

Marino chosen as new town manager

By **John P. Muldoon** - March 6, 2018



Anthony Marino spoke of his experience in Hanover

IPSWICH — Once contract details have been ironed out, and **the small matter of his wedding out of the way**, Anthony — or Tony — Marino is set to become the next Ipswich town manager.

The select board made the decision to offer Marino the job at its meeting last night.

He is currently acting town manager in Hanover but is living with his fiancée on the North Street.

The position was left open by the retirement of Robin Crosbie; it drew 37 applicants. The town was helped in the search by consultant Bernie Lynch of **Community Paradigm Associates** of

Plymouth.

Selectpersons didn't discuss the relative merits of the three candidates at their Monday meeting other than to say the interviewees were all very strong.

Part of their reluctance was based on a desire to keep negative comments — however inadvertent — off the public record about the applicants.

Selectperson William Whitmore said he followed up the interviews on Saturday with some reference checks.

He said he made seven calls in all and found them "very productive." Whitmore said feedback was positive on all three candidates.

"The most frequent comment I got was, 'I wish I could keep them here,'" he said.

Selectperson Bill Craft said he had one preferred candidate in mind but could see himself working with all three of the finalists.

"It was a really interesting experience, and it was very fortunate to have so many well qualified candidates," said selectperson Linda Alexson, who was also a member of the town manager screening committee.

Craft asked Lynch if the board should rank the finalists, in case one took an offer elsewhere.

Lynch replied that he didn't foresee that problem, adding, "Each of the candidates remains committed to Ipswich as their number-one choice."

Craft, Lynch, and temporary town manager Jim Engel will work out contract details with Marino.

Lynch said most town manager contracts are standard in the state nowadays.

Selectperson Nishan Mootafian made the motion to hire Marino, and selectperson Ed Rauscher seconded it.

Meanwhile, Rauscher complimented the work done by the 11 volunteers on the screening committee.

"I want to know what they're doing next year when we have another project," he said.

"Hopefully it won't be the same one," Lynch quipped.

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