what they see their relationship

to the Board of Selectmen to be, what their management style is, and what they think of Town Meeting.

“I believe I’ve got to bring everyone around the table,” Mazzucco said. “I also try to focus on being strategic. You have to solve core problems.”

Citing his experience working professionally in Vermont and Maine, as well as in Adams, Mazzucco said he considers municipal government a team operation. Adding that he is not as well-versed in the subject matter as his department heads, he relies on them to be experts and only by having everyone work together can the needed services be provided to the town.

Mazzucco became interested in government from a young age and considers Town Meeting to be an important part of the governmental process. He added that he is driven by a commitment to public service and would work to bring the town to its next level by using his experience with finance and budgeting, as well as town management technology systems.

“I actually genuinely care about local government,” he said.

When asked how he would work with a town that has multiple income levels for residents, Mazzucco said he had experience working in low-income areas and felt it was important to serve the whole community. He also said he would want to relocate to the area, and make himself a part of the community.

“I’m looking to return to the part of the state where I grew up in,” he said.

Plasko said the town was looking for someone who could be in the position for the long haul, despite the challenge of following Carroll’s legacy. All three candidates said they were looking to spend a good amount of years in Norwood, with Hathaway saying he would commit until his retirement. The candidates’ answers were also consistent in saying they would learn about how the town government was currently working under the previous town manager before making any sweeping changes, though the goal was to provide the same level of service the residents are used to.



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